

OMAHA BOY WHO HAS MADE GOOD IN MUSIC.



STANLEY LETOVSKY.

Gossip About Music and the Musicians

BY HENRIETTA M. REESE.

The premiere of Stanislaw Letovsky's comic opera, "Frau Anne, Die Dame am Pultsch," which had its premiere in Posen, Germany, December 29, under the baton of the young composer met with a decided success. The young man is an Omaha boy, the son of Mr. S. B. Letovsky, who played cello and double bass for so many years in the Omaha theater orchestra, and who now resides upon a fruit farm outside of Florence, Stanley is remembered as a young violinist and pianist of much promise, and as leader of the Omaha High school orchestra about 1906. He began the study of music with his father at the age of 7 and later studied piano in this city with Josef Gahn and Jean P. Duffield. This was supplemented with composition and piano study in Europe. Stanley not only composed the music for the opera, but also wrote the entire orchestration. There were 115 performers in the opera and fifty-one in the orchestra. The opera takes three and a half hours, but in a letter to his parents the young man said the libretto would be changed in some parts, which will shorten it considerably. The young man has written various works for piano, all of which are published by Schlesinger of Berlin, but this is his first opera. The Musical Courier, in its Berlin letter, speaks of the premiere as follows and adds a short biographical sketch:

Letovsky, in spite of his Polish name, is, as I have already stated, American, having been born in Omaha, Neb., in 1890. He is a pupil of Jean Duffield and Hugo Kaun and Richard Burmeister, and at present occupies the post of conductor at the Posen Opera house. "Frau Anne" is his first operatic effort. In addition to reports, the young composer has a future before him. Letovsky, as I am informed, reveals great originality in his libretto, and technical equipment, both in handling the orchestra and the vocal parts, is thoroughly modern, but at the same time he does not eschew the old. His writing for chorus is said to be particularly effective, being brilliant, full of character and always melodious. The solo vocal parts also are written with a thorough knowledge and appreciation of the possibilities and limitations of the human voice. Orchestrationally, Letovsky reveals many individual traits. The instrumentation, though at times heavy, is admirable, and always melodious. The solo vocal parts also are written with a thorough knowledge and appreciation of the possibilities and limitations of the human voice. The young American might be called a modern Niccolini.

The weak part of the opera is the libretto, which was written by Walter A. Hamdorf. It contains changes and not only makes its way. The scene is laid in Holland, at the time of the Reformation, and the great playster himself appears on the stage in the last act as a kind of Hans Sachs. Frau Anne is a wealthy young widow, whose husband is supposed to have been killed in the war. Her family wishes the union, and she herself looks with favor upon his suit, but her life has been a lonely one. She has a young daughter, Marie, who is in love with a young man named Van der Meer, but he secretly also courts the daughter of Frau Anne's maid, Helene. At the match between Frau Anne and Van der Meer, but he secretly also courts the daughter of Frau Anne's maid, Helene. At the match between Frau Anne and Van der Meer, but he secretly also courts the daughter of Frau Anne's maid, Helene.

The other day I saw Mr. Landberg, and asked him how he enjoyed his trip to Lincoln, where he went last week as examiner of music students for the Lincoln high school. He became enthusiastic instantly. "Fine! Fine!" he replied, "that was one of the most interesting things I ever did in my life." Then he went on to tell me about this scheme which enables students of the Lincoln High school to study music with outside music teachers and yet have their musical education count with other studies in the high school course toward a diploma.



We open February Selling With a Phenomenal Underpricing on the Winter Stocks and a Value-Giving on All That's Newest and Best in Fabrics and Garment Styles for Spring that Insures Keenest Economies and Satisfaction



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Aluminum Kettles Half Price for Monday. A heavy spun Aluminum Berlin Kettle, complete with aluminum cover, 6 quart capacity... 98c.

Splendid Savings Are Made Possible by Underpricings on Staple Merchandise of Many Kinds in the Big Domestic Room. Leghorn 36-inch fine bleached Muslin, 8 1/2c values... 6 1/2c.

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Linen Specials Monday. Imported Dew Bleached Belfast Satin Damask, pure flax, worth \$1.75, yd... \$1.25.

The music teacher is required to fill out quarterly report blanks in duplicate, one signed and one unsigned, and these serve as a basis for examination at the end of the year. The name of pupil, subject studied, voice, piano or other instrument; the number of lessons taken; the number of lessons missed (and missed lessons must be made up before the report will be accepted) and the average number of hours practiced are among the first things which appear on these blanks.

three programs on "Interpretation" by Mr. Thomas J. Kelly at the residence of Mrs. George A. Joslyn. The first program will be a lecture with musical illustrations by Mr. Kelly alone, while the other two will be an "anthology of songs" in two programs by Mr. and Mrs. Kelly, assisted by their friends at the meeting Tuesday, February 3, at the residence of Mrs. Nash.

cannot but prove pleasant, containing as it does the distinctly popular selections from the opera which appear thereon. Mme. Otilie Metzger, premiere contralto of the Hamburg opera, comes to us from the very position which Mme. Uluemann-Heink held before coming to America.

Monday's Big Pitcher Sale in China Dept. 1 and 2-quart Fancy Decorated Water Pitchers, worth from 50c to \$1.00 each; special Monday, 25c each.