

STORY OF A GREAT TENOR

PERSISTENCE AND HARD WORK BROUGHT ALVAREZ FAME.

Obstacles He Had to Contend With Before Winning a First Place Among Singers.

The young musical student aspiring to a place in grand opera will find much that is encouraging in the early life of Alvarez. The French tenor, who, after singing leading roles in New York this season, has just left America to fill an engagement at the Grand Opera, Paris.

Alvarez is one of the youngest of famous tenors ever heard, and while he is apparently endowed with many gifts of fortune, such as a superb voice, almost perfect physique, commanding presence and artistic temperament, the keynote of his success is easily his indomitable will power, perseverance and determination to succeed in spite of all obstacles.

Almost at the very beginning of his career Alvarez encountered an experience that might easily have wrecked his future, says the New York Times.

The circumstance, at least, would have had a retarding influence upon a student less resolute and persevering. He had sung but a few times when he was engaged to appear at Lyons.

After serving several years as hand-maschine it was discovered incidentally that he had some natural ability as a singer. But he had to overcome first a tendency to bronchial trouble. His first intention was to engage in comic opera.

Alvarez has shown himself the possessor of a voice which is one of the greatest in the natural world to be heard on the operatic stage today. His favorite exercises are walking and bicycling, and he is also an expert amateur photographer.

Up to the present time he has sung in 45 grand operas, in 21 of which he has created parts. Notwithstanding his many honors and success, Alvarez remains very much an ordinary human being.

IN DREAD OF ADIPOSITIS.

Baggage of Women Singers—How One Kept Down Flesh. "Getting fat is the great dread of all women opera singers from the prima donna to the girl in the steeple row of the chorus."

the more they warble the more inclined they are to waddle, and such a catastrophe takes all the romance out of a role. No woman can be truly poetic with a terrace of chins, and when a singer sees the fatal symptoms begin to appear she is willing to resort to desperate measures to nip them in the bud.

"One of the few cases I ever knew in which a marked tendency to stoutness was successfully controlled was that of a charming lady who is still an ornament to the lyric stage.

"During a summer vacation, spent in the country, she had her husband drive a dogcart every day along a quiet road, while she held to the back of the vehicle and followed at a run.

"I shall never forget my sensations on that event," said he, relating the incident to a friend. "It was terrible. My years of preparation and study passed before me like a swift vision, and my dreams of the future seemed suddenly to fade away.

This trait was manifested early in the life of Alvarez, although he possibly did not fully realize the value of his possession until the time of the incident quoted.

At an early age he had become proficient on the violin, and later on the cornet. When hardly more than 20 years old he resolved to enter the competition for the grade of bandmaster in the army.

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A Musical Family.

"Do you play any instrument, Mr. Jimp?" "Yes, I'm a cornetist."

LANGTRY AND HER DRAMA

"MATTIE GIRL" CHAFFS NEW YORK DRAMATIC CRITICS.

Nor Does She Fail to Scare Renovating Interviewers of Artful, Battered Social Ruins.

If the critics had all unanimously decided to advertise "The Degenerates," writes the lively "Mattie Girl," in the Dramatic Mirror, they could not have proceeded in a more direct way than they have in dilating upon the peculiar phase of English society—the soggy under crust—that this work of Grundy's brings to light.

And the interviewers! The interviewers! How they hung garlands of roses on

battered ruins and put tears of genuine emotion in eyes trained to work like a siphon upon the pressure of a lever. Some of the "chats" with the English actress would make interesting additions to our best humorous literature.

I don't know but what the interviewers serve a beautiful purpose in life, when they thus idealize surroundings, sentiments and associations, sometimes of an actress, sometimes of a jockey, sometimes of a prizefighter.

Lois was suffering from a cold in the head, or a stubbed toe, and was in bed when the reporter called. But she knew that a subject of that kind would brook no delay, so she sent down word that he might come up.

Of course Mamma was there. Mamma was knitting a sock, or crocheting a pair of light or something, and only Lois's pink and her golden curls showed over the rose satin coverlet.

One of the interviewers found the English actress studying with an electric light on the end of a flexible wire, in her room at the Hoffman house. It was very touching.

Then Hilary Bell's critique was more like a judgment of a horse at a show. He did not allude to the acting, or to the play, but kept strictly to "points."

"Oh, those days gone by! Those days gone by!" as a poet chaffs once wrote. How an actress must hate to have people writing about her wonderful state of preservation, just as though she were a peach that had been put away in brandy.

It's funny, isn't it? Take all the play heroes who have been perfect devils until the last act and then they cut it all, and are supposed, as the curtain falls, to re-lapse into a state of virtuous goodness.

OLDS & KING

Women's Gloves

For wintry weather

SILK-LINED MOCHAS— Comfortable, serviceable and easily adjusted. Prices \$1.25 and \$1.50 pair

UNLINED MOCHA— Gloves are popular for dressy uses. Fit perfectly and wear well. Prices \$1.25 and \$2 pair

New Laces

A fine line of Valenciennes laces arrived last week, in great variety of patterns and widths, at prices astonishingly low for the values.

Matched Laces

For baby sets and trimmings. Three widths of a pattern, with insertions to match. Come and inspect.

New Embroideries

The grandest collection of patterns the market affords. They're well worthy of your attention. The prices are right.

Cambric embroideries, 1 to 10 inches wide. 5c to \$1.25 yard

Matched Sets of Fine Nainsook Embroideries

The cream of this line is here, in beautiful patterns, such as—

Lovers' Knots, Three Widths. Bow Knots, Fleur de Lis, and Irish Point Patterns. With insertions to match.

New Veilings

An elegant line. Prices 25c to \$2.50 yard

Some extra good values and dressy numbers, from 50c yard up. They represent both style and economy.

New complexion veilings. Some swell things just opened.

New Wash Ribbons

New Double-faced Satin Ribbons, New Belts, neatly designed. New Ladies' Neckwear.

Freshen Your Petticoats

With Silk Ruffles. Now only 39c yard

Taffeta Silk Ruffling, with three rows of cording, plain and changeable colors. 36 yards, to close at 50c yard.

Odd Line of Boys' Waists

For winter and spring. 75c ea

Mother's Friend style, of French flannel, lightweight and fancy stripes, with small collars; only 75c each.

Wool-Mixed Underwear For Children

Natural gray, soft and nonshrinkable on the end of a flexible wire, in her room at the Hoffman house. It was very touching.

Ladies' Vests

Gray ribbed, Form-fitting, Nicely finished, at 50c ea

Pants to match, with French bands or buttoned adjustable side straps, 50c pair.

Ladies' Vests and Pants

Heavy crew cotton, Excellent value, at 35c ea

Ladies' Gray Vests

Medium weight flat-knit shaped waists, \$1 ea

Pants to match, with French bands, \$1.00 pair.

Ladies' Vests

SILK AND LISLE— Cream color, high neck, and long sleeves. Very durable and comfortable garments, at \$1.25 and \$1.50 each

OLDS & KING

A Money Success.

Grundy's play is a money success, it is claimed, but if it is so, it is a departure from the rule which declares that in the drama the woman sinner, whether she repents or keeps her boots on to the very last, must die in the last act, with a little slow music in the presence of a sniveling husband or lover, who is probably much more than the wicked lady, only he hasn't been found out.

One of the astuteest of New York managers told me once that this was the one unalterable law. No audience will accept a lady "dusty on the hem," as Pineso says, unless she is a corpse. We are a bloodthirsty lot, we theater-goers.

It's funny, isn't it? Take all the play heroes who have been perfect devils until the last act and then they cut it all, and are supposed, as the curtain falls, to re-lapse into a state of virtuous goodness.

Take the erring husband in plays; he's the most pathetic thing that ever happened. He usually comes back home in the twilight looking unusually handsome, presumably after a Turkish bath. Little wifey is either weeping over his photo

are declared to have been modelled from life. This, Miss Bates asseverates, is an atrocious libel. "I have always," she asserts, "dressed on and off the stage in a modest, decent and ladylike manner. I am satisfied that I shall obtain redress from the courts. If I do not, I will go down and break the store windows."

"There," said the New York Journal, "speaks the Eternal Feminine. Man may theorize and argue; woman demands action. 'Life is real, life is earnest.' If we cannot have our way in court, let us go down and break a window." And yet the stupid phrase-makers call woman the "gentler sex."

THE ETHERAL FEMININE. Blanche Bates Recently Display of Hostility in Shop Window.

Miss Blanche Bates is virtuously indignant over a display of hostility in a Broadway (New York) shop window, purporting to represent the hostility placed on view by Miss Bates in "Naughty Anthony."

OLDS & KING EVERY DRY GOODS WANT SUPPLIED

WINTER WEATHER

BUT WE SHOW SPRING GOODS

Each day brings more of them. In many advance lines are exclusive designs which cannot be duplicated later.

Early purchasers will have the dual advantage of choicest selections and a good beginning toward the spring outfitting.

We've not forgotten your cold weather needs. You'll find ample provision for them in all lines.

New Colored Dress Goods

At Old Prices

Many tempting things here to strongly suggest new costumes.

Homespun Plaids— All wool, 36 inches wide, pastel shades at 50c and 60c yard

Damier Checks— Five attractive combinations, 49 inches wide, at 50c yd

Plaid Back Homespuns— 36-inch widths, Oxford and light grays, at \$1.50 and \$2 yard

Tailor Checks— Elegant things in grays, browns, tans and modes, 36 inches wide, at \$1.75 and \$2 yard

Homespun Suitings— 36 inches wide, grays and blues, at \$1.25 yd

Best Challies— In all the new choice colors and combinations, at 50c yd

The New Silks

Come handsomer, if possible, with each succeeding season. Every late that imaginable to greet you in

Lace Corded Dresden Corded and Plain Plisse Corded Silks At \$1, \$1.25 \$1.50 to \$2.25 yd

Also Satin Duchesse at \$1.00 yd And Beau de Soie at \$1.50 yd

See the New Black Silk Crepons

Nothing dressier for full suit or sport than black silk crepons.

Beautiful effects in plaids, stripes and figures. Prices \$1.25 to \$2 yard

Rain-Proof Cheviots

No more serviceable yet dressy goods to be found. In black, \$1.00 to \$1.50 yd in colors, \$1.25 to \$1.50 yd

New Ideas in Table Linens

Faithful and persistent value-giving has made this a very sturdy branch of an expanding business tree. First shipment of fancy linens just opened.

Tea Cloths— Of best linen, hemstitched, plain and fancy, 36x54 inches, \$1.75 and \$2.25 each

The Latest in Center Pieces— Finest linen, different sizes, deep Battonberg borders and exquisite silk embroidered flowers.

Tea Cloths— With fancy open-work borders and tied fringes, with dollies to match, in splendid qualities.

In Our Spring Wash Goods

All the proper and beautiful fabrics are represented. Now is the time for best selections. A few styles follow.

Crepon Nouveaute— A dainty rippled surface cotton similar to crepon, in all colors.

Foulardette— In perfect copies of foulard silk, at 10c, 15c and 20c yd.

Simili Pongee— A silky lightweight fabric with exquisite designs, in light, bright and dark grounds, 40c yd

Dimity Satin Raye— A fascinating combination of silk and cotton, at 50c yd

New French Flannels— Both plain and printed.

New Tailor-Made Suits

Advance lines for 1900. Skirts with box-pleated backs. Jackets single or double-breast, light-fitting and silk-lined.

Decorated dinner set, 100 pieces, at \$75 set.

ENGLISH SEMI-PORCELAIN— Dinner sets, 60 pieces, white, \$4.50 set. 60 pieces decorated, \$6.75 set. Sold in sets or separate pieces.

For Amateur Artists— Unmounted Picture Albums, cloth or leather covered; two sizes, with 25 to 50 leaves, at 35c, 50c, 65c, 75c and \$1.00 each.

ENGLISH PORCELAIN— Decorated dinner set, 100 pieces, at \$75 set.

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Just Received in Crockery Section

14 Advance Lines of China, with new decorations for 1900.

Delicate tints with contrasting decorations, or white grounds, with plain, shaded and mixed borders. They include separate pieces in very artistic shapes.

Special Dinner Set Sale This Week

ENGLISH PORCELAIN— Decorated dinner set, 100 pieces, at \$75 set.

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OLDS & KING

Important Individual is Rarely Revealed.

It is generally known to the manager, and possibly to one or two of the conspicuous actors, especially if his interest in any one of them has had its influence in leading him to risk his money. But to most of the actors he is known vaguely, probably by a name not his own, and the extent of his responsibility is never determined accurately.

His Part. Mr. Smith—"Ow's your little boy getting on, Mrs. Jones?"

Mrs. Jones—"Very well, indeed. 'Tis entered the theatrical profession now."

"Ow! 'Wot part's he takin'?"

"Well, 'e ain't exactly takin' a part, but 'e fetches the seamstress's beer!"

Spare Moments.

A Difference. Antipathetic deersays his guest: "He ain't would not begin it."

If it were set to rain, he could return it in a minute.

—Washington Star.

OLDS & KING

Shown In Our Art Department

New lines of hand-made Mexican drawn work, dollies, center pieces and scarfs.

Odd Lines of Stamped Linen

Squares, dollies, scarfs and center pieces, at..... 1/2 price

Royal Worcester Corsets

Best designed, finest fitting and most comfortable of all makes.

Over 100 styles The Dowager Corset best ever produced

FOR STOUT FIGURES. Sizes Medium, long and extra long. Black and gray, of heavy coutille with satin strips and strong boning.

Ladies' Flannelette Gowns

2 Odd Lines

OF WHITE FLANNELETTE— With tucked and insertion trimmed yokes, H. grade, at..... 79c ea

PIN STRIPED FLANNELETTE— Gowns, tucked yokes and feather stitched finishings, H. B. values at..... \$1.13 ea

Ladies' Knit Skirts

Knee lengths

Warmest of all underskirts. In fancy stripes or plain colors. 90c, 95c, 50c to \$1.75 each.

Infants' Jackets

Knit, allover or cashmere, with fancy attachments. For common or dressy wear, at 60c, 50c, 55c to \$2.50 each.

Men's Fancy Shirts

All laundered. The new colorings in stripes, dots, diamonds, and figures; in light and dark blue, buff, stripes, etc., etc. This season's very newest. Come early and get your choice of color in the right size.

Men's Linen Collars

4-ply, at 10c each

High turn-down lock fronts, high bands; in fact all the new shapes; only 10c each.

Men's Warm Gloves

All wool cashmere, 50c pair. Wool fleeced, fur tops, 75c and \$1 pair. Mochas, silk-lined and unlined, at \$1.50 pair.

Special This Week

MEN'S FLANNELETTE NIGHTSHIRTS— Generous sizes and well-made; 75c grade, now..... 59c ea

Shoe Items

Our footwear is everything that good footwear should be. Quality and workmanship are unexcelled.

More "Princess" Shoes

Best \$3.00 Woman's Shoe Made

For Dress

Hand-turned soles, cloth or kid tops, cloth or extra wide Boston toes, patent or kid tips, medium or high heels.

For Street

12-inch high tops, for storm, street or bicycle shoes.

Heavy Shoes

On new lasts, combining comfort and style, for early spring or fall wear.

Any of the above come in black and tan, or dark chocolate, and Only \$3 pair

At \$3.50—Hand turned or hand-felt soft kid shoes in fancy scroll patterns, Boston and coin toes.

At \$4.00—Ladies' steel kid shoes, kid lined throughout, extra heavy soles, coin toes, and kid tips. An ideal wet weather shoe, yet dressy.

\$5.00—For Laird, Seiber & Co.'s fine hand-made shoes.

HEAVY SOLES for street wear. LIGHT SOLES for dress wear.

OLDS & KING