

THE STORY OF A WINTERY NIGHT ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO



For those who know, and those who have yet to know, the soul-soothing beauty of Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata"

who is a recent arrival in this city from Denver, Colo., where she was a student of Ruffalo Cavallo, made a favorable impression in her violin playing, and gave ample evidence that she is a violinist of talent, finish and musical sympathy. Mrs. Ross, contralto, was quite successful in her fine recitations of vocal numbers by Handel, Worell, Stevenson, Mary Turner Salter, Earl C. Sharp and Charles G. Spross. Mrs. Ross was in fine voice, and her first-class singing drew the many new friends. Mr. Becker is one of the finished, competent pianists of this city, and his admirable piano solos and accompaniments on this occasion were much admired. The ladies' octet sang Christmas carols in excellent style. Mrs. R. C. Dorr was choral director.

The sacred concert which took place last Sunday night at the Church of the Madeleine, East Twenty-first and Siskiyou streets, was quite successful, from the excellently rendered programme, under the capable direction of this occasion of Frederick W. Goodrich. Miss Nona Lawler, soprano, was in admirable voice, and sang in fine style. Mrs. A. F. Pezsel, contralto, has an unusually good voice, and ought to sing out more in public. The ensemble work of the choir was much praised, and Rev. George Thompson, the pastor, delivered a crisp and helpful address on "The Musical Requirements of the sacred Liturgy." A collection was taken for the pipe organ fund.

Mrs. E. E. Coovert, mezzo contralto, was vocal soloist at a sewing circle held at her home on Johnson street, last Wednesday, under direction of the Coterie Club. Mrs. Coovert sang with fine expression and tonal quality "Somewhere a Voice is Calling" (Tate), and "Mother Machree" (Olcott). So well did Mrs. Coovert sing the last number that her guests asked her to repeat it, which she did. The piano accompanist was Mrs. Edward Alden Eosie.

The second "Explanatory Talk" at the piano by Walter Damrosch took place at the Little Theater in East Forty-fourth street, New York, last Monday, when the "Symphony in C" (Saint-Saens) and "Iberia" (Debussy) were described. Both compositions will be programmed by the Symphony Society of New York for two concerts in the near future.

The itinerary of the annual January tour of the New York Symphony Orchestra, under the capable direction of this occasion of Frederick W. Goodrich, includes Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, D. C., Cumberland, Md., Cleveland, Dayton, Detroit, Chicago, Cook Island, Urbana (University of Illinois), Indianapolis, Columbus and Pittsburg. Maggie Teyte, the English prima donna, soprano, will be the soloist in Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, D. C., and Pittsburg; Frieda Hempel, coloratura soprano of the Metropolitan, will be the soloist in Cleveland; Josef Lehmann, tenor, will sing at Indianapolis, and Harold Henry, pianist, at the University of Illinois.

Musical lovers of Greater New York were delighted by the singing of Madame Alma Gluck, who was the soloist with the Symphony Society of New York, Walter Damrosch, conductor, recently at Aeolian Hall. Madame Gluck sang Mozart's aria from "Die Entfuehrung aus dem Seraglio," and three of Chopin's songs. Both compositions, the young Australian composer, Percy Grainger, who was represented by three orchestral numbers, enjoys the distinction of being the most performed orchestral composer in England at the present time. His "Mock Morris" was played by orchestras 500 times last year, while his more recent "Shepherd's Hey," played for the first time in New York, can boast of even greater popularity.

Dr. Clement B. Shaw's presentation of the opera of "Don Pasquale" (Donizetti) last Saturday at the Tilford building was of unusual interest. Being in the buffo style, many of its situations were thoroughly amusing. M. A. Goodenough and Miss McBride at the piano; F. H. Wig, violinist, Misses Hanson and Bradford, soprano, and B. H. St. Helen, tenor, assisted. Dr. Shaw, having completed a course of 10 Italian operas, will begin a series of 10 German operas Saturday night, January 2.

Piano and violin playing that was a pleasure to listen to marked the piano students' recital by Miss Eva Trotter and Miss Marjorie Trotter, in Sherman Clay & Co.'s hall, last Tuesday night. Among the students who took part were: Velma Hendy, Barbara Lull, Ardella Harson, Jeanette Rarson, Leola Jaeger, Jack Adams, Florence Fairclough, Louise Jacobsen, Naidyne Baker, Velma Hendy, Kenneth Barbour, Grace Jacobsen, Myrtle Brownell, Barbara Lull, Bessie Helerson, Dorothy Dyer, Frances Wardner, Grace Jacobsen, Dorothy Girdner, Barbara Lull and Florence Jacobsen.

Miss Leona Bisch, soprano, was heard to advantage last Sunday night at the Young Peoples' Meeting held at the White Temple. Miss Bisch, who possesses a strong sympathetic voice, sang in excellent style "My Task" (Ashford). She is being prepared in vocal work by Harold Hurlbut.

Mrs. Nita Briggs Clifford entertained her junior piano students at an enjoyable monthly recital, and those taking part were: Mildred Rothschild, Audrey Burroughs, Farry Douglass, Grace Allen, Evelyn Kelley, Nellie Burroughs, Lyle Keeler, Gladys Smith, Paul Klippel, Mary Sullivan, Lucien Burroughs. These violin students of A. L. Child assisted musically. Irving Allen, George Spink, Fenton Shearer and Edward Kuschner.

Musical America, New York, Dec. 13, reviewing the musical activities of Harold Hurlbut, of this city, says in part: "He disclosed a pure tenor voice, and a voice production and art worthy of his training under such a teacher as Campanari."

Miss Violet Phillips, soprano, sang at the meeting of the Michigan Club held at the Masonic Temple last Monday night. Miss Phillips, who possesses a singing voice of both beauty and range and her singing was much appreciated.

A musical programme of merit was listened to at the meeting of the Portland Etude Club, held December 12, at the home of Miss Marie Soule. Beethoven's personality formed the theme of discussion; the stories told by the members and the excellent pictures shown by Miss Soule helped to give a true portrayal of an extraordinary character. Beethoven sonatas made up the programme, and those who took part in it were: Miss Mollie Pierce, Miss Edna Wennerberg, Master Gordon Soule, Miss Julia Pratt, Miss Elsie Lewis and Miss Susie Michael. The piano accompanists were: Miss Lorna Ganong and Miss Catherine Lewis. The charming story of the "Moonlight Sonata" was told by the president, Miss Blanche Lucky.

One of the best-liked numbers on the programme at Reed College last Thursday night was the solo, "O Thou That Teltest" (Handel's "Messiah"), sung by Miss Clara. Miss Clara is also soloist at Centenary Methodist Episcopal Church. She has already appeared in recital, but will be presented in her own recital next Spring by Joseph A. Finley.

Earl Goodwin Gray was tenor soloist at a recital, under direction of Mrs. Charles T. McPherson, at Clatskanie, Or., December 12. Mr. Gray is well-known to the musicians of this city as tenor soloist at Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, for two years, and as a singer much in demand at many of the social functions of the younger set. His rendition of a heavy programme was well received,

COLD, brilliant moonlight silvered the snowy roofs of quaint old Bonn. Through a narrow street the master was walking with a friend.

"Hush!" he exclaimed, halting suddenly in front of a little house. "Listen!—that is my Sonata in F. How well it is played!"

They edged up close to the door. In the midst of the finale the music ceased abruptly, and a voice cried sadly, "I can't play any more. It is so beautiful, but beyond my power. Oh! if only I might go to Kilm to the concert!"

"Yes, sister, but why wish for what cannot be," said a second voice.

"I know," came the answer, and continuing almost inaudibly, "I know . . . yet I can't help longing to hear some really good music just once in my life."

"Let us go in," said Beethoven. And, despite his friend's objection, he placed his hand on the latch. "I shall play for her and she will understand."

He opened the door. There at the table sat the brother mending shoes. The girl, crying softly, bowed her head upon the old piano.

"Pardon me, but I heard your music," said Beethoven, "and I also heard your wish. Perhaps, if you will allow me, I can fulfill it."

The cobbler thanked him. "But our piano is so poor," he apologized, "and we have no music."

"No music," exclaimed the master, "how then does she . . . Oh, forgive me!" he stammered. The girl had lifted her head and he saw that she was blind. "You play from memory?" he continued. "But I thought I heard you say you had never been to the concerts."

"When we lived in Brühl, a neighbor practised every evening," said the girl. "And in summer, when the windows were open, I used to walk up and down in front of her house and listen."

She gave Beethoven her place at the piano. He ran his fingers along the yellowed keys. Under his touch the worn strings sang as if born anew, and out of the old instrument trooped hosts of his compelling melodies to surround and captivate the wondering pair. The flame of the one candle sputtered fitfully and presently went out. The youth slipped over and threw open the shutters. As the moonlight flooded the room, the pianist paused.

"Who and what are you?" gasped the cobbler, scarce knowing he was speaking.

"Listen," answered the master, and he played the first few bars of his Sonata in F.

"Beethoven!" burst from the lips of the pair. "Oh, play on, play on—just a little more!" they pleaded as he arose to go.

For a moment he stood, silent, looking out the window. And then again seating himself, he began, as if to voice the spirit of the calm, perfect night, weaving slowly into exquisite being those mystic measures which caress the soul, even as the cool radiance of the moon softens and gentles the world's rough face. There, in that little room, Beethoven intertwined the throbbing of the sea's great heart and the far, clear call of stars; he sounded the very depths of the sublime, till it seemed to the three listeners as if the Spirit of Infinity were come down the path of moonlight and stood by their side, whispering of the things that are forever and forever.

Vain yearnings and thoughts of toil and tithes were swept from their long-time moorings in the mind, and by the hand of infinite loveliness, the blind girl was guided to heights whence she saw more than wide eyes can window, however clear. On the slow current of the adagio—she was borne to the vernal field of the allegretto, where fairies danced beside the stream, and then in the trembling, hurrying presto, she saw the elk-folk scurry off, leaving all things better and more beautiful because of their having been.

Beethoven, the master, had in that hour in that poor, trouble-shadowed home, lighted a transforming flame which would neither waver nor go out through all the years.

"Farewell," he said, going to the door. "You will come again?" they cried.

"Yes, yes, I will come again."

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and his work showed the results of careful training. Mr. Gray is a student of Mrs. Adelaide Smith, of Chicago, Mrs. C. T. McPherson and Mrs. E. M. Malvern Evans (Edith Roslyn Collins) of this city. Mr. Gray has been prominently identified with various Portland musical organizations, being at present secretary of the First Methodist Episcopal Church Chorus, and he is also an enthusiastic "booster" and supporter of the Portland Symphony Orchestra.

The programme before the students of the Washington High School last Thursday morning was received with much appreciation. E. Malvern Evans was in splendid voice and won cordial favor. Mrs. Mabel Wallace Butterworth was unable to be present and Mrs. Ralph A. Walker prevailed upon to play, which she did, giving in her own inimitable manner, on the piano, her own composition, "Indian Suite." Mrs. H. A. Heppner was an efficient accompanist. The concerts at different high schools in this city are under the edu-

national department of the Monday Musical Club. Mrs. H. A. Heppner has this department in charge.

The Wednesday Evening Choral Club gave a concert in Metzger's Hall, Gresham, last Thursday night, for the benefit of the St. Andrew's Church. Mrs. Catherine Covick Friedrich, director, assisted by Miss Eugenia Craig, reader; Miss Julia Burke, violinist, and the Portland Male Quartet, all took part. There was a large attendance and the hall was taxed to take care of the crowd. The programme: "Wind Song of the Violin," Miss Eugenia Craig; "Little Gray Home in the West" and "Time," Mrs. Emil Oswald; "Cantata of Maying," Ladies' Quartet, Mrs. Bell, Miss Williams, Miss Mantle, Miss Kunt; "Just a Song, at Twilight," quartet; "The Frenchman's Dilemma," Miss Eugenia Craig; "Savo Song" and "You, Dear, and I," Mrs.

Bell; "The Sweet of the Year" and "The Rosary" (Nevin). Miss Ethel Mahoney was accompanist.

Otto Wedemeyer, of Hood River, Or., sang before the Portland "Woman's Club" recently. His programme comprised a group of eight songs in English, which not only demonstrated his versatility of interpretation but great breadth of expression and admirable and dramatic finish. Miss Mabel Riggs sang in a charming manner a group of children's songs. Mrs. Warren E. Thomas was the piano accompanist.

Among the musical strangers in Portland this past week was Robert Merten, of Charles City, Ia. Mr. Merten, who is a warm personal friend of Joseph A. Finley, director of the Portland Oratorio Society, has a fine lyric tenor voice and is soloist with Dunbar's Nine White Hussars, who, led by Al Sweet, the famous cornet soloist, have just finished a week's engagement at the Orpheum. Mr. Merten, who was tenor

soloist in Mr. Finley's large chorus choir in the First Methodist Episcopal Church, Guthrie, Okla., has studied vocal music in New York and Chicago and has spent several years in Lyceum Bureau work. He is enjoying his Western trip. His wife, who is a graduate student of Emil Liebling, of Chicago, had charge of the piano department in Mr. Finley's conservatory of music, Guthrie, Okla.

Returned tourist—The bombardments are simply terrible. You have no idea how a church can be so completely wrecked. Friend—Yes, I have. I was in a choir fight once.—Puck.

"Say, Hiram, what do they mean by a 'Stradevarus'?" "Oh, a Stradevarus is the Latin name for a fiddle."—Musical Courier.

Eastern Star Grange Elects. JUNCTION CITY, Or., Dec. 13.—(Spe-

cial).—The Eastern Star elected officers: Worthy matron, Mrs. G. E. Micky; worthy patron, F. A. Phavaon; assistant matron, Cora Jackson; treasurer, Emma Mason; conductor, Mrs. F. N. O'Connor; assistant conductor, Edith Christensen; Adah, Mrs. L. Jackson; Ruth, Mrs. L. W. Mallory; Esther, Mrs. M. P. Corbin; Martha, Mrs. D. F. Mason; Electra, Mrs. F. Hurlbut; warden, Mrs. Elsie Johnson; sentinel, Mrs. F. Moorhead; marshal, Mrs. William Schroeder; organist, Miss M. Hurlbut.

March 1. The telephone company has issued notice to all its patrons in the district affected that the change will take effect at that time, and that the prefix to the telephones of all patrons East of Thirty-ninth street and north to Sullivan's Gulch will be changed from "B" to "D." There will be no loss of calls, as the information department will notify all callers of the change until the new books are issued and then as long after as it is expedient. The numbers will not be changed.

The new building represents a construction cost of about \$15,000 exclusive of installation cost. All patrons now on the "B" exchange, west of Thirty-ninth street, will retain their original prefix.

October 29 last was the fifty-sixth anniversary of the introduction of kerosene lamps into Bangor, Me. The first one was used by Josiah H. Rickett, a storekeeper, who received a shipment of five lamps. The lamps sold for \$1.50 and the kerosene for \$1.40 a gallon.

NEW EXCHANGE TO OPEN Home Telephone to Begin Actual Service on March 1. The new exchange of the Home Telephone & Telegraph Company, at East Forty-fifth and East Madison streets, which will be known as the "D" exchange, will begin actual service