FIRST GRAND OPERA

Peri's "Dafne" Marked the Start of a New Era In Music.

WAS SUNG ONLY IN PRIVATE

Its Performances Were Confined to the Palace of Corsi, and the Score Is Lost to the World--The First Opera Given In Public Was "Eurydice."

There is no form of music so generally popular with all classes today as opera-the combination of action and music. Opera has made extensive strides during the last century, although its origin is very remote. It came through a gradual course of development from almost the beginning of the Christian era. Earliest librettists were such eminent men as Aeschylus and Sophocles, who accompanied their spoken drama with a band of lyres and flutes.

But grand opera as we understand it today originated about the end of the sixteenth century, when Jacopo Peri's opera "Dafne" was first presented. It originated through the gathering of a small party of music lovers at the home of a Florentine nobleman. These patrons of art set themselves in the spirit of the renaissance to rediscover the music of the Greek drama.

Theories grew into actualities when a performance of "Dafne" was celebrated in the palace of Corst in 1595. This opera was successfully performed several times, but always in private, and now the score is not discoverable.

The public had the privilege of hearing opera five years later, when two settings of "Eurydice" were made, one by Peri and the other by Caccini. Both the operas were produced in part during the marriage celebration of Henry IV. and Marie de Medici at the Petit palace on Oct. 6, 1600.

Measuring the accomplishments of these enthusiasts with the opera of not many years later, the former must appear ridiculous and very wide of the mark. But here at least was a step in an untrodden path. Opera was now on a basis which admitted of development. Its career had begun.

"Eurydice" was the first Italian opera ever performed in public, and the work excited an extraordinary amount of attention. The score was first published in Florence in 1600 and was dedicated to Marie de Medici, and it was printed in 1608 in Venice, a copy of the latter being well preserved in the library of the British museum.

For fifty years "Eurydice" remained the luxury of nobles, being performed only before courts during special festivals. Monteverde added the overture to the Perl opera.

The next important operatic work to entitled "Orfeo," which was presentcomrades far in the rear. Work along full particulars. Adv. this line developed slowly until 1637, when the Teatro di San Cassiano was opened at Venice, which was the first public opera house. Now that the masses had a voice in the matter, it soon became evident that the people must be pleased and the Florentine ideals forgotten.

Later in the century the melody of the aria was enriched by two composers named Cavalli and Cesti. The opera, by stimulating solo singing and incentive for the elaborating of sweet sounding and finished melodic themes. Cavalli was a tireless worker, and he produced close to forty different operas, none of which has survived.

Scarlatti, who followed, was another tireless worker, his first opera having which he brought out more than sixty others. From that period to the present day the Italian composer has held his place with the greatest of any countries and has produced more operas than all the other countries combined

The earliest operas in France were composed by Lulli at the end of the seventeenth century and Rameau at the beginning of the eighteenth century, but they were little more than imitations of the Italian style. The basis of the French opera was laid by Gluck in the latter half of the eighteenth century. Meyerbeer, Rossini, Gounod and Thomas represented the most popular of the successors of Gluck, with the more modern Massenet and Charpentier.

In Germany until the rise of Wagner the opera was marked by little national originality. Mozart was the first opera writer among the German composers. To Weber especially will remain the glory of having first founded a distinct German operatic style.-Washington Post.

One View of Golf.

Many anecdotes are told of some of the curious ideas held about golf by people to whom it was a new and strange game before its modern popularity had set in. One woman who had evidently had a near view of the game said: "It is played by two men. One is a gentleman and the other is a common man. The common man sticks a ball on a tump of dirt, and the gentleman knocks it off.'

One of the great lessons of this life is to learn not to do what one likes, but to like what one does .- Hugh

Light as Chaff

It Smelled Like It. The Swedish jitney driver drew up beside the road, jumped out and, with wrench in hand, crawled under the auto. Taking ad-



vantage of the stop, the only passenger, a German. proceeded to eat a lunch consisting mainly of limburger cheese. Suddenly the driver emerged from beneath the ma chine and, with bulging eyes and

a hand on his nose, stood staring at the auto.

What's the matter?" inquired the German innocently between mouthfuls of cheese

'Ay don't know," said Ole. "But Ay tank the engine bane dead."-Country Gentleman.

Marshaling a Parade.

An old Irishman, long desirous of official dignity, was finally appointed marshal in a parade. Veterans, bandsand school

children were lined along the streets of the town, patiently waiting the signal to start. Suddenly Mike.

a prancing charger, dashed up the street. After inspecting the dignified procession he gave

his borse a quick clip. Then, standing up in his stirrups, he yelled with a voice filled with pride and authority: "Ready, now! Every one of ye kape

shtep wid the horse!"

Ela For One. Which is the strongest day of the seven? Sunday, because the others are week days.

They Cry For More. What is that which makes everybody sick but those who swallow it?

A Good Position.

Can be had by any ambitious young man or young lady in the field of railway or commercial telegraphy. Since the passage of the eight hour law by congress, it has created a demann for telegraph operators. Positions paying from \$75 to \$90 per month with many be produced was that of Monteverde, chances for advancement. It will pay you to write Railway Tele-These two operas left Peri and his graph Inst., of Portland, Ore., for

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THE SPEED OF SHIPS.

Influence of the Depth of Water and

the "Wave of Translation." On first thought the sea's depth seems of little importance if the ship finds depth enough to give her an easy draft. If she can run free apparently it makes little difference whether she has six feet or 600 feet between ber keel and the bottom. Such an inference is, however, erroneous, for the depth exercises an important influence.

The British cruisers Blake and Blen beim were expected to run twenty-one knots, but actually ran two knots less in shallow water. They ran again under the same power, but the depth was between 135 and 165 feet, and their speed was twenty-two knots, one knot in excess of the maximum calculation.

The difference in speed is attributed to the influence of the "wave of trans lation" displaced by the ship as she moves forward, which acts as a brake The nearer the ship's keel to the bot tom the stronger the friction. A ship drawing twenty-seven feet of watersay a ship of 12,000 tonnage-feels that friction over a depth of 250 feet. According to some calculations, the dragging influence ceases to be felt at a depth equal to ten and one-half times the draft if the ship stands high out of the water.

A curious feature of the matter is that the speed of the ship is as impor tant an element as the depth of the water-that is to say, the influence of the depth on the ship's speed is more or less powerful in proportion as the speed is great. A ship increases her speed more readily over deep water; but, on the other hand, the faster a ship runs the more depth of water she requires to prevent the hindrance caused by the dragging influence of the friction which is always felt when the ship's keel "senses" bottom.

Running ten knots an hour, a ship must have between twenty-six and twenty-seven feet of depth or she is dragged from below. If running twenty knots she needs a depth of 104 to 105 feet, and when running thirty knots she feels the drag over a depth of nearly 324 feet.-Exchange.

ODD WAYS OF USING GOLD.

They Didn't Impress the Man Who Had None to Squander.

"I recken I would be liable to be as many different kinds of fool as almost anybody else if I should suddenly get possession of a large amount of money," said the man in straitened circumstances. "I have noticed that people who are so fortunate as to do that often show remarkable versatility in their choice of ridiculous perform ances. The very ability to realize desires that have long been held in abeyance by lack of means seems sometimes to develop absurdities in a man's nature which no one else would suspect if he had remained poor.

ometimes a man will do things that are not really absurd, but only eem whimsical. I knew one-man who, when he received an unexpected legacy, bought himself twenty-five pairs of shoes with the first money he spent. He said the one greatest inconvenience of poverty to him had always been the wearing of old shoes.

"Another man I once knew certainly did provoke mirth among his acquaintances when he had all the stovepipes in his house gilded before he spent any of his new money for anything I don't know that be was any more foolish than one of the multi-millionaires I read about who had the handrail of the grand stairway of his country house covered with a casing of solid gold. One seems about as grotesque as the other to me.

"And there is another thing I wouldn't do. It came to my mind recently when my wife showed me a piano in a store window. It was entirely covered with gold or what looked like gold. I agreed with her that it was pretty, but I said that I would not care to have it in our house

"Gold is certainly a good thing to have, and I'd like to have a lot of it. but I don't think I'd like to have it too much in evidence all the time."-New York Sun.

Old Mexican Legend.

The early Tarascans, a Mexican tribe, once possessed the art, now lost, of tempering copper. One of their legends is not far removed from the Bible story of Noah. According to them, Trezpi-their Noah-escaped an all destroying flood in a great boat laden with animals. Even the story of the dove is closely followed, for Trezpi sent forth first a vulture and then a humming bird, and so ascertained that dry land existed.

"And has your daughter's course in domestic science interested her any in the housework?"

"To some extent. Occasionally she endescends to show her mother wherein old fashioned methods are all wrong."-Kansas City Journal.

Dubious Outlook. "I understand you have a new neigh-

bor. Do you expect to be friendly with him?" "I hope for the best, but he has five little boys, and my library windows are in an exposed position."—Birming-ham Age-Herald.

Two of a Kind.
"Everything I have in this world I

owe to my wife."

"I'm almost like you too. Everything I owe in this world my wife bought."

—Detroit Free Press.

Olive Tree. The olive tree lives better under water than any other plant which is not aquatic.

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Rev. James C. Erwin, Pastor

Sunday School 10 A. M. J. R. Moyer, Sunday School Sup't Preaching 11 A. M. and 7:30 PM Junior League, Sunday, 3 P. M. Miss Mary Hammond.

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