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 - (b) "Candle Dance of the Brides of Kashmir"......
- 7. Waltz—"Wiener Blut"......Strauss

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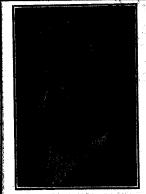
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Those familiar with the lives of Haydn and Schubert will remember that they were employed at different times in the Esterhazy family, a similar house. The heads of these old noble families were like kings, and ruled in a royal way over an immense territory. The present family of Sczechenyi, however, has been reduced in number and riches like the royal families, they "die out." A grandson of the great Count Stephen Sczechenyi recently married Miss Glady Vanderbilt.

Philip Fahrbach's fame is somewhat overshadowed by that of his father, popular composer of dances and other light music. The family is of Vienna, the grandfather having been a flute virtuoso, composer and conductor

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Overture—"THE FLYING DUTCHMAN."

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While Wagner was still a young man, before he had made a reputation as a musician, he went to Paris with the hope of bettering his fortunes. Paris was then the center of the world of art. Meyerbeer was at the height of popularity, and Wagner felt that if he could only have a hearing before a cultured and intelligent audience, his fortune would be made. In Germany

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the managers conceded Wagner to be a good conductor of opera, but could see no merit in the score of his Rienzi. They considered him half crazy and gave him no encouragement. In Paris he fared little better, but on the trip to Paris, whither he went by sea, Wagner read the legend of the "Flying Dutchman," which suggested an opera. This was his first great work. We can not consider Rienzi such, notwithstanding many passages of great power and originality. In the "Flying Dutchman" the composer first begins to feel sure of himself and has the first dawning ideas from which he developed the theory of the music drama.

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"The Flying Dutchman" is now not often performed. Perhaps, if we had

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These thoughts are suggested by the story of the composer and the plot of

his opera, of which he was also the librettist.

Leoncavallo had a good musical education, and began his artistic career with a fair promise of success. A series of reverses, however, put him back and he was compelled to turn (as Wagner did), to all kinds of desultory musical work to make a bare living. Composing popular dances, accompany ing singers in cafes and playing the piano in entertainments, he wandered about Italy and Egypt for eight years, until he persuaded Sonzogno, the publisher and manager, to accept his opera, "I' Pagliacci" (The Clown), and give it a trial. Previous to his wanderings he had planned a grand trilogy on subjects from Italian history, but this little one-act opera, the story of a tragedy in a company of strolling players, so virile, so saturated with human emotions, powerfully and tersely expressed, at once made his fame.

Leoncavallo's later works, including the Trilogy, which he never completed, have not borne out the promise of this, his masterpiece. His "Boheme," a

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

work of great power, inevitably challenges comparison with Puccini's greater opera on the same subject, completed about the same time. The German Emperor commissioned Leoncavallo to write an opera commemorating the deeds of Roland, one of his Hohenzollern ancestors, but like most "made-to order" art works, it was a failure. It is much to be feared that Leoncavallo has written his best, and like Mascagni, will have to depend on one opera to perpetuate his fame.

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From Sandys & Foster's "History of the Violin."

Antoine Stradivarius was descended from an old family at Cremona, and was born there about the year 1644, as there is an instrument of his in existence having a ticket written by him with the date 1736, stating his age, ninety-two. He was a pupil of Nicolas Amati, and made after his model, until about the year 1690. From the year 1670, however, he placed his own name in his instrument, having for the three previous years placed that of his master. "Luthomonographie" describes an instrument of the date of 1681, of a long form, with the back in two parts, made of fine wood, and the varnish brown, bordering on red. In the year 1690 he altered his style, and the proportions of his instrument; his model was larger, and the form of his arching somewhat flatter, the gradation of the thickness of the vibrating plates more strictly regulated, and the choice of wood carefully attended to; but he still retained some similarity of the workmanship of his master. His best instruments were made from about 1700 to 1725, and these approached nearest to perfection. The wood united beauty with great capability for con-

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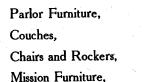
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ducting sound, and his model was designed with taste and skill that have never been exceeded. The thickness was greatest toward the center, in order more fully to support the pressure of the bridge under the tension of the strings, and gradually decreased toward the sides, to give all the necessary vibration. The S. S. holes were formed with great taste, and the scroll finely carved; the varnish of a beautiful warm reddish or yellowish color, of which the secret appears to be lost. The lower plate, sides and neck were made of beautifully figured maple, the corners not too salient, and the purpling well inlaid. The four strings are generally of equal beauty of tone, which can not be surpassed. The details of the interior of the instrument are equally attended to with those of the exterior, all being the result of study and scientific calculation, and in harmonious proportion.

After 1725, his instruments are said to have rather fallen off in workmanship—he was now an aged man; the arching became a little more raised, and the varnish of a browner hue, the tone also less brilliant. Probably he worked less himself, but gave directions to his assistants, among whom were his sons, Honobono and Francesco, who were inferior to him, and Charles Bergonzo, who is also said to have worked with him. Several unfinished instruments were left at the time of his death, which were completed by his sons, who of the instruments toward the close of his life. He died at Cremona in 1737, having attained the great age of ninety-three. He had three sons and one daughter, Catherine, who died at the age of seventy, in 1748. Two of his sons, as before mentioned, worked with their father, of whom Honobono died in June, 1742, and Francesco in May, 1743. The unusual duration of his life will account for the great number of instruments reported to have been made by him; but though there are many that bear his tickets, genuine specimens

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are scarce, and it is to be feared that instruments are sometimes put forward with great pretense, of which the authenticity may well be doubted, the proprietors not having the prudence of La Monnoye, in his epitaph on "Louis Barbier, Abbe de la Riviere," who in 1670, left 100 crowns for one—

"Cigit un tresgrant personage,
Qui fut d'un illustre lignage
Qui posseda mille vertus.
Qui ne trompa jamais, qui fut toujours fort sage,
Je n'en dirai pas davantage;
C'est trop mentir pour cent escus."

5. "FIREFLY IDYL."

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Lalla Rookh, the daughter of the Sultan of Delhi, has been betrothed to

Lalla Rookh, the daughter of the Sultan of Delhi, has been betrothed to the Prince of Kashmir, and on attaining the proper age, sets out for the capital of her future husband, where the nuptials are to be celebrated. Her father, well advanced in years, feels unable to undertake the journey, but deputes

his vizier to conduct the party in his stead.

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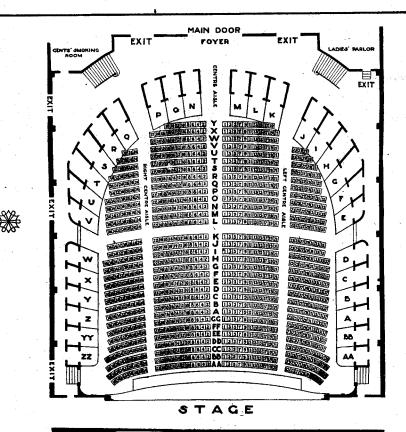
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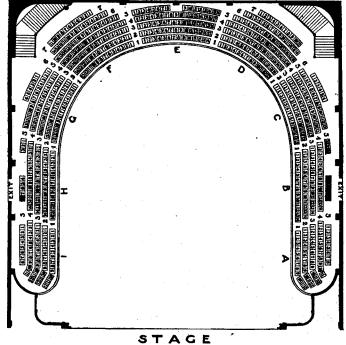
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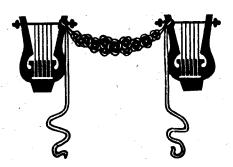
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Fourth and Pine ST. LOUIS

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