

(op. 87) for two clarionets and bass clarionet, the *ensemble* was very exact, the tone throughout the whole scale in all three instruments, and the execution, faultlessly smooth. Again, in a Trio for pianoforte, violin, and violoncello—a charming composition by Rubinstein, op. 52—the *ensemble* was very admirable, so artistically and musically reciprocal, and the individual interpretation superior. A Vieuxtemps composition—"Fantasie appassionata" for Violins op. 35—with important pianoforte accompaniment, was also thoroughly enjoyable, played by two of the pupils who took part in the Rubinstein trio. The solos were equally satisfactory; so far as the pure style of the design and the honesty of the execution in each case went. The violin pupils were two, both taught by Herr Lewinger; a lady with an English name, who played with much good taste and freedom and a full warm tone; and a gentleman from Hungary who, if he goes on as he has begun, will be very well known. The singers, a Russian and a German, were both tenors, pupils of Professor Müller; and both are very promising: the former has the better command of his voice, the tone-production of the latter not being as yet perfect. Of the pianoforte-players, one was a pupil of Herr Edgar de Glimes, the other of Director Schneider.

Monday, March 19th:
Eugen d'Albert, at the Musenhau.
Tickets from F. Ries, musicstore, Kaufhaus.
Saturday, March 20th:
Anton Sistermans (song) and Lina Mayer (pianoforte), at the Musenhau.

THE TAVERNOLA CATASTROPHE.

Further details are to hand from Milan concerning the catastrophe at Tavernola: The delightful Lago d'Isèo on the Southern border of the alps between the Lago di Garda and the Lago di Como, has, since the 3rd of March been the scene of a tragedy of nature which awakes all our sympathy and horror. The little town of Tavernola has sunk in the waters of the lake. The town contained 1000 inhabitants, had a fine parish church dating from the 17th century, and a mediaeval watch tower of the Hohenstaufen era dominated the town, which lay on the Western shore of the lake, opposite Mont' Isola, the largest island of all the Italian lakes. The country round teems with olive trees and laurels. Northward of Tavernola a rocky cliff drops sheer into the water, so that there is not even room for a lakeside road. A tumbling stream, which, coming from the Val di Vigolo, falls into the lake at Tavernola, has in the course of centuries piled up a half circular bank of earth in the lake, and on this insecure foundation thronged together the houses of the little town. On the very edge of the water were built villas with colonnades and palmgardens in which families from Bergamo and Cremona pass the autumn. The banks of the lake are very steep. Between Tavernola and Mont' Isola the water is over 897ft. deep. The pile of earth which is thus situated on the precipitous shores began to slip, and slowly disappeared in the lake, together with the gardens, towers and palaces. The catastrophe began at 9 in the morning of March 3. The foundations and the ground commenced to quiver. Suddenly that part of the little town situated immediately next the lake, broke off from the mainland and was precipitated into the lake. The beautiful Grasselli palace, the dispensary, the postoffice and two residences had suddenly vanished from the earth. In their place the blue waves of the lake were plashing in the spring sunshine. The inhabitants had with the greatest difficulty managed to save their lives, but of their property not a thing remained. They are all as if in a state of semi delirium. It all seems to them like a dream from which they soon hope to awaken. In the night the disasters continued. Six more houses, among them the parsonage, and the mediaeval watch tower sank into the lake. An old fisherman who absolutely refused to leave his house was involved in its ruin. There is no ground for hope that the catastrophe is over. One would have thought that the submerged buildings and masses of earth would have filled up the lake by the shore. But this is not the case. While the lake was formerly 19ft. deep by the shore, now the depth of water is from 43 to 49ft. The buildings which lay on the precipitous shore must, of course, have slipped down deep into the lake. The town now stands on the edge of an abyss. The waves are washing the insecure foundations and the absolute destruction of the little town, with the exception of a few houses situated a little higher up on the hill, seems unavoidable. By order of the authorities all the houses on the pile of earth have been evacuated. The inhabitants for the most part have fled to the mountain villages of Vigolo and Parzanica. In their place are arriving crowds of curious sight-seers anxious to enjoy the spectacle of the sliding town.

LOCAL.

In the American Church of St. John on Sunday evening, was heard a truly grand and devotional rendering of Händels inspired "He was despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief" sung by a member of the congregation, and accompanied by the organist. The anthem, as it might have been called and distinguished, was the chief vocal number of the Recital that immediately followed the usual evening service, and it made a profound impression. (A short notice of the Recital will be found under "Concerts".)

The guards in the city to-day are furnished by the Schützen-Regiment No. 108. The band plays about 12.40 in Neustadt.

The former Ballet dancer Mrs. Waldau, who was nearly 100 years old and whose life history we related a few weeks ago, died yesterday morning in her stepson's residence.

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IS A £340 FUR STOLE A NECESSITY?

Mr. Gustave Bur, the well known Parisian *costurier*, has recently brought an action against a Mrs. Bell, to recover the sum of £1002 owed for dresses supplied. Mrs. Bell, while admitting that she had purchased the goods, declared that they were necessities and that therefore her husband, from whom she has since been divorced, was responsible for the payment of them. The prosecution alleged that Mrs. Bell, when ordering the goods in Paris, said that she hated wearing things similar to other women, so that she must have original designs, but that, as she did not want her husband to know the amount, the things were to be charged to her, and the bill sent to her, marked "private"; a mistake, according to the prosecuting counsel, as that would only call the husband's attention to the letter. Among the articles charged for, was a silver fox stole, priced at £340. The prosecution for this

alleged through their chief witness, a saleswoman, that they would never have supplied the goods to the husband, inasmuch as he was a South African company promoter, one of a class whose income is notoriously spasmodic. For the defence, it was urged that Mrs. Bell, who "knew everybody in South Africa and they were all rich", (Chinese "slaves", we presume, excepted), had no private means whatever, but that, since her husband moved in plutocratic circles, she was expected to dress extravagantly. A French barrister explained that by the law of that country, a woman was jointly liable with her husband for debts contracted, and the judge, in summing up, explained that "necessaries" extended from the simplest homespun garment to the most costly, according to the station in life, in which the person to whom the goods were supplied, moved, and the way in which the husband allowed his wife to dress herself. The law said that a married woman had an implied right to pledge his credit for necessities, and necessities were such articles as were suitable to the station in life in which the parties lived and moved. Mrs. Bell had been moving in that extravagant circle of plutocrats, who made money with great rapidity in South Africa and elsewhere. The jury found that the things were necessities of life, considering the husband's position, but that by French law the wife was jointly responsible. These findings complicated the case, and further argument will be necessary to settle, which party has won the case. Meanwhile it would be interesting to ladies to know at what point a husband's income may be considered sufficient to render a £340 fur boa a necessity.

NEW WAY OF "DOING" SHOW CITIES.

Dresden, among other cities, may expect a visit at least, if not a season's visitation, from "the Man with the Megaphone." The following account, taken from a London paper, shows how he operates on the senses of his patrons.

An Englishman, who recently visited New York, gives his experience of the man with the megaphone. "With a friend," he said, "I was strolling leisurely through Madison-square Gardens one day, when a smart, actor-looking man addressed us. He invited us to see all the sights of New York for one dollar, and pointed out a novel kind of motor-omnibus, or *char-à-banc*, standing close by; and in we scrambled, and the journey began.

"Smoothly threading our way through the maze of Broadway traffic, it was not until we reached Fifth-avenue that we realised the extent of the value to be obtained for our money. The man who had accosted us, and who had been sitting till then by the side of the driver, now stood up, bared his head, and with a few introductory words produced his instrument of office, a megaphone.

"Through this instrument he kept us informed of every building of importance on each side of the street (we were going about four miles an hour) until our brains were fairly reeling with the mass of details and statistics of the wealth, position, characteristics, and the private family history of the palaces we were passing.

"Churches, clubs, and business houses were all described, and it was not until we reached Central Park that we had time to draw breath and try to digest a tithe of the information bestowed in such concentrated form upon us."

That it is a wonderful way of seeing a new city in a very short time is beyond doubt, and it is not surprising to learn that the profits of the company are enormous.

LATEST ARRIVALS IN DRESDEN

up to the 10th of March, 1906.

- Mr. and Mrs. H. Hotchkiss, New York, H. Amalienhof.
- Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Lamb, Knansborough, H. Amalienhof.
- Miss A. Donoghue, London, H. Amalienhof.
- Mr. W. Barley, London, H. zum Goldenen Engel.
- Mr. E. Hamblin, Philadelphia, H. Europäischer Hof.
- Mrs. F. A. Williams, Boston, H. Europäischer Hof.
- Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Williams, Boston, H. Europäischer Hof.
- Mr. A. L. Belcher, Boston, H. Europäischer Hof.
- Mr. H. M. Marx, London, H. Europäischer Hof.
- Mr. J. Reynvaan, Dundee, H. Stadt Gotha.
- Mr. L. Rosenfeld, London, H. Grand Union.
- Mr. M. Benjamin, London, H. Grand Union.
- Mr. L. Carrington, Liverpool, H. Grand Union.
- Mrs. E. Harding, Birkenhead, H. Grand Union.
- Mr. A. Scott, London, H. Grand Union.
- Mr. R. Kiss, London, H. "Herzogin Garten".
- Mr. J. Tschuschner, London, H. Imperial.
- Mr. S. Delancy, Boston, H. Lingke.
- Mr. C. Wachsmann, London, H. Monopol.
- Mr. N. Jacobson, New York, H. du Nord.
- Mr. W. J. Krohn, London, H. du Nord.
- Mrs. G. Luce, Malmesbury, P. Schadowell.
- Miss E. W. Harrington, Boston, P. Schaumberger.
- Miss C. W. Harrington, Boston, P. Schaumberger.
- Miss E. E. Harrington, Boston, P. Schaumberger.
- Miss M. M. Harrington, Boston, P. Schaumberger.
- Miss E. Currie, London, P. Schmalz.
- Miss Mac Caskie, London, P. Schmalz.

WEATHER FORECAST FOR TO-DAY.

Of the Royal Saxon Meteorological Institute.

Weather, rainy; snow on the hills. Temperature, below normal. Barometer, low. Wind N.E.