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RANDOM NOTES.

The Berlin critics are not waxing very enthusiastic over Mr. Tree's performances but they are scrupulously fair, and there is no suspicion of the "here's a foreigner, let's heave half a brick at him" attitude. The Emperor's remarks that the scenery and costumes were magnificent and the acting excellent reflect faithfully enough the opinion of most of the journals. Shakespeare's plays are treated with more reverence in Germany than in England, and Mr. Tree, with a view to perfecting the *mise-en-scène*, is often reckless in his cuts of the text. The Berlin condemnation of the over-elaboration of Mr. Tree's version of "Richard II" echoes that of most of the more distinguished London critics when the play was revived at His Majesty's. One cannot help thinking that the play-going public in this country are more serious than in England. London audiences are so accustomed to having their jaded appetites tickled by the banal musical comedies which flourish so abundantly in the metropolis, that even when they go to see Shakespeare they demand magnificent spectacles. These they certainly obtain from Mr. Tree, ready enough to believe that sumptuous and gorgeous settings enhance his own picturesque personality. That Shakespeare's diction often suffers sadly in the process is unfortunately true enough.

Accustomed to the general appreciation of his good work Lord Cromer must, nevertheless, be considerably gratified by the chorus of praise which is greeting him on his retirement. It is curious to reflect that but for a chance, he might have been greeted as the maker of modern Turkey instead of Egypt. Twenty-eight years ago when Sir E. Malet was acting as Minister Plenipotentiary in Constantinople, the Sultan wanted to raise a loan in England, but was told by Sir E. Malet that it was impossible owing to the inadequacy of the security. The Sultan then, of his own accord, told the Minister that he intended to appoint a British Minister of Finance in Turkey, and requested him to select a man for the post. Sir Edward, who had long followed with great interest Evelyn Baring's career, telegraphed an offer of the post to him. Baring accepted and his name was placed before the Sultan. Just as the matter was on the point of being settled, Sir Edward's term of office expired, the matter was allowed to lapse and Egypt gained what Turkey undoubtedly lost.

It is good news to read that the jury in the Thaw case deny indignantly that they were influenced in the least by either of the addresses of counsel. It is not the English press alone that condemns Mr. Delmas' oratorical efforts and his definition of the new disease *Dementia Americana*. The New York journals are equally severe, one of them, for instance, saying "Let us be honest about it; as the English editors say, it was flappedoodle. The Thaw trial has been a grave scandal. The necessity for trying him again carries with it the necessity for never again trying him or anybody else in a manner that makes the American criminal procedure the object of derision on two continents". But the fault really lies with the press itself. Columns of gush have been printed every day for weeks giving actual or fictitious details as to the actions, sayings, costumes &c. of the prisoner and his relatives. The result is that it will be impossible to empanel any jury that is ignorant of the details of this case, to which such unnecessary publicity has been given. One may well fancy that there will be considerable disinclination to serve on the second jury, when such was the prejudice for and against the prisoner among the members of the first jury that several of them nearly came to blows during their protracted consideration of the verdict.

Such a shout of welcome is rising in England to greet General Botha that one is reminded of the curious tendency of the English nation, when roused from their ordinary phlegmatic attitude, to run to the opposite extreme. People still remember the exaggerated and almost hysterical welcome accorded to Kossuth and Garibaldi and it is to be hoped that there is not going to be a repetition of this sort of thing in the case of the Boer general. He is known as a brave and generous foe but he has yet to prove himself a valuable and deserving friend. Without doubting that he will do so, it is almost a slight to men such as Sir W. Laurier to exaggerate his welcome. Nothing could have been more admirable in tone

Hugo Borack

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Novelties of the season.

or taste than the General's own speech in reply to the address read to him at Southampton and that he does not lack the saving grace of humour was shown by his hint that the last time he was surrounded by Englishmen their attitude was not quite so cordial.

Only a few days ago was announced the death of Mr. Beecham who, from selling his famous pills in the street, became a millionaire, and now comes the news that the late Mr. Stewart of the firm of Lea and Perrin has left a fortune of £130,000. Mr. Lea himself died worth a million and yet at one time there seemed no probability of his ever being anything but a chemist in a very small way of business. He and his partner Perrin kept a small shop in Worcester and the late Lord Sandys one day gave them a receipt which he had picked up during his travels in India. The young men made up the receipt and found that the sauce thus made was extremely agreeable to the palate. Judicious advertising did the rest. Worcester sauce became world-famous and the young proprietors millionaires.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.

This evening, beginning at 7.30, ending about 10

Joseph in Egypt.

Opera in three Acts. Music by Méhul.

Cast:

Jacob, shepherd from the land of Hebron	Herr Kless.
Joseph, under the name of Cleophas, Viceroy of Egypt	Herr v. Bary.
Ruben,	Herr Nebuschka.
Simeon,	Herr Scheidemantel.
Levi,	Herr Krus.
Judah,	Herr Pust.
Dan,	Herr Grosch.
Naphtali,	Herr Rüdiger.
Gad,	Herr Wachter.
Asser,	Herr Jäger.
Isaschar,	Herr Hafner.
Zebulon,	Herr Büssel.
Benjamin,	Fräul. v. d. Osten.
Utobal, Joseph's confidant	Herr Planschke.
A Captain of the Body Guard	Herr Erl.
	Fräul. Keldorfer.
	Frau Lehmann.
Damsels of Memphis	Fräul. Schäfer.



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PLOT. Joseph is governor of Memphis under the name of Cleophas. Jacob's other sons are sent to Egypt to ask for food and hospitality. They are very remorseful when they recognise in Cleophas the brother they had ill-treated. Joseph pities them and goes to meet his blind old father and Benjamin. Received with honour and kindness, Simeon confesses to Jacob how they had sold Joseph. Jacob disowns them all, but Joseph intervenes and obtains their pardon.

Composer: Méhul, born 1763, died 1817.

Tomorrow, Wednesday, at 7.30 p.m.

Carlo Broschi.

ROYAL THEATRE.

NEUSTADT.

This evening, beginning at 7.30, ending after 10.15

Torquato Tasso.

Comedy in five Acts by Goethe.

Cast:

Alphons der Zweite, Herzog von Ferrara	Herr Blankenstein.
Leonore von Este, Schwester des Herzogs	Fräul. Politz.
Leonore Sanvitale, Gräfin von Scandiano	Frau Basté.
Torquato Tasso	Herr Wiecke.
Antonio Montecatino, Staatssekretär	Herr Frobose.

Tomorrow, Wednesday, at 7.30 p.m.

Der Compagnon.

REPertoire OF THE ROYAL THEATRES FOR THE WEEK.

OPERA HOUSE.

Thursday: Werther. 7.30 p. m.
Friday: Die Regimentstochter. 7.30 p. m.
Saturday: Samson und Dalila. 7.30 p. m.
Sunday, April 21st: Der Evangelimann. 7.30 p. m.
Monday, April 22nd: Oberon. 7 p. m.

SCHAUSPIELHAUS.

Thursday: The Ideal Husband. 7.30 p. m.
Friday: Agnes Bernauer. 7 p. m.
Saturday: Jugend von heute. 7.30 p. m.
Sunday, April 21st: Der Hüttenbesitzer. 7.30 p. m.
Monday, April 22nd: The Ideal Husband. 7.30 p. m.

RESIDENZ THEATRE.

This evening, at 7.30 p. m.

Die lustige Witwe.

Operette in 3 Acten. Musik von Franz Lehár.

Cast:

Baron Mirko Zeta, pontevdrinischer Gesandter in Paris	Carl Friesa.
Valencienne, seine Frau	Rosa Habler.
Graf Danilo Danilowitsch, Gesandtschaftssekretär, Kavallerie-Lieutenant d. R.	Oskar Aigner.
Hanna Glawari	Käte Hansen.
Camille de Rosillon	Heinrich Werk.
Vicomte Cascada	Bruno Bellmann.
Raoul de St. Brioche	Emil Gähd.
Bogdanowitsch, pontevdrinischer Konsul	Adolf Braunstein.
Sylviane, seine Frau	Herta Schroth.
Kromow, pontevdrinischer Gesandtschaftsrat	Alexander Olbrich.
Olga, seine Frau	Lina Meyer.
Pritschitsch, pontevdrinischer Offizier in Pension	Carl Wilhelm.
Praskowia, seine Frau	Martha Brede.
Njegus, Kanzlist bei der pontevdrinischen Gesandtschaft	Carl Knaack.
Lolo	Else Käppler.
Dodo	Jenny Baumgarten.
Jou-Jou	Cécille Weigel.
Frou-Frou	Charlotte Treuth.
Clo-Clo	Grete Herder.
Margot	Else Isold.
Eln Diener	Camillo Randolph.

Tomorrow, Wednesday, at 7.30 p.m.

Die lustige Witwe.

MR. CARNEGIE'S MOTHER.

Speaking at a banquet in Pittsburg, Mr. Carnegie said that he was first employed as a telegraph messenger in Pittsburg, and one of the most memorable events in his life was when his wages were raised from £2 5s. to £2 14s. He told how he went home on Saturday night and gave his mother the usual £2 5s., and then, later on, he surprised her by giving her 9s. more. "My mother," he said, "was nurse, seamstress, cook, laundress, teacher, angel, and saint, and no servants between."