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esting at the same time, for I made the acquaintance of many notable people. Madame Ackté and her husband could not have been more charmingly hospitable than they showed themselves upon this unique occasion, which will ever leave an indelible impression upon my mind.

Madame Ackté told me many interesting things, but the most interesting, perhaps, was that her young sister, who was present, and who is also a professional singer, has just signed an engagement to sing at the Opera-House in Dresden. I understand that it is an engagement of some duration. I have not heard the sister sing, but, if her voice is anything like Madame Ackté's, I must sincerely congratulate Dresden and your readers upon their good fortune.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.

This evening, beginning at 7.30, ending about 10.15

Die Abreise.

Musical Comedy in one Act. Music by E. d'Albert.

Cast:

Gilfen Herr Perron.
Louise, his wife Frau Wedekind.
Trott Herr Rüdiger.

PLOT. Gilfen, who is about to set out on a journey, accepts offers of help from Trott, who is paying court to Gilfen's wife, Louise, and sends him out on all manner of errands. Gilfen, hearing his wife singing, decides not to go away. Trott returns laden with parcels, but is again sent out to fetch a heavy chest. A complete understanding is arrived at between husband and wife, but on Trott's return Gilfen pretends he is going. While he is away Trott makes desperate love to Louise, but is received coolly. Gilfen returns and sends Trott to mend the carriage, but assures his wife he has left the best thing at home, namely a wife who would ask him not to go. Louise does so beg him, and Trott on his return finds he is de trop and retires crestfallen.

Composer: Eugene d'Albert, born 1864.

Hänsel und Gretel.

Fairy Play in three Acts. Music by E. Humperdinck.

Cast:

Peter, a broombinder Herr Plaschke.
Gertrude, his wife Frau Bender-Schäfer
Hänsel, } their children (Fräul. v. d. Osten.
Gretel, } (Frau Nast.
The nibbling witch Herr Erl.
The little Sand-man Fräul. Keldorfer.
The little Dew-man Frau Bender-Schäfer

PLOT. Hänsel und Gretel are playing in the kitchen when their mother comes in, and, in trying to hit them, knocks over a pot of milk, the only thing they had in the house. She sends the two children out to pick strawberries. The father comes home laden with provisions, and is frightened to hear that the children have been sent into the forest where a witch is; and he and his wife rush off to find them. Meanwhile the children have been playing in the wood till it grows too dark to find their way home. The dustman throws dust in their eyes, and fourteen guardian angels stand round them while they sleep. The children find the witch's house, which is made of sweets; they begin to nibble at it, but the witch catches them and putting Hänsel into a cage to fatten, busies herself with the oven. Gretel releases Hänsel and they push the old woman into the fire, a long row of children are seen covered with sugar, which drops off them as the witch burns. As all the children are romping, the father and mother enter and are overjoyed at finding Hänsel and Gretel safe. The witch is drawn out of the oven baked into a large honey-cake.

Composer: Humperdinck, born 1854.

(See "The Standard-Operas" by Charles Annesley; for sale at Carl Titzmann's bookshop, Prager Strasse 19, price 3.80 S.)

Tomorrow, Thursday, at 7 p.m.
Oberon.

RESIDENZ THEATRE.

Gastspiel der Schauspielgesellschaft
des Directors Linsemann:

This evening, at 7.30 p.m.

Die Haubenlerche.

Schauspiel in 4 Acten von E. v. Wildenbruch.

Cast:

August Langenthal, Besitzer einer
Papierfabrik Hugo Werner-Kahle.
Hermann, sein Halbbruder Walther Tautz.
Juliane, beider Cousine Hertha Alsen.
Frau Schmalenbach, Fabrikarbeiters-
witwe Rosa Laassner.
Lene, ihre Tochter Erna Nitter.
Ale Schmalenbach, Schwager der Frau
Schmalenbach, Lumpenfaktor in der
Fabrik Walther Blencke.
Paul Hefeld, erster Böttgeselle in der
Fabrik Georg Mendel.

Tomorrow, Thursday, at 7.30 p.m.
Der Herr Senator.

Fischhaus Grosse Brüder

Gasse 15/17.
Fish Menu daily: Eels, tench, all North Sea Fish.

OPERA HOUSE.

Friday: Salome. 7.30 p.m.
Saturday: Die Regimentstochter. 7.30 p.m.
Sunday, September 1st: Mignon. 7.30 p.m.

ROYAL THEATRE. NEUSTADT.

Closed till September 14.

Sunday, September 15: Iphigenie auf Tauris.
Monday, September 16: Geographie und Liebe.

CENTRAL THEATRE.

This evening, beginning at 8, ending after 10

Bühne und Welt.

Schauspiel in 4 Acten von Frido Grelle.

Cast:

Rolf Freimann	.....	Otto Ottbert.
Jullus, sein Bruder	.....	Rudolf Senius.
Siegfried Langen, Bureauchef des Hoftheaters	.....	Otto Pablau.
Der Intendant	.....	Richard Bendey.
Hensen,	.....	Adolf Stadthagen.
Müller,	.....	Joh. Schrotky.
Gellert,	.....	Herm. Kohlmetz.
Riedel,	.....	Otto Walther.
Kerzen, Regisseur,	Mitglieder	Bruno Klein.
Berndorff,	des	Walther Froese.
Schmidt, Inspizient,	Hoftheaters	Friedr. Sommer.
Fräulein Landau,	.....	Frieda Schulz.
Fräulein Zühren,	.....	Hedwig Margot.
Nelly Raun,	.....	Marianne Gonia.
Schlicht, Amtsgeistlicher	.....	Walther Froese.
Otten, Rechtsanwalt	.....	Paul Arndt.
Behrens, Polizeidiener	.....	Hans Grohberger.
Möhren, Gefangenenwärter	.....	Bruno Klein.
Dr. Heinz	.....	Otto Walther.

Thursday and Friday closed.

LOCAL.

This evening the last performance of the summer season "Bühne und Welt" will be given at the Central Theatre.

Tomorrow and Friday the theatre will be closed, to reopen for the winter variety season on Saturday with a phenomenal programme, the chief item of which will be the wrestling competitions for the Gold Belt of Dresden and a cash prize of 5,000 marks.

As in Berlin Professor Begas was patron of the racing so here in Dresden, a distinguished citizen Herr Geh. Hofrat Professor Diez has kindly consented to become patron of the contests to take place in the Central Theatre.

The wrestling will take place under Graeco-Roman (French) rules. Each wrestler, who meets with four defeats, will retire from the competition. Those left in will wrestle each other for the prize.

The umpires will consist of well-known Dresden sportsmen; their names will be published in a day or two and will be a guarantee of the strictly sporting management of each contest.

The names of those to wrestle at each performance will be published daily in the newspapers, and will be found on the various advertisement pillars.

For each performance tickets may be bought 8 days beforehand.

The box-office is open daily from 10 a. m., on Sundays from 11.

The box-office for the sale of tickets for performances on other than the day of purchase closes at 2 p. m.

The programme of this evening's orchestral concert at the Royal Belvedere, will be as follows:—(1) March, "Mit Standarten", Blon; (2) Fest-Ouverture, Lortzing; (3) Waltz, "Blond Gretchen", Forwerk; (4) Battle music from "Rienzi", Wagner; (5) Ouverture, "Phetre", Massenet; (6) Lied for trumpet with orchestra, Bendel; (7) Tonbilder, "William Tell", Rossini; (8) Ouverture, "Franz Schubert", Suppé; (9) "Sphärenmusik", for strings, Rubinstein; (10) "Mohnblumen", Moret; (11) Waltz, "Tout Paris", Waldteufel.

The guards in the city today are furnished by the 1st Grenadier Regiment No. 100. The band plays about 12.40 p. m. in the Schloss Platz.

THE NEW YORK HUNT-CHAKISTS.

The recent murder of a New York Armenian millionaire called attention to the fact that there existed in that city a secret society of Armenians, the name of the said society being the Huntchakists. Few people, we imagine, have ever heard the name, but that it is a title of evil insignificance is obvious from an account of the doings of the society contributed to the *Evening Standard* by a New York correspondent. He writes that the trial of Father Martoogessian, priest of the Armenian Apostolic Church, who is under four indictments for blackmail, it is hoped will bring to an end the machinations of the "Huntchakists" so far as New York is concerned. Few had suspected that there was being harboured in their midst as dangerous a band of criminals as Russian or Italian Anarchists or the scarcely less troublesome organisation known as the "Black Hand" of Sicily, until the daring murder on July 22 of a millionaire Oriental rug dealer in the public street by an assassin instigated by the secret society, followed up by blackmailing letters posted simultaneously to six wealthy Armenian merchants threatening them with the same fate, opened the eyes of the community. Police investigations have traced the Huntchakists' connection to the mysterious murder a few weeks ago of Father Vartanian, whose body was found dismembered in a trunk. He seems to have been a poor, uneducated priest, who had incurred the displeasure of the Huntchakists for advising the Armenian labouring men not to contribute money to the Huntchakists. Several assassinations of members of the original Huntchakist organisation, formed in 1887 but superseded by the Reformed Huntchakist Society constituted at Cairo in 1903, have been associated with the New York committee subsequent to the murder in London of the president of the original Huntchakists. An Armenian was killed in Boston, another was followed to Russia from America and put to death after frightful tortures in Odessa. A New York member of the Huntchakists is known to have committed the murder of Ounjian, a rich merchant of Constantinople, killed in that city in August 1905. Father Martoogessian, the priest now under arrest, has admitted that as national treasurer of the organisation at the time he provided this man with a sum of money that enabled him to pay his way to Turkey. It is believed that Hampatzoomian, the assassin of the New York rug dealer Tavshanjian, was sent over to the States by the Constantinople Huntchakists on a similar errand.

Tavshanjian, like most of the Armenians, came to the United States practically penniless. In twenty years he had accumulated a fortune of £400,000 in the Oriental rug business, and had recently purchased a site for a Fifth-avenue home. He had received menacing letters, of which his wife had implored him to take heed. The Armenian community in New York is too small even to have a quarter or colony of its own like other nationalities—Greek, Syrian, and others from the shores of the Mediterranean. There are perhaps 30,000 in the United States, of whom 2,500 live in New York, or 300 families, engaged in the rug trade or as engravers and lithographers, in which they are expert. A thousand more live as machinists and artisans in the neighbouring silk manufacturing towns of Paterson and Newark, and the rest are distributed in the shoe and wire factories of New England. There are several well-to-do doctors, lawyers, and dentists, and at the top are four millionaire rug dealers and a family which represents the national genius for banking and commerce. In a city where every nation under the sun has its children and their meeting places, two or three restaurants of the dingier sort are the Armenian rendezvous.

The terror that has prevailed among this little community is as intense as has been created among the great Italian section of the community by the threatening letters, kidnappings, and murders of the Black Hand, a mere mercenary organisation of bandits on which the police of the United States seems at last to have laid its grip after displaying a considerable amount of scepticism as to its existence. The difficulty of obtaining evidence from the sufferers and inflicting summary punishment on the malefactors has hitherto been the great obstacle. Victims die in hospital refusing to divulge the names of their assailants, although known to them, so great is the fear instilled into their minds of reprisal upon their families. It has become necessary to enforce a strict search for deadly weapons brought in by the Italian im-