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:: BERLIN ::

On Friday next, January 25th, the King of England will celebrate a jubilee which has several points of unique interest. On that day it will be twenty-five years since he was appointed by the first Emperor William Honorary Colonel of the Fifth Hussars. It was a specially high honour for the then Prince of Wales as the Emperor was by no means so liberal in creating honorary colonelcies as is his grandson. And the regiment selected for him was, and still is, one of the crack regiments of the Prussian Army, as it bears, for all time, the name of its first Honorary Colonel, Field Marshall v. Blücher, generally called *Marschall Vorwärts*, whose army decided the battle of Waterloo in favour of the allied forces. It was a great compliment for the whole English nation when the old Emperor selected the regiment bearing the name of Wellington's brother-in-arms for the heir to the English throne. Some years later, King Edward visited and reviewed his regiment,—whose uniform he occasionally wears,—at its garrison town, Stolpe in Pomerania.

By order of the Emperor, the colonel, one major, one captain and one lieutenant of that regiment have left for London, in order to congratulate the King upon his silver jubilee as their Honorary Colonel.

The II. Philharmonic concert under the direction of Professor Arthur Nikisch comprised a Symphony in E by Hermann Bischoff, the pianoforte Concerto in A op. 54 of Robert Schumann, and Tchaikowsky's orchestral Suite op. 3 No. 5. The Bischoff symphony, which on account of its novelty was the chief feature of the programme, was performed for the first time at the *Tonkünstlerfest* at Essen about two years ago. At that time the composer prepared a text descriptive of his work—which is by no means a programme-symphony in character, and at bottom has nothing in common with a modern symphonic poem. A youth carried away by the whirl of life rejects love that is obviously and truly offered to him, and only when it turns away from him sees how wrong he has been. In vain he seeks forgetfulness and rest; only after a long period of suffering finding peace, and then through the means of his former love. Such are the contents of the descriptive text referred to; but the composer has preferred to suppress entirely this not very clear "programme." He has rewritten the symphony, and it was in its new form that Professor Nikisch presented it to the audience at the concert under notice.

There is sound music in the work. Bischoff speaks in a language of his own, beautified with pictures and new evolutions. The structure is firm and solid. These merits alone justly claim approval. That the symphony made no great impression on the audience is due to its excessive length. The hearer cannot easily keep to the thread of the whole throughout the too long periods. Emil Sauer, as the soloist of the evening, lent to the Schumann Concerto all the charm of his eminent art; pearly execution and a powerful grasp of form are among his qualities. Professor Nikisch conducted the excellent Philharmonic orchestra as we are accustomed to hear him, with refined artistic judgment and feeling. G. M. A. G.

Fritz Masbach will give a concert on February 4 at the Singakademie, together with the Mozart Orchestra under the direction of Herr Kapellmeister August Scharrer.

Annie Bremer, assisted by Hjalmar Arlberg, will give a duet and song recital on February 4 in the Klindworth-Scharwenka hall.

Some days ago the ex-crown Princess of Saxony, Madame Toselli, was expected in Berlin. Her husband, who is well known as a pianoforte artist, had announced a concert at the Beethoven Saal for the end of this month. But now prominent posters announce that Signor Toselli, on account of the death of his father-in-law, the late Grand Duke of Tuscany, has postponed the concert indefinitely.

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GENERAL NEWS.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

MR. HENRY FARMAN IN LONDON.

Mr. Henry Farman, the recent winner of the Deutsch-Archdeacon prize at Paris, is at present in London, and has announced that he will not, as originally intended, make an aeroplane flight from the Brooklands motor track owing to the many obstacles on the course, such as telegraph-poles, &c. He is now looking for a suitable location on which to make an attempt for the *Graphic* prize of £1,000, the conditions of which involve a flight of one mile.

ROYAL PATRONAGE FOR WAGNER OPERA.

Their Majesties King Edward and Queen Alexandra have consented to become patrons of the two cycles of *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, the first performance of which will take place at Covent Garden on the 29th instant, under the leadership of Herr Hans Richter.

ANOTHER HARWICH BOAT MISHAP.

The steamer "Amsterdam" collided with an unknown vessel near the Hook of Holland yesterday morning, and sprang a leak in the bow. The passengers were landed from a steamer of the Rotterdam Lloyd.

BRITISH ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION.

The Australasian papers have been full of the British Antarctic expedition under Lieut. Shackleton, which sailed from Lyttelton, New Zealand, on New Year's Day. The Australian Government, or one of the State Governments, says the *Queen*,

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DRESDEN

The new opera *Acté*, by Juan Manén, to be produced here tomorrow (Friday) evening, will be the first Spanish opera ever heard in Germany. Its production in Barcelona met with very great success, and the principal journal of that city, *La Vanguardia*, as well as the leading Madrid weekly, *La Ilustracion Española y Americana*, published lengthy criticisms on the work.

A short time ago Juan Manén's *Nueva Cataluna* Symphony was performed at Leipzig by the Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by the composer himself, and received an enthusiastic reception.

The *Allgemeine Zeitung* reports that Professor Wolters, professor of archaeology at Würzburg, has received a call to become the successor of Professor Furtwängler at Munich University.

The solemn benediction of the body of the Grand Duke of Tuscany took place at Salzburg on Tuesday morning in the presence of the Grand Ducal family, Prince and Princess Leopold of Bavaria, Prince George of Bavaria, Prince Heinrich of Bavaria, Prince Conrad of Bavaria, Duke Ferdinand of Calabria, the Bürgermeister of Lindau, and the heads of the State and military departments. In the afternoon the body was conveyed to the railway station, whence the funeral train started at 4 o'clock. The route to the station was lined by troops and military societies.

The special Embassy to be sent from Stockholm to the Court of Dresden to announce the accession of King Gustav V. of Sweden, will be headed by Oberkammerherr v. Celsing; and will proceed from Dresden to Bukarest and Constantinople.

We learn that as a result of Consul-General Gaffney's efforts in Berlin to effect an arrangement whereby the coming Minstrel Show may be reproduced here, the promoters of the entertainment have expressed their readiness to fall in with the suggestion provided the expenses of bringing the performers to Dresden are reimbursed. Mr. Gaffney hopes, therefore, that this stipulation may be met by the co-operation of the Anglo-American Colony here, so that such a rare opportunity of witnessing a peculiarly interesting and high-class performance may not be missed. It is estimated that the total cost of the scheme will amount to 2,350 marks.

The production here will be arranged for Saturday, February 15th, so that the visitors can spend Sunday in viewing the local sights, &c.

It is unnecessary to state that all the members of the Show and everybody to whom the project has been submitted are extremely hopeful that the visit can be satisfactorily arranged. Communications in regard to the proposal should be addressed to Mr. Victor Ila Clark, Hon. Secy. of the Committee of Arrangements, Moszczyński Strasse 1, Dresden.

The programme of this evening's orchestral concert at the Gewerbehause, comprising exclusively the works of Austrian composers, will be as follows: (1) Radetzky-Marsch, Johann Strauss. (2) Ouverture zur Operette "Der Bettelstudent", Carl Millöcker. (3) Steyrische Weisen, Ländler für zwei Solo-Violen und Harfe (1. Mal), Josef Lanner. (4) Grosse Fantasie aus der Operette "Zehn Mädchen und kein Mann" (1. Mal), Franz von Suppé. (5) Ouverture "Die unbewohnte Insel" (1. Mal), Joseph Haydn. (6) "Larghetto aus dem Klarinetten-Quintett", Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. (7) Divertissement à la hongroise (1. Mal), arranged for grand orchestra by Erdmannsdörfer and Franz Liszt, Franz Schubert. (8) Ouverture zur Operette "Der Fremdenführer", Carl M. Ziehrer. (9) Grubenlichter-Walzer aus der Operette "Der Obersteiger", Carl Zeller. (10) Vilja-Lied (Lied vom Waldmägdelein) aus der Operette "Die lustige Witwe", Franz Lehár. (11) Wiener Volksmusik, grosses Potpourri, Carl Czerny.

At the Central Theatre this evening, at 7.30, *Der Rastelbinder*, an operetta in 1 Vorspiel and 2 Acts by Victor Léon, music by Franz Lehár, will be performed.

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