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# The Daily Record

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## BERLIN

The death of Mr. John Booth, at his Lankwitz Villa, is reported. John Booth was a man of no ordinary gifts. His father, the descendant of an old Scotch family, had settled in Klein-Flottbeck, in Holstein, where his son John was born 72 years ago. The young man studied landscape gardening and forestry, after which he travelled extensively in Europe and America. It was John Booth who first introduced American timber, above all the Douglas fir, into Germany, and roused the interest of all foresters and farmers by his splendid coniferous plantations near Flottbeck. He then moved to Berlin where he could propagate his forestry ideas to much greater advantage, and soon he became a warm personal friend of Prince Bismarck, himself a first class farmer and forester, and who at once appreciated the work of John Booth. But another subject brought them still closer together. John Booth early in his life perceived the importance of the Grunewald for the fast growing population of Berlin and the necessity of giving the poorer classes a chance to enjoy these fine woods.

He found a warm supporter in Prince Bismarck and to the energy of these two men Berlin today owes a great debt of gratitude, as they carried through the project of building that fine road, now called Kurfürstendamm. It is quite an amusing and interesting story how these two men—one considered at his time as the most powerful man in the German Empire, the other a simple forester—fought shoulder to shoulder against the red tape and slowness of the typical Prussian *Geheimrat*, who was then, as he is now, sitting in every Ministry and throwing obstacles in the way of progress and development. Booth, supported by Bismarck, founded what is now called the *Kolonie Grunewald*, one of the most beautiful settlements of cottages amidst the woods of Germany. A visitor to the Grunewald passes, right at the entrance, the Bismarck Platz and a statue of the prince in his accustomed garment as farmer, with a large soft hat, thick heavy walking stick and his immense dog. Rightfully, he and John Booth are now considered as the pioneers of Berlin's western suburbs. It is expected that the *Kolonie Grunewald* will name another street after this man, as one which bore that name before was subsequently called Humboldt Strasse, when it was decided to name the streets of that quarter after great men of science.

It will interest Americans and Englishmen to hear that Lieutenant-General v. Löwenfeld, up to this time Commander of the first division of the Foot Guards, has been appointed General commanding the tenth Army Corps, with Hannover as headquarters. General v. Löwenfeld is well known both in America and England, where he has been several times on official and private business.

The General was first sent by the Emperor to America in the year of 1904, to represent him personally at the unveiling of the statue of Frederick the Great, which the Emperor had presented to the American people as a token of gratitude for the splendid reception accorded to his brother Prince Henry. About a year ago, the General went to America a second time by invitation of Mr. Andrew Carnegie, to attend the opening of the Carnegie Institute in Pittsburg. Only two weeks ago he returned from England, where he had been sent as the personal representative of the Emperor to congratulate King Edward on his silver jubilee as Honorary Colonel of the fifth Prussian Hussars. General v. Löwenfeld leaves many friends among the members of the American and English colonies in Berlin, who are, at the same time, regretting their personal loss and congratulating him on his important advancement, which places him at the head of one of the finest corps of the German army.

Some weeks ago it was reported from New York that Doctor Wilhelm Valentiner, assistant director of the Kaiser Friedrich Museum in Berlin, had been offered and had accepted the position as Curator of Decorative Arts at the Metropolitan Museum in New York. Dr. Valentiner has now

(Continued on page 2.)



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## GENERAL NEWS.

### ENGLISH NEWS.

#### KING EDWARD AT BRIGHTON.

His Majesty the King, says a London telegram, is making a short stay at Brighton.

#### NEWS FROM AMERICA.

##### PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT INDIGNANT.

In a lengthy communication Mr. Roosevelt stigmatised as malevolent calumny the assertion that he is making use of official channels for the furtherance of Mr. Taft's candidature; whereupon Senator Foraker laid evidence before the Senate to the effect that the President undoubtedly was officially supporting Mr. Taft.

##### FRENCH-AMERICAN ARBITRATION TREATY

According to a Washington telegram State Secretary Root and the French Ambassador, M. Jusserand, signed today an arbitration treaty between the United States and France. It is assumed that the treaty coincides with that formulated at the last conference; the actual terms, however, are still kept secret.

##### GREAT NAVAL EXPANSION VETOED.

The committee of the House of Representatives for naval affairs has authorised the construction of two battleships of the "Delaware" class (20,000 tons) instead of the four originally requested by the Navy Department and recommended by President Roosevelt.

##### MR. MORSE INDICTED.

The special Court in New York for enquiring into the business management of banks has instituted proceedings against the banker Mr. Charles Morse for grand larceny.

(Continued on page 2.)

## DRESDEN

Song Recital of Dr. Ludwig Wüllner. The concert given by this renowned artist on Monday evening showed him at his best, and the crowded hall of the Palmengarten rang with the applause of the enthusiastic audience. The programme which, in keeping as it was with the genius of the composer, had made many hearts beat faster with the joy of anticipation, was performed with a mastery that only the supreme art of such a singer could display. Dr. Wüllner had almost entirely excluded such songs as, from their lyric character, require for their full effect the soft tones of a perfectly cultivated voice; all the more he was able to bring to bear the decided emphasis and finished expression which he so well understands how to impart to everything in ballad style. Löwe's often heard "Archibald Douglas" was invested, by that rare art of Wüllner's, with the direct power upon the hearer that only dramatic realisation and experience can exercise. That ballad and Rubinstein's "Asra" were the two beacon-lights of the concert. What Dr. Wüllner achieved in those finely conceived works by masterly synthesis and phrasing; how he characterized the individuals, and at the close gave wonderful pathos to grief; is indescribable. After such triumphs of interpretation, one would willingly have dispensed with Weingartner's spiritless "Liebe im Schnee" or Richard Strauss' brutal "Frühlingsfeier"; but in the rendering of a set of folk-songs provided by Brahms with a delightful accompaniment Dr. Wüllner again displayed his mastery, this time of the smooth and nobly simple. And where he could let fly his shafts of frolicsome and roguish humour, the audience were most of all delighted—perhaps because humour in a master of endless paths specially surprises and charms us. One encore only—Schumann's "The two Grenadiers"—Dr. Wüllner conceded, in response to the rapturous appeals for more from hearers who were loth indeed to let him go.

M. N.

Concerts arranged by the firm of F. Ries are as follows:—

The second and last song recital of Elena Gerhardt, assisted by Prof. Arthur Nikisch (piano) will take place on Wednesday February 12 in the Vereinshaus. The programme is as follows:

Brahms: "Ueber die Heide", "Mädchenlied" (Schwalbe sag' mir an), "Nachtigall", "Nachtwandler", "Die Sonne scheint nicht mehr", "Der Schmied"; Erich J. Wolff: "Ich bin eine Harfe", "Fäden", "Knabe und Veilchen"; Weingartner: "Hochsommer"; Rubinstein: "Frühlingslied"; Tchaikowsky: "O singe mir Mutter die Weise", "Das war im ersten Lenzesstrahl", "Das Vöglein", "Im wogenden Tanze", "Frühling"; R. Strauss: "Ruhe meine Seele", "Wiegenlied"; H. Wolf: "Liebesglück", "Und willst du deinen Liebsten sterben seh'n", "Er ist's".

The programme of the concert of Helene Staegemann (song) and Dr. Waldemar Staegemann (recitation) which will take place in the Vereinshaus on February 14 at 7.30, runs as follows:

Recitation: Schiller: "Pegasus im Joche"; Goethe: "Wanderers Nachtlied und ein Gleiches"; Schiller: "Die Kraniche des Ibykus". Four songs by Jensen. Recitation, Melodramen: Heibel-Schumann: "Schön Hedwig", "Der Haideknabe". Five songs by Hans Pfitzner. Recitation: Ernst Weber: "Heligo"; Felix Dahn: "Brigitte"; "Humoristisches" von Busse, Büthgen und Busch. Songs: W. Rabl: "Schön Rohtraut"; Bizet: "Pastorale"; Chopin: Viardot: "Seize ans". Accompanist, Hans Pfitzner.

At the II. test performance by pupils of the Royal Conservatorium with orchestra, which will take place at the Vereinshaus tomorrow evening at 7.30, the programme will include: Pianoforte Concerts by Kaun and Tchaikowsky; an Oboe Concerto by Rietz; a Violoncello Concerto by Gottermann; an Overture by Köppler; and Arias by Marschner and Gounod. Tickets may be obtained at the office of the institution, Landhaus Strasse 11, II.

(Continued on page 2.)