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# THE BEE HIVE DEPARTMENT STORE COR. TRADE AND COLLEGE STS.

### THIS DAY IN HISTORY

1141.—Maud declared Queen of England in a national synd.

1794.—Suspension of arms between Napoleon and the Archduke Charles.

1805.—Lieut. Z. M. Pike ordered by the Governor of Louisiana to proceed to Minnesota and expel all British traders from that territory.

1830.—The first omnibus used as a public conveyance in New York began its trip through the city.

1855.—All English and French vessels ordered out of the port of Odessa.

1864.—A terrible fire at Salonica, Greece, destroyed more than 600 buildings, with serious loss of life.

1866.—The Adriatic, the largest steamship afloat, successfully launched at New York.

1861.—All intercourse between Fort Sumter and Charleston stopped by order of Gen. Beauregard.

1861.—The steamer Atlantic, sailed from New York with troops and supplies.

1862.—The battle of Shiloh renewed. Gen. Buell arrived during the night with reinforcements. The battle lasted throughout the day, with varied success, but the Confederates were finally defeated and driven to their fortifications at Corinth. The Federal loss was 1,614 killed, 7,721 wounded and 2,956 missing. Confederate General Johnson was killed.

1863.—Attack on Charleston. The Federal fleet was composed of nine iron-clad vessels, under the command of Commodore Dupont. The fight at Charleston began in the afternoon and lasted about two hours. The Keokuk was so badly damaged that she sunk in a few hours. Several other vessels were temporarily disabled. The fleet was then withdrawn.

1863.—Henry S. Foote, Confederate Senator, arrived in New York from Europe, traveling steamer to avoid detection, but was arrested.

1874.—Gen. Concha, the Spanish captain-general, issued a proclamation to the people of Cuba, forbidding the existence of political parties.

1875.—Martial law declared in the mining region of Pennsylvania because of riots by striking workmen.

1894.—All business houses in Mexico closed because the merchants refused to pay the stamp tax.

1895.—Peace between France and China announced at Paris.

1894.—The Central Building League, of Chicago, voted to lock out 75,000 of its employees to "end" the interference of walking delegates.

1895.—Senator John M. Palmer, of Illinois, protested against the action of the Democratic State central committee in calling a monetary convention for free silver legislation.

Mrs. Nannie Howling Crane, the daughter of a former head of the Cheyennes, recently sold her "party robe" to some curio collectors for \$100. The gown was old and moth-eaten, but its value consisted in its decoration of silk teeth. As years go by the number of silk teeth is becoming smaller. Almost any genuine tooth will sell for \$2, while a tooth that is turning green with age, an old of the male sex, produced only two good teeth, and the robe therefore represented 250 sh.

### VOICES OF GREAT SINGERS

#### STAYING QUALITIES IF TRAINED

Patil's Projected Next "Farewell Tour"—A Hundred-Year-Old Voice Teacher Who Expects to Teach for Years More—Reminiscences of Jenny Lind, Grist and Malbran.

Correspondence of The Observer.

Boston, April 6.—So they say that Madame Adelina Patil is thinking of making still another farewell tour of the United States and that at this age her voice is as young and clear as when she was thirty, or even twenty. Marvelous woman! Wonderful press agents! Above all a remarkably well trained voice, to have endured in its purity down to this year of our Lord, for Patil was born in Madrid in 1845.

Here exemplifies what the leaders of musical education in all lands are coming more and more to realize—the staying quality of a voice trained, or "placed," as the technical expression is, by the old Italian method. Pads come and go among society women who sing for their health or for the enjoyment—sometimes feigned—of their friends. Pledging teachers run off on tangents of "tone production." New ways of reaching "high C" are devised. But always the devotees of the latest fancies before making good in their art get back at last to where they started from—to methods which Porpora discovered in Italy just 200 years ago and under which practically all the world's great singers have been educated.

George W. Chadwick, the eminent American composer and director of the New England Conservatory of Music, who is spending a year abroad in study of the European conservatories, has lately restated his conviction that the old Italian style of teaching singing is not only in a class by itself but has no competitors for general favor.

What the hundreds of teachers in this country who are engaged in the work of tone production in accordance with the method by which Malbran and Grist and Nordica were trained have to say in its favor is that it is the method of improving on nature by natural means. The master of Italian singing selects the things that it is easy and natural for the voice to do, and then attains almost impossible excellence in doing them. And that's very different, it is said, from some of the modern practices. Wagner, for example, who with all his marvelous abilities as a composer never appreciated nature's limitations upon the vocal organs, used the voice just like any instrument in the orchestra, treating it as he treated so much brass and catgut. It had to rise with the music to a shriek and sink to a sigh without intermediate gradation. Nothing was too hard for the Wagnerian singer to undertake, though his voice broke in the effort.

In marked contrast is the Italian way. Go into a conservatory class today where singing is being taught. The simple, comparatively easy things are being done over and over again with the same thoroughness that characterized Porpora's instruction of his pupil Caffariello, who was required to vocalize the same two pages of exercises every day for six years. "Insist on the vowels," the instructor keeps saying with patient repetition. "Head up. Shoulders back. Ah-a-a. Now try one of the dark vowels. Oh-o-o. Sing in the throat, not from it."

This work is not purely intellectual. It is physiological. That is why the recently devised scheme of teaching singers with the aid of the phonograph, so that the pupil may hear the sound of his own voice, has not been

accepted as a valuable one by the teachers of song in the leading American musical conservatory. The important thing isn't so much to hear the sound of one's own voice as to have the vocal organs so well developed that the right sounds will come forth without effort. Carried on year in and year out, the old Italian teaching does more than impart knowledge to the pupil. It above all develops muscles of the palate and larynx which, especially among those whose ordinary speech is harsh and runs to consonants, would otherwise be underdeveloped. The person who is going to sing needs not only to know how to sing but how to have the requisite muscles for singing. Hence the truth of the old saying, "Chi canta l'italiano canta tutto il tempo della sua vita." ("Whoever sings in the Italian way sings all the rest of his life.")

That accounts for Patil, whose voice was trained many years ago by Signor Rotoli, who from 1885 to the time of his death in 1904 was a vocal instructor at the conservatory in Boston. That is what Jean de Reske meant when he said: "I find the singer's art becomes narrower and narrower all the time, until I can surely say that the great question of singing becomes a question of nose"—a curious sentiment, by the way, if one does not understand that people "sing through the nose," as it is termed, only when the nasal passages are in reality stopped up, and that when these are wide open there is no trace of nasal sound.

The old Italian method of teaching singing, so its advocates say, produced Gabrielli, that most wonderful singer of the eighteenth century, with a voice of two and one-half octaves, perfectly smooth and equable in all its range; the clear notes of the beautiful, witty and dissipated Sophie Aronold, at whose salon and recital Benjamin Franklin was a frequent interested attendant; Mrs. Elizabeth Billington, the finest singer of English birth, regarding whom Haydn made his celebrated epigram in the presence of Sir Joshua Reynolds, the painter: "You have made a mistake. You have represented Mrs. Billington listening to the angels. You should have made the angels listening to her."

Heard in the same school of rigorous insistence upon simple things was Henrietta Sontag, of whom it was said: "She appeared to sing with the volubility of a bird and to experience all the pleasure she imparted." The traditions of the school have been carried on in England down to this day by Professor Manuel Garcia, son of the celebrated Spanish tenor for whom Rossini specially composed the part of Almaviva in "The Barber of Seville." At the advanced age of 101—for he was born on March 17, 1805—Senior Garcia still, according to a recent report, preserves the purity of his voice and vitality of his constitution. He evidently expects to teach Italian singing for a long time yet, for he not long ago told a young lady who applied to him for lessons to come again in three years, as her voice was at present too immature for serious work. He has actually been teaching for eighty years. Of the same remarkable family and trained with firm kindness by her father was Manuel Garcia's sister, Madame Malbran, the foremost soprano of her day, who met with an untimely end as a result of a fall from a horse.

Then there was Grist, London's favorite, who missed only one year of appearance in that metropolis from 1844 to 1861, and her husband Marie, who refused to cut off his beard at

the request of the Czar of Russia, saying that he would rather lose a monarch's favor than run any risk of injuring his voice. Trained by Manuel Garcia many years ago was Jenny Lind, whose popularity in America under the management of the late P. T. Barnum was enormous. There is a long list of American singers educated in the old Italian way, among them Clara Louise Kellogg, Minnie Hank, Annie Louise Cary and Emma Abbott. Prominent among those still on the stage is Lillian Nordica, a star pupil of the New England Conservatory of Music some nine years ago and later trained by Signor Sangiovanni in Milan.

Adelina Patil herself, of course, counts as one of the foremost exponents of the method, and Sir Morell Mackenzie, a great throat specialist, said not long ago that here was the only throat he had ever examined in which the vocal cords were left in absolutely perfect condition after many years of strenuous use.

Because there exists so long a list of the successes of the old Italian style of singing teaching it gains greater and greater ascendancy in every country of the world where singing is taught. Among the music schools of this country it is now practically supreme. The period of experimenting seems to have passed here. In so representative an institution as the New England Conservatory of Music, with its two thousand and more of students, all the teaching of singing is after the Italian manner.

The same thing is true to an extent of the music schools in Germany, France and England. Only in Italy, where the method was originally devised, has it in any way lost its vigor. Theoretically the Italian masters all teach the old Italian method, but it is said that comparatively few of them stick to the spirit of the traditions of the eighteenth century.

### THE DEATH RECORD.

Mrs. J. B. McIntyre, of Greensboro. Correspondence of The Observer. Greensboro, April 5.—Mrs. J. B. McIntyre died this morning at 9:30 o'clock at the residence of her mother, Mrs. James S. Pierce, 840 Bellevue street. The burial will take place tomorrow afternoon at Love's chapel, near Reidsville.

Rev. L. H. Triplett, of Davidson. Correspondence of The Observer. Statesville, April 6.—Rev. L. H. Triplett, aged 89, died Wednesday night at the home of his sister, Mrs. A. L. Hobbs, near Davidson, from tuberculosis. Interment was made at Mooresville to-day. Deceased was a son of the late Rev. Thomas L. Triplett and was an active member of the Western North Carolina Methodist Conference until his health failed. He is survived by his mother, two sisters and one brother.

J. M. Carter, of Statesville. Correspondence of The Observer. Statesville, April 6.—Joseph M. Carter died at his home here Wednesday aged 65. The funeral was held from the late residence yesterday afternoon and interment was made in Oakwood Cemetery. Deceased entered the Confederate army in 1861 as a member of Ross' Brigade and served three years, participating in some of the fiercest battles of the war. In 1868 he married Miss Mary E. Chapman of Luray, Va., a sister of Col. W. H. Chapman. His wife and three children survive. A son of Mr. Carter, who resides in the State of Washington, was absent at the time of his father's death.

Ligon-Surratt. Correspondence of The Observer. Spartanburg, S. C., April 6.—On Wednesday evening, April 5 at 8:30 o'clock at the home of the bride's grandmother, Mrs. A. G. Carpenter, Miss Myrtle Surratt and Charles P. Ligon will be married. Only a few of the most intimate friends of the young people will be present at the ceremony. The bride-to-be is one of the leading members of Gaffney society and the groom is a promising and popular insurance man engaged in business in this city. The couple will spend several weeks in the North and, upon their return, will make their home in Spartanburg.

Asheville Horse Show April 24-25. Correspondence of The Observer. Asheville, April 6.—A number of additional parking spaces for the Asheville Horse Show, April 24-25, were reserved to-day. All of the spaces on the west side of the course have been taken, while practically all of those in front of the grand stands are gone and many on the east side. It is probable that every space will be reserved before to-morrow night. Entries for the show continue to be made. The event promises rare entertainment for lovers of horse flesh.

Baptist Young Peoples' Convention Adjourns. Correspondence of The Observer. Spartanburg, S. C., April 6.—The final session of the annual meeting of the Baptist Young Peoples' Union of the State was held last night. The following committee was appointed by President Hyde to arrange the details for the next convention, which is to be held in Columbia: Rev. L. M. Roper, of Spartanburg; E. W. Lisle, of Darlington; J. W. Willis, of Rock Hill; J. D. Chapman, of Anderson; J. D. Moore, of Columbia.

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