When the Fiddler and Singing Master Provided Joy in the South of Long Ago

Ante-Bellum Music Reminiscences—Twenty Violinists Compete for Prize in the Old Dominion A Typical Lesson at One of the Picturesque Schools of Song

By Max Schorn

Music Director, East Tennessee State Normal College, Johnson City

In the charge of the families, fahas-sol-la-sol was in ante-bellum days. This is a state in which music is

neighbors," ton's, in that county (if permitted by the

HON. WM. BYRD,

after the prize is won they are all drunk.

A clever violinist, was a typical son of chords, were commonly to be found in the

families, and not unfrequently hautboys, flutes, and recorders.

The grand minuet had use of music consisted of an ability to

converts from the vanities of balls, felt compelled to proscribe the fiddle as the

master? The old-time singing master

who played a great variety of old

singing with the primary and elementary rudiments.

BOWDOIN HEAVENS

Two Thousand Applaud Boston Pianist in Last Concert of His Season

Pianist, brought his successful season to a notable close on June 19 at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine. Mr. Labouchere, a monster Red Cross concert. An audience of several thousand, the accompanying soloists were Constance Newton, contralto, and Romilly Johnson, baritone.

Heaven's program was especially well arranged and played with all the

customized artistry. The program in

of Dawn and Twilight, also a popular success. The afternoon's piece was "St. Elmo's Fire," the last section of the song being sung by Grace Ege, a member of the faculty. The song was a beautiful and one of the most popular numbers of the evening.

Florence Otis Selects Five American Songs for Her Programs

Florence Otis, the New York soprano, has announced that she will give her program during the coming season five American pieces by American composers. "Aida," by Verdi, is a popular favorite. The other pieces are "Jean," by Offenbach, "Ariodante," by Handel, "Luisa," by Rossini, and "Aida," by Verdi, all of which are well known and popular in the American opera house.

An Old-Time Singing School

At that time a man named Higgins opened a school, and taught there for a year. He had a great variety of old tunes which are not to be found in any book of music.

When Fiddling Was Sinful

Writing of the early settlement of Barren

County, Kentucky, Palmer's History, says "Dances were held, and the custom of dancing, contra-dances, mispronounced country dances. The town was in a great deal of fashion..."

The music was almost invariably furnished by cobblers

who acquired wonderful skill in playing their dance tunes. By constant practice, the cobblers brought out in true harmony, whether the

tune was a lively one or a slow one.

The music was extremely inspiring. As you listened, you could almost hear the birds sing. A lively one or a slow one

for, two for re, three for mi, four for fa, and so on to eight, which stood for

sounding first, the principal note next, the third next, and so on. The

vocal music consist of seven elements of music.

the word was logical and etymological.

The singing school was maintained by subscription, just as more pretentious operas and concerts are at present. And like our opera, its sessions constituted important social functions. All the

young men of the neighborhood subscribed the price fixed upon. The young

women were determined to contribute their share, more Joyce to grace the sessions with their presence. The little boys and girls also came without charge.

"Odd Mary Eddy, what you doing there? Sitting in a corner enjoying a cigar."

ask, as if it expected an answer:

"Oh! Don't ask, did you ever see the devil? Walking up and down, and chaffing up the grave.

With his long toe-nail!

"Or, again, the subject, would inform us that 'The crown, he peeped at the weasel, and the weasel, he peeped at the

crow."

It seemed to be an ancestral form of the

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