

THE MUSICIANS' CONVENTION.

YESTERDAY'S SESSION--THE ANNUAL ELECTION--CLOSING SCENES.

The third and last day's session of the meeting of the National Association of Music Teachers was entered upon at the Academy of Music yesterday morning. Papers on the "Value of Apparatus and Operations for Cultivation of Technique" were read by Mr. W. N. Dana, of Warren, Ohio, and W. S. Forbes, M. D., of Philadelphia. Mr. Dana opposed the use of purely mechanical aids and exercises, while Dr. Forbes favored it. In the discussion that followed Mr. Petersilea proclaimed that similar devices had enabled him to strengthen weak fingers and equalize the power of all. Mr. A. R. Parsons deprecated the practice, occasionally resorted to, of cutting certain muscles that interfere with the raising of the ring finger. A brief business meeting was then called for the purpose of determining where the next annual meeting of the association should be held. Invitations were received from Boston, Baltimore, Indianapolis, and other cities. Mr. W. H. Sherwood pressed the claims of the West, on the ground that the work of the association had livelier appreciation in a Western than in an Eastern community. Mr. Calixa Lavallee's advice and proposal prevailed, however, and the Tremont Temple in Boston was chosen as the place for next year's session, which will be held on June 30 and July 1 and 2. Before the meeting adjourned, to be called to order again on the steamboat Sirius, President Penfield announced that the subscription and moneys received for tickets admitting to the proceedings and entertainments of the convention would more than cover all the expenses incurred by that body.

The association embarked on the Sirius at 1:30 P. M. and enjoyed a sail to Sandy Hook, around the lightship, and back to the city. During the trip a business meeting was held and the officers for the ensuing year were elected. A motion to change the name of the association and have it known hereafter as the "American Society for the Promotion of Musical Art" was laid upon the table. It was voted to amend the by-laws in order to create Vice-Presidents in the Provinces and Territories of the Dominion of Canada. It was also agreed to continue the efforts heretofore made in behalf of an international copyright law, and the Secretary was instructed to forward the printed documents on this question to all members of Congress. The election was then proceeded with. The Committee on Nominations presented the following ticket: For President—Mr. S. B. Whitney, of Boston; for Secretary and Treasurer—Mr. Theodore Presser, of Philadelphia; for members of the Business Committee—Messrs. A. A. Stanley, W. F. Heath, and Max Lechner. Then Mr. A. A. Stanley, whose efficient services as Secretary during the current session have had general recognition, was nominated for President, and sundry changes were made in respect of the Business Committee. The result of the vote was as follows: President—Mr. A. A. Stanley; Secretary and Treasurer—Mr. Theodore Presser; Business Committee—Messrs. S. B. Whitney, A. R. Parsons, and F. B. Rice.

The music of the day included a brief recital of piano and vocal music in the morning and a concert in the evening. In the morning Mr. Carlyle Petersilea was the pianist, and his principal numbers were Bach's A minor fugue, arranged by Liszt; an introduction and theme of Handel's, set by Reinecke, and an etude (staccato) by Rubinstein. Mr. Petersilea's work revealed intelligence, a thorough command of technique, and a firm and clean touch. The effective rendering in succession of the three compositions referred to supplied evidence, moreover, of the pianist's endurance. Mr. J. A. Metcalf, a gentleman with a light baritone voice of pleasant quality, sang Schumann's "Two Grenadiers," Lassen's "Tis a Dream," and Brandeis's "My love is like a red, red rose" with directness and with sufficient accent to escape the charge of monotony. The evening concert began with Mr. S. W. Bristow's "Columbus" overture, and then Miss Helen Dudley Campbell sang "Che farò senza Euridice" with some breadth and power, but with little of the pathos that a riper artist would have thrown into Gluck's touching aria. After this number Miss Fannie Bloomfield played with her wonted nervous power and brilliancy Rubinstein's D minor concerto, which, however, will never have as varied, broad, and emotional an exposition as it merits until the composer himself has a rival. Mr. Carl E. Dufft was the next soloist, and he sang a musical setting, by Mr. B. O. Klein, of Heine's "Wallfahrt nach Kevlaar." Mr. Klein, who is a young composer of very decided promise, shows unfortunately a tendency to overproductiveness. The impression of his setting of Heine's verses would, moreover, have been enhanced had the introduction been briefer and the singer's story less frequently interrupted by instrumental passages. During the second half of the concert Mr. Arnold interpreted with his usual *brio* and with a delightful quality of tone, Ernst's "Hungarian Airs." Miss Bloomfield reappeared and rendered a Chopin nocturne and a Schubert menuet, and Mlle. Corradi sang the familiar aria from Gounod's, "Reine de Saba." A scherzo from Mr. Chadwick's second symphony was the final piece on the programme. After Miss Campbell's performance Mr. S. N. Penfield, the President of the association, was summoned before the footlights, and the plaster cast of a fine vase, modeled by Rupert Schmid, of Munich, and to be at once duplicated in bronze and given to Mr. Penfield as a tribute of the association's regard, was presented to him. But one opinion is expressed as to the success of the annual convention. Perfect harmony prevailed, some fruitful ideas were exchanged, some good music was enjoyed, and the pecuniary results of the meeting were proclaimed uncommonly satisfactory.