

ECHOES OF MUSIC ABROAD

Bayreuth to Have More Competition in Vienna's Festival Wagner Cycles—A Tailor's Estimate of Mary Garden's Position in the Prima Donna World—Berlin Critics Think Emmy Destinn's Voice Shows Effects of Fatiguing American Season—More Prizes for the Paderewskis—Ben Davies, Taking Cue from Albani, Returns to Vaudeville Stage—An Italian Barber Turns Tenor—New Rôle for Calvé.

there that their critics are probably afraid that a "welcome home" in terms of the old-time unqualified praise would probably cost them their positions.

Now it has fallen to Emmy Destinn's lot to run the gauntlet. Of her reappearance last month at the Royal Opera after a year's absence the *Allgemeine Musik-Zeitung* remarks: "The popular singer was received with a storm of applause.

At the Komische Oper Erika Wedekind's first appearance as a member of Director Gregor's company in Lortzing's "Wildschütz" brought little honor to the former star of the Dresden Court Opera. Maria Labia has been singing her old rôles, *Marta* in "Tiefland," *Tosca*, *Carmen*, at the same institution, but will appear in several of the season's novelties later on.

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PIANOS and pigs are not Paderewski's sole passions, it now appears; nor can prize chickens claim the distinction of being Mme. Paderewski's only hobby. At the recent Horticultural Exhibition in Geneva the Polish pianist won several prizes for the many varieties of apples, pears and grapes he sent from his estate, Rioud-Bossons, at Morges, while his wife maintained her reputation by carrying off prizes for baskets of her favorite flowers.

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LEIPSIK'S Gewandhaus Concerts of historic traditions began the new season—their twenty-fifth in the new building—last Thursday. On this occasion the new organist, Carl Straube, who succeeds Homeyer, retired, reopened the organ, which had been entirely rebuilt during the



With my best greetings to
"Musical America"
Xaver Scharwenka

Xaver Scharwenka, the well-known pianist and composer, is here represented in the barret and gown of a senator of the Royal Academy of Arts, Berlin. The fact that he is a member of this distinguished body is sufficient indication of his high standing in the music world of Germany. As a composer he is rapidly gaining the same widespread recognition he has long commanded as a piano pedagogue.