

erudite analysis of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, and "Die Meistersinger" comes in for an article almost as long, at the end of which is reprinted, from Wagenseil, one of the original songs of the mastersingers which candidates had to sing, and which Wagner parodied in *Beckmesser's* music. The volume is handsomely bound, and should be in every musician's library.

The Great Conspiracy: Its Origin and History.
By John A. Logan. New York: A. R. Hart & Co.

We have no idea of reviewing this volume. It is not a history, although it purports to be one. It is rather what might be called a narrative stump speech, with no limitation as to time of delivery except the orator's good pleasure or fatigue. Gen. Logan's thesis is, that the rebellion was the result of a combined pro-slavery and free-trade conspiracy for the control of the nation; that the Republican party "successfully solved" "the difficult and perplexing problems involved in the Reconstruction of the Union," and yet was credulously and good-naturedly led into taking back States and citizens bent on renewing the old conspiracy; and that these desperadoes got "on top," at the last Presidential election, "and they MEAN TO KEEP THERE—IF THEY CAN." With this shriek the book ends (so far as the main text is concerned) on p. 674. An appendix of 80 pages condenses the Lincoln-Douglas debates in 1858, which had already been summarized in chapter iv ("Popular Sovereignty") in 36 pages. In other words, this topic occupies a seventh of the book. On the other hand, the "Growth of the Slavery Question," chap. iii, is despatched in 16 pages, in which there is no allusion to the rise of abolitionism, and but one to the existence of abolitionists. They are then confounded with the party that voted for "John Birney" (as the index calls him) in 1844. That is all we learn about them in the entire "history." Gen. Logan is careful to avoid giving signs of

original research or original ideas. His political judgments are uncontrolled by any innate or acquired moral consistency. He blames (by implication) the Liberty party for defeating the election of Clay; as if this were playing into the hands of the slave power; but he is proud of his own part in trying to gain acceptance for the peace propositions before the outbreak of the civil war—a compromise in the interest of slavery which we should have expected of Clay had he been alive.

Although Gen. Logan fills but a modest space in the index, he allows himself enough room in his narrative to smooth over his pro-slavery record, and to repudiate once more the imputations cast on his loyalty to the Union. In so doing he quotes with evident satisfaction a specimen of his florid oratory, which will bear framing along with a precious sentence near the very close (pp. 672-674), only one and two-thirds pages long. His opinion of Fitz-John Porter could hardly have been kept out of his military chapters. In other respects it cannot be said that he obtrudes his personality on his readers, or that he specifically recommends himself to the electors of 1888. His evident plan is to go before them as a protectionist, a soldiers' friend, and a waver of the bloody shirt. Unlike the historian Blaine, he has no calculated flattery of the South, no apology for repudiation, no distribution of compliments for his colleagues in the Republican party. Indeed, his living contemporaries are scarcely mentioned, and we regret to observe that Mr. Blaine is relegated to the footnotes, where he figures simply among the yeas and nays on three Congressional occasions. Since the late candidate for the Vice-Presidency passes over the Reconstruction period entirely, courtesy to his old chief might have prompted a reference to the latest source of sound Republican views on this subject. But, then, Gen. Logan can plead that he is habitually sparing of references to authorities.

The volume is illustrated with a few maps, and with numerous portraits, rather oddly selected and cheaply executed.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Balzac, H. de. Eugénie Grandet. Boston: Roberts Brothers. \$1.70.
Bates, C. The Law of Limited Partnership. Boston: Little, Brown & Co.
Broglie, Duc de. Souvenirs: 1785-1870. T. 1. Boston: Schoenohof.
Campbell-Abbott. Sophocles for the Use of Schools. New and revised edition. In 2 vols. Macmillan & Co. \$2.75.
Clerke, Agnes M. A Popular History of Astronomy during the 19th Century. Macmillan & Co. \$4.
Cralk, Mrs. D. M. King Arthur. Not a Love Story. Harper & Brothers.
De Amicis, E. Alberto. No. 1. W. R. Jenkins. 35 cents.
Erckmann-Chatelain. Les Francs de Grindewald. W. R. Jenkins. 25 cents.
Face to Face. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.25.
Hardy, A. S. The Wind of Destiny. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.
Harris, Miriam Cowles. A Perfect Adonis. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 50 cents.
Jevons, W. S. Letters and Journal. Edited by his Wife. Macmillan & Co. \$4.
Kennard, Mrs. Edward. Killed in the Open: A Novel. Harper's Franklin Square Library. 20 cents.
King, Capt. C. Marfan's Faith. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.25.
Krehbiel, H. E. Review of the New York Musical Season, 1885-86. Novello, Ewer & Co.
Langel, A. Fragments d'histoire. Paris: Calmann Lévy.
Laveleye, E. de. La Péninsule des Balkans. 2 vols. Brussels: Merzbach & Falk; New York: F. W. Christern.
Lubomirsky, Prince J. Tzar, Archiduchesse et Burgraves. F. W. Christern.
Lucy, H. W. A Diary of Two Parliaments. The Gladstone Parliament, 1880-1885. Cassell & Co. \$1.
Nourisson. Pascal: physicien et philosophe. Boston: Carl Schoenohof.
Oberholtzer, Mrs. S. L. Daisies of Verse. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.25.
Oldcastle, J. The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster. Catholic Publication Society.
Perez-Bonalde, J. A. Enrique Helne: El Canclonero (Das Buch der Lieder). New York: F. W. Christern.
Quinet, E. Lettres d'Exil. T. III. Boston: Schoenohof.
Rand, E. A. The Camp at Surf Bluff. Phillips & Hunt. \$1.25.
Scruples. Cassell & Co. 25 cents.
Stanton, Evan. Ruhiannah: A Story of Afghan Life. Cassell & Co. \$1.
The Familiar Letters of Peppermint Perkins. Boston: Ticknor & Co. \$1.
Theuriet, A. Bigarreau. Boston: Schoenohof.
Tidball, Mary Langdon. Barbara's Vagaries. Harper & Brothers.
Tommy's First Speaker for Little Boys and Girls. Edited by Tommy Himself. Chicago: W. H. Harrison, Jr. 50 cents.
Wilson-Fowler. The Principles of Morals. Introductory Chapters. Macmillan & Co. \$1.25.
Winter, W. The Stage Life of Mary Anderson. George J. Coombes.
Wolf, A. La Gloire à Paris. Boston: Schoenohof.
Wolf, Dr. P. Who is Guilty? Cassell & Co. \$1.
Woolner, T. Tiresias: A Poem. London: G. Bell & Sons.
Woolson, Constance Fenimore. East Angels: A Novel. Harper & Brothers.
Woolson, Mrs. Abba G. George Elliot and Her Heroines. Harper & Brothers.
Zeuthen, H. G. Die Lehre von den Kegelschnitten in Altertum. Erster Halbband. Kopenhagen: A. F. Høst & Sohn.
Zola, E. L'Euvre. Paris: Charpentier; New York: Christern.

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