

The March King in Lansing

May 15, 1901

AMUSEMENTS

In Liege, Belgium, La Gazette said of the Sousa band:

"Their musical execution is distinguished by a correctness, and ensemble, and irreproachable precision as well as by a diversity of tone which is altogether exceptional and of which they make use with skill. The wood instruments have purity and refinement; the brass have superb strength. In the performance of the many numbers on the program it was possible to appreciate how the players under the dominating impulse -- firm and certain -- of their young leader, observe the most minute gradations and the harmonic fusion of the instruments. In the "Tannhauser" overture the violin passages were negotiated with such extraordinary agility by the clarinets that it seemed as if such might have been Wagner's intent."

It is the same band that won such unstinted praise that Mr. Sousa will present here at his concert at Baird's on May 15.

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(Lansing, MI)
May 13, 1901

AMUSEMENTS

"More dazzling than ever since he stormed Europe," is the way a western critic of a Sousa concert began recently, as Sousa was coming this way from the Pacific coast, and it closed with: "Talk as you will, there is something about Sousa's music that puts a strange thump in the heart and ginger in the heels" -- homely but conveying a vast amount of truth. Sousa has put on a lot of new music this tour, and reports show that the public likes it remarkably well. There is one thing sure, Sousa has enough new music on hand to give a change of program every day in the month if he so willed. The band will be here in concert tomorrow night, and Sousa will direct in person. The special soloists are Blanche Duffield, soprano, and Bertha Bucklin, violiniste.

The State Republican
(Lansing, MI)
May 14, 1901

SOUSA TONIGHT

Grand Band and Soloists Reach Lansing at Last

Sousa's long tour, covering much of the Gulf country and all of the Pacific Coast country, the middle west, etc., has now reached Michigan and will cover much of the far east before June 1. Sousa then goes to the Pan-American Exposition for a month before going to Manhattan Beach. Sousa is said to have created a wonderful amount of interest all through the tour, at times and places nearly assuming the form of a furor, as at Kansas City, Baltimore, San Francisco, etc. Sousa has put on a deal of new music and his programs are brighter than ever. The big band will be here in concert tonight. The soloists are Blanche Duffield, soprano, Bertha Bucklin, violiniste.

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May 15, 1901

AMUSEMENTS

John Philip Sousa's programs are made up largely of the music of the best composers, and although a military band cannot reach the perfection of a strong orchestra in the interpretation of such works, Mr. Sousa has greatly overcome these limitations, and he is doing much to raise the popular standard of music among the people. To the field of light and popular music the bandmaster has recourse for his characteristic "encore numbers," and to his credit be it said that he does not countenance banal "tunes" simply because they may be the fad of the moment. A composition, no matter how light, must possess intrinsic musical value before it can be played at a Sousa concert. Sousa possesses the ability to impart new graces to almost any popular melody. The programs for the concerts at Baird's tonight will contain much that is new and much that is interesting. The usual soloists -- singer and violiniste, together with the popular band instrumentalists will add variety and value to the concerts. Blanche Duffield is the soprano, and Bertha Bucklin the violiniste.

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May 15, 1901

THEY ARE POPULAR

Sousa's Concert Delighted a large Audience.

Sousa's band at Baird's opera house last night played delightful music for the enjoyment of a large audience. The bandmaster was in a gracious mood and responded to numerous encores with popular pieces. Sousa's concerts always please the popular fancy.

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