

THE  
AMERICAN HISTORY  
AND  
ENCYCLOPEDIA  
OF  
MUSIC

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## LA SCALA, MILAN.

This is next in importance to the Paris Opera House. It is more historic but far less magnificent. It is called Teatro della Scalla from its having been built in 1778 on the site of a church raised by Beatrice Scala, wife of Barnabo Viscontex. Piermarini was the architect. It has always been admired for the excellence of its internal arrangements. Its cost was only \$200,000. Until 1857 its principal entrance was from a side street, but it now opens upon a square in the center of which stands the famous statue of Leonardo da Vinci.

The interior is in the shape of a horseshoe and has five tiers of boxes, two hundred in number. There is a royal box above the entrance to the stalls. The curtain represents Parnassus and is the work of Riccardi. It was restored in 1878. It is the property of the city of Milan whose council grants an annual sum for its support.

Countless Italian masterpieces from Bellini's "Norma" to Verdi's "Falstaff" have been produced upon its boards. The training school attached to it has graduated probably more famous singers and ballerinas than has any other.

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WITH  
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BY  
H. E. KREHBIEL

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VOLUME II

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