

Reginald in
possession of Christ
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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

MADAME-ANNA BISHOP.

Madame ANNA BISHOP SCHULTZ (née Riviere), the world-renowned English contralto, extraordinary linguist and traveller, was born in London. Belonging to a family of affluence, she received an excellent musical education while quite young, and long before it was suspected that she was possessed of a voice of rare quality, or that she was destined to achieve celebrity in the profession of music. As her education advanced, it became evident that she possessed more than ordinary capacity, and by the advice of her friends she was entered in the Royal Academy of Music, where she received a careful course of instruction, and became remarkably skilful as a pianoforte player. The parents of Madame ANNA BISHOP at first destined her for this instrument, and confided her to the care of M. Moscheles, the celebrated German teacher, under whose guidance she made rapid and distinguished progress. In the meantime her voice became developed; it was found to be a pure and expressive soprano *Sjogato*, exhibiting an unusual degree of flexibility and power. She made a successful debut as a singer, and thenceforward devoted herself to that profession. At first she appeared as prima donna at the Ancient and Philharmonic Concerts, and at the great musical festivals given in the cathedral towns of Gloucester, Worcester, York and Hereford. In this early part of her career Madame ANNA BISHOP chiefly sang the classical music of Handel, Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven, having paid little or no attention to the modern Italian school of music; and it was not until after she first achieved a distinguished position as a concert singer that, by the advice of a celebrated musician, she seriously devoted herself to its study. Her first public essay in London in this kind of music was at a concert at the Her Majesty's Theatre, July, 1839. Garcia, Persiani, Rubini, Tambourini, Mario and Lablache, all sang at the same concert. Thalberg, Dohler, Puzzi and Bochs, instrumentalists. Conductor, Sig. Costa. The debutante was not eclipsed by this galaxy of talent, but achieved a triumphant success. The critics of the day spoke in the most flattering terms of the talent of ANNA BISHOP, discussing at length and with unqualified eulogy both her vocal and dramatic qualifications.

Her successes as a concert singer at length induced her to venture upon a tour throughout the principal cities of Europe, and in a comparatively short time she visited the most noted towns and cities of Denmark, Sweden, Russia, Moldavia, Austria, Hungary, Bavaria,

all of which places she sang with unvarying success. Her tour was marked by most ardent demonstrations of interest, she was constantly found herself patronized by Emperors, Kings, Princes, and nobles, attended the theatre, and in whose palaces she constantly gave entertainments, but was received into their presence and loaded with honors and souvenirs. In October, 1839, Madame ANNA BISHOP gave ten concerts at the Theatre Royal, Copenhagen, and nine *soirées* in the Palace where she was staying, and which subsequently became the residence of the Hereditary Prince of Denmark. Her concerts in Copenhagen were honored by the frequent presence of the King, the Queen, and all the Court; in addition to this she had the honor of singing in private before the Queen. She sang in English, Italian, French and German, and concluded her concert by a ballad in the Danish language, which won the applause of Her Majesty, who presented her with a superb diamond brooch, in testimony of her admiration and esteem.

In January, 1840, Madame ANNA BISHOP left Copenhagen for Stockholm, and carrying with her letters of recommendation from the Danish Court, soon acquired position and popularity in the latter country. She was patronized by their Majesties, by Prince Oscar and by most of the nobility. At this time, Mademoiselle Jenny Lind was the *première cantatrice* at the Theatre Royal, Stockholm, and notwithstanding the popularity of that gifted artist, the first concert given at the same theatre by Madame ANNA BISHOP was so successful, that on the following day not only every place in the house, from *parterre* to gallery, was taken for four other concerts, but extra places were contrived upon the stage, all of which were taken. During this lady's engagement at Stockholm, she sang the national Swedish airs in their own language with meritorious success. She stayed in this country a considerable time, having at the conclusion of her engagements at the capital extended her tour into the provinces, where she was received with great favor. At Upsala, after the concert, upwards of three hundred students assembled and escorted Madame Bishop in her carriage as far as the hotel where she resided, and afterwards serenaded her under the window. The next day they formed a cavalcade, and accompanied her as far as the gates of the town, making the air resound with their huzzas.

Madame Bishop continued her tour, and reached St. Petersburg; in May, 1840. She stayed in the Russian capital upwards of a year, adding greatly to her reputation as a singer, and winning the most

substantial marks of approval. She frequently sang before the Imperial Court, and on the occasion of the great *fête* of the Emperor Nicholas, on the 6th of December, 1840, she received from that illustrious monarch a gift of a splendid set of diamonds. She was equally successful at the private concerts of the nobility. At the residence of Prince Youssof she gave six *soirées*, on which occasion she sang in the Russian language; while at the musical parties of Lord Clanricarke, Count Wielhorsky, Count Nesselrode, Prince Walkonsky, and Prince Galitzin, she proved to be the principal attraction. Nothing, it was said, could be compared to the charm with which Madame Bishop invested the national airs and melodies of the country, which excited a *furor* whenever and wherever she sang them. On her way to Moscow she sang at Dorpat, Riga and Mirtau. At the latter place she was complimented by the ladies of the city insisting upon furnishing the room in which she changed her costumes, a determination which they carried out with much taste and liberality. On arriving at Moscow she gave eight concerts, and subsequently was engaged to play Alice in "Robert le Diable," in the Russian language, which difficult task she performed with entire success. In June, 1841, Madame Bishop proceeded to Nijni Novogorod, and from thence to Kasan, the capital of Tartary, where no artist had ever ventured before her. During her stay she was entertained at the Governor's palace, and had two of his aides-de-camp to assist in directing the arrangements of her concerts. Madame Bishop sang the national airs of this country in the original Tartar language.

At Odessa, Madame Bishop gave five concerts in costume, in November, 1841. In 1842 she reached Yassi, in Moldavia, where she met with an enthusiastic reception. From thence she went to Lemberg, Krakovia, Brunn and Vienna. Sir Robert Gordon, the English Ambassador at this city, gave a grand concert expressly to introduce Madame Bishop to the Viennese nobility. Her performances at Vienna added greatly to her reputation. Before the termination of her engagements she played and sang the first two acts of "Lucia di Lammermoor," in the German language. Leaving the last named city, she visited Frankfurt, Bonn, Bonn and Carlsbad, and from thence went to Frankfurt, Mayence, Darmstadt, Mannheim, etc., giving three and sometimes four concerts in each place. At Darmstadt, Munich and Mannheim the Sovereigns gave the Royal Theatres special performances, and made her a most honorable reception. Moreover, at Munich, the King of Bavaria presented her with a diamond of her concert with his own hand.

The above-noticed facts occurred between September, 1839, and May, 1843, during which period Madame Bishop gave no less than two hundred and sixty concerts.

She visited Italy in the summer of 1843, and performed in Verona, Padua, Venice, Ferrara, Florence, Rome and Naples, with her customary success. At Naples she played in "La Fidanza Corsica," an exceedingly popular opera by Signor Pacini, and achieved so decided a success that she was engaged as *prima donna assoluta di cartello* of the Grand Theatre, San Carlo, for the next twenty-seven months. During this period she sang three hundred and twenty-seven times, and in twenty-four operas of different styles, among which were "Otello," "L'Elisir d'Amore," "La Sonnambula," "Beatrice di Tenda," "Il Barbiere di Siviglia," "Lucia di Lammermoor," "Iduc Foscari," "Roberto Devereaux," "Il Bravo," "Le Capitaine Villane," "Il Vascello de Gama," which was composed expressly for her by Mercante, etc. In "Otello" she sang with the celebrated Donzelle. She repeated the character of *Desdemona* eighteen times with great success, although she followed soon after the lamented Malibran in that role at the San Carlo. When this theatre closed for the vacation, Madame Bishop obtained a *conge* of six weeks, and proceeded to Rome, where she sustained the part of *Amina*, in "La Sonnambula," nine nights consecutively, and that of *Lucia*, in "Lucia di Lammermoor," fifteen nights, on some occasions being called before the curtain as often as twenty-five times in the course of the opera. Returning to Naples, Madame Bishop completed her engagement with *éclat*, and was about to leave for England, when a ministerial order charged the Sicilian Government to engage her to sing at Palermo during the *fêtes* that were given in November, 1845. Accordingly she sang in the "Sonnambula," at the Theatre Caroling in Palermo, in the presence of the Russian and Neapolitan Sovereigns, where she was received with testimonials of great satisfaction and substantial marks of approval.

At length Madame Bishop returned to London, giving concerts, etc., on the way; she thus visited Zurich, Berne, Neuchâtel, Geneva, Liege and Brussels. Having remained some time in England playing in English opera, Italian opera, and singing at concerts, she sailed

for America in 1847, when she made a tour through the United States, meeting with the same welcome, and adding fresh laurels to her career wherever she stayed. She travelled South and remained to fulfil a lengthened engagement in Havana and Mexico. She went to California, appeared in Grand Opera, and gave a series of concerts which were attended with remarkable success. At the termination of this engagement she was induced to visit the Australian colonies. She sailed from California for Australia in 1855, and arrived at Sydney in the month of December in that year. Here she commenced a series of concerts immediately after her arrival: subsequently she appeared in English and Italian operas, and always with the same gratifying result. From Sydney she went to Melbourne and Adelaide, leaving the former place she sailed for South America, landing at Callao, the port of Lima, remaining there for a season. She then went to Valparaiso, appearing in most of her favorite operas. From thence she went to Santiago, the capital of Chili, where she accepted an engagement to appear in Grand Opera, after which she undertook the perilous journey across the Andes, and although at the most inclement season (March), reached the city of Mendoza, at the foot of the Cordilleras, in five days, without encountering the slightest accident or difficulty. From this point she took up her line of march across the great Pampas of South America, which was accomplished in nine days, arriving at the river La Plata at Rosario, visiting Parana, the capital of the Argentine Confederation, Buenos Ayres, Montevideo, giving concerts and appearing in opera with the most unbounded success. At Rio de Janeiro Madame Bishop appeared in opera, and was honoured by the presence of their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Brazil on several occasions.

She arrived in England on the 4th of September, 1866, in the Bremen barque Libelle, from Honolulu, S.I., for Hongkong. Nothing occurred during the voyage to mar the pleasure of herself and party, until the evening of the 4th of March, when the ship struck on a coral island, known as Wake Island, situated in latitude N. 19° 25', longitude E. 166° 20'. The passengers and crew remained on board in the greatest peril until the morning, and when a landing was effected the island was found barren, uninhabited, and without water. After 21 days stay on the island, they departed with twenty-two souls in a boat 22 feet long, for one of the Ladrone or Mariana Islands, a distance of 1,400 miles, which they accomplished in 13 days. During this perilous voyage all were exposed to a burning sun and rain, with only a scanty supply of food (consisting of dried fish and birds caught on the island), and a small allowance of water. On arriving at Gaum (which is well known to mariners in the North Pacific as one of the few places of resort in the Ladrone Islands), the whole of the shipwrecked party were kindly taken care of by the Governor of the island, and, during the three months they were compelled to remain, were treated by the few foreign inhabitants and natives with the greatest kindness.

From Guam, Madame Bishop and party, consisting of Mr. Schults (her husband), Mr. Charles Lascelles, Musical Director; Miss Phelan and a portion of the crew of the Libelle, sailed for Manila; after a passage of 21 days, they arrived with only sufficient clothing for immediate use. Madame Bishop had lost her entire wardrobe, jewellery, and a large stock of music, which last, being much of it manuscript, could not be replaced. It is impossible that anyone could have been placed in a more truly pitiable position. However, with an undaunted spirit, a season of three concerts was answered at the Opera House, and immediately after the box-office

Madame BISHOP arrived in England on the 4th of September, 1858, staying one year, during which time she sang in concerts at St. James's Hall, and the Crystal Palace.

Exeter Hall, St. James's Hall, and the lamented Jullien's she made a tour of England, Ireland and Scotland, with the most gratifying results. During her sojourn in England Madame Bishop appeared in a Grand Musical Festival at the Crystal Palace, and sang Rossini's Stabat Mater to thirty-eight thousand people, one of the largest assemblages it is believed that ever greeted any artiste.

On the 12th of August, 1858, she gave her farewell concert at the Surrey Music Hall, and immediately afterwards sailed for America, in the mail steamer *Arcton*, arriving in New York in September.

Here she appeared again in opera: visited Boston, and sang in Oratorio at the Handel and Haydn Society's concerts, after which she made a tour through the Southern States, including Texas, where she added fresh laurels to her fame and achieved a most signal pecuniary success, arriving at St. Louis, Mo., in June, 1860; gave a series of concerts, and then proceeded up the Missouri River as far as St. Joseph, having given concerts at all the prominent places on the route, receiving the most flattering testimonials on every hand. She next appeared in a series of concerts in the cities of Chicago, Madison and Milwaukee. At the latter ones a grand concert at the

During the last four or five years sojourn in the United States, Madame ANNA BISHOP has sung in the Academy of Music, and Niblo's Garden, New York; Academy of Music, Brooklyn; Academy of Music, Philadelphia; and in the Boston Theatre, in English and Italian Operas. She also gave concerts in every city and town of note on the American Continent.

note on the American Continent. In the year 1865 she re-visited Mexico with a view of once more seeing the famed city of the Montezumas, and got as far as the cities of Matamoras, Monterrey and Saltillo. Being unable, from the disturbed condition of the country, to penetrate farther into the interior, she returned to the coast and sailed for Havana. It being after the season of Opera, she with the assistance of Mr. Lascelles, gave several concerts, with success, at the Tacon Theatre, also visiting Matanzas and giving concerts with like results. Returning to Havana, she set sail for New York via Nassau, New Providence, meeting with a warm welcome from the residents there. Madame Bishop then returned to New York, visiting Saratoga, Newport, and other watering-places professionally, appearing in farewell concerts in New York and Brooklyn. Madame Bishop set sail from New York for California on the 1st of September, 1865, with a view of making a tour of the western coast, arriving in San Francisco late in September, she appeared in several concerts at the Academy of Music with the greatest success. After this Madame Bishop, accompanied by Mr. Lascelles, set out on a tour into the interior, extending her trip across the Sierra Nevada to the Virginia City and Carson, meeting with the most favorable receptions wherever she appeared. On returning to San Francisco a series of concerts was given to full and delighted audiences. A few days prior to her sailing for Honolulu, Madame Bishop gave a series of Italian and English Opera most successfully.

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At the inauguration of the first communication between San Francisco and the Sandwich Islands, Madame Bishop decided upon visiting those beautiful islands, "Hawaii." Her reception there was pleasant and gratifying. The Governor of the Interior, Dr. Hutchinson, courteously granted her the use of his house for the use of her concerts. His Majesty the King also attended her concerts with his presence, as did also members of the Royal Family.

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Madame Bischoff then left for Foochow, where she also experienced the same uniform kindness, the good people of the place furnishing the room for holding her concerts and similar accommodation, free of charge.

From Foochow she proceeded to Shanghai, giving four concerts to enthusiastic audiences, and receiving most flattering encomiums from the Press. Her farewell concert was under the distinguished patronage of the Foreign Ministers, the Admiral of the Station, and all the Foreign Consuls of the settlements.

all the Foreign Consuls of the settlements.¹⁸⁶⁶
Madame Blamont then set sail southward, arriving in Hong Kong
on the 26th October, 1866. She was granted the spacious salon of
the English Club for her concert, which were attended by His Ex-
cellency, Governor of Hongkong, and Lady.

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cellency Sir Richard MacDonnell, Governor of Hongkong, and Lady.
MacDonnell, and the elite of the city. While in Hongkong she met
the Rev. Mr. MacDonnell, the resident clergyman of Canton.

MacDonnell, and the first of the many visits made by the latter to the former, was invited by the Hon. Mr. Gray, the resident clergyman, of Canton, Mass., to visit the latter, and to make his residence, as he called it, with her at the East. She gladly availed herself of his

abode during her stay there. She gladly availed herself of the hospitality, as it afforded her an opportunity of seeing more of this extraordinary and curious people than usually falls to the lot of a stranger. Mr. Gray being an old resident of Canton,

of this extraordinary and curious people than any other
lot of most travellers. Mr. Gray, being an old resident of Canton,
and being able to speak the language of the place fluently, had it in
his power to afford Madame Bisshop an opportunity of visiting the
“antidote world”

and being able to speak the language of the people, she was able to use his power to afford Madame Bisshop an opportunity of visiting the interior of the city that had remained closed to the "outside world" for so many past generations. During her sojourn in Canton she was well patronized.

On leaving Hongkong, Madame Bishop sailed, on the 1st of December, for Singapore, and arrived at the latter place on the 9th.

On leaving Hongkong, Madame [unclear] December for Singapore, and arrived at the latter place on the 9th of the same month, and found it one of the most beautiful places in the East. The climate most salubrious and delightful, the residents

to the East, the climate most salubrious and delightful, the residents (foreign) most kind and very musical, a large portion of them German, and met with much entertainment who on one occasion assisted at her concert and other dignitaries of the

From Singapore, Madame Bishop departed for Calcutta, and

From Singapore, Madame Bishop departed for Calcutta, and arrived in that famed City of Palaces on the 6th of January, 1867. At the time of her arrival the Theatre (Opera House) was occupied by the *English Opera Company*. The use of the only available place

At the time of her arrival the Theatre (Opera House) was occupied by a company of Italian artists. The use of the only available place suitable for concerts--the Town Hall--was obtained, and as many as fifteen or sixteen concerts were given in Calcutta and its vicinity.

suitable for concerts—the Town Hall, as fifteen or sixteen concerts were given in Calcutta and its vicinity, with great success. Madame ANNA BISNOU was engaged by a wealthy and influential Baboo, named Juggodanund Mookerjee, for a private concert at his house, the residence of the then British Governor of Bengal.

with great success, and influential Baboo, named Juggodanund Mookerjee, for a *soirée* being given in honor of Sir Cecil Beadon, Governor of the Viceroy was honored also by the presence of their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Darnley, and the gentry of the city. Madame

was honored also by the presence of their Highnesses, the Maharajah and Lady Lawrence, and the gentry of the city. Madame Bishor was presented by the generous Baboo with a sum of one thousand Rupees: the Baboo's lady also presented Madame Bishor with

was presented by the king. The lady also presented Madame BISHOP with Rupees; the Baboo's lady also presented Madame BISHOP with a beautiful silk dress of the country. Sir John Lawrence, the Governor-General of India, and Lady Lawrence, always patronized Madam

Remaining about two months in Calcutta, Madame Bisshop met with much kindness from the resident amateurs. The season being

Remaining about two months with much kindness from the resident amateurs. The season being somewhat too far advanced to visit Madras and Bombay, and being desirous of seeing some of the noted cities of the interior of India.

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person for a like purpose. "It was a grand sight—a place capable of seating eleven or twelve thousand people, with one of the best organs on the continent, which, by the way, was built by a man of the name of Ridges, who came from Australia and built it under great difficulties, as all the materials had to be transported over a great and uninhabited country by Indians only. The festival was a great success, musically and financially. It was the opinion of Madame BISHOP that the Temple was the most perfect building for sound she had ever sang in. Taking a friendly leave of Brigham Young and his numerous family, the next point of interest was San Francisco, which was reached after some days' delightful travel. Stopping on three or four occasions, giving concerts at small towns that have sprung into existence since the Pacific railway has been made. The return of Madame BISHOP to San Francisco was no ordinary event, being her third visit there. Some six or seven years had elapsed since her last appearance. The welcome received from her friends and the public was quite as great, if not more so, than on the former occasions. During her stay on the Pacific coast she visited Oregon and British Columbia for the first time, meeting with great success from the hospitable people of that new and delightful country.

Remaining in California nearly one year and a half, giving concerts in every principal town in the state, including the states of Oregon, Nevada, Idaho, Washington Territory and British Columbia, taking leave of San Francisco on the 12th day of Oct., 1874; sailing for Sydney via the Sandwich Islands, staying there for a few hours, receiving the kind hospitality of the present king (David), calling for a short stay at the lately-acquired possessions of Her Majesty's Government in the South Seas, the Fiji Islands.

Arriving in Sydney, New South Wales, on the 9th November 1874; meeting with a most kind welcome from the people of the beautiful city, being Madame BISHOP's third visit to the Antipodes, she gave concerts in the cities of Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide, also visiting Ballarat and other towns in Victoria; making the journey overland from Melbourne to Sydney, calling and giving two or three concerts at Wagga-Wagga, a town made rather famous as being once the place of residence of "Tichborne." A stay of nearly twelve months was made in Australia, when a new field opened to Madame BISHOP's view, and an opportunity presenting itself in the month of May, of getting to South Africa in a steamer, to touch at Cape Town, en route to England, she arrived in Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope, September, 1875. Meeting with quite a new people, all strangers to her excepting the Governor of the Cape Colony, Sir Henry Barkley, whom Madame BISHOP had the honour of knowing twenty years before in Australia, when Governor of Victoria, a most hearty welcome was accorded to Madame BISHOP. After giving twelve or more concerts on this occasion, she proceeded to Port Elizabeth, a beautiful town on the coast, some four or five hundred miles distant. There she gave a like number of concerts with equal success. From thence she proceeded to Graham's Town, the most beautiful and enjoyable inland town in South Africa, and proceeding from there to King William's Town, then to East London, on the coast, she took leave of the colony.

At Durban, the port town of the colony, she gave a concert, and then, after a short stay, she sailed for England, and also, in passing, some fifty miles in the interior, where she gave a concert, and then, after a short stay, she sailed for England, and also, in passing, some fifty miles in the interior, where she gave a concert, and then, after a short stay, she sailed for England, and also, in passing, some fifty miles in the interior, where she gave a concert.

LONDON, December 6th, 1877.

on account of the heavy rains, making the land-travel anything but enjoyable or easy. On the return from the Diamond Fields another series of concerts was given at Port Elizabeth, before proceeding to Cape Town, where a farewell season was inaugurated with great success. The following is from the *Cape Argus*, Nov. 21st, 1876:—

"Madame ANNA BISHOP last evening made her last appearance before an audience in South Africa. This gifted lady leaves by the mail steamer to-day for Madeira, where, we believe, she proposes giving a series of concerts, previous to going to England. When it is remembered that Madame BISHOP has been a prominent figure in the musical world since 1839, when with Garcia, Tamburini, Mario and Lablache, she appeared in London, one is lost in amazement at the power and sweetness of voice, and the delicate vocalization which she displayed last night in the opera of 'Norma' as the *David Priestess*. For more than thirty years has this remarkable woman been a leading musical performer, and that she is still able to play and sing as she did last evening is a fact that becomes the more astonishing when the incidents of her career are known. She has travelled in most parts of the world. In America and Australia her name is as well known as it is in Europe. She has been shipwrecked and captured by robbers, but in spite of hardships and dangers she retains more power than any other artiste of anything like her standing. In South Africa she has travelled a great deal, and there is hardly a town of note that she has not visited. It is more than fourteen months since she landed in Cape Town, where she gave a series of concerts. She proceeded to Port Elizabeth, Uitenhage, Graham's Town, King William's Town, and East London, and then went to Natal, visiting Maritzburg and Durban. She returned to Cape Town, and passed on to Stellenbosch, Paarl, Wellington, Ceres, Worcester, Robertson, Swellendam, Riversdale, Mossel Bay and George. When at Worcester, an offer of an engagement at Kimberley was received, where she proceeded, via Fort Beaufort and Queen's Town. She then went to the Free State and the Diamond Fields. Returning to the colony, she gave concerts at Colesburg, Cradock, Middleburg, Graaff-Reinet, Somerset, Bedford and Adelaide. She paid visits again to Graham's Town, Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage, arriving in Cape Town for the last time on the 22nd October. We think this would be a fair amount of work for any one in fourteen months; but it is somewhat surprising in a lady who had previously undergone so much as Madame BISHOP. We were glad to see last night a large audience in the theatre to bid farewell to Madame BISHOP, and the loud applause testified to the pleasure those present experienced in hearing this famous singer."

Madame BISHOP sailed from Cape Town for England on the 21st November, 1875, and on arriving at Madeira, 10th December, she was induced to give a short series of concerts there, leaving for England, where she arrived on the 28th December, 1876.

Madame ANNA BISHOP is a member of the Philharmonia Societies at Copenhagen, Florence and Vienna; of the great musical societies at St. Petersburg, Moscow and Palermo; and of the Society of Saint Cecilia at Rome.

It is believed by the writer of this sketch that Madame BISHOP is the greatest female traveller now living, if not the greatest that has ever lived, not excepting the late Ida Pfeiffer. It is conceded that Madame BISHOP has had the good fortune to sing before a greater number of people, during her professional career, than any other artiste living.