

Gottschalk

(from Cyclopaedia of Music and Musicians, 1889)

GOTTSCHALK, LOUIS MOREAU,

born at New Orleans, Louisiana, May 8, 1829, died at Rio de Janeiro, Dec. 18, 1869. Pianist, pupil in Paris of Charles Halle and of Stamaty on the pianoforte, and of Maleden in harmony ; appeared first in public in 1845, then made a concert tour through France, Switzerland, and Spain, meeting everywhere with brilliant success. In 1853 he returned to America, and made a successful tour through the United States, Cuba, and South America, whither he went from San Francisco in 1865. Endowed with a poetic imagination, he was equally original as virtuoso and composer ; and his music has a colour peculiar to itself. His numerous compositions, if not deep, are full of novel accents and unusual rhythmical combinations, producing an indefinable charm ; they are nearly all so-called character-pieces, and mostly of a national, especially Spanish tinge, brilliant, and at times melancholy. Works : Charles IX., Isaura de Salerno, operas ; La unit des tropiques, symphony, for grand orchestra ; Montevideo, do. ; Grand triumphal march, for do. ; Gran marcha solemne, dedicated to the Emperor of Brazil, for do. ; Finale concertante to the opera Charles IX., for do. ;

Escenas campestres cubanas, for do. ; Gran Tarantella, for do. ; about 90 works for pianoforte, a complete list of which is to be found in the monographs cited below, and about a dozen songs. Fors, Gottschalk (Havana, 1880) ; R. E. Peterson, Notes of a Pianist, etc. (Philadelphia, 1881); Octavia Heusel, Life and Letters of L. M. Gottschalk (Boston, 1870).