

**BIOGRAPHIES OF  
MUSICIANS.  
LIFE OF WAGNER**

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Biographies of Musicians. Life of Wagner by Louis Nohl

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**LOUIS NOHL**

**BIOGRAPHIES OF  
MUSICIANS.  
LIFE OF WAGNER**





RICHARD WAGNER.

BIOGRAPHIES OF MUSICIANS.

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# LIFE OF WAGNER

BY  
*Ludwig*  
LOUIS NOHL

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN

BY

GEORGE P. UPTON.

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*"Who better than the poet can guide?"*

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CHICAGO  
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## PREFACE.

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The masters of music, Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven, advanced this art beyond the limits of their predecessors by identifying themselves more closely with the development of active life itself. By their creative power they invested the life of the nation and mankind with profounder thought, culminating at last in the most sublime of our possessions—religion. No artist has followed in their course with more determined energy than Richard Wagner, as well he might, for with equal intellectual capacity the foundation of his education was broader and deeper than that of the classic masters; while on the other hand the development of our national character during his long active career, became more vigorous and diversified as the ideas of the poets and thinkers were more and more realized and reflected in our life. Wagner's development was as harmonious as that of the three classic masters, and all his struggles, however violent at times, only cleared his way to that high goal where we stand with him to-day and behold the free unfolding of all our powers. This goal is the entire combination of all the phases of art into one great



work: the music-drama, in which is mirrored every form of human existence up to the highest ideal life. As this music-drama rests historically upon the opera it is but natural that the second triumvirate of German music should be composed of the founder of German opera, C. M. von Weber, the reformer of the old opera, Christoph Wilibald Gluck, and Richard Wagner. To trace therefore the development of the youngest of these masters, will lead us to consider theirs as well, and in doing this the knowledge of what he is will disclose itself to us.

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE.

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Just as this volume is going to press the announcement comes from Germany that the prize offered by the Prague Concordia for the best essay on "Wagner's Influence upon the National Art" has been adjudged to Louis Nohl, an honor which will lend additional interest to this little volume.

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