

**OFFENBACH IN
AMERICA. NOTES OF A
TRAVELLING MUSICIAN**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649148813

Offenbach in America. Notes of a travelling musician by Jacques Offenbach

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

JACQUES OFFENBACH

**OFFENBACH IN
AMERICA. NOTES OF A
TRAVELLING MUSICIAN**

OFFENBACH
IN AMERICA.

NOTES OF A TRAVELLING MUSICIAN.

By JACQUES OFFENBACH.

WITH A BIOGRAPHICAL PREFACE

By ALBERT WOLFF.

Translated from advance sheets of the original Paris Edition.



NEW YORK:
G. W. Carleton & Co., Publishers.

PARIS: C. LEVY.

MDCCLXXVII.

E 168

O 32 & E

1877

TO MY WIFE.

DEAR FRIEND,

It was you who wished me to make up a book from the scattered notes and random utterances of my heart. It is the first sorrow you have caused me. I bear you no little grudge, however, that I beg you will allow me to dedicate this volume to you, not for what it contains or for what it is worth, but because I love to manifest in every way my esteem and my affection for you.

JACQUES OFFENBACH.

548613
LIBRARY

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
BIOGRAPHICAL PREFACE, BY ALBERT WOLFF.....	7
CHAPTER I.	
Before Leaving.....	35
CHAPTER II.	
The Passage Out.....	43
CHAPTER III.	
New York—Gilmore's Garden.....	54
CHAPTER IV.	
The Houses—The Streets—The Cars.....	61
CHAPTER V.	
Theatres in New York.....	68
CHAPTER VI.	
Art in America.....	79
CHAPTER VII.	
Restaurants—Three Types of Waiters.....	85
CHAPTER VIII.	
American Women—Introductions—Central Park.....	95
CHAPTER IX.	
The Story of Two Statues.....	100
CHAPTER X.	
Liberty in America.....	109
CHAPTER XI.	
Societies and Processions.....	121

	PAGE
CHAPTER XII.	
Advertising and Puffing	123
CHAPTER XIII.	
The Turf—Jerome Park	123
CHAPTER XIV.	
The American Newspaper Press.....	132
CHAPTER XV.	
A Few Character Sketches	141
CHAPTER XVI.	
Philadelphia	153
CHAPTER XVII.	
Offenbach Garden	157
CHAPTER XVIII.	
On the Way to Niagara—Pullman Cars	161
CHAPTER XIX.	
Niagara Falls	166
CHAPTER XX.	
The Dauphin Eleazar	169
CHAPTER XXI.	
Return from Niagara—Sleeping Cars	172
CHAPTER XXII.	
The Miseries of a Musician	180
CHAPTER XXIII.	
The Firemen of New York	187
CHAPTER XXIV.	
Banquets, Baton, and Brevet.....	198
CHAPTER XXV.	
Farewell Night.....	205
CHAPTER XXVI.	
Homeward-Bound	207

BIOGRAPHICAL INTRODUCTION.

By ALBERT WOLFF.

To Madame HERMINIE OFFENBACH :

MADAME—Your husband's publisher has requested me to write a preface to this book, which he has dedicated to you. It was not necessary that your name should appear on the first page, for us to be convinced that you were worthy of every proof of affection and gratitude. Whatever your husband writes, whether music or words, belongs to you by right. There is not a single one among your innumerable friends but is aware that you are not only the best of wives, and the most excellent of mothers, but that also, and to a certain extent, you have participated in the works signed by our illustrious composer.

The numerous productions of your husband

may be divided into two quite distinct parts: the one is like the echo of Parisian gossip, Boulevard bustle, and artistes' suppers, when French mirth and good humor have been stimulated by sparkling champagne; the other part has nothing in common with the first, and is your legitimate property, for it is you, Madame, who have blessed this thoroughly Parisian artiste with a happy and genial home, where his heart has expanded at ease in the midst of a charming, joyful, and spirited family, where he has most unquestionably found the pathetic and more delicate tones of his repertory, which, in my humble opinion, form the purest part of his talent. This is why I think of your husband when the blasts of frolicking mirth burst forth in his music, and I think of you, Madame, when suddenly, through the jingling bells of folly, plaintive melodies glide out harmoniously, and delight the ears both of connoisseur and crowd. Quite lately, Madame, I was staying a few hours in the ancient city of Cologne, and chanced to pass before the house where your husband was born. Jacques was already a well-grown youth, and something