

DAMROSCH ORCHESTRA

Heard by a Large Audience at the Academy of Music Last Evening

On its third local visit for the season the New York Symphony Orchestra was heard by a large audience at the Academy of Music last evening, when the second symphony of Brahms in D major was the salient and most substantial feature of the programme. It will be recalled that this music was done by Mr. Toscanini a few days ago, but played as it was upon the present occasion under the erudite and intelligent direction of Mr. Walter Damrosch, with so much spirit and energy and precision, with such a sympathetic appreciation of its significance, with such a sensitive apprehension of its values and such an admirable distinctness of articulation, it was a pleasure and a privilege to hear it again.

Had the tone produced possessed a greater sensuous beauty, had the quality of the strings been richer and more mellow and that of the brasses not quite so strident, the performance would have left little or nothing to be desired, but the work of this orchestra is notable rather for strength than sweetness, and it lacks the exquisite refinement and the consummate finish to which the ears of Philadelphia concert-goers have become accustomed and which they have learned to expect. The things on the list were an arrangement from "Tristram und Isolde," entitled "Dreams," with a violin obligato, skilfully rendered by Mr. Gustave Tinlot, and the fine music from "Die Walkure," in which Mr. Damrosch was heard at his best.

The soloist was Mr. Sergei Rachmaninoff who interpreted his own superb concerto No 2, with that brilliancy of technique and authority of manner, and with that complete absence of anything savoring of self-consciousness or self-display, by which his playing is unfailingly distinguished. He is an artist whose efforts are exclusively directed to the interpretation of the music which he is engaged in presenting, and such as usual was the case last night. There were numerous recalls and much applause, and it was evident that both with him

and with the orchestra the audience was
very favorably impressed.