Francis Timbrell

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Source: *The Musical Times and Singing Class Circular*, Vol. 31, No. 572 (Oct. 1, 1890), p. 618

Published by: [Musical Times Publications Ltd.](#)

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3361183>

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FRANCIS TIMBRELL.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE MUSICAL TIMES."

SIR,—May I ask if any of your readers can give me any information in regard to Francis Timbrell, the author of "The Divine Musick Scholar's Guide," a book of Psalm-tunes issued during the last century? I have two copies of the above book, which formerly belonged to the late Mr. John Dobson; but, unfortunately, they have no printed date. The following dates, however, are written, evidently by former owners, in various parts of the books: "1725," "1733," "1734," "1735-6." In the British Museum catalogue the date "1715?" is suggested; so it seems as if the book was in existence in the early part of the last century. The preface, commencing "Harmonical brethren," is, like the book itself, very quaint and interesting.

Thanking you in anticipation for the insertion of the above query,—I am, yours faithfully,

F. G. EDWARDS.

3, Canfield Gardens, Hampstead, N.W.,
September 23, 1890.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * Notices of concerts, and other information supplied by our friends in the country, must be forwarded as early as possible after the occurrence; otherwise they cannot be inserted. Our correspondents must specifically denote the date of each concert, for without such date no notice can be taken of the performance.

Our correspondents will oblige by writing all names as clearly as possible, as we cannot be responsible for any mistakes that may occur.

Correspondents are informed that their names and addresses must accompany all communications.

We cannot undertake to return offered contributions; the authors, therefore, will do well to retain copies.

Notice is sent to all subscribers whose payment (in advance) is exhausted. The paper will be discontinued where the Subscription is not renewed. We again remind those who are disappointed in obtaining back numbers that, although the music is always kept in stock, only a sufficient quantity of the rest of the paper is printed to supply the current sale.

A. D. C.—St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, and the Chapel Royal.

ANXIOUS.—The book you possess was written by the Rev. John Mainwaring. It is a scarce book, but its value is not more than ten shillings.

J. T. D.—Unless your brother possesses exceptional gifts, he would find it a hard struggle to make a name and a profitable career.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF COUNTRY NEWS.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for any opinions expressed in this summary, as all the notices are either collated from the local papers or supplied to us by correspondents.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—The annual Harvest Festival at Christ Church was held on Sunday, the 21st ult. At the afternoon service the first and second parts of Haydn's *Creation* were performed by the choir, assisted by Miss Marjorie Eaton, who took the soprano part; Mr. G. Robson and Mr. Green taking respectively the tenor and bass solos. Mr. Smith, Choirmaster, conducted, and the accompaniments were played upon the organ by Mr. A. E. Knott.

BELFAST.—A Pianoforte Recital was given on the 4th ult., by Miss Ada Montgomery, in the Ulster Minor Hall. Miss Montgomery was able to prove her capacity as an executant. Her performance of some of the selections showed distinctly that she has not merely been subjected to the highest training, but also that she is gifted with great intelligence and judgment. The interest of the programme was increased by the introduction of a few vocal selections by Mr. Sylvester Smith.

BLACKPOOL.—A Concert was given at the Pavilion on the North Pier, on the 4th ult., for the benefit of Mons. Speelman, who, by his skillful labours in connection with the Pier Concerts, has done so much towards securing public favour. Miss Marguerite Hall, Miss Laura Smart, and Mr. Edward Dalzell (from Westminster Abbey) were the vocalists. The band played the selections which composed the programme with much credit to themselves. The performance, by Mons. Speelman, of Mendelssohn's Concerto in E minor was greatly appreciated. The Concert was a musical as well as financial success.

CHRISTCHURCH.—The organ in the Priory Church has been rebuilt by Messrs. Ginns Brothers, formerly with Messrs. Willis and Son. The great organ has been enlarged from eight to thirteen stops, the pedal from two to eight. Tubular pneumatic action has been applied to the great and pedal organs, and the heavy pressure to the reeds or the great and pedal organ, also the 16-ft. pedal open. The work has been carried out by Messrs. Ginns in a most satisfactory manner from specifications of Mr. Ferrey, who has presided at the organ forty-four years. On the 3rd ult. the organ was re-opened. A Recital was given

by Mr. C. F. South, Organist of Salisbury Cathedral, in a very masterly style. The organ now consists of forty-five stops. Octave and sub-octave couplers have been added to the swell.

DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN.—An Organ Recital was given by Miss E. L. Mundes at Finch Hill Church, on Thursday evening, the 11th ult., when she played pieces by Hatton, Mendelssohn, Bach, Merkel, Frost, Morandi, Himmel, and Handel. She was assisted by Mr. T. Brockbank (vocalist) and Mr. J. W. Gaggs (violin).

DOVER.—The Harmonic Society, under the able conductorship of Mr. J. W. Howells, gave a grand Vocal Concert, assisted by a military band, in the spacious and picturesque grounds of the Dover College, on the 10th ult. Upwards of 1,600 persons were present.

EASTBOURNE.—Three performances of the *Antigone* of Sophocles, with Mendelssohn's music, were given last month at the Devonshire Park Theatre, by the Viscountess Maidstone, which met with very great success. The chorus was composed of picked voices from students of the Guildhall School of Music, who performed the music with splendid effect. The small orchestra was augmented by a pianoforte, at which Miss Kate Augusta Davies lent valuable assistance. We understand there will be an early opportunity of hearing this fine work at the Crystal Palace, when this excellent chorus will be accompanied by a full orchestra. Mr. Standen Triggs specially engaged Mr. Thornton Colvin's Glee Party, consisting of eight voices, to take part in the *Antigone* music, and to assist at an illuminated *fête* given in the gardens of Devonshire Park. These capital glee-singers met with a most favourable reception. Mr. Ernest A. Thiel acted as accompanist.

HEREFORD.—Mr. Henry Leslie, who has recently resigned the post of Conductor of the Herefordshire Philharmonic Society after thirty years' valuable service, was presented, at the Shirehall, Hereford, on August 28, with an illuminated address, and a resolution was put forward that a scholarship at the Royal College of Music should be established in his name, to be maintained by subscriptions from the musical societies of Herefordshire and Shropshire and Mr. Leslie's friends.

HERNE BAY.—On Monday, the 2nd ult., Mr. Jan Mulder gave a Concert at the Pavilion. The programme included Mendelssohn's Trio in D minor, in which Miss Ethel Fraser took the pianoforte part, Miss Mabel Fraser the violin, and Mr. Mulder the violoncello; a Largo, by Bargiel; a Nocturne, by Chopin; and De Beriot's "Tremolo." The second part of the programme included Rubinstein's Sonata (2nd movement), Andante Religioso, by Thomé; and "Hungarian Dance," by Joachim. The final instrumental piece consisted of three movements of a work for the violoncello, composed and played by Mr. Jan Mulder, (a) Romance, (b) Gavotte, and (c) Tarentelle. The vocalists were Mrs. Lewis Turrill and Mr. J. Neame. The accompanists were Miss Ethel Fraser, Mrs. Grey, and Mrs. Turner.

HORRINGER, SUFFOLK.—The Harvest Festival was held on Sunday, the 21st ult. Both services were fully choral. The Anthem was "Thou crownest the year," by the Organist, Mr. Thomas Smith. The music throughout the day was bright and hearty, the congregation joining with great vigour in the various parts of the service, congregational singing being a leading feature in the services of this church.

HURST.—On Sunday, the 21st ult., the Harvest Festival Services were held in the Parish Church of St. John. In the afternoon an excellent performance of Gaul's sacred Cantata *Ruth* was given by the church choir, assisted by members of the Heyrod Vocal Society. The solos were sung by Miss Burgess, Miss M. J. Shaw, Mrs. Beeley, and Mr. George A. Taylor. Mr. George Bates, Organist and Choirmaster of the Church, conducted, and the accompaniments were played upon the organ by Mr. John Brooks, Organist of Old St. George's Church, Stalybridge. At the evening service the Magnificat and Nunc dimittis were sung to Dr. Bunnett's well-known setting in F, and the Anthem was "O taste and see," by Sir John Goss. Mr. G. Bates presided at the organ at the morning and evening services.

KINTBURY, HUNGERFORD.—Mr. A. Hopkins Allen concluded, on the 15th ult., a series of four Sunday evening Organ Recitals (commenced on August 24) at the Parish Church. The programmes were selected from the works of Handel, Bach, Haydn, Mendelssohn, Schumann, Smart, and Hird.

OSWALDTHISTLE, ACCRINGTON.—On Sunday afternoon, the 14th ult., a Musical Service was given in St. Paul's Church, in which several solos, choruses, &c., were sung. Mr. Lucas, the Organist, also played the following pieces: Toccata in G (Dubois), slow movement from a Symphony (Mozart), War March of the Priests (Mendelssohn). The soloists were Miss Lucas and Mr. S. Jackson.

PAISLEY.—The Paisley Choral Union gave a performance of Handel's *Samson*, in the George A. Clark Hall, on the evening of the 16th ult., in the presence of a large audience. Much interest had, indeed, been taken in the performance, inasmuch as it was a repetition of the Concert given by the Union at the Edinburgh Exhibition in June last. At that time Mr. James Barr, the able Conductor, and his fine body of choristers secured high favour, a compliment which was emphasised on the occasion under notice. The soloists were Mrs. Shepherd, Miss Lizzie Wright, Mr. T. E. Gledhill, and Mr. P. Glencorse. Mr. James Pattinson presided at the organ with his well-known ability. The Union will put Mendelssohn's *Elijah* in rehearsal almost immediately, and the Council are on the look out for a novelty to complete their arrangements for the coming season.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Mr. Clarence Eddy, the celebrated American Organist, gave a Recital, on the 4th ult., on the new Alexander Organ in the First Congregational Church. Bach's Toccata in F major, Salomé's Offertoire in D flat, Martini's Gavotte in F major, a Fantasia on themes from *Faust*, by Gounod (arranged by the player); Dudley