Review

Source: *The Musical Times and Singing Class Circular*, Vol. 40, No. 672 (Feb. 1, 1899), p. 114

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

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3365998>

Accessed: 18-12-2015 09:32 UTC

Your use of the JSTOR archive indicates your acceptance of the Terms & Conditions of Use, available at <http://www.jstor.org/page/info/about/policies/terms.jsp>

JSTOR is a not-for-profit service that helps scholars, researchers, and students discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content in a trusted digital archive. We use information technology and tools to increase productivity and facilitate new forms of scholarship. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Musical Times Publications Ltd. is collaborating with JSTOR to digitize, preserve and extend access to *The Musical Times and Singing Class Circular*.

<http://www.jstor.org>

Original Melodies for the Violin. With pianoforte accompaniment. By H. S. Irons.

[Novello and Company, Limited.]

TWELVE numbers of these melodies are announced to appear. No. 1 of the set is before us. It will appeal to players of moderate ability who have the happy knack of making their violin sing. The melody is unpretentious, sweet, and pure, and quite free from difficulty. It will prove a useful solo to many.

MUSIC IN BIRMINGHAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BEFORE giving a *résumé* of the principal musical events at the close of last year and during the month just ended, I have to make a slight correction in reference to the St. James's Choral Society's concert recorded in my last notes. It should be stated that the concert was given under the conductorship of Mr. Richard Richards, and that Mr. B. Nock presided at the organ.

An important concert was given in the Town Hall, on December 17, by the Birmingham Choral and Orchestral Association, Mr. Joseph H. Adams conducting. The work presented was the first concert performance in this country of Boito's opera "*Mephistopheles*." It was an ambitious effort on the part of an amateur society to have ventured upon a representation of so difficult a work, but the results warranted such a proceeding, although the absence of scenic effects was naturally a drawback. The chorus sang admirably, and the augmented orchestra thoroughly entered into the spirit of the work. The principals, who acquitted themselves in a praiseworthy manner, were Madame Gwen Cosslett, Miss Gertrude Booth, Mr. Edward Arthur, Mr. Thomas Hampson, and Mr. John Ridding.

Mr. A. R. Gaul's twenty-first invitation concert in connection with the Midland Institute Ladies' Singing Class, assisted by a number of gentlemen, was given in the large Lecture Theatre of that Institution on December 19. Mr. Gaul was unfortunately unable to discharge the duties of conductor on account of illness, Dr. Rowland Winn officiating in his place. The first part of the programme consisted of Cowen's "*The Rose Maiden*." The solos in the cantata were assigned to Miss Aimée Wathen, Madame Miriam Daniel, Mr. J. T. Birch, and Mr. T. Horrex. The accompaniments were given by a small orchestra, with Mr. George Halliley at the pianoforte.

The Birmingham Festival Choral Society gave in the Town Hall, on Boxing night, its forty-third annual Christmas performance of Handel's "*Messiah*," before a packed and deeply interested assembly. Dr. C. Swinnerton Heap, who had so far recovered from his recent illness that he was able to occupy his customary place at the conductor's desk, received quite an ovation from the audience and performers as he made his appearance on the orchestra. The principals were Miss L. Coomber, Miss L. Hovey, Mr. Charles Saunders, and Mr. Watkin Mills, vocalists; Mr. C. W. Perkins, organ; and Mr. John Solomon, solo trumpet. The performance, as a whole, was one of the finest given by this association for many years, the singing of the chorus being quite remarkable for tone and attack.

Mr. J. H. Humphries' choir chose the last night in December for its annual concert. The choir gave some pleasing part-songs, choruses, and madrigals under Mr. Humphries' conductorship. The following members of the choir were heard to advantage in a number of songs: Miss Clarice Booth, Miss Lilian Millward, Mr. W. J. Ottey, and Mr. C. Shum. Mr. John Dunn delighted the audience by his brilliant performances on the violin.

A musical *matinée* was given in the Edgbaston Assembly Rooms on the 14th ult., by Mrs. Montague Fordham, vocalist, and Madame Marie Fromm (pupil of Madame Schumann), pianist. The programme was an artistic one and served to introduce some novelties, the principal of which was a cycle of five songs entitled "*Rosenlieder*," by Count Philipp zu Eulenburg, the present German Ambassador at the Court of Vienna, and a new song, "*A song of singing*," by Mr. H. Emery, accompanied by the composer. The most interesting feature of the concert was the refined and artistic violoncello playing of Mr. Carl Fuchs.

At a meeting of the members of the Walsall Philharmonic Union, held on the 16th ult., Dr. C. Swinnerton Heap, the conductor of that Society, was presented with a handsome baton as a token of their appreciation of his past services.

Mr. George Halford submitted an attractive and interesting programme at his fifth orchestral concert, given in the Town Hall on the 17th ult., when Beethoven's Fourth Symphony received a masterly interpretation. The novelties consisted of Tschaikowsky's overture, "*Der Woiwode*," Moszkowski's ballet music, "*Laurin*," and Glazounow's picturesque overture, "*Carnaval*." Miss Louise Phillips was the vocalist.

A recital of sonatas for pianoforte and violin was given in the Masonic Hall, on the 19th ult., by Dr. Rowland Winn and Mr. William Henley, when the following were performed: Bach in E; Mozart in B flat; Beethoven, "*The Kreutzer*"; Brahms in D minor; and Saint-Saëns, also in D minor.

MUSIC IN BRISTOL.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TWO Christmas concerts have to be recorded. At the Grammar School a very good performance was given of Barnett's "*Ancient Mariner*" by the school choir, aided by old boys and some friends. The soloists were R. T. Stephens, S. M. Turner, W. G. Heal, H. P. Willis, B. C. Gardner, Mr. J. Boddy, and Mr. W. Follett. Mr. C. W. Stear was the pianist, Mr. Fulford the organist, and Mr. Holland-Smith conducted. At the breaking up concert at Clifton College the school choir sang well in several glees and part-songs, under the guidance of Mr. A. H. Peppin, and individual students and the orchestra contributed instrumental pieces.

On St. Stephen's Day members of the Bristol Choral Society joined the choir of the Church of St. Stephen (city) in the interpretation of St. Stephen's music from Mendelssohn's "*St. Paul*." The choral numbers from the oratorio were well sung by the combined forces, and the solos were praiseworthy interpreted by Mrs. Harrison, Mr. Brierly, Mr. Price, and Mr. J. Thomas. With the organ, at which Mr. P. R. Barclay presided, was united a small orchestra. The Rev. E. Houghton, the rector, conducted.

St. Bartholomew's Choral Society gave a performance of Romberg's cantata "*The Lay of the Bell*," on the 9th ult., under the direction of Mr. A. Brookes. The principals were Miss Marion Harris, Mr. W. Fancourt, Mr. J. W. Davey, and Mr. J. York.

The famous Madrigal Society gave its annual concert on the 12th ult. The excellent programme embraced madrigals and part-songs of all periods and various countries, from the sixteenth century to the present day. Among the compositions was Monteverde's "*Thine am I, dearest*," the solo portions of which were clearly sung by two boys from the Temple choir, who were trained by Dr. Walford Davies. All the pieces in the scheme were rendered almost to perfection under the skilful guidance of Mr. D. W. Rootham, and were heartily enjoyed by the audience that filled the Victoria Rooms.

MUSIC IN DUBLIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE Dublin Glee and Madrigal Union gave a most attractive concert at the Antient Concert Rooms on the 12th ult. The excellent selection of glees, &c., rendered by the members of the Union (Messrs. J. R. Morgan, Melfort d'Alton, T. F. Marchant, and T. H. Watson), was interspersed with solos, vocal and instrumental, by Madame Schelderup (vocalist and pianist); Herr Adolph Wilhelmj, the new professor of violin at the Royal Irish Academy of Music; and Mr. Melfort d'Alton, tenor.

Farmer's "*Christ and His Soldiers*" was repeated on the 18th ult., at the United Presbyterian Church, Lower Abbey Street, with organ and orchestral accompaniment, under the direction of Mr. Wm. McCausland Sherwood and Mr. A. C. Aykroyd, organist.

Two concerts were given by Mr. N. Vert in the large hall of the Rotunda, on the 16th and 21st ult. The names