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Review

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Reviews.

The Comforter. Church Cantata. The words compiled from the Scriptures. Music by Edward Shippen Barnes. Op. 15.

[G. Schirmer, Ltd.]

This is a short work for mixed voices, with solos for S.A.T.B., suitable for Lenten, Whitsuntide, or general use. The music throughout, though not difficult, is on a much higher level than the average easy cantata. The well-written organ-part is a feature. The work takes about twenty-five minutes in performance.

Allegretto Scherzando. By J. Stuart Archer. Original Compositions for the Organ (New Series), No. 39.

[Novello & Co., Ltd.]

Recitalists requiring an attractive light work, well calculated to make the most of the quieter stops at their disposal, will find what they want in Mr. Stuart Archer's *Allegretto Scherzando*. It is only moderately difficult.

Concerning Hymn Tunes and Sequences. By Athelstan Riley.

[Mowbray & Co.]

This book is a reprint of a series of articles that appeared in *The Sign* and *The Treasury* magazines.

Under the chapter-headings Plainsong, French Ecclesiastical Melodies, French Protestant Melodies, German Hymn Tunes, English Hymn Tunes, Welsh Tunes and Folk-songs, and Sequences, the author discourses very pleasantly, giving a great deal of information in an interesting manner. As may be expected, the taste of the average English Churchman in the matter of hymn tunes comes in for some shrewd knocks. Mr. Riley, however, backs up his contentions by copious illustrations, which show convincingly how and why certain tunes are good or bad. His protest against the quick pace adopted for old English and German tunes will be joined in by many. The clerical desire for 'bright' services is too often responsible for the consistent 'hustle' in so many churches. A uniform quickness is as monotonous as a uniform slowness, with the additional drawback of being undignified. Dr. Walford Davies contributes a thoughtful preface. The book—which is none the worse for the author's frank expression of his personal tastes—is one that hymn-lovers will do well to add to their libraries.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Cure of Self-Consciousness. By James Alexander. Pp. ix. + 151. Price, 3s. 6d. net. (London: Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent & Co.)

The Mysticism of Music. By R. Heber Newton. Pp. 78. Price, 3s. net. (London: G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

Folk-Dances of Denmark. Collected and described by Elizabeth Burchenal. Pp. xii. + 95. Price, \$1.50.

Folk-Dances of Finland. Collected and described by Elizabeth Burchenal. Pp. xi. + 87. Price, \$1.50. (London: G. Schirmer, Ltd.)

A meeting of employees in British pianoforte factories was held on June 10 at the Stanley Hall, Junction Road, N., under the chairmanship of Mr. B. Castwood (of Messrs. J. B. Cramer & Co.). It was resolved to express strong disapproval of alien enemy pianoforte manufacturers being allowed to carry on business in any part of the Empire during the continuance of hostilities. Such a privilege was unfair to British manufacturers and workmen, and particularly unfair to the 2,000 employees of the industry who had joined His Majesty's forces. It was considered that section 6 of the Trading with the Enemy Act should be so amended as to treat branches of alien enemy firms situated in the British Empire as of alien enemy character, and thus conform with the attitude of Russia and France.

Obituary.

We regret to record the following deaths:

MR. J. W. PHILLIPS, organist of St. George's Church, Sheffield, since 1877, succeeding his father, the late Mr. Percival Phillips, who had occupied the post thirty years. He was organist and accompanist of the Sheffield Musical Festivals since their foundation in 1896, and for thirty-seven years was connected in a similar capacity with the Sheffield Amateur Musical Society (established in 1863). He composed Church music and organ solos, and was a well-known organ recitalist in and about Sheffield. He specialised on the fine but intricate organ in the Albert Hall, Sheffield. Mr. Phillips, who was fifty-nine, died practically in harness, being seized with his fatal illness while teaching in his studio four days after he had played solos, &c., at the Spring Concert of the Sheffield Amateur Musical Society. There was a notable gathering of musicians at his funeral.

MR. FRANCIS HOLDER, at Edinburgh, on June 6, aged sixty-eight. He was for over a quarter of a century organist of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Edinburgh. Educated under Sir Alexander Mackenzie, his musical abilities were soon recognised. He kept up a high standard of music in the Roman Catholic Cathedral of the Scotch capital. As founder of the Edinburgh Musicians' Union he rendered good service, and his loss is keenly felt. He had a splendid music library, and was also an ardent collector of old violins. He was interred on June 8 at Warriston Cemetery, and the obsequies were presided over by his brother, the Right Rev. Mgr. Holder, P.P. of St. Joseph's, Dundee.

MR. FRANK PAUL MANLY, organist of Thurles Cathedral, on June 8. Born at Dublin in 1865, Mr. Manly held several important appointments, including the organistship of Sligo Cathedral (1898-1904). In 1904 he was appointed organist of Thurles Cathedral, and he laboured earnestly in that capacity till his death. He was held in high esteem as a cultured gentleman and as an admirable performer. For some years past he was in indifferent health, but the end came rather suddenly. He leaves a widow and three children. Among his predecessors in Thurles were Vincent Wallace, John F. Murray, and Dr. W. H. Grattan Flood.

CAPTAIN EDWARD BAYLIE AMPHLETT, 12th Worcestershire Regiment, attached to the 2nd Royal Fusiliers, killed in the Dardanelles on June 4, was born on June 15, 1877, educated at Marlborough and Worcester College, Oxford, and was called to the Bar, going the Oxford Circuit. He saw service with Paget's Horse in South Africa, and after some years was appointed Police Magistrate in the Island of Grenada, West Indies, which post he resigned to volunteer for the present War. He was the younger son of John Amphlett, of Clent, Worcestershire, was well known in musical circles in Worcestershire and Birmingham, and was prominent in many other pursuits.

JOHN PATERSON, at Glasgow, on May 5, in his eighty-first year. Mr. Paterson was the inventor and patentee of the 'Strad' chin-rest so universally popular was violinists. By profession Mr. Paterson was a banker, but he was a musical enthusiast all his life. He was an amateur violinist of marked ability, and excelled as a player of reels and strathspeys.

MR. HERBERT SCHARTAU, on June 12, aged fifty-six. He was for thirty-six years an alto lay-vicar at Westminster Abbey. In our January, 1915, number we recorded his retirement from the Abbey Choir and the presentation that was made to him. He was greatly esteemed by his colleagues.

MR. CADWALADR ROBERTS, of Bodlondob, Blaenau Festiniog, conductor of the Royal Moelwyn Choir, Festiniog, at the age of sixty-one.

The deaths of Dr. W. H. Cummings and Mr. Denis Browne are referred to in special articles (see pp. 394 and 407).