Beethoven's Mass in D

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But this does not appear to be generally understood, and as I have lately been myself a loser by the practice of which I complain, I am induced to call your attention to the subject.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

F. E. GLADSTONE.

The Close, Norwich, September 5, 1879.

USE OF THE CHORD 6-4-3.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE MUSICAL TIMES."

SIR,—In reference to the 6-4-3 inversion of the chord of the Dominant Seventh, it is a mistake to suppose that this form of the chord was never used by Handel.

It is true that in some editions of his works the octave of the root is often inserted in this chord (in the pianoforte part) in cases in which it does not appear in the score; but positive instances of its use may be found in "Solomon," in the chorus "With pious heart" (No. 4), ninth bar, and the same occurs ten bars further on in a different key.

Other instances may be seen in "Israel in Egypt," in the "Hailstone" Chorus (in the third bar from the end of the voice parts), and in the final Chorus, eighteen bars from the end of the Oratorio.—Yours faithfully,

Frenchay, Sept. 1, 1879. CHARLES R. WARD.

BEETHOVEN'S MASS IN D.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE MUSICAL TIMES."

SIR,—In your last number, containing an "Analysis of Beethoven's Mass in D," it is stated (or perhaps rather left to be inferred) that the last performance took place at St. James's Hall, by Barnby's Choir. Please allow me to correct this, by saying that the great work was given by the Sacred Harmonic Society, at Exeter Hall, on the 25th of March, 1870, under the direction of Sir M. Costa: since then it has not, I believe, been heard. The error is not an important one, still it is better to be quite accurate.

Your obedient servant,

September 5, 1879. JOHN W. LAWRENCE.

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 greatly 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 pages are always stereotyped, only a sufficient quantity of the rest of the paper is printed to supply the current sale.

H. COLLINGWOOD BANKS.—Thanks for the extract, but we fear that the Preface only of this old and, no doubt, clever theoretical work would scarcely interest our readers.

H. DALE.—We cannot give advice upon such subjects.

EDWARD ROBERTS.—As our correspondent truly says, a man has a perfect right to place "any combination of the alphabet" after his name, if he feels so inclined; but it is by no means a profitable task to try to find out what the letters mean.

H. W. CODY.—We consider that when ordinary Anglican single or double chants are used to the Te Deum, the proper expression should be given by suitable changes in intensity, not in pace.

J. S. C.—Holmes's work, "A Ramble among the Musicians of Germany," can only be obtained second-hand. There is a life of Handel in English by Schälcher.

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.

BIRMINGHAM.—The Philharmonic Union commenced a fourth series of cheap concerts on Thursday evening, the 11th ult., when Mendelssohn's *Elijah* was given in the Town Hall before an overflowing audience. The efforts of this Society to bring the great masters before the people are surely, and by no means slowly, being crowned with success; this season, notwithstanding a slight increase in the subscription prices, showing an advance upon its predecessors. The

principal vocalists were Miss Mary Davies, Madame Poole, Mr. C. Abercrombie, and Mr. D. Harrison, assisted in the concerted pieces by Mrs. Myers, Miss E. Bailey, Mr. C. Breeze, and Mr. Shaw. There was a very good band of nearly forty performers, but the organ was not used. The work was very well rendered: Miss Mary Davies winning golden opinions by her rendering of the soprano music, especially the great Air, "Hear ye, Israel." Madame Poole was also very successful in her solos, and was greatly applauded for "O rest in the Lord," a similar token of appreciation greeting Mr. Abercrombie's singing of "Then shall the righteous." Mr. Harrison, as the Prophet, distinguished himself by a very careful performance throughout. The concerted pieces went well, "Lift thine eyes" being encored and repeated. The chorus-singing was generally very good, especially "He watching over Israel" and the "Baal" choruses. Dr. Heap's conducting was all that could be desired.

BRISTOL.—On the 16th ult. a Concert was given in the Town Hall, the solo vocalists being Madame Edith Wynne, Mr. W. H. Cummings, and Mr. Lewis Thomas. The instrumentalists were Miss Bessie M. Waugh (pianist), Miss Lucy Leach, and Mr. John Thomas (harpists). Miss Bessie M. Waugh, besides playing solos, proved herself a most efficient accompanist. The hall was, as usual, crowded.

BRISTOL.—On Monday, the 22nd ult., the excellent series of Monday Popular Concerts, instituted by Mr. Riseley two seasons ago, were resumed at the Colston Hall. The band, as in previous years, consisted almost entirely of local musicians, many of them being amateurs, with the assistance of a few professors residing in the city and neighbourhood. It is, however, a matter for regret that, notwithstanding the attractions offered by an excellent selection of music, the attendance was by no means so large as on previous occasions. The programme consisted of the Overtures "Jubilee" (Weber), "Jessonda" (Spohr), and "Zampa" (Hérold), and the Concert Overture by Dr. Heap, composed for and performed with such success at the Festival at Birmingham. Dr. Heap himself conducted the performance of his work, and at the close received a very flattering ovation. The principal item in the programme was Sir W. S. Bennett's Symphony in G minor, Op. 43, which was finely played by the band, and elicited hearty applause. Boccherini's Minuetto in A major, for muted string orchestra, from his 5th Quintet, and the Gavotte from A. Thomas's Opera *Mignon* completed the orchestral works. Miss Alice Frupp and Mr. Percy Blandford were the vocalists, and Mr. A. W. Waite was leader of the band.

CHELTEMHAM.—The Record of the "Cheltenham Musical Society," issued on the 1st ult., gives an interesting retrospect of the Association, which was formed about three years after the "Cheltenham Philharmonic" had been dissolved. At the concerts, which have been given after twelve rehearsals, and with an orchestra of thirty performers, many standard works have been excellently rendered; and we have no doubt that the appeal now made for "extra exertions on the part of all who are interested" in the welfare of the Society to obtain subscribers to its funds will be cheerfully responded to.—Mr. J. A. Matthews has issued the following programme for his tenth season of Oratorio Concerts: Rossini's *Siabab Mater*, Handel's *Solomon* and the *Messiah*, Mendelssohn's *Hymn of Praise*, and Sir Michael Costa's *Naaman*. A glee and madrigal concert will also be given during the season.—At the close of the Horticultural Society's season, on the 17th ult., an Evening Concert was given by the orchestral band of the Royal Marine Artillery, conducted by Mr. Winterbottom. The solo vocalist was Mrs. Alfred Sutton, who was very successful in the songs allotted to her. Mr. von Holst presided most ably at the pianoforte, and in addition played two solos, which were warmly received.

GARLIDGE.—On Monday, the 1st ult., after evening prayer, the congregation was invited to remain and hear a Recital by Mr. H. Barnes, Organist of Holy Trinity Church, Paddington. The programme was selected from the classics of sacred and organ music proper, and the performance was duly appreciated. The offertory was given to the fund for completing the organ.

LISKEARD.—A new Organ, built by Messrs. Maley, Young and Oldknow, St. Pancras, was opened on Friday, the 12th ult., in the Wesleyan Chapel, by Mr. A. C. Faull, of Plymouth. The programme was selected from the works of Bach, Mendelssohn, A. Adam, L. Wely, H. Smart, Spohr, and E. Bunnett. The instrument contains ten stops on each manual and two on the pedal organ. Mr. Faull's programme was well arranged and admirably performed, being well calculated to display the merits of the instrument, which are of a very high order. In the evening selections from the Oratorios of Handel, Mendelssohn, and Macfarren were given by a choir of forty voices, Mr. Faull again presiding at the organ.

LYNDHURST.—With the assistance of Mr. C. Fletcher, an Amateur Concert was given at the School-house, on Saturday the 20th ult., in aid of a fund for the chancel pavement of St. Michael's Church. A feature of the concert was the brilliant playing of Miss C. Moseley (piano) and Mr. C. Fletcher (violin). The former contributed a selection from a Suite in G minor (Bach) and Andante and Rondo Capriccioso in E minor (Mendelssohn); and the latter an air with variations from the Kreutzer Sonata (Beethoven), accompanied by Miss Moseley, and Adagio and Rondo, encored (De Beriot), accompanied by Miss Burrard. The vocalists were Miss Baldock, the Revs. W. E. Coghlan, A. H. Gay, F. Girdlestone, Mr. Jeffreys, Mr. Bruce, Mrs. Hammick, and Miss E. Hillyer. The Lyndhurst Choral Society sang several part-songs, accompanied by Mrs. Macleay, under the direction of Mr. E. Hammick.

MAIDSTONE.—The following works have been put in rehearsal by the Choral Society, to be given during the season: Mendelssohn's *Hymn of Praise*, Benedict's *St. Peter*, and Mendelssohn's *Athalie*. The Society has just issued its prospectus for the season, publishing the names of some sixty of the principal county families as patrons.

MARTOCK.—The Organ in the Parish Church was recently reopened by Mr. Nosworthy, Organist, after being thoroughly repaired, revoiced, and two new stops—dulciana and gamba—added, at a cost of £65. The work was done by Mr. Allen, of Bristol. The organ is an old one,