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Dr. Blake of Salisbury

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some time the musical critic of the *Journal Officiel*. The non-success of his latest operatic work, "La clef d'or," which was brought out at the Théâtre-Lyrique last year, is said to have greatly affected his health. He died on the 1st ult.

Hermann Küster, for many years Musikdirector at Berlin, and composer of several Oratorios, died on March 17, at Herford, in Westphalia.

The death is announced also of Madame Johann Strauss, the wife of the famous composer of dance music. She was once a favourite member of the Viennese Opera, under her maiden name of Jetty Treffz, and had acquired great popularity also in this country some quarter of a century ago.

We subjoin, as usual, the programmes of concerts recently given at some of the leading institutions abroad:—

Paris.—Concert du Conservatoire (March 31): Symphony in D (Beethoven); Fragments from "Stabat Mater" (Salvayre); Adagio from Septett (Beethoven); Overture "Carnaval romain" (Berlioz). Concert Populaire (March 31): "La damnation de Faust" (Berlioz). Concert du Châtelet (April 7): "La damnation de Faust" (Berlioz). Concerts during Passion-week.—Conservatoire: "Eve," Oratorio (Massenet). Populaires: "Le Déluge" (Saint-Saëns); Choral Fantasia (Beethoven); "Stabat Mater" (Rossini). Châtelet: Pastoral Symphony (Beethoven); Requiem (Berlioz).

Leipzig.—Conservatorium Concert (March 22): Quintett, G minor (Mozart); "Hommage à Handel" (Moscheles); Violin Sonata in A (Beethoven); Concerto, E minor (Chopin). Last Gewandhaus Concert (March 28): Symphony, D major (C. P. E. Bach); Symphony, G major (Haydn); Symphony, C minor (Beethoven). Last "Euterpe" Concert (March 19): Symphonic-poem, "Prometheus" (Liszt); part of Violoncello Concerto (Rubinstein); Scherzetto (Couperin); Tarantelle (Piatti); Symphony, C minor (Beethoven). Conservatorium Concert (March 29): Sonata for violoncello (Mendelssohn); Double Concerto (Spohr); Toccata Fugue (Bach-Taussig), &c. Riedel'sche Verein (April 5): "St. John Passion Music" (Bach). Conservatorium Concert (April 2): Pianoforte Sonata, G major (Beethoven); Fugue for pianoforte (Hünefeld, pupil); Violoncello Sonata (Reinecke); Allegro and Preludes (Chopin); Rhapsodie (Liszt).

Berlin.—Symphonie-Capelle (March 17): "Ossian" Overture (Gade); Symphony, G minor (Mozart); Symphony, C minor (Beethoven); Overture to "Rosamunde" (Schubert); Huldigungs March (Wagner). Bilse Concert (March 20): Ottett (Mendelssohn); Symphony, B flat major (Beethoven); Third Rhapsodie (Liszt); &c. Cäcilien Verein (April 8): "Faust" Music (Schumann). Sing-Akademie (April 12): "St. Matthew Passion Music" (Bach). Symphonie-Capelle (March 31): Overture, "Leonore" (Beethoven); Violin Concerto (Molique); Pastoral Symphony (Beethoven); Overture, "Medea" (Cherubini); Overture "Calif of Bagdad" (Boieldieu). Bilse Concert (April 3): Overture, "Euryanthe" (Weber); Phaëton (Saint-Saëns); Ballet-Music to "Rienzi" (Wagner). Symphonie-Capelle (April 3): "Faust" Overture (Wagner); Violin Concerto (Bruch); Symphony (Schumann); Minuet (Dorn).

CORRESPONDENCE.

DR. BLAKE OF SALISBURY.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE MUSICAL TIMES."

SIR,—The second part of Dr. Grove's new "Dictionary of Music and Musicians," just published, has an article on Dr. Blake, the Cathedralist, wherein his Christian name is given as "William," and his death placed at "about 1780." If the writer of this account had taken the trouble to look at the short memoir in my "Psalmody," of which I believe he is not ignorant, he might have avoided these errors and been enabled to give some further information respecting the Doctor.

Since, however, my little attempt to serve the cause of musical biography is ignored in that quarter, perhaps you will kindly allow me to give in your columns the substance of my notes from the books at Oxford and the Chapter records at Salisbury.

The Rev. Edward Blake was born at Salisbury; entered at Baliol College, Oxon.; graduated B.A., Oct. 13, 1733;

elected Fellow of Oriel College, 1736; graduated M.A., July 6, 1737; elected Perpetual Curate of St. Thomas's, Salisbury, Nov. 18, 1740; graduated B.D., April 4, 1744; appointed Vicar of St. Mary's, Oxford, 1754; graduated D.D., Nov. 14, 1755; appointed Prebendary of Salisbury and Rector of Tortworth, Gloucestershire, 1757; died June 11, 1765.

In Langdon's "Divine Harmony," 1774, Blake is called "William," but those who relied on that description should have noticed that he is there styled "late," which would have prevented the second error.—I am, sir, faithfully yours, HENRY PARR.

Vicarage, Yoxford, April, 1878.

P.S.—I may notice that in the first part of the "Dictionary" Attwood is stated to have been appointed Organist of St. Paul's in 1795, "on the decease of Jones," which is self-contradictory, as Jones did not die till February, 1796.

Again, Baidon's appointment as Organist of St. Luke's, Old Street, &c., is put at 1768, but I find him described in that office in 1762 and 1763. These slips, likewise, might have been escaped by attention to what your humble servant had to say on the matter.

THE STENOGRAPHONE.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE MUSICAL TIMES."

SIR,—In reply to "Young Composer," whose letter appeared in the *MUSICAL TIMES* for February, I beg to state the result of inquiries made of Messrs. Debain and Co. at their London house. In their answer to my letter it was stated that accessories of the kind were of little mercantile value, and that the demand for the Stenographone, when perfected many years ago by M. Debain, did not at all justify the usual outlay in establishing new instruments. Consequently the manufacture of similar ones had been thrown aside. Trusting that you will insert this in the next number of your excellent journal,—I am, sir, yours faithfully, TYRO.

"G. A. C." writes to us to correct a slip of the pen in his letter which appeared in our last number. In paragraph two, "Rochdale, Yorkshire," should be "Rochdale, Lancashire."

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.

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ORGANIST.—Write to the Secretary of the College of Organists.

WILLIE SMITH.—Address the Registrar, National Training School for Music, South Kensington.

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.

ANSTRUTHER.—The East of Fife Musical Association gave a most successful performance of Handel's *Judas Maccabæus* on the 18th ult. Among the various Oratorios performed by this enterprising Society none appears to have given greater satisfaction.

BARBADOS, WEST INDIES.—Mr. T. W. Potter (Organist of St. Leonard's Church, Bridge Town), gave a Farewell Concert on Friday, March 1. The Concert was under the patronage of His Excellency, Governor Strachan, and the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Barbados, and was a complete success. The hall was quite full and the programme gave the greatest satisfaction. The admirably trained Amateur Choral Association, under the *bâton* of their Conductor, Mr. Potter, gave an excellent rendering of the Choruses, &c. The following items may be especially noticed: The Bridal Chorus from Cowen's *Rose Maiden*; the Part-songs "Old Daddy Longlegs" (Macrone), and "The Chimes of Oberwesel" (Baumer); Miss Skeete's