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# BRITISH MINSTREL,

AND

# MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY;

A SELECTION OF STANDARD MUSIC,

### SONGS, DUETS, GLEES, CHORUSES, ETC.

• AND

# ARTICLES IN MUSICAL AND GENERAL LITERATURE.

VOL. I.

OF SECTION

GLASGOW:

WILLIAM HAMILTON, 33 BATH STREET, J. MENZIES & CO., AND OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH; J. HEYWOOD, MANCHESTER; AND SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, & CO., LONDON. Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2011 with funding from National Library of Scotland

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# BRITISH MINSTREL;

#### AND

# MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.

#### OUR PRELIMINARY ADDRESS.

THE publication of this, the first number of our Miscellany, requires that we should show cause why such a work is given to the public, more especially, as there are already such hosts of cheap periodicals, exposed to tempt the appetites of those whose chief food is novelty. We have not a word to say against any one now existing, as there is still room enough for us to guide our small bark through the throng of regular and irregular traders; the staple article in which they all deal being literature of a really useful, or purely amusing nature, we shall not eneroach very far on their trade, seeing we are chartered to carry goods from the almost unexplored country of music; and as the warehouses in that country, like some others, are crammed even to crushing with the finest produce of the richest manufactories, we feel confident that whoever may honour us with their custom, will find that our sample is sufficiently tempting, and that the stock contains many pieces which are invaluable, and will be offered at really job prices. Our Miscellany starts forth on its voyage with good auguries, and hopes, strong as certainties, that she will make her run safely and prosperously. The state of the market hitherto, offers no temptation to purchasers-except those who tread on carpets of Persia, or are wrapped in silks of Tyre-the price being so far above the abilities of the many to enter with a power of making purchases; but we know that there is a taste for such goods already existing, that that taste will continually be on the increase, and that the music which is already to be had is not sufficient to supply the demand; there are Teetotal concerts-social meetings-private chorus and glee parties, who cannot find matter to make proper variety, now we step forward that this want may be supplied, and believe that the selection we intend to publish will be such as to meet the tastes both of Professors and Amateurs.

It will be expected of us that we present a list of goods, or, in musical language, give a programme of what we intend to bring forward for the especial No 1.

use of a music loving public. We do so willingly, as we are anxious that there should be a perfect understanding between us and our patrons.

It is our intention that this Miseellany be a collection of the best music, ancient and modern, and that it may furnish an abundant store of cheap, pleasing, pure, and rational entertainment; as to its cheapness, we shall in every number give more than is usually sold for half a erown, and our price only a thirtieth part of that sum—and there can be no doubt as to the pleasure derivable from the enjoyment of music; does not man, woman, and child express in music, (the language of exultant health and happiness), the promptings of the contented mind; and is it not the "food of love," and nothing can be more pleasing than that which nourishes love, except Love itself. It was said of the songs of Burns,

> In them the peasant told his love, The mother soothed her infant child, The crazed heart in snatches wove Its measures, and its cares beguiled.

And we have only to substitute the singular "in it," for the 'in them" of the first line, and we have a beautiful description of the uses and powers of music; and though it is most frequently used as the language of pathos and affection, yet it has been the solace of many a bereaved heart, the chaser away of disease and pain, and the cause of heroic achievement; and it has led to the attainment of the highest honours in science-Galileo was first led to the study of astronomy by his musical studies. But examples are unnecessary, or they might be quoted till this preface would run to a quarto. Nothing is truer than that the cultivation of the musical faculty invariably tends to happiness, and to a happiness which is unmixed with anything impure or vicious, and must therefore be held as a necessary branch of moral tuition, and as the most rational of all enjoyments.

Our Work will contain matter for all minds and moods. We shall have music and songs which have been the war cry of combating nations, which have been heard in the onslaught of invading barbariane.

THE

and the patriotic strains which have made a people rise as one man in defence of their homes and sacred privileges. These, mingled with songs whose chaste and tender sentiments are adapted for the paradise of young love, with the hest specimens of the quaint and comical-which the joyous-hearted son of Momus may trowl lustily while driving gnarled care to the antipodes-and now and then we shall burn Father Matthews' pledge, and chaunt fearlessly a light merry " Chanson a Boire," knowing that it is sorry heart that always drinks cold water: hut we shall indulge moderately in such sallies. And while we thus supply matter for those who prefer nearing their own melodious chaunt, we shall not forget that however pleasing it is to enjoy a good alone, it is necessary to have an eye to social harmony, and for the club of part singers we have a rich store of Madrigals, Glees, and Catches, with now and then a chorus from the Oratorios, for it is in harmony only that the full power and richness of music lies. The young, pure, and happy will meet with melodies swcet as wind wafted o'er Braes of Yarrow, and beautiful as the Broom of Cowden Knowes, married to words immortal as "Highland Mary," and fresh and flowery as was the genius of Robert Burns or Tom Moore. The musical antiquary will here and there catch glimpses of old and time consecrated music

Which spinners and knitters in the sun, [bones, And the free maids, that weave their thread with Do use to chant,

speaking the language of long extinct races, exhibiting the modes of feeling which actuated those whose names and deeds, whose hopes and fears are alike forgotten; we will show him those curious old "Green Sleeves" which Shakspeare talks of, and let him shake his legs to the brawls and galliards which held the highest place in fashionable music in the Promenade Concerts of the old world Musards; and we will introduce to him, if he has no objection, the rich compositions for one, two, three, four, five, and six voices, of Byrde, and Sebastian Bach, and Michael Este, and old John Douland, and Matthew Locke, with a multitude of others which we can lay our hands upon, and which are lying temptingly open that we may pick and choose.

While music will form the principal feature of our Miscellany, we will devote a portion of each Number to original and selected articles on Music aad Musicians, with Notices and Reviews of New Music; and Biographic Sketches of cminent Composers; and Notes connected with the history of Songs and Music, when necessary, either to illustrate obscurities, or give them a "local habitation"; by which means, when our readers are not in the vein for listening to "Angel's Whispers," and deaf to "Jim along Josey," and willing to avoid the Bac-

chanalian mirth of "Mynheer Van Dunck," and have no relish for the clamour of "High Church Bells," we will go with them arm in arm to outskirts of the luxurious garden of literature, where men have gone forth as Gods, creating beauty and perfection where before was harrenness, and we will show them rivers of poesy meandering through fairest landscapes, washing away deformities, and leaving instead graces imperishable.

Variety and excellence is what we will always attend to, so that those who will honour us by hecoming subscribers, will find an unceasing series of Songs, Duets, Glees, Anecdotes, &c., such as never before was made available to the public in so cheap and convenient a form ; and having said thus much, give us a hearty welcome, as we meet you frankly with the honest intention to fulfil our part of this contract.

#### STORY OF GIAN BATISTA.

Ir happened one evening last winter that Rubini, Tamburini, Lablache, Ferlini, the unfortunate Se-verini, Persiani, and the happy husband of the charming Tacchinandi, were gathered round the fire in the saloon of the Italians at Paris, a little half hour before the rising of the curtain, chatting gaily upon a thousand indifferent matters, and all the more freely as only one person was near them, a stranger, who did not appear to understand Italian. Lahlache and Rubini were discussing the incidents of a rubber at whist, which had been played the evening before at the house of the illustrious Tenor: that dismissed, they reviewed the talent and position of a poor little ragged fiddler, who had been found half frozen the night before at the door of the theatre, and to whom the porter had extended hospitality; it was now under consideration among the singers to make a small collection for the sucking brother of their art.

"I give my share most willingly," said Rubini, drawing a Napoleon from his waistcoat pocket, and depositing it in the vase.

"Eh! eh! gold!' said Tamburini laughingly

you were then very lncky at whist last night?" "By no means, mio caro," replied the Tenor, "but if you will give me your attention, that is, as much of it as you can, I will explain to you why I take an interest in these little vagahond musicians, who possess nothing but their courage and their violin, and have neither bed nor board." Tamburini placed himself in a comfortable listening attitude, the others drew nearer to Rubini, who hegan his tale as follows:-

" Some thirty years ago, a poor, wretched, halfstarved family were wandering from one end of Italy to the other, without any means of getting their bread—and black bread it was too, black as the devil—than that of giving street concerts in each of the towns they passed through. There were four persons in this family of musicians, the father, mother, and two sons. After the concert the youngest hoy made the tour of the spectators with a wooden cup in his hand, which he held up as near as he could to the pockets of the delighted listeners, who

frequently found it impossible to resist this appeal to their sensibility; the little lad then carried his wealth to his mother, who deposited it in the treasury, and then assisted to pack the haggage on the back of an ass, who looked as if he had fed upon nothing but music since the hour he came into the world; the father of the family took charge of the violins, the eldest boy was intrusted with the clarionet and finte, and the little brother collector was slung to a huge hunting-horn almost as long as himself. In the next large and populous street they came to the father commanded a new halt, another concert was given, and again the little brother and his wooden cup offered themselves to the benevolent sympathies of the listeners; and thus they went on the same thing, the halt, the concert, the cup, the packing, the unpacking, to day, to morrow, and for ever. The receipts were not magnificent—the audience always listened to the concert, but frequently walked away at the aspect of the wooden cup, others put their hands in their poekets, but forgot to take them ont again. The performers gained very little, and once to their sorrow they were even robbedof a concert I mean, for they had nothing else to lose, and that was a part of their property—yes strange as it may seem, they were actually robbed. A scoundrelly captain of a band of thieves thought it a good joke to demand of these poor people "a concert or your life ;" they of course did not hesitute, though never did they give one with so little satisfaction to themselves, or with such an earnest desire to get to the end of it. The little collector put his wooden cup out of sight, pluyed more than once horribly out of tune, and when the master cut-throat took hold of his chin to thank him for his music, the poor little fellow was actually afraid that he should not get it back again.

" But if there were many evil days for the wandering tronbadours, there were now and then some good. There was one super-excellent-that on which Gian Batista, the little collector, was admitted to sing, with a troop of abominably bad performers, at the Theatre di Romano. The evening before the repre-sentation, the prima donna had suddenly disappeared, leaving her companions in the utmost consternation. Seduced by the cigar-smoking phrase-making graces of a French travelling clerk of a mercuntile house, she had accompanied him on his return to France, and, in a lew days afterwards, he repaid her in kind the trick she had paid her lyrical brethren, by setting off for Paris one morning without her, before she had left her couch. But in the meantime the unfortunate company were in the utmost distress. What was to be done? All the world was expected to assist at the representation, and the prima donna was wanting ! The father of Gian Batista eame to their assistance; he passed the whole night in teaching his son the part of the prima donna; and Gian, taking his courage in both hands, soon mastered all the difficulties, and the next night, dressed as a woman, sung the part, was rapturously greeted, and for the first time in his life heard the sound of that applanse with which, later on, he was destined to be more familiar.

"Behold, then, the ragged hoy collector trans-formed into a prima donna. It was no bad trade, and in the exercise of it he obtained so much success, that the manager gave two additional representations, at the last of which Gian, adorned in his feminine habits and graces, was seated in the vestibule, bctween two huge flambeaus, to receive the reward of his exertions, holding in his hand, not the old wooden

cup, but a handsome dish of shining tin, in which he gracefully received the offerings of the faithful, which offerings, mio caro, amounted to fifteen francs -twelve shillings English.

"The trade of prima donna would have answered very well to Gian, but unfortunately, besides his oecupation on the stage as the heroines, he was obliged between the acts to go into the orchestra to help his father to make out a band, and then return behind the scenes to sing in the chorns. Two months of this hard work nearly knocked up the poor boy, when luckily Lamberti came to Bergamo, where Gian then was, to get up an opera of his composition. He wanted another tenor to fill up a secondary part, and Gian's constant and indefatigable puffer, his father, spoke to the maestro of his son's talent, and his success at Bergamo, and finally obtained from him a promise that the prima donna should have a trial. The thing succeeded admirably. Lamberti's music was so well sung that, enchanted, he actually made the young actor a present of a crown ! Thanks to this superb generosity, the ex-prima donna could afford to buy himself a pair of shoes, and had something solid to go upon."

At this last observation of Ruhini, Tambourini burst into a loud laugh; but the former without losing his gravity continued his recital.

"After quitting Bergamo, poor Gian Batista had again some very wintry days; but better times were approaching, and fortune began to smile steadily upon him. Although refused as a chorus singer by the impressario of the theatre of Milan, who did not think his voice strong enough, he got an eugagement of six hundred francs as a second tenor at Pallazzuolo. Six hundred franes!-four and twenty pounds'-what a fortune! Per Christo! Gian felt like a monied man; and now he could buy something more than shoes, he thought he would buy a cloak-a cloak !- a mantle !- that noble garment for which Gian Batista had sighed from infancy; which had been the admiration of his childhood, the hope of his youth, the dream of his whole existence; he had desired it with enthusiasm, with passion, with frenzy, as he had never desired anything since; and now he had it-this idolised garment-he could put it on-take it off-throw it on in folds, or fold it up. Happy, thrice happy Gian Batista; it was the most delicious moment of his life; he has never been half so happy since ! "To the six hundred francs succeeded an engage-

ment of a thousand at the theatre at Brescia; to that another of two thousand to sing at Venice in Mose. In a short time the poor boy became a person of importance. Fioraventi wrote an opera expressly for him. Rossini "entreated" him to undertake the principal part in the Gazza Ladra. Vienna and Paris disputed his possession; and-hark! the overture has begun; they are waiting for Gian Ba-tista to sing in the Sonnambula—"

"And Gian Batista," said poor Severini, " is now worth forty thousand pounds."

"Besides being the first singer in the world," observed Lablache.

" And that nobody plays so good a rubber at whist,"

said Tamburini with a twirl. "Except me," cried Lablache, carrying off his corporation.

In the next minute the curtain drew up, and Rubini, otherwise Gian Batista, entered on the scene, singing "Prendi l'Anel ti dano," amid the kind smiles of his friends, and the thundering greetings of the audience .- Monthly Chronicle.

### AWAY, AWAY, AWAY.

# A Favourite Hunting Glee for Three Voices.

COMPOSED BY SAM. WEBB.



Huntsman's call in - vites ye all. The Huntsman's call - - - - - - in-vites ye all,

MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.



#### 2d Verse.

The jolly jolly horn, the rosy morn, With harmony of deep mouthed hounds, For these my boys are sportsmen's joys, Our pleasure knows no bounds. The music of the 2d verse is the same as the above with a slight alteration in the 2d and 4th har of the bass, as follows:—



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#### THE VIOLIN.

#### (Abridged from Blackwood's Magazine.)

No one will deny that music is a lovely art. It is unquestionable that its use singularly increases the innocent enjoyments of life; that it remarkably humanises the popular mind; that its general cultivation among the lower orders on the Continent has always been found to supply a gentle, yet powerful solace to the hardships inevitable in a life of labour; that to the unan of hiterature it affords one of the simplest, yet most complete refreshments of the overworked mind; while to the higher ranks its cultivation, frequently the only cultivation which they pursue with interest, often administers the only harmless passion of their nature.

All things which have become national have more to do with nature than perhaps strikes the general eye. Music and musical instruments certainly seem to have a remarkable connexion with the climate and conceptions of a people. Among the nations of antiquity, the people of Judea were perhaps the greatest cultivators of music. Their temple worship was on the largest scale of musical magnificence, and for that worship they had especially the two most magnificent instruments known to antiquitythe trumpet and harp. In later times, the horn is the instrument of the Swiss and Tyrolean mountaineer. Its long and wild modulations, its powerful tones, and its sweet and melancholy simplicity, make it the congenial instrument of luftiness, soli-tude, and the life of shepherds. The guitar is the natural instrument of a people like those of the Peninsula. Its lightness, yet tenderness-its depth of harmony-its delicacy of tone, yet power of expression-adapt it to a race of men who love pleasure, yet hate to toil in its pursuit, whose profoundest emotions are singularly mingled with frivolity, and whose spirits constantly hover hetween romance and caricature. The rich genius of Ireland has transmitted to us some of the noblest strains in the world, but they are essentially strains of the harp, the modulations of a hand straying at will among a rich profusion of sounds, and inspiring them with taste, feeling, and beauty. The violin is Italian in its birth, its powers, and its style-subtle, sweet, and brilliant, more immediately dependent on the mind than any other instrument-inferior only to the voice in vividness, and superior to all else in tone, flexibility, and grace. The violin, in the hands of a great performer, is the finest of human inventions, for it is the most expressive. The violin has a soul, and that soul is Italian.

Nothing is more extraordinary in this fine instrument than the diversity of styles which may be displayed on its simple construction; yet alf perfect. Thus, from the sweet cantabile of the early masters, the world of cognoscenti was astonished by a transition to the fulness and majesty of the school of Tartini. Again, after the lapse of half a century, another school came, and the school of Pugnani developed its grandeur, and from this descended the brilliancy, rapidity, and fire of Viotti; and from the school of Viotti, after the lapse of another iong period, the eccentric power, dazzling ingenuity, and matchless mastery of Paganini, who might seem to have exhausted all its spells, if human talent were not always new, and the secrets of harmony inexhaustible.

Thus the violin belongs to more than physical dexterity. Its excellence depends on the sensitive powers. It is more than a mean of conveying plea. sure to the ear; it is scarcely less than an emanation from the mind. Of course this is said of it only in its higher grades of performance. In its lower, it is notoriously, of all instruments, the most intractable and unbearable. We shall now give a slight coup d'wil of its chief schools and professors.

The invention of the violin is lost in the dark ages. It was probably the work of those obscure artists who furnished the travelling minstrels with the *rebec* and *viola*, both common in the 12th century. The *violar*, or performer on the viol, was a companion of the troubadour. The name fiddle is Gothic, and probably derived from viola. Videl and fedel, are the German and Danish. About the close of the 16th century, the violin, which once had six strings, with guitar frets, was fortunately relieved from those superfluities, and was brought nearly into its present form. But the bow remained, as of old, short—scarcely beyond the length of the violin itself. Its present length was due to Tartini.

Italy was the first seat of excellence in music, as in all the other arts; and France, in the 16th century, was, as she has always been, the patron of all that could add to the splendour of court, and the elegance of public amusement. In 1577, Catherine de Medicis, the wife and mother of kings, invited her countryman, Baltazarinı, to France. His performance excited universal delight; and the violin, which, in the hands of the wandering minstrels, had tallen into contempt, became a European instrument.

The first school was that of the celebrated Corelli. This famous master was born at Fusignano, in the Bolognesc, in February, 1653. In 1672 he visited Paris, then the chief seat of patronage. From Paris he made a tour through Germany, and returning, fixed it at Rome; and commenced that series of compositions, his twelve Sonatas, and his "Ballate de Camera," which formed his first fame as a composer; crowning it by his solos, which have a fortune unrivalled by any other composition of his age, or of the age following—that of being still regarded as one of the most important studies of the performers for their science, and still popular for their beauty.

It is remarkable, that in those centuries which seemed to have scarcely recovered from the barbarism of the dark ages, and which were still involved in the confusion of civil wars, enthusiasm distinguished the progress of the public mind. It was not pleasure, nor the graceful study of some fine intellectual acquisition, nor the desire of accom-plishment; it was a wild, passionate, and universal ardonr for all that awakes the mind. The great schools of classic literature, of painting, of architecture, and of music—all first opened in Italy—were a conflux of students from all nations. The leading names of these schools were followed with a homage scarcely less than prostration. Even the masters of that driest of all studies, the Roman law, gave their prelections, not to hundreds, but to thousands The great painter had his "seguaci," who paid him almost the allegiance of a sovereign. The announcement that, in Rome, the most expressive, skilful, and brilliant of all masters of the violin presided at the Opera, drew students from every part of Italy, and even of Europe, all hastening to catch the inspiration of Archangelo Corelli. About the year 1700, he produced his celebrated solos. In 1713 he died, and was interred in the Pantheon, close to Raffaele.

Corelli's performance was eminent for grace, tendcrncss, and touching simplicity. It wanted the dazzling exceution of later times, but its tone was exquisite. Geminiani, his pupil, said, long after, that it always reminded him of a sweet trumpet. For many subsequent years, his schelars performed an anniversary selection from his works over his tomh. At length the scholars themselves followed their master, and the honour sank with them into the grave.

The next celebrated violinist was Francesco Geminiani, born at Lucco in 1680. After acquiring the rudiments of music from Scarlatti, he completed his studies under Corelli. He now began the usual life of the profession. His fame in Rome, as the first schelar of Corelli, spread through Italy, and he commenced his career at Naples as the head of the orchestra. There his brilliancy, tastc, and tone were unrivalled; yet, like many a concerte player, he was found but ill suited for the conduct of the orchestra. His impetuosity and animation ran away with him; he rose into ecstasies, and left the band wandering behind. He has been charged with deficiency as a *timeist*; but this, though the most frequent failure of the amateur, seems so incompatible with the professor, and is so easily avoided by the practical musician, that we can scarcely believe it to have been among the errors of so perfect a performer. He was still scarcely above beyhood-he was ambitious of display-he was full of fancy, feeling, and power; and in this fulness he rioted, until the orchestra, unable to follow, were thrown into confusion.

England is, after all, the great encourager of talent. It may be imitated in Italy, or praised in France, but it is in England alone that it is rewarded. In 1714 Geminiani arrived in this country. George I. was then on the thronc. He has not been famed for a too liberal patronage of the fine arts, but he was a German, which is equivalent to his being a lover of music. The Baron of Kilmansegge, a Hanovcrian, and one of the royal chamberlains, was the protector of the young Italian violinist. Geminiani was introduced to the royal chamber; where he played before the monarch, with Handel accom. panying him on the harpsicord. The King was delighted; acknowledged the violin, in such hands, to be the master of all instruments; and Geminiani was instantly in fashion. His reign was unusually long for a sitter on the capricious throne of taste,he reigned fifteen years. During that time no one was allowed to stand in competition with him in the qualities of finished execution, elegance of conception, and vividness of performance. After this period, he began to write books of instruction, and treatises on harmony. He seems to have been the original inventor of those pieces of imitative music, which attained their height in that most popular and most tiresome of all battles, the "Battle of Prague." Geminiani conceived the extravagant idea of representing the chief part of the 13th Book of Tasso's Jerusalem by music. The ingennity of the composer must be tasked in vain, where he has to represent things wholly unconnected with musical sound. He may represent the march of armies or the rear of tempests, the heaving of the forest or the swell of ocean; but in what toncs can he give the deliberations of council or the wiles of conspiracy?

After a residence of thirty-six years in England, where he ought to have died, Geminiani went to Paris, where he was forgotten, and where he found it difficult to live. He returned only to pass through England on his way to Ireland, where, in a land

singularly attached to music, the great master's old age was honoured. Some faint recollection of him survives there still. His scholar Dubourg was leader of the King's band, and he delighted to do honour to the powers which had formed his own. Geminiani was frequently heard at the houses of his friends, and preserved, though in extreme old age, his early elegance. But his career was now near its close. A treatise on harmony, to which he confided his fame with posterity, was stolen or destroyed by a domestic. The loss to the world was probably slight; but to the eld man was irreparable. It certainly hastened bis death; he sank perceptibly, and, after a year's residence in Ireland, died in 1762, in his eighty-third year.—Continued at Page 10.

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SINGING CONDUCIVE TO HEALTH-It was the opinion of Dr. Rush that singing by young ladies, whom the customs of society debar from many other kinds of healthy exercise, should be cultivated, not only has an accomplishment, but as a means of preserving health. He particularly insists that vocal music should never be neglected in the education of a young lady; and states, that hesides its salutary operation in soothing the cares of domestic life, it has a still more direct and important effect. "I here introduce a fact," says Dr. Rush," which has been subjected to me by my pro-fession; that is, the exercise of the organs of the breast by singing contributes to defend them very much from those diseases to which the climate and other causes expose them. The Germans are soldom afflicted with consumption, nor have I ever known more than one case of spitting blood amongst them. This, I believe, is in part occasioned by the strength which their lungs acquire by exercising them frequently in vocal music, which constitutes an essential branch of their education." "The music-master of an academy," says Mr. Gardner, "has furnished me with an observation still more in favour of this opinion. He informs me that he has known several instances of persons strongly disposed to consumption restored to health by the excr-cise of the lungs in singing." In the new establishment of infant schools for children of three or four years of age, every thing is taught by the aid of song. Their little lessons, their recitations, their arithmetical countings, are all chanted; and as they feel the importance of their own voices when joined together, they emulate cach other in the power of vociferating. This exercise is found to be very beneficial to their health. Many instances have occurred of weakly children, of two or This exercise three years of age, who could scarcely support themsclves, having become robust and healthy by this con-stant exercise of the lungs. These results are perfectly philosophical. Singing tends to expand the chest, and thus increases the activity and powers of the vital organs.

Music.—Let taste and skill in this beautiful art be spread among us, and every family will have a new resource. Home will gain a new attraction. Social intercourse will be more cheerful, and an innocent public amusement will be furnished to the community, Public amusements, bringing multitudes together to kindle with one emotion, to share the same innocent joy, have a humanizing influence; and among these bonds of society perhaps no one produces so much unmixed good as music. What a fulness of enjoyment has our Creator placed within our reach, by surrounding us with an atmosphere which may be shaped into sweet sounds! And yet this goodness is almost lost upon us, through want of culture of the organ by which this provision is to be enjoyed.—Dr. Channing's Address on Temperance.

SPECIMEN OF THE SUBLIME. Written on an Inn window at Windermere Lake. I never eats no meat, nor drinks no beer, Bot sits and rominates on Windermere. ALICE GRAY.





What ails this heart o' mine, What ails this wat'ry e'e, What maks me ay grow cauld as death. When I tak leave o' thee; When thou art far awa,' Thou'lt dearer he to me, But change o' place an' change o' face May gar your fancy jee.

I'll ay gae to the bower, Which thou wi' roses tied, There aft amang the blushing buds, I strave my love to hide;

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I'll sit me down an' muse, Beneath yon spreading tree, An' when a leaf fa's in my lap, I'll ca't a word frae thee.

I'll doat on ilka spot, Where I hac been wi'thee, Ao' bring to mind some kindly word, By ilka burn an' tree; 'Tis thoughts that bind the soul, And keep friends i' the e'e; And gin I think I see thee are.

What can part thee and me.

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#### THE VIOLIN.

#### (Continued from Page 7.)

A phenomenon was now to appear, the famous Guiseppe Tartini. Tartini developed new powers in the violin, an instrument which seems to contain within its four simple strings all the mysterics of music, and which may be still far from exhausted.

Tartini was, what in Italy would be called a bar barian, for he was a native of Istria. His birth-place Pisano (April, 1692.) His family had been lately ennobled; and as commerce was felt to be too humble for his descent, he was destined for the law. He was fantastic from the beginning. He first exhibited a forbidden passion for music. The passion Inlled, or was superseded by a passion for fencing; he became the most expert of swordsmen, at a time when all the gladiators of Europe were furnished from Italy. It may be presumed, that law made but tardy progress in the rivalry of those active competitors. Perhaps to obviate this state of things, he was sent, in 1710, to Padua, once the great school of the civilians. There he committed the natural, but still more irreparable, fault of falling desperately in love. The object of his passion was inferior to the hopes of his parvenu family, and he was soon cast off without mercy. The world was now before him; but it was a desert, and the future delight and pride of Italy was near dying of hunger. At length, like many another son of misfortune, he fled to the cloister, where a relative, a monk, gave him protec-tion. There he adopted the violin, as a solace to an nneasy mind; and rapidly acquired skill sufficient to take a place in the cathedral band. During this period his existence was unknown to his family. But on a grand festival, a gust of wind blowing aside the curtain which hid the orchestra, Tartini was seen by an acquaintance. The discovery was communicated to his family, a partial reconciliation followed, and as the triumphs of the law were now fairly given up, the wayward son of genius was suffered to follow his own will, and be a violinist to the end of his days.

But there was to be another stage in his ardent carcer. Veracini, a most powerful performer, happened to come to Venice. Tartini was struck with a new sense of the capacity of the violin. He determined to imitate, if not to excel, this brilliant virtuoso. He instantly left Venice, then a scene of tamultuous and showy life, retired to Ancona to devote himself to labour, and give night and day to his instrument. There he made the curious discovery of the "Third Sound," the resonance of a third note when the two upper notes of a chord are sounded.

He now rose into fame, and was appointed to one of the highest distinctions of the art, the place of first violin to St. Anthony of Padua himself. The artist was duly grateful; for, with a superstition that can now only make us smile, but which was a proof of the lofty enthusiasm of his heart, as it was then accepted for the most striking evidence of his piety, he dedicated himself and his violin to the service of the saint for ever. His pupils had already spread his fame through the European capitals, and he received the most tempting offers from the chief courts. But his virtue was proof against all temptation. St. Anthony was his sovereign still. His violin would stoop to no more earthly supremacy, and the great master lived and died in Padua.

It is remarkable that all the chief virtuosi of the violin, if they live beyond youth, palpably change their conception of excellence. Whether it is that

their taste improves, or their fire diminishes, their latter style is almost always marked by a study of elegance, a fondness for cantabile, and a pathetic tenderness. Difficulty, force, and surprise, are their ambition no more. Tartini's performance scarcely assumed superiority till mature manhood. He said 'that till he was thirty he had done little or nothing.' Yet the well known story of his dream shows with what ardour he studied. Lalande relates it from his own lips. The story has all the vividness of a man of imagination, that man an Italian, and that Italian a devotee-for though Tartini was an Istrian, he had the true verve of the Ausonian; and though he was not a monk, he was the sworn slave of St. Anthony. "He dreamed one night, in the year 1713, that he had made a compact with Satan, who promised to be at his service on all occasions. And during his vision the compact was strictly kept-every wish was anticipated, and his desires were even surpassed. At length he presented the fiend with his violin, in order to discover what kind of a musician he was. To his infinite astonishment, he heard him play a solo so singularly beautiful, that it eclipsed all the music he had ever heard or conceived during his life. So great was his surprise, and so exquisite his delight, that it almost deprived him of the power of breathing. With the wildness of his emotion he awoke; and instantly seized his instrument, in the hope of executing what he had just heard. But in vain. He was in despair. However, he wrote down such portions of the solo as he could recover in his memory; still it was so inferior to what his sleep had produced, that he declared he would have broken his instrument, and abandoned music for ever, if he could have subsisted by any other means. The solo still exists, under the name of the "Devil's Sonata;" a performance of great intricacy, but to which the imagination of the composer must have

The late Dr. Burney thus sketches the character of Tartini's style:--"Tartini, though he made Corelli his model in the purity of his harmony and the simplicity of his modulation, greatly surpassed him in the fertility and originality of his invention -not only in the subjects of his melodies, but in the truly cantabile manner of treating them. Many of his adagios want nothing but words to be excel-lent pathetic opera songs. His allegros are some times difficult; but the passages fairly belong to the instrument for which they were composed, and were suggested by his consummate knowledge of the finger board and the powers of the bow. Yet I must, in justice to others, own, that though the adagio and solo playing in general of his scholars are exquisitely polished and expressive, yet it seems to us as if that energy, fire, and freedom of bow, which modern symphonies and orchestra playing require, were wanting."

Veracini's name has been already mentioned, as awaking Tartini into rivalry and excellence. He was the most daring, brilliant, and wild of violinists. His natural temperament had some share in this; for he was singularly ambitious, ostentatious, and vain. At the "Festa della Croce" at Lucca, an occasion on which the chief Italian instrumentalists were in the habit of assembling, Veracini, who, from long absence was unknown to the Lucchese, put down his name for a solo. On entering the choir he found that his offer was treated with neglect, and that the Padre Laurenti, a friar from Bologna-for ecclesiastics were often employed as musicians in the cathcdrals—wws at the desk of the solo-player.

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Veracini walked up at once to the spot. "Where are you going ?" was the friar's question, "To take the place of first violin," was the impetuous answer. But Laurenti was tenacious of his right, and Veracini, indignantly turning on his heel, went down to the lowest bench of the orchestra. When the time for his solo was come, he was called on by Laurenti, who appears to have acted as the director, to ascend into a more conspicuous place. "No," said Veracini, "I shall play where I am, or no where." He began—the tones of his violin, for which he was long celebrated, astonished every one—their clearneess, purity, and passion, were unrivalled; all was rapture in the andience, even the docorum of the church could not restrain their cheers. And at the end of each passage, while the *vivas* were echoing round him, he turned to the hoary director in triumph, saying, "That is the way to play the first violin."

Veracini's prompt and powerful style must have made his fortune, if he had taken pupils. But he refused to give lessons to any one except a nephew; he himself had but one master, an uncle. His style was wholly his own. Strange, wild, and redundant. Violin in hand, he continnally travelled over Europe. About 1745 he was in England. He had two Steiner violins, which he pronounced to be the finest in existence, and with the mixture of superstition and frivolity so common to his conntrymen, he named one of them St. Peter and the other St. Paul ! Violinists will feel an interest in knowing that his peculiar excellencies consisted in his shake, his rich and profound arpeggios, and a vividness of tone that made itself heard through the londest orchestra.

The school of Tartini was still the classic "academe" of Italy. Nardini brings it nearer our own era. He was the most exquisite pupil of the great master. Of all instruments the riolin has the closest connexion with the mind. Its matchless power of expression naturally takes the mould of the feclings; and where the performer has attained that complete mastery which gives the instrument a language, it is grave, gay, touching, or romantic, according to the temper of the man, and almost of the hour. Nardini's tenderness of mind gave pathos to his performance. He left the dazzling and the bold to others; he reigned unequalled in the soft, sweet, and elegant. "His violin," says the President Dupaty, who heard him in Italy in 1783, "is a voice, or has one. It has made the fibres of my ear vibrate as they never did before. To what a degree of tennity does Nardini divide the air ! How exquisitely he touches the strings of his instrument ! With what at he modulates and purifies their tones!"

England was never visited by this fine virtuoso; but her musical tastes were more than compensated by the arrival of Felice Giardini, who produced effects here unrivalled till the appearance of Paganini. Giardini was born at Turin in 1716, and re ccived his chief musical education under Somis, a scholar of Corelli. At the age of seventeen he went, as was the custom of the time, to seek his fortune in the great capitals. From Rome he went to Naples, and after a short residence in the chief musical cities of his own country, passing through Germany with still increasing reputation, came to England in 1750. His first display was a concert for the henefit of Cuzzoni, who, once the great favourite of the Italian opera, was now old and enfeebled in all her powers. In her decaying voice the violinist had all the un-willing advantage of a foil. The audience were even on the point of forgetting their gallantry, and throwing the theatre into an uproar, when the young Italian came forward. His first tones were so exquisite, and so unlike anything that the living generation had heard, that they instantly put all ill-humour to flight. As he proceeded, the rapture grew. At length all was a turnlt, but a turnult of applause, and applause so loud, long, and overwhelming, as to be exceeded by none ever given to Garrick himself. His fortune was now made, if he would but condescend to take it up as it lay before him. But this condescension has seldom formed a part of the wisdom of genius, and Giardini was to follow the fate of so many of his showy predecessors.

His first error was that avarice which so curiously and so often combines with the profusion of the foreign artist. In 1754 he was placed at the head of the Opera orchestra. In 1756 he adopted the disastrous idea, in connexion with the celebrated Signora Mingotti, of making rapid opulence by taking the theatre. Like every man who has ever involved himself in that speculation, he was ruined. He then fell back upon his profession, and obtained a handsome livelihood by pupils, and his still un-rivalled performance. Still he was wayward, capricious, and querulous, and old age was coming on him without a provision. He had now been nearly thirty years in England, and his musical rank and the recollection of his powers would doubtless have secured for him the public liberality in his decline. But he then committed the second capital error of the foreign artists, that of restlessness, and breaking off their connexion with the country in which they have been long settled. Giardini went to recom-mence life in Italy with Sir William Hamilton. But Italy now knew nothing of him, and was engrossed by younger mcn. After lingering there just long enough to discover his folly in one shape, he returned to England to discover it in another. Five years' absence from London had broken off all his old connexions, dissolved all his old patronage, and left him a stranger in all but name. His health, too, was sinking. He was enfeebled by dropsy; his sight was failing; and he was glad to find employment as a supernumerary or tenor in the orchestra, where his talent had once reigned supreme. He attempted a burletta opera at the little Haymarket theatre, failed ; took his company to St. Petersburg, failed at that extremity of Europe; took them to Moscow, failed there; and then could fail no more. In Moscow, at the age of eighty, he died.

In music, as in poetry, there have always been two schools. The classic and the romantic. The former regular, graceful, elegant; the latter wild often rude, often ungraceful, hut often powerful and postponing all things to power. A performer was now to appear whose consummate elegance gave the palm to the classic school for the time. The name of Giornovichi is still remembered by some of our living amateurs. He was a Paler-mitan, born in the year 1745. His life was spent in roving through the capitals of Europe. Acquiring his exquisite and touching style under the celebrated Lolli, he went to Paris. After extinguishing all competitorship for two years, he went to Prussia as first violin in the royal chapel at Potsdam. He then went, preceded by his fame, to St. Petersburg. From 1792 he remained four years in England, visiting the provinces and Ireland, to the great de-light of the public taste. Then, with that love of rambling which characterises musicians and foreign artists of every description, he returned to Germany, from Germany went to Russia, and in St. Petersburg died in 1804 - Continued at Page 31.



MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELANY.



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#### THE PART-SONGS OF GERMANY.

THESE part-songs are too little known in England, as one of the most national and not least engaging features in modern German music. It is forty years since Zelter (best known in England as Goethe's correspondent) and his friend Fleming, founded at Berlin a congregation of staid elderly men, who met once a month to sit down to a good supper, and to diversify the pleasures of the table by singing four-part songs, principally composed by themselves. Their number was forty; and far the larger part of it composed of amateurs or men in office. It was an original statute that no one was eligible as a member who was not a composer, a poet, or a singer. During his lifetime Zelter was their president and principal composer; and in no branch of art did his peculiar talent evi-dence itself so brightly as in these convivial effusions, where humour, raciness, a masterly employment of

the limited material at his disposal, and a fine sense of the poetry be took in hand, distinguish him among his contemporaries. Goethe used to give his songs to be composed by Zelter; and many of them were sung at the Berlin "Liedertafel" before they were printed or known elsewhere. Fleming also contributed some fair musical compositions,—that to Horace's ode, "Integer vitæ," amongst others.

It was in the year 1815, or thereabouts, that Berger, Klein, and a younger generation of musicians, founded a young "Viedertafel" society, on the same principle, and for the same number of members. Friedrich Forster wrote some very pretty songs for it. Hoffman, the novel writer and kapellmeister, made it one scene of his strange and extravagant existence; and left behind him there an immortal comic song—"Turkische Musik," the words by Friedrich Forster. In general, a gayer and more spirited tone pervaded this younger society than be-

longed to their classical seniors. It was the practice of both bodies to invite guests on holiday occasions; and by the younger part-singers ladies were admitted Nothing could be sprightlier or twice a year. pleasanter, a little extra noise allowed for, than these latter meetings. They were not long in spreading far and wide. The good suppers became of less integral consequence; original compositions were not always attainable; but in every town it was natural to collect the younger men of all classes, for the purpose of singing together. A regular sys. tem of organisation, of division and subdivision, has arranged itself. The town societies in combination form provincial assemblies, where many hundreds come together. In the north of Germany the large class of young men who are either schoolmasters or organists in the towns and villages, or are educated as such at the normal schools, have societies of their own, and periodical celebrations.

The provincial festivals of these societies are held in the good time of the year, so that open air performances are practicable. A fine site, too, is a thing always chosen. Not very long before my Harz ramble, the Liedertafeln societies of that district had been holding a congress at Blankenburg. These Liedertafeln societies take part in other celebrations not their own. When Schiller's statue was inaugurated in Stuttgart, the singing bodies of all the towns in the districts round about poured in through the gates of the town, one after the other, each with its banners and its music, till the separate chords, to speak fancifully, united in a grand chorus in the market-place. And while there exists a well. trained army of volunteer choristers ready to be called into action on all occasions—it need not be pointed out how different it is in quality to the body of subordinates at once semi-professional and un-taught, at whose mercy lies so much of the best music ever to be heard in England-I should say, did lie; for part-singing is now flourishing with us like the bean-tree in the fairy tale.

It is needless, again, to remark how the works which make a whole great people vocal, must have a value and an interest in more aspects than one. To offer an instance or two likely to be familiar to the English-Music has nothing nobler in her stores than the hattle songs in which the harmonies of Weber and the hurning words of Korner are united. We sit by our firesides, it is true, and know not the sound of an enemy's cavalry in the streets, nor the booming of an enemy's cannon without our gates; and hence are touched only faintly by the spell of the soul within them; but it is impossible coldly to listen to the masculine chords and hold modulations of "Lutzow's Wild Chase," and the "Sword Song," and the "Husarendlied." Again, we have taken home to ourselves and half nationalised "Am Rhein," among our "Black eyed Susans" and "Rule Brit-tanias," because of its spirit and beauty; though we cannot feel, save dramatically, and by going out of ourselves as well as from home, the joviality and mirth of those who dwell in a wine-land, or the kindling of such a spirit as moved the army of Liberators on their return from victory, when within sight of Ehrenbreitstein, to burst out with one consent into that noble melody which was heard with little ceasing for two days and nights while the band was passing over the river !

Honour, then, to the part songs of Germany, and better acquaintance with them! is not the worst toast one could propose at a glee club.—*Chorley's* Music and Manners in France and Germany.

#### THE BLIND BARD OF CHICHESTER.

A small volume of Poems, by Francis Champion, the Blind Bard of Chichester, has been forwarded to us; and we have had great pleasure in the perusal of a work which is so striking an example of how niuch genius may accomplish even under the most discouraging circumstances. Self-teaching, penury, and bodily affliction, constitute not the strings from which your delicately-tuned numbers fall, and the over-nice critic might probably pick out may faults in these lays of Sussex; for ourselves we have not looked for them there is plenty of sweet and wholesome poetry wherewithal to occupy one's self. As a specimen we subjoin some lines written by this blind poet after hearing Liszt perform on the planoforte.—Sussex Advertiser

How beautifully wild that fairy touch-Like pebbles gently dropping in a stream Then warbling as the lay of some stray Bird Of Paradise! Scarce reaching sound, the tones Swim rippling, gliding, whispering along; As one could dream, embark'd on floating waves The wat'ry spirits hail the rising sun. The rapid bass now rumbling in the ear Pourtrays an earthquake struggling to be frec. And then with sudden rush of tenfold power The mingling notes assume the torrent's roar; Again the swelling murmurs softly roll— Fleet as the bounding Lama scours the wild The pliant fingers fly. I dare not breathe, Lest one sweet note of joy's cestatic tune Be lost. A thousand harmonies prevail-Each note a word, each word a song of bliss. The soul entangled by the silken chain Is led to Rapture's last abandonment. I've felt the power of sound approaching pain, By turns (enslav'd by Harmony) have wept, Have sung, have danc'd, and trembled at her feet; But here's the soul, the poetry of sound-A vivid painting hanging on each tone.

MUSIC CLASSES AT EXETER HALL.—The musical year 1841 opens with the prospectus of a "Singing School for Schoolmasters in Exeter Hall, under the sanction of the National Committee. The classes to consist extinct of communication of the sanction of the sanc consist entirely of persons engaged in elementary edu-cation, either in day-schools, Sunday-shools, or evening-schools." What amount of ultimate fruit is to be expected from this attempt, should it be supported and prove as successful as it deserves to be, it is difficult to prophesy. In this land, where competition for the mere necessaries of life is so hard and pressing, we should be, possibly, too enthusiastic, were we to expect that rich artistic result which might be produced among a people with more time for pleasure. Much will depend upon the state of musical art out of the school or yudias in the one structure which school as well as in it-upon the opportunities which teachers and scholars may have of hearing, as well as studying-and of nourishing their emulation, by the power of making acquaintance with the works of great masters. In this condition we are more fortunate in London than in Paris, where the amount of public vocal music, save of the theatrical class, is a mere nothing ; while in London there already exist many cheap concerts and amateur societies, and their number is daily increasing. But whether the people of England be made to sing at sight or not, and whether or not the old days he revived, when a madrigal was a part o. every gentleman's household pleasure, while his tradesmen and retainers had their own roundels, and glees, and trolls-a great and substantial benefit is achieved in every hour that is redeemed from the beer-house and the gin-shop—in every hour in which the dimnest idea dawns upon the labourer, the mechanic, or the domes-tic, that he too is capable of something more than the duties of a machine. If a single of some thing hove that the can be kept open at all, to our thinking, a great moral good is attained. *Athenaum*.

THE THORN.



From the white blossom'd sloe my dear Chloe re-A sprig her fair breast to adorn; [quested, No! by heav'ns, I exclaimed, may I perish if ever I plant in that bosom a thorn.

Then I showed her a ring and implored her to marry She blushed like the dawning of morn; Yes ! I'll consent, she reply'd, if you'll promise that nc Jealous rival shall laugh me to scorn. THE RED RED ROSE.



#### THE WORKS OF HANDEL—OUR CHORAL PROGRESS.

DURING several years of active critical service, we have strenuously advocated the principle which now seems to be adopted, viz.—the performance of works entire; a plan which, though it may admit some compositions of inferior merit to the average quality of selections, alone pourtrays the complete design of the master, sets the picture with all its lights and shades before us, and discovers its total power or weakness. The liberties taken with great compositions from time to time would make an amusing chapter in the history of human pretension and vanity: and though, by cutting an Oratorio into shreds and patches we do not destroy the original, as we should by the excision of our favourite effects from a Raphael, a Rubens, or a Titian; yet we inflict in-justice of a similar nature on the memory of the composer, when we cause him to be misjudged hy being partially judged. Handel is fortunately a man of that mould which best survives the effect of petty unfavourable accidents. He has sustained the worst of these, and yet so established himself in the

public *heart*, that we shall see his genius assnuc from year to year an increasing magnificence of character; and, becoming more and more acquainted with what he has done, with veneration and gratitude leave the true apotheosis of his sublime spirit to be celebrated by after ages.

It would astouish those who have not much concerned themselves in observing the music submitted to public performance, in how very small and limited a circle our pleasures of this kind revolve. In an early stage of amateurism, we like to hear only that which we have tested and know to be good; as we advance—though we acquire a distaste for excessive repetition—we still shrink from the fatigue of encountering perpetual novelty. So that between the experienced and instructed listener and the newlyfledged amateur, there are, to the last, strong points of mutual sympathy, which should engage hoth in mutual concessions for the advancement of music. We have now, we trust, arrived at this point.

One, and indeed the principal, reason why there remain so many untried and unheard things of Handel is the want of parts, by which the uninitiated reader is to understand copies for the individual members of the hand and chorus. The possession of these by sundry members of the musical profession, and the power to let them out on hire on particular occasions, has hitherto been a very valuable source of income. Strange that a common-place, or, perhaps, a ridiculous person, should be enabled to levy a tribute on the genius of a master, far greater in amount than any the author ever received for his own work! But this kind of property is now so well understood, and so widely shared, as no longer to provoke the lust of gain. Societies make their own stores, and encourage active and intelligent librarians of their own.

Next to the representation of the entire work of a master, the spirit of the age exhibits a stringent necessity for the purest and most authentic versions of his composition. Amateurs exhibit a strange laxity on this head, and have admitted into their seores the most ridiculously intrusive notes. These additional orchestral accompaniments have arisen out of that fatal love of hearing themselves, which is the destruction of a grand whole. If an amateur fluteplayer, for instance, wanted a part, he would, without remorse, get one made for him, or make one for himself; not once stopping to fancy the indignation of Handel. We recollect that the "Judas Maccabeus" has been particularly ill-treated in this way, and to have felt the liveliest resentment at the impertinent vanity which could introduce into the impressive dramatic chorus "Fall'n is the foe," a succession of trivial flute passages. These passages, because they happen to form the subject, might seem peculiarly appropriate to the absurd pedant who made them; but they draw off the unity of the attention, divide the concentrated power of the author, and so injure, if not destroy, his original design.

We are aware that M. Moser, of Berlin, has made some alteration in the scores of Handel used in Germany; but this duty has been chiefly confined to the *remplisage* of the harmony—the mere supporting and thickening of it by the aid of instruments unknown in Handel's time, and not by venturing to add original features. Even this labour, however, is to be admitted with great eaution.

Let it be conceived then, with what horror a refined and educated musician finds all sorts of incompetent people, re-instrumenting a master-work.

We are enabled to give an instance of this from personal observation. At a performance of "Don Giovanni" by a private musical society, some notes of trombones not in the score assailed the ear of the conductor. Inquiring into the circumstances of this eruption of big trumpets, we received the very naive answer,--" Oh, they made the parts themselves !" Now, as it is well known that Mozart had a very pretty notion of the powers of the tromboni, and has used those instruments for the grave colouring of all the more solemn and awful seenes of "Don Giovanni," here was a complete example of the wilful and ignorant frustration of his purpose. For nothing is more injurious to effect than monotony of tone; and it was a principal of Mozart's composition, to reserve great means for great oecasions. Had he wanted trombones, he might himself have used them; an inference, however obvious and simple, still not to be opposed to the love of making a noise.

Such are some of those violations of the sanctity of the composer, which allord the musician, when not immediately exposed to their annoyance, a hearty laugh in his chair after dinner. We must except from this general censure the additional

parts for brass instruments, which have been put to Handel's choruses by some English musician-we believe a Mr. Kearns. These indicate no coarse and vulgar hand; they are the mere notes of the composer heard through another and more powerful medium; and it is impossible to conceive, from the judgment and delieacy with which they are introduced, but that Handel himself would be in the highest degree delighted with them. The effect of brass instruments arises wholly from the sparing employment of them. When we hear in the chorus, "For unto us a child is born," the trumpet and trombones become prominent for the first time in the conclusion of the last symphony, the penetrating tones of these instruments create a new interest, and form a climax so charming that rarely the work escapes an encore. So also in one of the most powerfully affecting choruses that Handel ever penned, "Lift up your heads," what majesty marks the entrance of the bass trombones at the point, "He is the King of glory!" The whole presents an elevation of human feeling so sublime, as to make the blood thrill and to draw tears. We worship the spirit that can wing itself up to the Deity in this form; and feel, in the excess of our sensations, that we must possess the benevolence of some higher than human power. These devotional sentiments are not produced by mere noise-not by the acelaim of hundreds-but by that admirable regulation of effects, in which lies the whole mystery of music. Our ears are so constituted, as speedily to adapt themselves to any degree of sound; and the loudest thunder of the organ, or the gentlest notes of the flute, become alike in their operation upon us, if we are rendered as familiar with the one as the other. Impressions of greatness in music are produced at a blow; and though power, open or conecaled, has to do with them, it must be always power well applied. Thus the true master knows how to electrify his hearers by one note; and who that remembers the opening of the last chorus in "Israel in Egypt," can have forgotten the effect of the triumphant multitudinous unison, "I will sing unto God." Again, the subdued effect of choruses sung in har-mony, but entirely in an under tone—as "He sent a thick darkness,"—presents another form of majestic power, in which the poet's noble personification of might "slumbering on his own right arm", is brought vividly before us.

The truth, that great effects are only realised to their full extent, when met with in that relative position to the principal lights or shadows of his picture which the author originally designed, is the strongest argument we know in favour of the produe. tion of entire works. It should also restrain the rash hands of those unthinking people, who, without knowing any thing of the philosophy of the system of effect which guides the pen of a master in the formation of a score, have yet the hardihood to make additions. Critics in painting and poetry would soon discover and hold up to public indignation the author of any liberties with a great original; but in music (that is, in the copies used for performance), it is astonishing how many drivelling absurdities, perpetrated by the Lord knows who, have been allowed to sneak into public, affixed to master-works. But it is time to reduce these pretensions to their true standard. It ought to be the part of all genuine musical critics to make themselves well acquainted with the original secres of the works they hear, and to signalize any violation of their integrity and purity, except duc cause be apparent. By these means they

will become the gnardians of that fame which a great master commits to the love and the discernment of posterity.

All that we can be said to know well of Handel, and with proper choral power, are the "Mcssiah," "Israel in Egypt," "Solomon," and the "Dettingen Te Deum." We have lately had "Samson;" and how much remains behind to make the author's bodily presence still as palpable to us, as when, not long ago, he was domiciled in Lower Brook-street, Grosvenor squarel Pleasant is the memory of genins; endeared is the locality which it has haunted and rendered sacred by association! That the public should have existed for seventy or eighty years upon three or four works, with some odd selections —that it should yet have to come "Deborah," the noble "Jubilate," the "Chandos Anthems," the

"Funeral Anthems for Queen Caroline," &c. &c., that "L'Allegro" and "Il Penseroso," in which Handel has not suffered by contact with the genins of Milton, are yet partially unheard—that there exist in the Royal Library, and, we believe, in the Fitz-William Museum, noble remains of the industry of the master still in MS.,—affords a cheering prospect of the continued advancement of music. For it is not to be denied by any, except those who unduly appreciate the labours of such men as Mendelsolm and Spohr, that the age is destitute of any one commanding spirit; and however it is sought, by creating a factitious popularity, to place one or other of the cleverest of living musicians on the throne of choral music, the public are resolute in not being cheated of their homage. The world of music is at present a republic.—Monthly Chronicle.



#### THE BRITISH MINSTREL; AND



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MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.



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#### THE BRITISH MINSTREL; AND



#### DRIVING TANDEM, A TRINITY COLLEGE ADVEN FURE.

It was a lovely morning; a remittance had arrived in the very nick of time; my two horses were in excellent condition; and I resolved, along with a college chum, to put in execution a long concerted scheme of driving to London, Tandem. We sent our horses forward, got others at Cambridge, and tossing Algebra and Anarcharsis "to the dogs," started in high spirits. We ran up to London in style—went ball-pitch to the theatre—and after a quiet breakfast next morning at the St. James's, set out with my own horses upon a dashing drive through the west end of the town. We were turning down the Haymarket, when whom, to my utter horror and consternation, should I see crossing over to meet us, but my old warm-hearted, but severe and peppery. uncle, Sir Thomas ——?

To escape was impossible. A cart before and two carriages behind, made us stationary; and I mentally resigned all idea of ever succeeding to his five thousand per annum. Up he came. "What! can I believe my eyes? George? what the —do you here? Tandem too, by —" (I leave hlanks for the significant accompaniments that dropped from his mouth like pearls and rubies in the fairy tale, when he was in a passion.) I have it, thought I, as an idea crossed my mind which I resolved to follow. I looked right and left, as if it was not possible it could he me he was addressing. "What! you don't know me, you young dog? Don't you know your uncle? Why, sir, in the name of common sense—Pshaw! yon've done with that. Why in — name a'nt you at Cambridge?" "At Cambridge, sir?" said I. "At Cambridge? in 'm repeated, minicking my affected astonishment; "why I suppose you never were at Cambridge! Oh! you young spendthrift: is this the manner you dispose of my allowance? Is this the way you read hard? you young profligate, you young — you —""

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apprehensive of a scene; and resolved to drop the curtain at once. "Really sir," said I, with as brazen a look as I could summon upon emergency, "I have not the honour of your acquaintance." His large eyes assumed a fixed stare of astonishment. "I must confess you have the advantage of me. Excuse me; but to my knowledge I never saw you before." A torrent, I perceived, was coming. "Make no apologies, they are unnecessary. Your next rencontre will, I hope, be more fortunate, though your finding your country cousin in London is like looking for a needle in a bundle of hay. Bye, bye, old buck." The cart was removed, and I drove off, yet not without seeing him in a paroxysm of rage, half frightful, half ridiculous, toss his hat on the ground, and hearing him exclaim—"He disowns me! the jackanapes! disowns his own uncle by ——"

Poor Philip Chichester's look of amazement at this finished stroke of impudence is present, at this instant to my memory. "Well, you've done it. Dished completely! What could induce you to be such a bleckhead?" said he. "The family of the blockheads, my dear Phil," I replied, "is far too creditably established in society to render their alliance disgraceful. Tm proud to belong to so prevailing a party." "Pshaw! this is no time for joking. What's to be done?" "Why, when does a man want a joke, Phil, but when he is in trouble? However, adieu to badinage, and hey for Cambridge instantly." "Cambridge?" "In the twinkling of an eye—not a moment to be lost. My uncle will post there with four horses instantly; and my only chance of avoiding that rowantie misfortune of being cut of with a shilling, is to be there before him.

Without settling the bill at the inn, or making a single arrangement, we dashed back to Cambridge. Never shall I forget the mental anxiety I endured on my way there. Every thing was against us, a heavy rain had fallen in the night, and the roads were wretched, the traces broke—turnpike gates were shut—droves of sheep and carts impeded our progress; but in spite of all these obstacles, we reached the college in less than six hours. "Has Sir Thomas—been here?" said I to the porter, with an agitation I could not coneeal. "No, sir." "If he does, tell him so and so," said I, giving veracious Thomas his instructions, and putting a guinea into his hand to sharpen his memory. "Phil, my dear fellow, don't show your face out of college for this fortnight. You twig!" I had hardly time to get to my own room, to have my toga and trencher beside me, Newton and Aristotle hefore me, optics, mathematics, and hydrostatics, strewed around in learned confusion, when my uncle drove up to the gate.

"Porter, I wish to see Mr. —," said he, "is he in his rooms?" "Yes, sir; I saw him take a heap of books there ten minutes ago." This was not the first bouncer the Essence of Truth, as Thomas was known through the college, had told for me; nor the last he got well paid for. "Ay! very likely; reads very hard, I dare say?" "No doubt of that, I believe, sir," said Thomas, as bold as brass. "You audacions fellow! how dare you look in my face and tell me such a deliberate falsehood? You know he's not in college!" "Not in college! sir, as I hope—" "None of your hopes or fears to me. Shew me his rooms. If two hours ago I did not see — See him,—Yes, I've seen him, and he's seen the last of me."

He had now reached my rooms; and never shall I forget his look of astonishment, of amazement

bordering on incredulity, when I calmly came for ward, took his hand, and welcomed him to Cam bridge. "My dear sir, how are you? What lucky wind has blown you here?" "What, George! who --what--why-I can't believe my eyes! "How happy I am to see you!" I continued: "How kind of you to come! How well you're looking?" "How people may be deceived! My dear George, (speaking rapidly,) I met a fellow, in a tandem, in the Haymarket, so like you in every particular, that I hailed him at once. The puppy disowned me-affected to cut a joke-and drove off. Never was I more taken off my stilts! I came down directly, with four post-horses, to tell your tutor; to tell the master; to tell all the college, that I would have nothing more to do with you; that I would be re-sponsible for your debts no longer; to inclose you fifty pounds and disown you for ever." My dear sir, how singular !" "Singular! I wonder at perjury no longer, for my part. I would have gone into any court of justice, and have taken my oath it was you I never saw such a likeness. Your father and the fellow's mother were acquainted, or I'm mistaken. The air, the height, the voice, all but the manner, and—that was not yours. No, no, you never would have treated your old uncle so." "How rejoiced I am, that—" "Rejoiced : so am I. I would not have bccn undeceived for a thousand guineas. Nothing but seeing you here so quiet, so studious, surrounded by problems, would have convinced me. Ecod! I can't tell you how I was startled. I had been teld some queer stories, to be sure, about your Cambridge etiquette. I heard that two Cambridge men, one of St. John's the other of Trinity, had met on the top of Vesuvius, and that though they knew each other by sight and reputation, yet, never having heen formally introduced, like two simpletons, they looked at each other in silence, and left the mountain separately and without speaking: and that cracked fellow-commoner, Meadows, had shewn me a caricature, taken from the life, representing a Cambridge man drowning, and another gownsman stand-ing on the brink, exclaiming, 'Oh! that I had had the honour of being introduced to that man, that I might have taken the liberty of saving him!' But, man," continued he, musing ; "yet, as you sit in that hight, the likeness is"-I moved instantly-" But it's impossible, you know, it's impossible. Come, my dear fellow, come; I must get some dinner. Who could he be? Never were two people so like.

We dined at the inn, and spent the evening together; and instead of the fifty, the "last fifty," he generously gave me a draft for three times the amount. He left Cambridge the next morning, and his last words were, as he entered his carriage, "My brother mas a handsome man; and there mas a Lady Somebody, who, the world said was partial to him. She may have a son. Most surprising likeness. God bless you. Read hard, you young dog; remember. Like as two brothers!" I never saw him again.

His death, which happened a few months afterwards, in consequence of his being bit in a bet, contracted when he was a "little elevated," left me the heir to his fine estate; I wish I could add to his many and noble virtues. I do not attempt te palliate deception. It is always criminal. But, I am sure, no severity, no reprimand, no reproaches, would have had half the effect which his kindness, his confidence, and his generosity wrought on me. It reformed me thoroughly, and at once. I did not see London again until I had graduated : and if my degree was unaccompanied by brilliant honours, it did not disgrace my uncle's liberality or his name. Many years have elapsed since our last interview ; but I never reflect on it without pain and pleasure -pain, that our last intercourse on earth should have been marked by the grossest deception; and pleasure, that the serious reflections it awakened, cured me for ever of all wish to deceive, and made the open and straight-forward path of life, that of

New Monthly Magazine. AN OLD STUDENT.

A MIDNIGHT LANDSCAPE .- You would have been delighted with the effect of the northern twilight on this romantic country as I rode along last night. The hills and groves and herds of cattle were seen reposing in the grey dawn of midnight, as in a moonlight without shadow. The whole wide canopy of Heaven shed its reflex light upon them, like a pure crystal mirror. No sharp points, no petty details, no hard contrasts-every object was seen softened yet distinct, in its simple out-line and natural tones, transparent with an inward light, breathing its own mild lustre. The landscape altogether was like an airy piece of mosaic-work, or like one of Poussin's broad massy landscapes or Titian's lovely pastoral scenes. Is it not so that poets see na-ture, veiled to the sight, but revealed to the soul in visionary grace and grandeur.-Hazlitt's Liber Amoris.

#### TO AN MOLIAN HARP.

Oh! breezy harp! that, with thy fond complaining,

Hast held my willing ear this whole night long: Mourning, as one might deem; yon moon, slow waning, Sole listener oft of thy melodions song;

Sweet harp! if hushed awhile that tuneful sorrow, Which may not flow unintermitted still,

A lover's prayer one strain less sad might borrow, Of all thou pourest at thine own sweet will.

Now, when—her forehead in that pale moon gleaming,-Yon dark-tressed maid baneath the softening hour,

As fain to lose no touch of thy sad streaming Leans to the night from forth her latticed bower ;

And the low whispering air, and thy lone ditty, Around her heart thy mingled spells have wove: Now cease those notes awhile that plain for pity,

And wake thy bolder song, and ask for love.

LISZT .- Assuredly, it is not in his own country that this great pianist finds the honours due to genius fall most sparingly on his head. Our island tempera-ment has some difficulty in understanding the entnusiasm which makes every step of his progress a triumph. The following particulars are given in a letter from Pesth:—"On the evening of Friday, (10th Jan., 1840,) the Royal German Theatre gave, for the benefit of the basic blain institution of the true. charitable institutions of the town, Beethoven's opera of 'Fidelio,' after which Liszt had promised to execute some of his compositions. The pianist entered the box aome of his compositions. The parameter that have a first one of the overture, and was instantly hailed with the most voci-ferous acclamations. 'Long live Liszt! long live the great artist!" echocd from all quarters of the theatre, which was crowded with spectators; and the orchestra executed a series of trumpet movements,—an honour only paid, on other occasions, on the arrival of some memher of the royal family. At the close of the opera the curtain rose again, disclosing the representation of a magnificent Gothic hall, ornamented with a profusion of musical trophies, crowns, and garlands of flowers. Liszt appeared in the rich and picturesque national costume of the Hungarian nobles, and seating himself at a piano, executed a fantasia on some movements from

Auber'a 'Muette de Portici,' and Mayerbeer's 'Robert le Diable.' When the andience had testified, in an almost frenzied manner, its admiration of these performances the Count Leon de Festetice, President of the Roya. Philharmonic Society, entered, accompanied by the two assessors and two prothonotaries of the county of Pesth, and having addressed a short speech to the artist, delivered to him, in the name of the county, a magnificent sabre, valued at 600 florins ( $\pounds 60$ ), it. a crimson velvet sheath, whereon were embroidered, in gold, the arms of the family of Liszt,-one of whose ancestors was, towards the close of the seventeenth century, grand judge of the county. On returning to his carriage, Liszt found himself the subject of fresh homage from the students of the University, who had assembled, with torches, to escort him to his hotel. The torches, however, were useless; for all along the road which he had to pass, the houses were illuminated from top to bottom, and crowded with a populace estimated at thirty thousand at the least. Yesterday the munici-pality gave a grand ball in his honour, which was at-tended by all the notabilities of the tewn and all the nobles of the neighbourhood; and this morning at daybreak, the great artist departed for Prague."

CHARLES LAMB. -- Lamb was at one part of his life ordered to the sea side for the benefit of bathing; but not possessing strength of nerve sufficient to throw himself into the water, he necessarily yielded his small person up to the discrction of two men to 'plunge him.' On the first morning, having prepared for immersion, he placed himself, not without trepidation, between these huge creatures, meaning to give the previously requisite instructions which his particular case re-quired; but, from the very agitated state he was in, from terror of what he might possibly 'suffer' from a 'sea-change,' his unfortunate impediment of speech became greater than usual; and this infirmity prevented his directions being as prompt as was necessary. Standing, therefore, with a man at either elbow, he began: (1-I-I'm to be di-i-ipped.' The men answeredthe instruction with a ready ' Yes, sir!' and in theysoused him! As soon as he rose, and could regain aportion of his lost hreath, he stammered out as before,<math>(1-I-I'm to be di - ipped.' A pathent becauteI-I-I-I'm to be di-i-ipped! Another hearty 'Yes, sir !' and down he went a second time. Again he rose; and then with a struggle, (to which the men were too much used on such occasions to heed,) he made an effort for freedom; but not succeeding, he articulated as at first, 'I-I-I'm to be di-i-ipped'-' Yes, sir !' and to the bottom he went again ; when Lamb, rising for the third time to the surface, should out in desper-ate energy, 'O-O-only once.'-Mathews' Memoirs.

MISS CLARA NOVELLO .- About fifteen years ago, when she was a child playing with her dolls in the gar den of her father's country residence at Shacklewell, and singing in a loud clear voice, for lightness of heart like a little wild bird; *Di tanti palpit*, which was then popular, and much played on the barrel organs of wan-dering Italians, was one among a number of other melodies which she caught by ear, and was wont to sing to herself at play. It was this air that first indito herself at play. It was this air that first indi-cated to her friends her peculiar natural disposition for music, and from which may be dated the first direction of the little Clara to serious efforts of song. In particular, we remember the admirable correctness of ear with which she made the modulation that occurs at the end of the second part of the melody. This was quite surprising in one who knew nothing of harmony, and who never seemed at least, to pay any attention to the music which was performed in her father's house The education of the ear must have been proceeding unconsciously to herself and friends, or her early history, with which we are intimately acquainted, would compel us to believe in the phenomenon of an ear more perfectly adapted by nature to the execution of every interval, than many other not ungifted singers obtain by the most careful attention and laborious effort.-Musical World.

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#### JESSIE, THE FLOWER O' DUNBLANE.

Words by Tannahill.

Music by R. A. Smith.



No. 4.



She's modest as ony, and blythe as she's bonny; For guileless simplicity marks her its ain; And far be the villain, divested of feeling, Wha'd blight in its bloom the sweet flower o' Dun-

blane.

Sing on, thou sweet mavis, thy bymn to the e'ening, Thou'rt dear to the echoes of Calderwood glcn; Sae dear to this bosom, sae artless and winning

Is oharming young Jessie, the flower o' Dunblane.

#### R. A. SMITH.

ROBERT ARCHIBALD SMITH was the son of a Paisley silk weaver, and was born at Reading in England, whither his father had removed sometime previous. ly, on the 16th November, 1780. His mother, who belonged to Reading, like his father, was possessed of a taste for music, thus the musical genius of their son was fostered from his cradle by the melodies of their respective countries. At a very early age he began to exhibit his fondness for music, being able to play upon the violin in his tenth year. His ear was remarkably correct, and he began early the practice of noting down such strains of melody as he heard that pleased him, and to this early habit is to be ascribed the remarkable facility in musical notation which in after years he exhibited. An instance of this practice and facility in later life occurs in a letter of his to his friend Wm. Motherwell, written in 1826, in which he says,

"I have just finished the accompaniment to a remarkably fine Danish air, which happens most fortunately to be in the very spirit of your beautiful 'Song of the Danish Sea\_King.' You must know that I was taking Danish Sea<sub>p</sub>Aing. 100 must know that I was taking an excursion lately in a wherry on the Thames, when my cars were assailed by the hoarse bawling of half a dozen sailors, in a vessel lying at anchor, singing a boisterous song, in an unknown tongue. I instantly desired the waterman to rest on his oars, when he in-formed me that it was a Danish vessel. The air pleased me, and I noted it at the moment."

In the year 1800, the weaving trade, to which he had been apprenticed by his father, declining in The West Reading, the family removed to Paisley. of Scotland has always been a musical district, and there is no talent which so speedily introduces its possessor into society, and surrounds him with admirers, as "singing a good song;" and as Smith had a sweet and musical voice, and an exquisite taste, his talents as a singer soon became known in Pais. ley, and his society courted both by amateurs and professionals, at whose concerts he was often induced to officiate, and thus brought more immediately before the general public. He soon bade farewell to the loom, which at no time had been a favourite with him, and in 1807, having been engaged as How lost were my days till I met wi' my Jessie,

- The sports o' the city seemed foolish and vain, l oe'er saw a bymph l would ca my dear lassie, 'Till charm'd with sweet Jessie, the flower o' Dunblane.
- Though mine were the station o' loftiest grandeur, Amidst its profusion I'd languish in paio;
- And reckon as naething the height o' its splendour If wanting sweet Jessie, the flower o' Dunblane.

Precentor to the Abbey Church of Paisley, he shortly after commenced teaching music, and in this occupation he continued till his death.

Of the friends he made in Paisley one of the earliest was Tannahill, to many of whose songs he composed airs, and, amongst others, "Jcssie, the Flower o' Dunblane," the publication of which first brought him prominently before the musical public as a composer. This song appeared in 1808, and immediately attained an extraordinary popularity, which it has retained undiminished to the present time, and there must be few of our readers in Scotland to whom it is not familiar. A critic in the European Magazine of the time in which it was published, says,

"The air before us certainly has no common claim to general admiration. The descant consists through-out of the most graceful and enphonious intervals, and the cadence at the words 'the flower o' Dunblane,' is remarkably heautiful and happy. It is singular that a similar fall of a 4th rising thence into the tonic chord is to be found at the commencement of a 'Kyrie' by the immortal Mozart, which it is very unlikely that our author should have known, being in manuscript, and very scarce. . . . The whole melody is contained in the space of eleven notes in diatonic scale, and proceeds in intervals, never exceeding a 4th, and abound-ing in 2ds and 3ds, the most proximate distances: they are all managed with the utmost skill of simplicity, and we shall not easily find a more evident proof of the truth that Artis est celare artem."

In 1810 Smith published his "Devotional Music, original and selected, arranged mostly in four parts, with a thorough bass for the organ or piano-forte;" and in 1819, "Anthems, in four vocal parts, with an accompaniment for the organ or piano-forte-the words selected from the prose version of the Book of Psalms." In 1821, he commenced the publication of his "Scottish Minstrel, a selection from the vocal melodies of Scotland," which, originally intended to be in four, was extended by a fifth, and afterwards hy a sixth volume. In this publication his habit of noting down all the airs he chanced to hear was turned to good account, and in the volumes many airs appeared that had been previously unpublished, with many, we believe, that were either wholly or

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partly his own composition: to some of the airs his name is affixed. Besides these, the work contains a very complete selection of the previously well known melodies of Scotland. Many of the airs are suited with original words, among the authors of which appear the names of Hogg, Motherwell, Hew Ain-slie, Robert Allan, Miss Blamire, &c. The old verses which have been retained are in many cases sadly mangled and bepatched, we do not know, however, that we can blame Smith for this, as the songs, we are led to conclude from the preface, have peen under the superintendence of another editors Smith subsequently added an "Irish Minstrel," in one volume, to the collection, and afterwards a volume of "Select Melodies," containing airs of various nations. This latter we are inclined to think the most interesting of all his works, many of the airs are very beautiful, and the verses are likewise superior to those in the other volumes. Amongst the contributors of songs were Mrs. Hemans, Motherwell, Hogg, Wm. Kennedy,\* Ainslie, Henry Riddell, and others less known, in this volume appears the "Danish Melody" already mentioned, and also that song of Kennedy's "I have come from a happy land," now so well known.

In 1822, Smith removed with his family (hc married in 1802.) to Edinburgh, Dr. Andrew Thomsou having procured for him the situation of leader of the music in St. George's Church in that cuty. Here he continued his duties as a teacher, and here he collected, arranged, and published, the latter volumes of his "Scottish Minstrel," and the other works already mentioned, his "Introduction to Singing," which appeared in 1826, also "Sacred Music for the use of St. George's Church, Edinburgh," "The Sacred Harmony of the Church of Scotland," "Sacred Music, consisting of Tunes, Sanctusses, Doxologies, &c., sung in St. George's Church," and a number of Anthems, Glees, &c.

Smith had suffered long from attacks of dyspepsia, which, acting upon an originally delicate constitution, brought him to an early deathbed. After being confined about a fortnight, he calmly expired at Edinburgh, on the 3d day of January, 1820, in the forty-ninth year of his age, leaving a widow and five children. This event being quite unexpected, except by his intimate friends, caused a deep sensation in that city, and in the West of Scotland, where he was so generally known, and from his amiable character so generally loved and respected.

Our limits prevent us from writing further at present, but we intend shortly to return to the subject. We cannot better conclude than by giving the two following quotations, the first from Dr. Thomson's preface to the "Sacred Harmony," a part of which was published after Smith's death, and the other, which appeared in the Edinburgh Courant of 9th Feb., 1829, by Mr. George Hogarth, the well known author of "A History of Music."

"It is impossible," says the Dr., "to conclude this preface, without adverting to the editor of this work; which we can do more freely, since he is beyond the reach of both censure and praise. While he lived, his modest and unassuming worth gained him the esteem of all to whom he was known; and when he died, his death was universally and deeply lamented. We, for our part, felt it as the loss of a friend and brother. He was fond to enthusiasm of sacred music. He entered fully and feelingly into its true character. And he contributed ably and largely to its stores, in the an-

\* Author of a late work on Texas.

thems, psalm-tunes, and other pieces which, from time to time, he composed and published. Much did he achieve in rescuing it from the barbarism and degeneracy into which it had fallen throughout the parishes of this country, by drawing the attention of influential people to its numerous defects, both as to the musiw performed, and the actual performance of it, and by diffusing a better taste, and a greater love for it, than what had previously prevailed. And in the choirs which he successively had under his superintendence in Paisley and in Edinburgh, he exhibited specimens, not only of what it ought to be, but of what it is capable of being made, when those who are concerned in its improvement unite in patronizing and promoting it."

"Smith," says Mr. Hogarth, "was a musician of ster-ling talent. His merits have been long recognised, but the extreme modesty of his character prevented them being so fully appreciated as they ought; and his labours were only beginning to gain for him that repu-tation and emolument they deserved, when he was cut off hy an untimely death. His compositions partake of the character of his mind; they are tender, and generally tinged with melancholy; simple, and unpretending; and always graceful, and unaffectedly elegant. He had not the advantage of a regular musical education, or of having his taste formed upon the classic models of the art. But there was in his mind a nativo delicacy, and an intuitive soundness of judgment, which enabled him to shun the slightest tendency to vulgarity, and to make his productions always fulfil his object, whatever it was. His melodies are expresis onject, whatever it was. This mendues are expres-sive, and his harmonies clear and satisfactory. He had the admirable good sense to know how far he could safely penetrate into the depths of counterpoint and modulation, without losing his way; and accordingly his music is entirely free from that scientific pedantry, which forms the prevailing vice of the modern English school. Mr. Smith has enriched the music of our own country with many melodies which have deservedly become national, and will probably descend, in that character, from generation to generation, in Scotland. His sacred music is uniformly excellent, possessing, in a high degree, the simplicity of design, and solemnity of effect, which this species of music requires. His sacred compositions, being written for the Scottish Church, and without instrumental accompaniment of any kind, are easily executed, and will undoubtedly tend to heighten the character of our church music, as they are beginning to be generally used in those places of worship where vocal harmony only is admitted. His own personal exertions, as precentor of St. George's Church, and the example which that Church has given, has already wrought a wonderful change in the musical part of our service."

[We are indebted for much of the foregoing information, to a biographical sketch of Smith by Philip A. Ramsay, Esq. of Paisley, prefixed to Fullarton's edition of Tannahill's poems by Ramsay, the Lest edition of Tannahill, we would remark, which has yet appeared.]

#### SPRING.

Sweet is thy coming, Spring !—and as I pass Thy hedge-rows, where from the half-naked spray Peeps the sweet hud, and 'midst the dewy grass The tufted primrose opens to the day: My spirits light and pure confess thy pow'r Of balmiest influence: there is not a tree That whispers to the warm noon-breeze; nor flow'r Whose bell the dew-drop holds, but yields to me Predestinings of joy: O, heavenly sweet Illusion I—that the sadly pensive breast Can for a moment from itself retreat To outward pleasantness, and he at rest: While sun, and fields, and air, the sense have wrought Of pleasure and content, in spite of thought 1

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Athenæum.

#### OLD SONGS.

#### BY WILLIAM COX.

I like an old song. It is the freshest piece of antiquity in existence; and is, moreover, liable to no selfish individual appropriation. It was born far back in the traditionary times, so that its parentage is something equivocal; yet its reputation suffers not on that account, and it comes down to us associated with all kinds of fond and endearing reminiscences. It melted or gladdened the hearts of our forefathers, and has since floated around the green earth, finding a welcome in every place humanised by a ray of fancy or feeling, from "throne to cottage hearth." It has trembled on the line of part and It has trembled on the lips of past and forgotten beauty; and has served, in countless woo. ings, as the appropriate medium for the first fearful breathings of affection. The youthful maiden has broken the silence with it in many a lovely, loncly dell; and the shepherd has chanted it on the still hill-side. The rude sailor has filled up the pauses of his watch by whistling it to the shrill winds and sullen waters; and it has bowed the head, brought the tear to the eye, and recalled home, and home thoughts, to the mind of many a wanderer on a distant shore. It has been heard in the solitudes of nature, and at the crowded festive board. It has refreshed the worn-out heart of the wordling, and nwakened "thoughts that do often lie too dcep for tears," in the minds of the moody and contem-plative. It has been a source of consolation and joy to those who have passed away; it comes unexhausted to us; and it will glide gently down the stream of time, cheering and soothing as it goes, from genera-tion unto generation, till utilitarianism hecomes universal, and music and poetry fade into a dimly remembered dream. Yet a true-bred, moth-eaten, antiquary would sacrifice it, if he could, for a copper coin fifty years its senior!

If any musical man expect, from the title to this, a learned article, he will be egregiously disappointed. I have no pretensions to treat this subject scientifically, but what of that! Music is not alto gether a mechanical science; and there arc profounder sympathies in the heart of man than the orchestra think of. There is no more nauseous animal in existence than your musical coxcomb, who has all the terms and technicalities of the art at his tongue's end, without the glimmering of an idea concerning the human passions, the dcep fcelings, and the keen and delicate perception of the beautiful, on which that art is founded. Proportionably to be admired is the man who, after spending years in study and research, and successfully fathoming and mastering all difficulties, never dreams of considering his laboariously acquired knowledge as more than merely an accessory, not a principal, in the delightful science he has made his study. The former are, as a naturalist would express it, "in theatres and at concerts-common;" the latter is of a species scarce all over the world.

There may be loftier flights—a higher species of fame, than that attained or aimed at by the songwriter; but there is no one to whom honour is more gladly rendered by the mass of mortals. His claims come into notice, for the most part, in a genial season —when friends are met, and the glass and sentiment and song go round; when gladness swells the heart, fancy tickles the brain, and mirth and good humour sparkle from the eye; when Baechus has almost closed up criticism's venomous optics, and laid hyj er-criticism quietly under the table; when the

fine-strung nerves are exquisitely alive to all pleasurable sensations—then it is that divine music, wedded to still diviner poesy, can, in an instant,

"bid the warm tear start, Or the smile light the cheek."

and then it is that the memories of the masters of song arc pledged with a fervour that the cthical or epic poet may despise, but can never either expect or hope for, from the partiality of his cooler admirers. Next to Shakspeare there is no one whose memory more fondly treasured than that of Burns. Inde-pendently of being intensely loved and revered wherever a Scottish accent is heard, social societies are formed in every country in which his language is known, to keep that memory fresh and green And he well deserves it. Perhaps his songs are the best ever written. He has not the polish, the refinement, the exuberance of imagery, or the sparkling fancy of Moore, but he excels him in humour and pathos. They are, however, both glorious fellows ; and it must be a narrow heart that cannot find room for admiration of more than one. If the lyrics of Burns do not, as yet, strictly come under the desig-nation of "old songs," they at least will do so, for they have the germ of immortality within them. It is almost impossible to dream of the time when "Auld Lang Syne" will not be sung. He had his faults, (I am no Scotchman), but in turning over his pages, if your admiration of the poet begin to falter for a moment, perhaps the very next page brings you to "Highland Mary," "Ae fond kiss and then we sever," "A man's a man for a' that," "Mary Morrison," or, that song without a name, commencing-

"Here's a health to ane I lo'e dear, Here's a health to ane I lo'e dear;

Thou art sweet as the smile when fond lovers meet, And saft as their parting tear-Jessy!" ţ

Burns has done for Scottish song what Scott has done for Scottish history—made it known and renowned in every portion of the globe; and had "auld Scotland" never produced any other names of note, these two are amply sufficient to honour and glorify her through all time.

What are generally known by the name of "Irish songs,"—the "Paddy Whackmecracks," and "Barney Brallagans" of the pot-house and the play-huuse, bear ten times less resemblance to the genuine melodies of the "green isle," than even the majority of regular stage Irishmen do to the existing natives. Both are mcrely broad English caricatures. The soul of Irish music, beyond that of all other national music, is melancholy. It is, perhaps, too fine a distinction to draw, but of the serious melodies of the three nations, perhaps the English airs are most characterised by mournful sadness-those of Scotland by pathos and tenderness-and those of Ireland by a wild, wailing melancholy, of an almost indescribable character. But words are poor expositors in such cases. Let any one play a few airs from each, and they will probably furnish him at once with the distinction here attempted to be drawn. I would humbly suggest "Coolun," or "Silent, oh Moyle," as the strongest instances I can think of on the part of Ireland. The English, it is said, have no national melody, and perhaps this is true of that portion of the country from Dover to the borders; but long prior to the presence of the Normans, who changed the manners and injured the pithiness of the language of the natives, the British had melodies marked by great simplicity and sweetness Wb.

does not remember the beautiful song, "Ar hyd y nos," familiarly known as "Poor Mary Anne?"—or that fine air, "Of a nohle race was Shenkin," and many others, which are still to be met with in many a quiet and sequestered glen amid the fastncsses of Wales, where the harp of the Druids took sanctuary, and where the poetry and melody of that mysterious sect are still preserved. It is no wonder that at the inpouring of the heterogeneons and mercenary Norman flood, the pure native melodies became corrupted, and were nearly swept away; yet, notwithstanding, the splendid church music of the English excites the deep admiration of Europe; and their glees and madrigals have never been ex.

celled. Purcell, Locke, Jackson, and Arne, have written many charming melodies: but to come nearer to the present day, if 1 may venture an opinion, I would say that justice has scarcely been done to Shield, a sound, manly composer, who has left a number of things behind him which really and truly deserve to live and flourish. "The Thorn," "Let Fame sound the Trumpet," "Old Towler," "Heaving the Lead," "Ere round the huge Oak," and a number of others, if they cannot justly lay claim to any great degree of imaginative beauty, have at least an infusion of genuine melody—a body, ay, and a soul, that will long preserve them from oblivion.—Continued at page 50.



The echo ing woods re - spon-sive





#### THE VIOLIN.

#### (Concluded from Page 11.)

Giornovichi's style was neither powerful not brilliant. It was what is better than either-de-lightful. Possessing great mastery of execution, it was always subservient to a native beauty of conception, which made his performance perhaps the most charming that was ever known. Delicacy, refinement, polish of the highest order, were there; but no violinist within memory had so fine a faculty of concealing his art, and subdning the audience as with a spell. His concertos have now gone out of fashion. Intricacy, eccentricity, and novelty are The the choice of instrumentalists in our day. startling, strange, and difficult are the modern tri-umph of the artist. But in these feats of the finger he abandons the nobler triumph of the soul. The concertos of Giornovichi remain hefore us as evidence of the elegance, tenderness, and sensibility of his genius. They are, of course, neglected by the modern solo player, who must astonish or be no. thing; but they form the limit of all that is deli-cious in the violin; and the first artist who will have the courage to try how far they may be felt by an audience, even in our day, will find that they possess at least rudiments of success, which are not to be found in the abruptness and extravagancies of the later mountebanks of the finger-board.

By a strange contrast with the playful grace of his style; Giornovichi's temper was more than irritable. His life seems to have been a long quarrel with men and countries. He was almost a professed duellist. His caprices alienated the public; and his patrons generally found his petulance more than equivalent to their pleasure in his' ability. He left England in anger, and appears to have transported this luckless spirit wherever he went. But he was a matchless musician, and his concertos must be long the study of every artist who desires to discover the true secret of captivation.

The classic school was now to give way to the romantic. Viotti, a name still familiar, appeared in London in 1790, at Salomon's concerts. He was instantly recognised as the creator of a new era of the violin. Bold, majestic, and magnificent, his style of composition was admirably seconded by the brilliancy and vividness of his execution. Unlike the majority of great violinists, he had also the talent of a great composer. No man of modern

times approached so near to the sublime. His master had been the well-known Pugnani, whose breadth of performance and force of tone were long anequalled. But to these his pupil added the fire of genius.

of genius. Viotti was born in 1755, at Fontaneto in Piedmont. His musical education was early and rapid. At twenty he was first violinist in the Royal Chapel of Turin. After a few years study there, he commenced the usual tour of artists, and passing through Germany, came to Paris. There he was the universal wonder; but his petulance at a concert in the palace at Versailles drove him from public representation.

It happened unfortunately for his peaceable career that he was a good deal infected with the revolutionary absurdities of the time, and the angry musician notoriously avenged himself by becoming the peevish republican.

Viotti, with all his republican sympathies, and we do not charge his memory with any direct attempt to put them in practice here, knew Paris too well to return there while the fever of Directorics and Democracies raged. He quietly withdrew to Germany, and there, in a villa near Hamburgh, he devoted himself to a much more suitable occupation than the rise or fall of dynasties, the production of some of those works, including his dnets, which will make him remembered long after his political follies are forgotten. His career was still capable of prosperity, but

His carect was still capable of prosperity, but his rashness unfortunately rendered him unlucky. After a few years, in which his fame as a violin composer continually rose, he returned to England; but instead of relying on his own astonishing powers as a performer, he plunged into trade, became a wine-merchant, and shortly suffered the natural consequences of exchanging a pursuit which he understood better than any other man alive, for a pursuit of which he knew nothing. He lost all that he was worth in the world. He then returned to Paris as Director of the Conservatoire; but there he found himself all but forgotten. With the usual fate of musicians and actors, long absent, and returning into the midst of a new generation, he found national jealousy combining with the love of something new; and between both, he felt himself in what is termed a false position. He now gave up his employment, and on a pension returned to England, a country, of which, notwithstanding his

republican " exaltation," he was fond. Here, mingling occasionally with society, still admired for his private performance on the violiu-for he had entirely abandoned public exhibition-Viotti sunk into calm decay, and died March 3, 1824, aged 69. Viotti's appearance was striking-he was tall, of an imposing figure, and with a countenance of strong expression-his forehead lofty and his eye animated. As a composer for the violin he is unquestionably at the head of all his school, and his school at the head. Its excellencies are so solid, that his violin concertos may be transferred to any other instrument, without a change of their character, and scarcely a diminution of their effect. Some of the most powerful concertos for the piano are The Viotti's, originally composed for the violin. character of his style is nobleness. Pure melodies and rich harmonies had been attained by others; but it was reserved for him to unite both with grandeur. This was, in some degree, the result of his having been the scholar of Pugnani, the first man who taught the Italians the effect of combined breadth and brilliancy. But it was for the celebrated Piedmontoise to be at once supremely elegant and forcible, and to unite the most touching taste with the most dazzling command of all the powers of the instrument.

De Beriot appears to hold the highest estimation among those French violinists who have visited England within these few years. He is probably also the best of the native performers. All the violinists of France who have figured since Rode, are growing old, and we have heard of no showy and novel successor. The school of Rode, is still the taste of the Conservatoire, and it is of the nature of every school to degenerate.

De Beriot is essentially of the school of Rode, though he is understood to be ambitious of referring his skill to Viotti. But his style, dexterous rather than dazzling, intricate rather than profound, and sparkling rather than splendid, is altogether inferior to the majestic beauty of the master violinist of the last age. It must be acknowledged that De Beriot's conduct on the death of the unhappy Malibran must raise more than doubts of his sensibility. And the musician, like the poet, who is destitute of feeling, is deprived of the first source of excellence. He may be ingenious, but he never can be great. He is ignorant of the secret which supremely sways the mind. In Germany, Spohr is still the celebrated name. Louis Spohr was born in the Brunswick tcrritory, in 1784. His distinctions were rapid; for at twenty one, after making a tour of the German cities, and visiting Russia with increasing fame, he was appointed first violin and composer to the Duke of Saxe Gotha. In 1817, he made a tour of the Italian cities, and in 1820 came to England, where he performed at the Philharmonic concerts. He had already been known to violinists by the science of his compositions, and his knowledge of the capacities of the violin. His performance in this country exhibited all the command which was to be expected from German vigour. But it must be confessed that the want of conception was apparent. His style was beavy. With remarkable purity of tone, and perfect skill in the management of the how, he was never brilliant. Sweet melodies, graceful modulations, and polished cadenzas, were all; and in these nre not contained the spells of music. Even his large and heavy figure had some effect in prejudicing the ear against his style. All seemed ponderous alike. The weather, too, during his visit, happen.

ed to be unusually close for the season, and the rather corpulent German too palpably suffered under a perpetual thaw. His performance in this state was the reverse of elegant; and the intricacy of his composition, the perpetual toil of science, and the general absence of expression—qualities so visible in all his written works, without the exception of his best opera, Faust—oppressed his violin.

In an ans which works, which the exception of his best opera, Faust—oppressed his violin. The most popular violin composer now in Germany, or in Europe, is Mayseder. His style is singularly, yet sometimes showily toilsome. As Spohr's is the labour of science, Mayseder's is the labour of brilliancy. His works are strictly for the fashion of the time—popular airs with showy variations, some feeble and affected, but some unquestionably of remarkable richness, variety, and subtlety. His air, with variations, dedicated to Paganini, the "pons asinorum" of our amateurs, is a well-known specimen of all those qualities, and is even a happier specimen of Paganini's style than any published composition of the great violinist himself.

In our remarks on the musical genius of Italy, we had said, that south of the Alps lay the fount from which flowed periodically the whole refreshment of the musical mind of Europe. One of these periodic gushes has burst out in our own day, and with a power which has never been rivalled by Italy herself. Paganini commenced a new era of the king of all instruments, uniting the most boundless mastery of the violin with the most vigorous conception. Audacious in his experiments on the capacity of his instrument, yet refined to the extreme of subtlety; scientific, yet wild to the verge of extravagance, he brought to music the enthusiasm of heart and habit, which would have made him eminent in perhaps any other pursuit of the human faculties. Of a performer who has been so lately before the public, and whose merits have been so amply discussed, it would be superfluons to speak in detail. But, by universal consent, Paganini exhi-bited in his performance all the qualities combined, which separately once gave fame. By a singular adaptation, his exterior perfectly coincided with his performance; his tall gaunt figure, his long fleshless fingers, his wild eager and wan visage, his thin grey locks falling over his shoulders, and his singular smile sometimes bitter and convulsive, ulways strange, made up an aspect which approached near ly to the spectral. When he came on the stage half crouching, slowly creeping onward as if he found his withered limbs too weak to hear him, and with his wild eye glancing by fits round the house, he looked not unlike some criminal escaped from the dungeon where he had been worn down by long confinement, or a lunatic who had just been released from his chains. Of all earthly forms his was the least earthly. But it was when the first uproar of reception was stilled, when the orchestra had played its part, and the solo was to begin, that Paganini exhibited his singularity and his power in full view. He has bitherto held the violin hanging by his side; he now raises it up slowly, fixes his eye upon it as a parent might look upon a favourite child; gives one of his ghastly smiles; lets it down again, and glances round the audience, who sit in the profoundest silence looking at this mystic pantomime, as if it were an essential part of the performance. He then seizes it firmly, thrusts it close to his neck, gives a glance of triumph on all sides, waves his bow high above the strings, dashes it on them with a wild crash, and with that single impulse lets out the whole torrent of harmony.

Peculiar as this picture may seem, it is only so to p those who have not heard the great master. To those who have, it will appear tame. He was extravagant beyond all bounds; yet his extravagance was not affectation, it was scarcely more than the natural result of a powerful passion acting on a nervous temperament, and naturalised by hahits of lonely labour, hy an all-engrossing imagination, and by a musical sensibility which seemed to vibrate through every fibre of his frame. The whole man was an instrument. It must, however, be acknowledged that his eccentricity in his latter performances, sometimes injured his excellence. His mastery of the violin was so complete, that he often dared too much; and by attempting in his frolic moods, and his frolics were frenzies, to imitate things altogether below the dignity of music, he offended his audience. One of his favourite freaks was the imitation of old women's voices! He imitated birds, cats, and wolves. We have heard him give variations to the pretty air of the "Carnival de Venise," the variations consisting of imitations of all the cracked trumpets, the drums, the fifes, the squeaking of the old women, the screaming of the children, and the squabbles of Punch. These were follies. But when his better genius resumed its influence he was unequalled, and probably will remain unequalled for another generation. He enjoyed one result which genius has too seldom enjoyed, extraordinary emolument. He is said to have made, during the first year of his residence in England, upwards of £20,000. His half share of the receipts of a single concert at the King's Theatre was said to amount to seven hundred guineas. Thus, in his hands, he established the superiority of the violin as a means of production over all others, and even over the human voice. Catalani, in her days of renown, never made so much by single performances.

The novelties which Paganini introduced into his performance have been highly panegyrised. Those are, his playing occasionally on a violin with but the fourth string—his pizzicato with his fingers of the left hand, giving the instrument something of the effect of the guitar—his use of the harmonic tones, and his staccato. That these are all novelties, that they add to the general compass of the violin, and that they exhibit surprising skill in the performer, we entirely allow. But excepting the staccato, which was finished and elegant, we have not been able to feel their peenliarvalue. That they may be the opening of future and wide triumphs to this beautiful and mysterious instrument, we believe perfectly possible. But in their present state they appear rather tricks than triumphs, rather specimens of individual dexterity than of instrumental excellence. The artist's true fame must depend on his appeal to the soul. Paganini was born in Scura, about 1784, and died at Nice, 27th May, 1840. A new candidate for praise has lately appeared

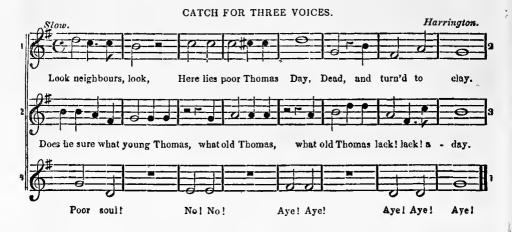
A new candidate for praise has lately appeared among ns in the person of Ole (Olous) Bull. Half his name would entitle him to our hospitality. He s a Norwegian, and unpropitious as the remote orth may be conceived to the softer arts, Ole Bull is the only artist of Europe who can remind the world of Paganini. But unlike the great Maestro, he is nearly self-taught. His musical impulse came on him when he was about eight years old. His family successively proposed the Church and the Law; he espoused the violin, and at twenty resolved to trust to it and fortune. Some strange tales are told of his destitution. But all the histories of the great musicians have a tinge of romance. Ole Bull's

was ultra-romantic. He reached Paris in the period of the cholera. All was terror and silence. His purse was soon exhausted. One day after a walk of misery, he found his trunk stolen from his miserable lodging. His violin was gone with it! In a fit of despair he ran out into the streets, wandered about for three days, and finished his wanderings by throwing himself into the Seine. Frenchmen always throw themselves into the Seine, as we understand, for one or all of the three reasons :---that the Seine has seldom water enough in it to drown any body; that it is the most public point of the capital, and the suicide enjoys the greatest number of spectators; and that, let the worst befall, there is a net stretched across the river, if river it must be called, which may save the suicide, if he can keep his head above water for a while, or at least secure his body for a spectacle in the Morgne next morning. But we believe that the poor Norwegian was not awake to those advantages, and that he took the Seine for a bona fide place where the wretched might get rid of their wretchedness. He plunged in, but, fortunately, he was seen and rescued. Few men in their senses ever attempt to commit suicide; not even madmen attempt it twice; and Ole Bull, probably brought back to a wiser and more pious feeling of his duties by his preservation, bethought him of trying his professional powers. He sold his last shirt to hear Paganini—a sale which probably affects a foreigner but little. He heard, and resolved to rival him.

The concert season returned. He gave a concert, gained 1200 francs, and felt himself on the road to fortune. He now made a tour of Italy, was heard with pleasure; and at the San Carlos at Naples with rapture; on one night he is said to have been encored nine times. From Italy, where performers learn their art, he returned to Paris, like all his predecessors, for renown, and, like them, at length brought his matured talent to England for money. He is now twenty-five years old, if at that age his talent can be spoken of as matured. Determined in all things to rival the Gran Maestro, he would condescend to nothing less than a series of concerts in the vast enceinte of the Italian Opera House. The audiences were numerous, but the crowd belonged to Paganini. He has since performed with great popularity at the musical festivals; and if he shall overcome the absurd and childish restlessness which has so often destroyed the hopes of the most popular artists-can avoid hiring the Opera House and can bring himself to avoid alternate flights to Italy and the North Pole, he will make his fortune within the next ten years. If he resolve otherwise, and must wander, he will make nothing, and will die a beggar.

His performance is of a very high order, his tone good, and his execution remarkably pure, powerful, and finished. He delights in double stopping, in playing rich chords, in which he contrives to employ the whole four strings at once, and in a singularly delicate, rapid, and sparkling arpeggio. Altogether he treads more closely on Paganini's heel than any violinist whom we have ever heard. Still he is not Paganini. The imitator must always be content to walk in the second rank; and his imitation, though the imitation of a man of talent, is so close, that if the eyes were shut it would be scarcely possible to detect the difference. Paganini is the parentage, and we must still pay superior honour to the head of the line. But Ole Bull will be no unfit inheritor of the tite and estate.

### POOR THOMAS DAY.



### THE NIGHTINGALE'S SONG.

All is still,

A balmy night! and tho' the stars be dim, Yet let us think upon the vernal showers That gladden the green earth, and we shall find A pleasure in the dimness of the stars. And hark ! the nightingale begins its song. He crowds, and hurries, and precipitates With fast thick warble his delicious notes, As he were fearful, that an April night Would be too short for him to utter forth His love-chant, and disburthen his full soul Of all its musie!

 I know a grove Of large extent, hard by a castle huge Which the great lord inhabits not: and so This grove is wild with tangling underwood, And the triin walks are broken up, and grass, Thin grass and king-eups, grow within the paths. But never elsewhere in one place I knew So many nightingales: and far and near In wood and thicket over the wide grove They answer and provoke each other's songs-With skirmish and eapricious passagings, And murmurs musical and swift jug jug, And one low piping sound more sweet than all-Stirring the air with such a harmony, That should you close your eyes, you might almost Forget it was not day! On moonlight hushes, Whose dewy leafits are but half disclos'd, You may perchance behold them on the twigs, [full, Their bright, bright eyes, their eyes both bright and Glist'ning, while many a glow-worm in the shade Lights up her love-torch.

Off, a moment's space, What time the moon was lost behind a cloud, Hath heard a pause of silence: till the moon Emerging, hath awaken'd earth and sky With one sensation, and those wakeful birds Have all burst forth in choral minstrelsy, As if one quick and sudden gale had swept An hundred airy harps! And I have watch'd Miany a nightingale perch'd giddily On blos'my twig, still swinging from the breeze, And to that motion tune his wanton song, Like tipsy Joy that reels with tossing head.

S. T. COLERIDGE.

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Just now the nightingales are wailing so sweetly around me! There are four of them here, and last year there were just the same number. How they breathe out their souls into that art of rapturemusic-and as if all was thrown into a single tone ---so pure---so innocent---so true and deep---such as no human creature can ever hope to produce, either with voice or instrument. Why must men learn to sing, while the nightingale, untaught, knows how to warble into our very hearts, so faultlessly in tune, so free from all failure? I have never heard any singing from human voices that moves me like the night-A minute since I asked myself, since I ingales'. listen to them so intently, what if they would like to listen to me, as well? for just then they were silent: but hardly did I raise my voice, when all four burst out into such a warhle of trilling-just as if they would say-leave us our own empire! Airs, and opera songs, are like the mere false tendencies in the moral world—the rhetoric of a false enthusiasm. -after all, it shows a secret wish in the soul to become great. It is refreshing like dew, to hear this better genius whisper in its natural language. Is it not so?. O yes! and we then long to be ourselves like these tones, that dart onwards to their aim without wavering to either side. There they reach the absolutely complete, and in every rhythmical movement give out a profound mystery of spiritual form—this the human being cannot do! Surely melodies are beings created by the Divinity, that have a progressive existence of their own; every such idea comes forth at once in full life, from the human soul: it is not the man that creates the thought, but the thought creates the man .- Bettine Brentano's Correspondence.

WORTH CAN NEVER DIE.—Beautiful it is to see and understand that no worth, known or unknown, can die, even in this earth. The work an unknown good

man has done is like a vein of water flowing hidden underground, secretly making the ground green; it flows and flows, it joins itself with other veins and veinlets; one day it will start forth as a visible peren-nial well. Ten dumb centuries had made the speaking Dartor. nial well. Ten dumb centuries had made the speaking Dante; a well he of many veinlets. William Burnes, or Burns, was a poor peasant; could not prosper in his "seven acres of nursery-ground," nor any enterprise of trade and toil; had to "thole a factor's enash," and read attorney letters, in his poor poor but, "which threw us all into tears," a man of no money capital at all; yet a brave man, a wise and just, in evil fortune faithful, unconquerable to the death. And there wept withal among the others a hoy named Robert, with a heart of melting nite, of greatness and for wrath; and heart of melting pity, of greatness and fiery wrath; and his voice, fashioned here by his poor father, does it not already reach, like a great elegy, like a stern prophecy to the ends of the world? "Let me make the songs, and you shall make the laws!" What chancellor, king,

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sonator, begirt with never such sumptuosity, dyed velwet, blaring, and celebrity, could you have named in England that was so momentous as that William Burns? Courage - Thomas Carlyle's Essays.

STIRRING THE FIRE IN TIME.-A gentleman at a musical party, where the lady was very particular not to have the concert of sweet sounds interrupted, was freezing during the performance of a long concert piece, and seeing that the fire was going out, asked a friend in a whisper, "How he should stir the fire without in-termpting the music?" "Between the bars," replied the friend.

SHELLEY calls music-

The silver key of the fountain of tears, Where the spirit drinks till the brain is wild;

Softest grave of a thousand fears,

Where their mother, Care, like a drowsy child, Is laid asleep in flowers.

#### ТНАТ DWELL. FROM ALL



- From all that dwell - bc . low the skies, - -



MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.





#### THE GABERLUNZIE'S WALLET.

It is with great pleasure we direct the attention of our readers to "The Gaberlunzie's Wallet," a uonthly work now publishing in Edinburgh. The author, Jot, has undertaken to give scenes from the a'most forgotten and romantic life of the Gaberl\_nzie—that privileged sorner of old times, who was the news monger, and frequently the peace-maker of a whole country side. There are many good jokes, and stories, told of his visitings to the farmhouses and home-steads of Auld Scotland.

When letters were almost, and the liberal arts altogether confined to cities and large towns, and when neither stage-coaches nor railroads had dared to open up the hidden corners of the country, the Gaberlunzie was welcome, whether his wallet was stuffed with legends, ballads, or the news of political changes, or whether he brought word that the last distaff had to give way before the better spinning-wheel, or that the spinning-wheel had to give place to the wonderfully productive power of thousund-handed spinning-jenny-it mattered not-still he was welcome to the cosie beild and the lown side of the farmer's or cottar's ingle, with besides a wisp o' " Clean pease strae," to serve instead of down 'r hair-mattrass for sleeping couch-and his entertainers thought themselves well paid, when they listened to some of his queer sangs or quaintly told stories.

And though no one knew the lineage of the Gaberlunzie, and he could neither claim kith nor kin, yet many lament that he now never comes to shed a cheerful influence on the dreary nights of winter. We, though not yet past our climacteric, have heard the complaint spoken (in prose almost as eloquent as that of Jot himself,) by our venerated grandmother, for the passing away of those times in which his jokes and songs used to enliven the hearth of her first home, and with a long-drawn sigh, she would close her tale with the often-repeated burden—" aye, aye, young folks were happier then, aye and better too, than they are now" —she has gone to her last home, and the Gaher-

lunzie has laid aside wallet and staff and followed her, and instead of his oral knowledge, there are Libraries of Useful Knowledge, and Information for the People, together with British and other Minstrels, which we fear are hut cold substitutes for his living music and poetry—aye, and his awmous is gathered by herds of shrunken paupers without spirit to make a jest, and wanting wit to tell, much less make, a story that would cheer the night —of whom the rural population are suspicious, and even the dogs do bark at them.

We may here relate an anecdote of a Gaberlunzie, who was, we believe, almost the last of his race. He was a tall raw-boned hard-visaged old man, lame in both feet from an accident he had met with in a quarry, with a shrewd wit, and knowing expression of physiognomy. In the course of his wanderings from place to place, he was frequently the bearer of letters and verbal communications between friends at a distance, and though of the slowest, still old James was a trusty courier. He had come to the village of K--, where he called at his usual roosting place, and found that the family had left the village; he then went to the Manse, though he knew that the then incumbent was a man whose charity was in the inverse proportion to his greed. Arrived there, he asked if he might he allowed to sleep in the kitchen? "No"-or in the hay loft? "No." He made no further attempts on the benevolence of the Rev. Vitulus; but sought his awmous where he was sure of a kindly reception; and when told that he might stay over night, his answer invariably was—"No, no, kind folks, I thank ye a' the same; but I mean to gie your minister a prac-tical lesson." At nightfall, he hirpled slowly to the sloping and wooded bank of the small river Gwhich runs through the village, where he had re-solved to bivouac soldier fashion. In the morning it happened, as the auld carle knew it would, that the minister made that bank-head his morning walk, and James waited until he saw, not the good Samaritan, coming slowly along, when he struck up one of his auld warld sangs, which stayed the rev gentleman in his walk, who said, " Poor old man

and have you slept here all night in this inclement weather?" it was the month of March. "Deed did I," said James, with mock ceremony touching his broad bonnet. "I am sorry for you; have you no house to go to?" "Weel Sir, I did sleep here; but, Sir, do you no think that pity without something mair is very like mustard; it disnatasteweel without a bit o' saut beef till't" The minister bit his lip and passed on, and James chuckled heartily when relating the circumstance—he went away that day and never came back; hut we helieve died in Edinburgh at the long age of 103.

But we have forgotten the work which recalled this incident. There are some excellent ballads introduced, and it is illustrated with clever etchings and wood-cuts. As there is music, given with some of the ballads, we may probably make these the subject of some future remarks. In the meantime, we extract the following passage which will speak more in praise of the work than any thing we can say :—

All Nature acknowledges the influence of music; Man bends before its power; and even the inferior animals own its dominion. The deep-toned organ, as it peals through the groined and richly fretted arches of the lofty cathedral, wafts the soul to heaven on the wings of melody, and clevates the devotional feeling of the sinear unorphinger. The clear tiple of the coli the sincere worshipper. The clear tinkle of the soli-tary church bell in the Sabbath morn, as it echoes among the hills, is felt and responded to by the wellattuned hearts of those who, impressed with its old and sacred associations, repair, at its summons, from their distant homes, to hold sweet converse with their God, in the same church where their forefathers often had met together in the olden time. The sad sound of the met together in the olden time. pibroch deepens the gloom of the Highland gleo. The muffled drum hushes to stillness the noisy voice of the crowded street through which passes the funeral procession of the poor soldier. The blind vocalist, whose voice awakens the dull and silent lape at nightfall, like a spirit wailing among the habitations of the dead, leads after him, in the cold winter time, groups of merry little creatures, who, chained by the ear, follow him through half the town, regardless of the punish-ment that awaits them on their return home from their nocturnal perambulations. Bands of musicians find encouragement sufficient to induce them to serenade and enliven the darkest and closest alleys of the city. In the poorest districts of large towns, where nothing but squalid misery abounds, the itinerant ballad-singer finds purchasers for his world ditties. The nost popular street songs are chanted loudest by the friendless wretches, seated on outshot shelving stairs, poor homeless beings, who bave their dwellings in the streets, and who can look forward to the grave only for a home, where " the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest." The child, as he lisps and prattles on his nurse's knee, leaps bounding to a lively air, or is hushed asleep by a gentle lullaby. Old frail wrecks of humanity, whose dancing days have long since passed away, will beat time with their staff to the sound of the fiddle. Nations have been conquered, battles have wounded soldier has shed his last sigh, and fallen asleep in the arms of death, amid dreams of home and friends, conjured up by a melody associated with

"Life's morning march, when his bosom was young."

Strong as is the influence of music over the mind at all times, its power is much increased by the stillness of the night. The æolian barp, breathed upon by the invisible spirits of the air, makes every heart echo to its irregular and fitful cadences; and many a hard pillow is softened, and many an aching head is soothed to slumber, by the gentle and pleasing strains of the night wnits.

#### AUTOMATON VIOLIN PLAYER.

A number of Galignani's Messenger for 1840 gives the following account of an Automaton Violin-player, constructed by a Monsieur Mareppe, and exhibited before the Royal Conservatory of Paris: —

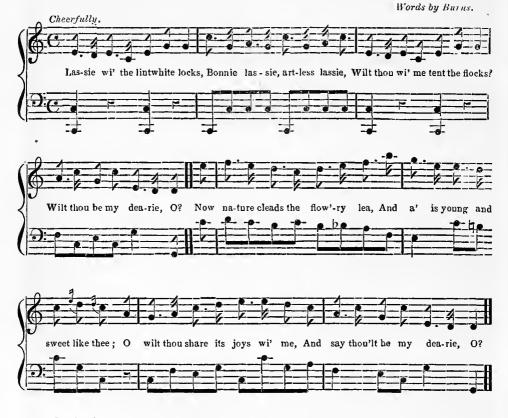
"Our informant, M. Bruyere, who was present, thus describes it :- On entering the saloon, I saw a well-dressed handsome figure of a man, apparently between forty and fifty, standing with a violin in his hand, as if contemplating a piece of music which lay on a desk before him; and had I not gone to see an automaton, I should have believed the object before me to have been endowed with life and reason, so perfectly natural and easy were the attitudes and expression of countenance of the figure. I had but little time for observation, before the orchestra was filled by musicians; and, on the leader taking his seat, the figure instantly raised itself erect, bowed with much elegance two or three times, and then, turning to the leader, nodded as if to say he was ready, and placed his violin to his shoulder. At the given signal he raised his bow, and applying it to the instrument, produced, a la Paganini, one of the most thrilling and extraordinary flourishes I ever heard, in which scarcely a semitone within the compass of the instrument was omitted, and this exe. cuted with a degree of rapidity and clearness perfectly astonishing. The orchestra then played a short symphony, in which the automaton occasionally joined in beautiful style; he then played a most beautiful fantasia in E natural, with accompaniments, including a movement allegro mollo on the fourth string solo, which was perfectly indescribable. The tones produced were like any thing but a violin, and expressive beyond conception. I felt as if lifted from my seat, and burst into tears, in which predicament I saw most persons in the room. Suddenly he struck into a cadenza, in which the harmonies double and single, arpeggios on the four strings, and saltos, for which Paganini was so justly celebrated, were introduced with the greatest effect; and alter a close shake of eight bars duration, commenced the coda, a prestissimo movement played in three parts throughout. This part of the performance was perfectly magical. I have heard the great Italian, I have heard the still greater Norwegian, I have heard the best of music, but I never heard such sounds as then saluted my ear. It commenced pianissimo, rising by a gradual cresendo to a pitch beyond belief, and then by a gradual motendo and colendo died away, leaving the audience absolutely enchant. ed. Monsieur Mareppe, who is a player of no mean order, then came forward amidst the most deafening acclamations, and stated, that, emulated by the example of Vaucanson's flute-player, he had conceived the project of constructing this figure, which had cost him many years of study and labour before he could bring it to completion. He then showed to the company the interior of the figure, which was completely filled with small cranks, by which the motions are given to the several parts of the automaton at the will of the conductor, who has the whole machine so perfectly under control, that M. Mareppe proposes that the automaton shall perform any piece of music which may be laid before him, within a fortnight. He also showed, that, to a certain extent, the figure was self acting, as, on winding up a string, several of the most beautiful airs were played, among which were 'Nel cor piu, 'Partant pour la Syric,' 'Weber's last waltz,' and 'La ci darem la mano," all with brilliant embellishments. But the *chef d'œuvre* is the manner in which the figure is made to obey the direction of the conductor, whereby it is endowed with a sort of semireason."

A CHRYSTAL FROM A CAVERN.—Glory to the sclfish rich man's gorgeous offering, is still the cry of the world's orators, too often even of those most nobly gifted. Glory to the widow's mite, is that still sweet inward song of the true heart taught in endless harmonies issuing from the face of God.— Blackwood's Magazine.

THE ALPINE HORN.—The Alpine horn has, on the lofty hills of Switzerland, another still more solemn

and religious use besides that of the cowcall. When the sun has set in the valley, and his rays still glimmer on the snowy tops of the Alps, the shepherd who dwells on the highest of them, immediately seizes his horn, and calls through it "Praise God the Lord!" All the neighbouring shepherds, as soon as they hear this sound, seize their Alpine horns, hasten out of their huts, and repeat it. This often lasts a quarter of an hour, and the nume of the Lord is re-echoed from the mountains and rocks. At last there is a solerm silence; all kneel, and with uncovered heads, pray. In the meantime it has become completely dark. "Good night," the highest shepherd exclaims through his speaking trumpet. "Good night!" resounds from all the mountains and the sides of the rocks. Then each goes to repose.—Pocket Magazine.

LASSIE WI' THE LINT-WHITE LOCKS.

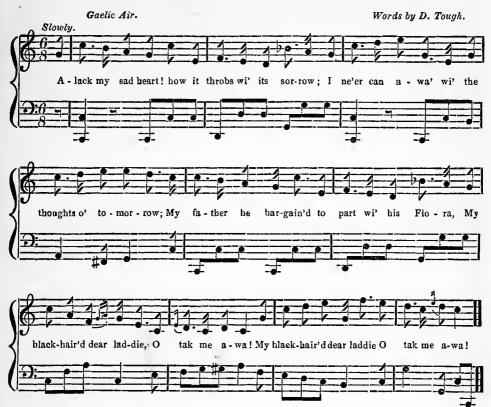


Lassie wi', &c. Now nature cleads the flow'ry lea, And a' is youog and sweet like thee; O wilt thou share its joys wi' mc, And say thon'lt be my dearie, O?

Lassie wi', &c. An' when the welcome simmer shower Has cheer'd ilk drooping little flower, We'll to the breathing woodbine bower At sultry noon, my dearie, O. Lassie wi', &c. When Cynthia lights, wi' silver ray, The weary shearer's hameward way, Through yellow waving fields we'll stray, An' talk o' love, my dearie, O.

Lassie wi', &c. And when the howling wintry blast Disturbs my lassie's midnight rest, Enclasped to my faithfu' breast. I'll comfort thee, my dearie, O.

THE BLACK-HAIRED LADDIE.



Alack, my sad heart! how it throbs wi' its sorrow; I ne'er can awa wi' the thoughts o' to-morrow; My father he bargain'd to part wi' his Flora, My black-hair'd dear laddie, O tak me awa.

I flee frae the grey-headed laird an' my father, I flee to my shepherd, wha trips owre the heather; We aye were fu' glad wheo at e'en we'd forgather; My black-hair'd dear laddie, O tak me awa.

The story is tauld, an' her father's confounded; The ha' wi' his rage an' rampagin' resounded; [ed, The horo, an' the shout's spreadin' clamour, far sound-To tell wha the shoeherd had carried awa. Owre hill, stream, an' valley, through bramble an' They flew till the fugitives were overtaken; [breeken, They've toro them asinder, their tender hearts breakin'; The black-hair'd poorshepherd they drave him awa.

The shepherd he look'd in a sad sort o' languish. An' Flora, owre-come, in a beart breakin' aoguish, Exclaim'd "frosty-beaded laird oe'er shall extigguish My love for the laddie they've driven awa."

Then Flora, my life's saul, refrain thy sad sorrow, Nor heed ye the purposed plan o' to-morrow, The dotard is doited, thy shepherd dear Flora, Ere morning's gray dawnin' will hae thee awa.

#### A MUSICAL SUPPER PARTY.

I was at one of those private concerts given at an enormous expense during the opera season, at which "assisted" Julia Grisi, Rubini, Lablache, Tamburini, and Ivanhoff. Grisi came in the carriage of a foreign lady of rank, who had dined with her, and she walked into the room looking like an empress. She was dressed in the plainest white, with her glossy hair put smooth from her brow, and a single white japonica dropped over one of her temples. The lady who brought her chapcroned her during the evening, as if she had been her daughter, and under the excitement of her own table and the kiodness of her friend, she sung with a rapture and a *freshet* of glory

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(if one may borrow a word from the Misslssippi) which set all hearts on fire. She surpassed her most applauded hour on the stage—for it was worth her while. The audience was composed almost exclusively of those who are not only cultivated judges, but who sometimes repay delight with a present of diamonds. Lablache shook the house to its foundations in his turu; Rubini ran through his miraculous compass with the ease, truth, and melody for which his singing is unsurpassed; Tamburain poured his rich and even fulness on the ear, and Russian Ivanhoff, the one southern singing-bird who has come out of the north, wire-drew his fine and spiritual notes, till they who had been flushed, and tearful, and silent, when the others had sung, drowned his

voice in the poorer applause of exclamation and surprise. The concert was over by twelve, the gold and silver paper bills of the performance were turned into fans, and every one was waiting till supper should be announced—the prima donna still sitting by her friend, but surrounded by foreign attaches, and in the highest elation at herown success. The doors of an inner suite of rooms were thrown open at last, and Grisi's cordon of admirers prepared to follow her in, and wait on her at supper. At this moment, one of the powdered menials of the house stepped up and informed her very respectfully that supper was prepared in a separate room for the singers! Medea, in her most tragic hour, never stood so abso. lutely the picture of hate, as did Grisi for a single instant, in the centre of that aristocratic crowd. Her chest swelled and rose, her lips closed over her snowy teeth, and compressed till the blood left them, and for myself, I looked unconsciously to see where she would strike. I knew, then, that there was more than fancy-there was nature and capability of the real-in the imaginary passions she plays so powerfully. A laugh of extreme amusement at the scene from the high-born woman who had accompanied her, suddenly turned her humour, and she stopped in the midst of a muttering of Italian, in which I could distinguish only the terminations, and, with a sort of theatrical quickness of transition, joined heartily in her mirth. It was immediately proposed by this lady, however, that herself and her particular circle should join the insulted prima donna at the lower table, and they succeeded by this manœuvre in retaining Rubini and the others, who were leaving the house in a most unequivocal Italian fury. I had been fortunate enough to be included in the invitation, and, with one or two foreign diplomatic men, I followed Grisi and her amused friend to a small room on a lower floor, that seemed to be the honsekeeper's parlour. Here supper was set for six (including the man who had played the piano), and on the side table stood every variety of wine and fruit, and there was nothing in the supper, at least, to make us regret the table we had left. With a most imperative gesture, and rather an amusing attempt at English, Grisi ordered the servants out of the room, and locked the door, and from that moment the conversation commenced and continued in their own musical, passionate, and energetic Italian. My long residence in that country had made me at home in it; every one present spoke it fluently; and I bad an opportunity I might never have again, of seeing with what abandonment these children of the sun throw aside rank and distinction (yet without forgetting it), and join with those who are their superiors in every circumstance of life, in the gaieties of a chance hour. Out of their own country these singers would probably acknowledge no higher rank than that of the kind and gifted lady who was their guest; yet, with the briefest apology at finding the room too cold after the heat of the concert, they put on their cloaks and hats as a safeguard to their lungs (more valuable to them than to others;) and as most of the cloaks were he worse for travel, and the hats opera-hats with two corners, the grotesque contrast with the diamonds of one lady and the radiant beauty of the other, may casily be imagined. Singing should be hungry work, by the knife and fork they played; and between the excavations of truffle pies, and the bumpers of champagne and burgundy, the words were few. Lablache appeared to be an established droll, and every syllable he found time to utter was received with the most unbounded laughter. Rubini could

not recover from the slight he conceived put upon him and his profession by the separate table; and he continually reminded Grisi, who hy this time had quite recovered her good humour, that, the night before, supping at Devonshire House, the Duke of Wellington had held her gloves on one side, while his Grace their host, attended to her on the other. "E vero!" said Ivanhoff, with a look of modest admiration at the prima donna. "E vero, e bravo!" cried Tamburini, with his sepulchral talking tone, much deeper than his singing. "Si, si, si, si ravo!" echoed all the company; and the haughty and happy actress nodded all round with a radiant smile, and repeated, in her silver tones, "Grazie! cari amici! grazie !" As the servants had been turned out, the removal of the first course was managed in pie-nic fashion; and when the fruit and fresh bottles of wine were set upon the table by the *attaches* and younger gentlemen, the health of the princess who honoured them by her presence was proposed in that language, which, it seems to me, is more capable than all others of expressing affectionate and respectful devotion. All uncovered and stood up, and Grisi, with tears in her eyes, kissed the hand of her benefactress and friend, and drank her health in silence. It is a polite and common accomplishment in Italy to improvise in verse, and the lady I speak of is well known among her immediate friends for a singular facility in this beautiful art. She reflected a moment or two with the moisture in her eyes, and then commenced, low and soft, a poem, of which it would be difficult, nay impossible, to convey in English, an idea of its music and beauty. It took us back to Italy, to its heavenly climate, its glorious arts, its beauty and its ruins, and concluded with a line of which I remember the sentiment to have been "out of Italy every land is exile !" The glasses were raised as she ceased, and every one repeated after her, "Fuori d' Italia tutto e esilio!" "Ma!" cried out the fat Lablache, holding up his glass of champagne, and looking through it with one eye, "siamo ben esiliati qua!" and, with a word of drollery, the party recovered its gayer tone, and the humour and wit flowed on brilliantly as before. The house had long been still, and the last carriage belonging to the company above stairs had rolled from the door, when Grisi suddenly remembered a bird that she had lately bought, of which she proceeded to give us a description, that probably penetrated to every corner of the silent mansion. It was a mocking bird, that had been kept two years in the opera-house, and between rehearsal and performance had learned parts of every thing it had overheard. It was the property of the woman who took care of the wardrobes. Grisi had accidentally seen it, and immediately purchased it for two guineas. How much of embellishment there was in her imitations of her treasure I do not know; but certainly the whole power of her wondrous voice, passion, and knowledge of music, seemed drunk np at once in the wild, various, difficult, and rapid mixture of the capricious melody she undertook. First came, without the passage which it usually terminates, the long, throat-down, gurgling, water-toned trill, in which Rubini (but for the bird and its mistress, it seemed to me) would have been inimitable: then right upon it, as if it were the beginning of a bar, and in the most unbreathing continuity, followed a brilliant passage from the Barber of Seville, run into the passionate prayer of Anna Bolena in her madness, and followed by the air of "Suoni la tromba intrepida," the tremendous duet in the Puritani, hetween Tamburini and Lablache,

Up to the sky, and down to the earth again—away with a note of the wildest gladuess, and back upon a note of the most touching melancholy-if the bird but half equals the imitation of his mistress, he were worth the jewel in a sultan's turban. "Giulia!" "Giulietta?" "Giuliettina!" cried out one and another, as she ceased, expressing, in their Italian diminutives, the love and delight she had inspired by her incomparable execution. The stillness of the house in the occasional pauses of conversation reminded the gay party, at last, that it was wearing late. The door was unlocked, and the half-dozen sleepy footmen hanging about the hall were despatched for the cloaks and carriages; the drowsy porter was roused from his deep leathern dormeuse, and opened the door, and broad upon the street lay the cold grey light of a summer's morning.-Willis' Loiterings of Travel.

#### A FLIGHT OF FANCY.

I saw a flower in a pathless wood, Deep hidden in a mazy labyrinth Of rank wild grass, briars, and prickly leaves. 'Twas a strange donjon for so fair a thing, Dreary, and dark, and rude; but as I gazed On its transparent hues and bending grace, A golden sunbeam, stealing from a cloud, Alit on the green summit of the wood, And, lover-like, heeding no obstacles, Shot thro' the clustering foliage and thick shade Of interwoven boughs, through tangled brake, Briar and branching fern, and tarried not, Till, having reached its bourn, it smiling lay On the white bosom of that lonely flower. It was a pleasant sight to see how soon The pretty prisoner rais'd its drooping head, And gave back smile for smile, and opening wide Its leaves, that erst were folded, seem'd to woo The shining guest still nearer to its heart-It was a pleasant sight, and while I eyed Their amorous dalliance, many a gentle thought, Arose unsummon'd. Fancy too put forth Her wanton spells, and lured me far away, A willing wanderer. I scarce can tell Whither, so rapid was her sunny flight, The merry elfin led; but once, methinks, Twining the flow'ret in her rainbow wreath, She bore it, followed by the golden beam, To by-gone ages, and to distant climes, Aud called it-Danae.

Poems by T. Westwood.

#### FARINELLI.

THERE are few persons of musical taste who have not heard of, though none are living to remember, the wonderful abilities of Farinelli, as a singer. The goodness of his heart, and the natural sweetness of his disposition, were not exceeded even hy the unrivalled excellence of his vocal powers, as some of the following ancedotes will testify.

It has been often related, and generally believed, that Philip the fifth of Spain, being seized with a total dejection of spirits, absolutely refused to be shaved; and was in other respects incapable of transacting affairs of state. The queen, who had in vain tried every common expedient that was likely to contribute to his recovery, determined that an experiment should be made of the effects of music upon the king, her husband, who was extremely sensible of its charms.

Upon the arrival of Farinelli, of whose extraordinary performance an account had been transmitted to Madrid, her majesty contrived that there should be a concert in a room adjoining to the king's

apartment, in which the singer executed one of his most captivating songs. Philip at first appeared surprised, then affected, and at the conclusion of the second air, commanded the attendance of Farinelli. On his entering the royal apartment, the enraptured monarch overwhelmed him with compliments and caresses, demanding how he could sufficiently reward such talents, deelaring that he would refuse him nothing.

Farinelli, previously instructed, only entreated that his majesty would permit his attendants to shave and dress him, and that he would endeavour to appear in council as usual. From this moment the king's distemper submitted to medicine, and the singer had the whole honour of the cure.

By singing to the king every evening, his favour increased to such a degree, that he was regarded as prime minister; but what is still more extraordinary, and most highly indicative of a superior mind, Farinelli, never forgetting that he was only a musi cian, behaved to the Spanish nobles, attendant upon the court, with such unaffected humility and propriety, that, instead of envying his good fortune, they honored him with their esteem and confidence.

The true nobility of this extraordinary person's soul appears still more foreibly in the following rare instance of magnauimity.

instance of magnanimity. Going one day to the king's closet, to which he had at all times excess, he heard an officer of the guards curse him, and say to another, who was in waiting, "Honours can be heaped on such secoundrels as these, while a poor soldier, like myself, after thirty year's service, is unnoticed."

Farinelli, without seeming to hear this reproach, complained to the king, that he had neglected an old servant, and actually procured a regiment for the person who had spoken so harshly of him in the anti-chamber: and, on quitting his majesty, he gave the commission to the officer, telling him that he had heard him complain of having served thirty years, but added, "you did wrong to accuse the king of neglecting to reward your services."

The following story of a more ludicrous cast, was frequently told and believed at Madrid, during the first year of Farinelli's residence in Spain. This singer having ordered a superb suit of clothes for a gala at court, when the tailor brought them home, he asked for his bill. "I have made no bill, sir," said the tailor, "nor ever shall make one. Instead of money, I have a favour to beg. I know that what I want is mestimable, and only fit for monarchs: but since I have had the honour to work for a person, of whom every one speaks with raptore, all the payment I shall ever require will be a song."

Farinelli tried in vain to prevail on the tailor to take his money. At length, after a long debate, giving way to the carnest entreaties of this humble tradesman, and perhaps more highly gratified by the singularity of the adventure, than by all the applause which he had hitherto received, he took him into his music room, and sung to him one of his most brilliant airs, delighted with the astonishment of his ravished hearer; and the more he seemed surprised and affected, the more Farinelli exerted himself in every species of excellence. When he had concluded, the tailor, overcome with extacy, thanked him in the most rapturous and grateful manner, and prepared to retire. "No," said Farinelli, "I am a little proud; and it is, perhaps, from that circumstance that I have acquired some little degree of superiority over other singers. I have given in to your weak-ness, it is bot fair that, in your turn, you give in to mine." Then, taking out his purse, he insisted on his receiving a sum, amounting to nearly double the worth of the suit of clothes.

Farinelli, during two reigns, resided upwards of twenty years at the Spanish court, with a continual increase of royal favour, and the esteem of the principal nohility of the kingdom.—*Arliss' Magazine*.

We derived hope for future progress, no less than present pleasure, from Mr. Barnett's opera of 'Farinelli,' which was performed with great success at Drury Lane yesterday week, (8th Feb., 1839.) Every reader of musical biography must have known beforehand that the story would relate to the magical influence exercised over Philip the Fifth of Spain by Fari. from his chamber, and is rewarded, by the artist being raised to the highest dignities of the state. Here, however, Farinelli is gifted with a wife, while Philip's malady, which is ascribed to the machinations of his physician, Don Gil Polo-a most absurd character, half poisoner, half buffoon-goes the length of making him denounce his Queen to the Inquisition. Farinelli, of course, is the good genius who brings every thing right at last; more, however, according to the fashion of a Figaro, than of the courteous gentleman, whose nice sense of honour and sound judgment enabled him successfully to acquire and retain the good will of the Spanish grandees. The piece is taken from the French : we have seen infinitely worse opera-books, though the plot is crowded with unnecessary complications, while some effective dramatic situations have been thrown away, and the writing is the merest pantomime-jingle imaginable. The scene at the close of the first act is about the best English finale we remember: the crowd without the gates is riotously besieging the palace for a sight of their king; the doetor, in agonies of terror is pressed upon by all the courtiers to produce his patient-the cries without become fiercer and fiercer, till, as a last experiment, Farinelli, leaning against the door of the royal chamber,—sings a Villanella, at the close of which the pale melancholy monarch comes slowly out without speaking,-the act closing with the general joy at so unforeseen a turn of his malady. And now to speak of the music : 'Farinelli' is Mr. Barnett's very best opera-if we recollect right, far less laboured in imitation of the Germans than 'Fair Rosamond:' far richer in its instrumentation than 'The Mountain Sylph :' but never overcharged. We must take an exception against the composer, however, for making Farinelli sing so much in the Spanish style -more especially as the Spanish melodies (and, generally, indeed, all the single songs) are the weakest things in the opera. The rest of the part is excellently written, partly in imitation of the older Italian music; we must particularise the duet in the second act between the hero and Gil Polo, which would do eredit to any composer whatsoever. All the concerted music, indeed, is superior: we must instance a little terzett in the first act, 'My scheme is accomplished,'--the capital morecau d' cnsemble 'My noble friend,' in the finale already mentioned, and the duet in the second act, between Farinelli and the King: though the words have all the pathos of a dialogue between one who presses a savoury breakfast on another who is hungry, but resists the temptation to cat for fear of conscience and Gil Polo. We ought earlier to have mentioned the overture, which is faneiful and effective, deserving its encore, and worthy of becoming a concert. piece. We are sure that the more 'Farinelli heard, the better it should be liked.—Athenæum.

#### SHAW'S PATENT BRASS INSTRUMENTS.

WE have seen and heard a musical instrument newly invented by Mr. John Shaw, of Glossop, in Derhyshire, an ingenious mechanic, who has made the improvement of brass instruments an object of his attention for nearly twenty years. During this, time he has produced five new kinds of valves for lengthening and shortening the tubes; and has now constructed an instrument bearing a general resemblance to the Cornet-a-pistons, but decidedly superior to that instrument in simplicity of mechanism, quality of tone, and facility of performance. It is so small that it can be carried in the pocket without inconvenience; yet, notwithstanding its diminutive size, its tone is superior in power and volume to that of the Cornet-a-pistons or the Cornopean; and it has a clearness and hrillianey—a crispness—of which those instruments are destitute. The instrument which we have examined has a perfect chromatic scale, extending from the G below the lines of the trehle stave to the double D, in the hands of an ordinary player, but the scale may be earried still higher by a powerful lip. Its intonation is exceedingly true; and it seems capable of being played as easily as a German flute. Such an instrument must be an important addition to our orchestras, and to military bands be invaluable. Mr Shaw has taken out a patent for the invention; though the instru-ment has not yet been brought into use, nor, we believe, even christened.

We have lately seen and heard some brass instruments constructed on a principle which promises to enlarge their powers and extend their usefulness to a much greater degree than any former attempts have been able to accomplish. The limited scale of the trumpet and horn have materially circumscribed their employment in modern orchestral writing; and the impossibility of their following a composer rapidly from key to key, has still further limited their agency. In the time of Purcell and Handel, the trumpet was a prominent orchestral and solo instrument; but this character it has wholly lost. Several attempts have been made to overcome this defect by the employment of keys and valves, but these have all changed the tone of the instrument to which they were applied, and deprived the trumpet of its martial and spirit-stirring character. The present invention may be described as a method of instantly shortening or lengthening the tube of the trumpet, horn, and trombone, or any other brass instrument. The mechanism is heautiful and simple; and the first impression on seeing it, is that of astonishment that it should have escaped all former inventors. When applied to the trumpet, it enables the performer to produce every semitone from the bottom to the top of the instrument in rapid succession, with all the freedom and fulness of tone of the common trumpet; the key of the instrument being as completely changed as if a crook were put on or off. The same remarks equally apply to the horn ; in which the notes out of the scale are now produced by inserting the hand into the bell of the instrument, and thus, of necessity changing and injuring its tone. In the improved horn, all these notes are easily produced, and a perfect equality and richness of tone secured. To the performer on the trombone this invention is invaluable, as it will give to his execution both precision

and rapidity unattainable on the common slidetrombone. It is obvious that a discovery so important will effect a considerable change and extension of the employment of brass instruments in orchestras, as well as military bands. The improved instruments have been tried, and their immediate adoption decided on, by the Queen's Private Band, and by nearly all the bands of the Household Brigade. The inventor of this beautiful piece of mechanism is a Mr. John Shaw, of Glossop, in Derbyshire; and we are induced to give it all the publicity in our power, not only for its intrinsic importance,

but because of the modest and unpretending manner in which it was introduced to our notice.—Spectator.

AN AIR VIOLIN.—A newly and ingeniously invented instrument has lately been presented to the Academie des Sciences, of Paris, by M. Isoard. It resembles the common violin, with the strings extended between two wooden or metal hlades; it is vibrated upon at one end by a current of air, while at the other the player presses on the strings, shortening them by the pressure of the finger, the wind acting, in fact, instead of the common bow. The sounds vary between those of the French horn and the bassoon.

## THE WITCHES.



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MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.





MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY



### OLD SONGS.

## (Concluded from page 28.)

SHAKSPEARE'S songs, for the most part, have been fortunate in being married to good music; some of them almost better than they deserve. Whether in ridicule or not of the song-writers of his time, he certainly made too liberal a use of the "heigh hos" "Where the bee sucks, there lnrk I," the one with he most freedom and lyrical beauty is, to my taste, "Under the Greenwood Tree." But it loses half its effect when transplanted from the forest of Arden, and sung in a modern room, amid long coats, eravats, deeanters, and etiquette. Neither does it assimilate better with boisterous mirth and whisky punch. Yet it is an ill used song, even on the stage. It is too operatically given. Your Amiens is generally (like the majority of male music-mongers) a stifflimbed piece of humanity, who understands singing and little else; he generally takes his station about four feet from the foot lamps, and there, with elongated physiognomy, and one arm protruded towards the pit, goes through his work with most clock-like precision. To parody a beautiful simile, it is "music breathing from a wooden block;" all which is very unlike the free-hearted lord whom we imagine, throwing himself at the root of some antique oak, and, in a fine mellow voice, trolling forth, until the old forest raug again, his most joyous invitation. But this may be amended, when amid the other astonishing improvements of the times, leading voealists shall be endowed with joints and ideas. Next to this, I like the one now invariably put into the mouth of Rosaliud, and christened the "Cuckoo Song."

### "When daisies pied, and violets blue."

But your stage Rosalind is generally the reverse of Amiens—an arch, vivacious lass, who imparts due effect to the mixture of natural images and domestic ideas suggested by the savey words of this song.

The sea, "the battle and the breeze," and the rapid and manifold vicissitudes incident to the life of a sailor, furnish a bold and beautiful variety of subjects capable of being turned to good account in a song or ballad. Yet, somehow or other, Apollo does not much affect the quarter deck. The ocean brine is too powerful for the waters of Castaly. Poesy in some sort suffers by a "sea-change;" and the quantity to be extracted from a volume of genuine naval ditties is wofully disproportionate to the bulk of rhyme. Some of the best sea songs have been written by landsmen, and one great eause of their being so, is their comparative freedom from perplexing technicalities; for though a characteristic phrase may occasionally impart life and spirit to a production, yet a technicality, whether in marine or agricultural poetry, is a sore stumbling-block to the uninitiated. Now every line (or plank) of three-fourths of your nautieal melodies is caulked with them, independently of containing a much larger infusion of tar than tenderness-of pitch than pathos. They abound, like-wise, in an inordinate degree, in descriptions of tornadoes, and discharges of artillery-in slaughter and sudden death; and the sentiments correspond thereunto, being as rough as a hawser, and as hois-terous as a north-wester. Though admirably adapted to be growled out by the boatswain when the vessel is sendding under double-reefed topsails, they would on land, and in a room, go off like a discharge of musketry. But, worse than all, is the minuteness of detail; the distressing particularity which ever pervades them. They are mere paraphrases of the |

log book; and the due course and reekoning of the ship is most especially insisted on-

"That time bound straight for Portagal,

Right fore and aft we bore; But when we made Cape Ortugal,

A gale blew off the shore," &c.

Yet, after all, there are some noble things in this branch of the "service," amply sufficient to redeem it from dislike. Who is there that has not held his breath when he has heard a rich deep-toned voice commence Gay's glorions hallad,

"All in the Downs the fleet lay moor'd;

The streamers waving in the wind!" and listened throughout with a quickened pulse, to

that "plain unvarnished tale" of humble love and tenderness. There is much, too, to please any mail, who is not over and above fastidious, in dozens of Dibdin's vigorous and hearty sketches of a sailor's hardships and enjoyments; to say nothing of Pearce and others of inferior note; but from your regular foreeastle narratives, Apollo deliver us!

Things called "comic songs," to wit, "Four-andtwenty tailors all in a row," &e., are, in my mind, striking exemplifications of the depth of debasement of which the human intellect is susceptible.

In whatever way America is, or may become renowned, she will probably never be a land of song; and for two or three reasons. There are already a sufficiency of standard songs in the world to answer all purposes; and she has imported an ample sufficiency to supply the varied tastes and caprices of her musical population. Moore's Melodies are as common in the cities of the west as in their native land; and those of Burns are no rarity. The geography of the country, too, is strikingly unlavoura-ble for indigenous song. Nature has created the ble for indigenous song. Nature has created the land in one of her most liberal and magnificent moods, and formed its features on a scale of grandeur that is impossible to grasp in this kind of writing, The ocean lakes-the mighty rivers-the interminable forests-the boundless prairies, are all epic rather than lyrical. How would it sound, either for rhyme or reason,

> "On the shores of Mississippi, When the sweet spring-time did fall"!

The idea suggested is too vast. There is no snug endearing locality about such scenes; and as for "the sweet spring time," it never "falls" on a great proportion of the shores of rivers whose waters rise far towards the regions of eternal winter, and roll through every variety of climate, to those of everlasting summer; while the smaller streams, which correspond in size to the "Nith," the Dee," or "Bonnie Doon," are ruined by the general application of "crik" (ereek), which is hestowed upon them; and to which some such euphonious title as Big Elk, Buffalo, or Otter, is usually prefixed. Besides, America is not rich in recollections of the past. No castles, grim, hoary, and dilapidated, frown upon her heights; no gorgeous abbeys moulder in her verdant vales. The joys, and sorrows, and sufferings of humanity are, as yet, searcely impressed upon her soil. She has no records of feudal strife, of faded greatness, and fond affection-of all tradition loves, and song delights in. Hope must, in some degree, be to her poets, what memory is to those of older lands. But the mind of the song writer is reminiscent—not anticipative; and therefore it is, that with whatever species of fame America may enrich her hrows, it is probable she will never, in one sense, be "worth an old song."-Parterre.

#### THE MUSICIAN'S WIDOW.

LINTON, a musician belonging to the orchestra of Covent-Garden theatre, was murdered by street robbers, who were afterwards discovered and exe-A play was given for the benefit of his widow cuted. and children; and the day preceding the performance, the following appeared in one of the public prints.

#### THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN.

#### For the Benefit of Mrs. Linton, &c.

"The Widow," said Charity, whispering me in the ear, "must have your mite; wait upon her with a guinea, and purchase a box-ticket." "You may have one for five shillings," observed

Avarice, pulling me by the elbow.

My hand was in my pocket, and the guinea, which was between my finger and thumb, slipped out. "Yes," said I, "she shall have my five shillings."

"Good heaven!" exclaimed Justice, "what are you about? Five shillings! If you pay but five shillings for going into the theatre, then you get value received for your money."

"And I shall owe him no thanks," added Charity, laying her hand upon my heart, and leading me on the way to the Widow's house.

Taking the knocker in my left hand, my whole frame trembled. Looking round, I saw Avarice turn the corner of the street, and I found all the money in my pocket grasped in my hand. "Is your mother at home, my dear?" said I, to a

child who conducted me into a parlour. "Yes," answered the infant; "but my father has

not been at home for a great while. That is his harpsichord, and that is his violin, he used to play on them for me."

"Shall I play you a tune, my boy?" said I. "No, Sir," answered the boy, "my mother will not let them he touched; for since my lather went abroad, music makes her cry, and then we all cry." I looked on the violin—it was unstrung. I touched the harpsichord—it was out of tune.

Had the lyre of Orpheus sounded in my ear, it

could not have insinuated to my heart thrills of sensibility equal to what I felt.

It was the spirit in unison with the flesh.

"I hear my mother on the stairs," said the hoy. I shook him by the hand—"Give her this, my lad," said I, and left the house.

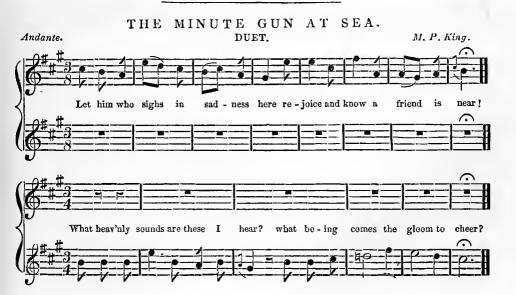
It rained-I called a coach-drove to a coffeehouse, but not having a farthing in my pocket, borrowed a shilling at the bar.

#### TO MUSIC.

Queen of every moving measure, Sweetest source of purest pleasure, Music ! why thy power employ Only for the sons of joy? Only for the smiling guests At natal or at nuptial feasts? Rather thy lenient numbers pour On those whom secret griefs devour; Bid be still the throbbing hearts Of those whom Death or Absence parts; And, with some softly whispered air, Smooth the brow of dumb Despair.

JOSEPH WARTON.

YANKEE DOODLE .- In the early part of 1755, great exertions were made by the British Ministry for the reduction of the French power in Canada, and the Colonists were called upon for assistance, and contributed with alacrity their several quotas of men. The British army lay encamped a little south of the city of Albany, and in the early part of June the eastern troops began to pour in. Their march, their accoutrements, and the whole arrangement of their troops, furnished matter of amusement to the British. The bands playeu the airs of two centuries old. A physician of the Bri-tish army, by the name of Dr. Shackburgh, to please hrother Jonathan, composed a tune, and recommended it to the officers as a celchrated air. The joke took, and in a few days nothing was heard in the provincial camp but Yankee-Doodle. The tune has since been adopted but Yankee-Doodle. as the national air of the United States-a distinction to which its intrinsic merits certainly do not entitle it. When contrasted, as it often is at sea, with the British national air of "Rule Brittannia," its original meanness becomes strikingly apparent .-- Conversations Lexicon.





### MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.



THE musical annals of this year (1809), are dis-tinguished by the formation of a new institution at the Lyceum, under the direction of Mr. Arnold, called "The English Opera." The grand object of this establishment is to patronise the genius and acquirements of its own country, and to cultivate a soil for the transplantation of those native flowers that might otherwise be

"born to blush unseen,

And waste their sweetness on the desert air."

The success of Mr. Arnold's patriotic attempts have already exceeded his most sanguine expectations. The theatre opened on the 26th June, with an entirely new opera from his pen, entitled "Up all Night, or The Smuggler's Cave," which forms a combination of incident and character altogether pleasing and interesting. The poetry is peculiarly elegant and figurative. The music (by M. P. King), although not distinguished by any flights of profound science, is agreeable, and well adapted to the comprehension of the andience and the powers of the performers, for whom it was intended. The numerous songs are of easy execution, both vocally and instrumentally, and, in general, pleasing. Mrs. Monntain's ditty, "A maiden once who loved in vam," is a neat little ballad, and the key of A minor well suited to the plaintive import of the text. "The minute gun at sea," a duet, sung by Mrs. Mountain and Mr. Philips, is a characteristic marine composition; but the first bars are taken from (or at least the same with) the subject of an old German song, "Ohne lieb unde ohne wein was waer unser leben, (without love, and without wine, what would life's enjoyments be). The song, "Sigh not for love," had a good accompaniment, and the theme is natural and pleasing, although not new to us. "Tom Steady," another marine ballad, bears a determined expression, and will probably become a favourite sea song. The opera has been nightly received with the rapturous plaudits of judicious and fashionable audiences.—Achermann's Repository, 1809.

### PROSPECTS OF THE AMATEUR ORCHESTRA.

THERE is no musical character that we contemplate with more benevolence or admiration than a good amateur. Willing to play, but content to listenable to render efficient service, but ready to give place to any one who can do better-the steady supporter of musical schemes, both by purse and performance-preserving the freshness of his pleasures by enabling himself to command the selection of them-extending constantly his knowledge of styles --such a man, whom none will scorn to call wise, merits our highest esteem. If such wcre individually the character of the mass of performers, little indeed should we be concerned with the conflicting interests and jarring passions which have their seeds, and more or less appear, in every society.

In viewing our progress towards a great orchestra, the first instrument which presents itself to consi-deration is the violin. We could name lawyers, divines, and members of even graver professions, who handle the fiddle, whether as accompanyists, solo, or orchestra players, with masterly precision and exact taste. The superiority of the performers we allude to is certainly to be traced as much to intercourse with good models as natural aptitude; but what was to them an accidental advantage is

FIRST ENGLISH OPERA AT THE LYCEUM. | now common to all. The French and German musicians, who have found a home in England, have established among us a good school of the violin. No longer are the spirit and effect that depend upon freedom, elegance, and correctness of bowing, doubted-no one thinks of being called a player who is unable to give point, accent, and emphasis to his passages. In estimating the amount of application and labour, required to attain excellence upon an instrument whose difficulties appa. every beginner, we are assisted by recent experiments made on the talents of children, which show satisfactorily that a child of tolerable capacity, if put upon a good system, may execute difficult concertos in a finished style, and yet be under twelve years of age. It is recommended by Spohr that a boy destined to be a violin player should, if robust, commence between eight and nine years of age. Two words contain the whole secret of acquiring finished excellence, without immoderate and depressing exertion-begin young.

The principal faults of our amatcur violin players are such as generally belong to inexperience, and are in a gradual course of amelioration. It is a very raw concert player who insists on making himself heard, and it in general indicates an imperfect execution where there is a disposition to hurry the time. Good accompanyists, judicious second violius and tenors, who know how to make a melody stand out by their manner of putting in the inner parts, are of rarer occurrence than performers competent to' execute a dashing bravara passage with crispness. In that falsely esteemed subordinate department of the orchestra, the second violin, experience, taste, and knowledge of the effect of scores are of the highest importance. A firm second violin is a pillar of the orchestra; and knowing, as we do, how those who learn merely to execute, precipitate their acquirements, and proceed a long way in music without any precise idea of the proportions of two quavers to a crotchet, we have a high esteem for the talent which judiciously fills this part.

The tenor, which ought to be a stronger part thanit is in all orchestras, is, with one or two exceptions, but feebly supported by amateurs. Were all who take up the instrument qualified beforehand to judge of its characteristics, the tenor would be chiefly coveted hy those who most revel in the luxury of harmony. In very great orchestras, where the parts are many times redoubled, the peculiar effect of any instrument can hardly be felt by the performer, who hears only the sounds that immediately surround him; but to the instructed listener, the low strings of the tenor, as employed by Beethoven and Mozart, convey the most delightful sensations, in which, in quartet or octet bands, the player may easily participate. The tenor, however, continues to be the refuge of dilatory amateurs, who consider it as the instrument that demands the least practice and ad-dress in the manipulation. To find this instrument in the hands of a strong player, one who is sufficiently master of the bow to give point and effect to his passages, is rare. Our tenorists, therefore, for the most part, rejoice in sustained or iterated notes.

Let us, however, defend several bad tenor players of our acquaintance, who are excellent musicians, not forgetting that the most rigorous critic would deduct a large amount from his satire, were he acquainted with all the circumstances under which the amateur first succumbed to the social passion of violin playing. Many they are in whom the sight of the four folios that contain the treasures of

Haydn's science in the quartet, has begotten the sanguine wish to acquire, even at a late period of life, a certain clumsy skill, sufficient to enable them to taste something and imagine the rest. With such we heartily sympathise,—we participate in their satisfaction iu passages of repose,—enter into all the terrors of the coming solo, attacked with suppressed breath and a suspension of the faculties,—leel the satirical force of the leader's bravo!—and, notwithstanding this, know that, among all the hours of mortal life, there are none dedicated to purer enjoyment than those occupied in quartet performance.

On the violoncello we may acknowledge respectable acquirements among amateurs, though no very high degree of artistical skill. This is of all stringed instruments the most universally strummed, and for a good reasor,—the first stages of progress are easy, and the aspirant is soon able to refresh his ears with seductive and noble tones of his own producing. From King George IV. to Dr. Parr, the violoncello has had numerous votaries of this order; nay, there are some of drawing-room celebrity, who, encouraged by the smiles of a fair pianiste, actually acquit themselves with tolerable success in the duos of Muntzberger, Romberg, or Baudiot. Bat orchestra performers of a solid kind are rare.

The double-bass exhibits players of remarkable talent. Fine tone, correct execution, and masterly style, may be found among amateurs who hover between professional and non-professional, but who ordinarily settle in the former character.

This grand instrument is fit only for enthusiasts, who cherish a passionate love for the art, and whose perception of the character of music is deeper than ordinary. How different is the contra-bass, when played with character and intelligence of the mean. ing of phrases, to the same instrument in the hands of a literal reader and mechanical masician! The magical bow of Dragonetti, accompanying the tragic recitatives at the Italian Opera, imparts to them that yearning impassioned character, which heightens and carries to the last perfection the vocal inflections of a Rabini, a Grisi, or a Lablache. The singer, catching the fire, seems to walk superior-a being not of mortal mould. Such is the true art of making an instrument speak. Whenever it may be decreed that Dragonetti surrender to fate-whenever that great artist shall sleep beneath sepulchral marble, though the glories of his execution die with him, or become an idle tale, yet his influence upon the Eng. lish orchestra, in which he has founded the finest school of the double-bass that exists in the world, will assuredly remain.

Thirty years experience of the style of this master has not been lost upon our musicians. All contrabassists who do not come out of the school of Dragonetti are marks for laughter. The preposterous attitudes and ridiculous style of a race of amateurs, now extinet, when the clumsy man and his clumsier instrument were constantly in danger of toppling down together, still tickle our imagination. Not many years ago the orchestra of the ancient concert rejoiced in the services of a schoolmaster, who played the double bass in gloves! And even now, the French, who tune their instruments by fifths, know not what it is to execute every note of a quick passage. When we compare what was with what is, we may congratulate ourselves upon the present condition of the double-bass playing art in London.

The incomplete satisfaction which attends solitary practice on stringed instruments necessarily renders the performers of this kind gregarious. Nevertheless, the talent which it is intended to perfect for the orchestra should be sedulously cultivated in private. But the instrumental glory of our metropolis is as yet only in the first stage of its developement. We have but to recollect how many thousand elerks among us shut up their cares with their desks from four to six o'clock every day, to perceive how immensely capable of augmentation is our amateur orchestra. It is from among those whose hands are not rendered rigid and inflexible by mechanic labour that we may best expect an increase in the ranks of our effective instrumentalists. The music schools attached to literary and scientific institutions will, if well managed, greatly promote this desirable ohject.

Wind instrument practice, though improved and improving, is certainly not in a high and palmy state among amateurs. Of flutes, indeed, we might easily muster a regiment, but we question whether all London would produce us a pair of good amateur clarionets or hassoons. Rarely is the first consideration of the young man, in the choice of an instrument, the abstract one of utility or public pleasure, but how it will become him, how he will look playing. Thus the flute is seldom taken up but for sinister purposes, if not, indeed, to break the peace of families. Armed with this deadly instrument, and accoutred point device, the flautist makes his attack upon the principal beauty of the evening party, and happy is the victim if she is made an honestwoman of. The flute, however valuable in the orchestra, has, therefore, a reputation not entirely musical. It is the Don Giovanni of wind instruments.

There prevails among the Germans, who in this evince true orchestral enthusiasm, a simple reliance upon effect for taking off whatever might else appear ungraceful or awkward. They are in the secret that that which is done in a masterly way never looks ill. Painful efforts and contortions may awaken a sense of the ludicrous, not so case and conscious power. If Mozart and Beethoven have given to the oboe music which it is desirable to hear, they are not alraid to cultivate the instrument from the apprehension lest compression of the muscles of the mouth should draw the gnomon of their countenance into a distressing peak,-as we may observe in the nose of the street player, in Hogarth's "Enraged Musician." Distension of the cheeks forms no part of a good system; and we will venture to say, that any one, who is an apt pupil of Gratton Cooke or Barret. shall master the oboe,-difficult though it be, and most critical in the management of the breath,without deranging the economy of his visage. Our great clarionet players, principally Irishmen, are notoriously men a bonnes fortunes. We leave as a question for the learned, whether there is any inelegance of execution on the clarionet, which six feet in height, and the shoulders of a 'Tom Jones, will not counterbalance. And then what a hold upon our most serious feelings must the performer have, the character of whose tone somewhat approaches that of Willman! The hassoon, the most difficult of all instruments to manage with grace, may be practised and mastered, as our late importations from Germany show, without sacrificing a gallant and even chivalrous demeanour. Horace tells us that we are much more at the mercy of our eyes than of our ears: and even the best tones will scareely reconcile us to the sight of the "human face divine" dignifying the office of a manifest hellows. Here again, however, we are to avoid the plumpness of chernbic cheeks; the holding notes in the scores of the great

masters will create a general feeling in our favour, if we swell and diminish them with expression, and the pauses and rests give ample opportunity for the resumption of a dignified composure.

As for horns and trumpets, which require a hard mouth, we allow the plea of those young men, who urge the irrationality and almost impossibility of the effort to obtain one, between the age of eighteen and five-and-twenty. The young trumpeter who consecrates his mouth to his instrument, must practise a more heroic self denial than the nun who enters the cloister. For it is manifest that, if Amoret exchange frequent vows of fidelity with Celia, and seal them after the manner of the affianced, no scarification, no chemical process, will be able to resist the emollient effects of the healing balm; and the trumpeter, for all trumpeting purposes, will be undone. Education, under such circumstances must be more hopeless than the weaving of Penclope's web, or the rolling of the stone of Sisyphus.

We are obliged to look into the dim vista of futurity for amateur players of the more ponderous in struments, the trombone, the double bassoon, and the ophicleide. Let us console ourselves that, when all salutary political reform shall have been effected, future ages will still have a vent for the superfluous breath of tedious orators. How often have we not to wish, that the pulmonary effort made in many a droning sermen or tiresome speech were converted to the purposes of the fundamental bass! We have powers enough in the world to make a capital wind band, were there but a machine to direct the breath.

The vanity which hesets young instrumental performers is a subject so fertile in ridiculous associations, that it is impossible to resist the temptation to merriment in treating of it. What, after all, has the personal appearance of a performer to do with the objects of the composer or the musician? It is, however, from want of consulting proper models that grimace or distortion of the features are thought to belong to any variety of good instrumental execution. And though, while amateurs segregated, it was natural enough for each to select that instrument which would be esteemed most graceful and pleasing in the private circle, now that higher views of the art prevail, and societies are constantly forming, who make the scores of Beethoven and Mozart their mark, there is no longer a reason why the useful in the orchestra should not supplant the ornameutal in the drawing-room. We must exchange our superabundance of flutes and violoncellos for some of those valuable instruments, which, during the opera and concert season, the getter-up of a performance is obliged to commit to the coarse and rude style of regimental musicians. Experience teaches us how often this is worse than useless; and at the same time shows what an important part in practical music it remains for the leisure, the enthusiasm, and the taste of amateurs to supply. When once we can acquire good services of this kind gratis, an orchestra, that costs scarcely more than the desks and the carpenter's work, may open to the public an important class of music that they have

### 'TWAS ONLY YOU.

French Air.



Nor I be happy, even the' a king, If not with you if you'll believe me. 'Grave on my tomb where'er I'm laid, Here lies a man who truly lov'd a maid, That's only you if you'll believe me.

### EARLY MUSICAL EDUCATION IN GER. MANY.

In visiting the school at Schwalbach, the first room we came to was that of the girls, who were all learning astronomy! A strange preparation thought I for the after life of a Nassau female. Who would think that the walking masses, half grass, half woman, one meets every day in the fields and lanes, would be able to tell whether the earth moved round the sun, or the sun round the earth, or if the moon were any bigger than their own reaping hooks? We asked the master to allow us to hear them sing. Great was the delight of the little madchens when this request was made known; there was a universal brighten. ing of faces and shuflling of leaves; the pedagogue took down an old violin from a peg where it hung, and accompanied their sweet voices in a pretty simple air, which they sung in parts and from the notes.

The next room was full of little boys between six and eight years of age. They sang a hymn for us, the simple words of which were very touching. As I stood behind one dear little fellow, "hardly higher than the table," I understood how it was that the Germans were a nation of musicians, and that, in listening to the rude songs of the peasants at their

work, the ear is never shocked by the drawling, untaught style of the same class of people in our countries. From the time they are able to lisp, they are all made to sing by note. My little friend in the ragged blouze, and all the other children, had the music as well as the words they were singing, in their hands, written on sheets of paper; they followed the time as correctly as possible, marking with their little fingers on the page, the crotchets, quavers, rests, &c. \* \* At Leipsic, the most un English trait I gathered

At Leipsic, the most un-English trait I gathered during my speculations at the window this evening, was a group of little boys playing in the grass-plot outside. They were all poor, and a few stockingless, and were engaged in some uproarious game, when, in the middle of it, the little urchins burst into the most harmonious melody—each taking his part, soprano, tenor, bass, &c.—with exquisite correctness. I saw them jump up, and linking each other's arms in true schoolboy fashion, sally down the street, voceriferating their song in such time and tune, that, but for my initiation into the mystery at the Schwalbach school, I should have stared at them as so many little wonders. What a delightful system is this music, as early and as indispensable **a** branch of education as the A B C!—Souvenirs of a Summer in Germany.

# LORDLY GALLANTS.



No. 8.



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MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.



### JEREMY BENTHAM

## ON THE PLEASURES OF IMAGINATION, AND THE DUTY

#### OF CULTIVATING AGREEABLE THOUGHTS.

It is not to be wondered at that we should find matter in the voluminous works of Bentham, to harmonuse with the spirit of our Miscellany. The whole tenor of his writings teaches the absolute ne. cessity of encouraging every art which may, at the smallest possible amount of evil to the few, conduce to the happiness of the multitude. We have already stated, and we hold it as a portion of our social creed, that music is of great benefit, and productive of much happiness, with as little concomitant evil as a source of enjoyment, as any study which one or many can enter upon. And sceing that Bentham spent a portion of his evenings in the practice of the musical art, (he was a singer, and no mean performer on the violin.) we do not consider that we are breaking the law of unity of design, when we steal a few extracts from the sage philanthropist. Neither are we aware that we use his works irreverently, when we place a portion of them within the reach of nur well beloved friends, who, we hope, are in the constant habit of cultivating pleasant reflections, which (although Bentham says it not,) are strictly in accordance with, and may be cherished by good music.

The following extracts are from "Deontology," a work published after the death of Jeremy Bentham, edited by Dr. Bowring :—

"In the pursuit of pleasurable thoughts, (says Bentham), what infinite regions are open to the explorer! The world is all before him; and not this world only, but all the worlds which roll in the unmeasured tracts of space, or the measureless heights and depths of imagination. The past, the present, the future—all that has been, all that is of great and good, of beautiful and harmonious-and all that may be. Why should not the high intellects of days that are gone be summoned into the presence of the enquirer; and dialogues between, or with, the illustrions dead be fancied, on all the points on which they would have enjoyed to discourse, had their moral existence stretched into the days that are? Take any part of the field of knowledge in its present state of cultivation, and summon into it the sages of former times; place Milton, with his high-toned and sublime philanthropy, amidst the cvents which are bringing about the emancipation of nations; imagine Galileo holding intercourse with Laplace; bring Bacon-either the Friar or the Chancellor, or both -into the laboratory of any eminent modern chemist, listening to the wonderful developements, the pregnant results of the great philosophical mandate 'Experimentalise.' Every man, pursuing his own private tendencies, has thus a plastic gift of happiness, which will become stronger by use, and which exercise will make less and less exhaustible; all the combinations of sense and matter, the far stretching theories of genius, the flight of thought through eternity-what should prevent such exercise of the mind's creative will? How interesting are those speculations which convey men beyond the region of earth into more intellectual and exalted spheres. Where creatures endowed with capacities far more expansive, with senses far more exquisite than observation had ever offered to human knowledge, are brought into the regions of thought. How attractive and instructive are even the Utopian fancies of imaginative and benevolent philosophy! Regulated and controlled by the utilitarian principle, imagination becomes a source of boundless blessings."

"In all cases where the power of the will can be exercised over the thoughts, let these thoughts be directed towards happiness. Look out for the bright, for the brightest side of things, and keep your face constantly turned to it. If exceptions there are, those exceptions are but few, and sanctioned only by the consideration that a less favourable view may, in its results, produce a larger sum of enjoyment on the whole; as where, for example, an increased estimate of difficulty or danger, might be needful to call up a greater exertion for the getting rid of a present annoyance. When the mind, however, reposes upon its own complacences, and looks around itself for search of food and thought-when it seeks rest from laborious occupation, or is forced upon inaction by the pressure of adjacent circumstances, let all its ideas be made to spring up in the realms of pleasure, as far as the will can act upon the production.

"A large part of existence is necessarily passed in inaction. By day (to take an instance from the thousand in constant recurrence), when in attendance on others, and time is lost by being kept waiting; by night, when sleep is unwilling to close the cyclids—the economy of happiness recommends the occupation of pleasurable thoughts. In walking abroad, or in resting at home, the mind cannot be vacant; its thoughts may he nseful, useless, or pernicions to happiness; direct them aright; the habit of happy thought will spring up like any other habit.

" Let the mind seek to occupy itself by the solution of questions upon which a large sum of happiness or miscry depends. The machine, for example, that abridges labour, will, by the very improvement and economy it introduces, produce a quantity of sullering, How shall that suffering be minimised? Here is a topic for benevolent thought to engage in. Under the pressure of the immediate demands of the poor, Sully is said to have engaged them in raising huge and useless mounds in his garden. Others have been found to purpose digging holes and filling them again, as meet employment for industry when ordinary labour fails. But what a fertile field for generous consideration is that, which seeks to provide the clear accession to the national stock of riches and happiness which all real improvements bring with them, at the least possible cost of pain; to secure the permanent good at the smallest and least enduring inconvenience; to make the blessings that are to be diffused among the many, fall as lightly as possible in the shape of evil on the few! Perhaps when the inevitable misery is really reduced to the smallest amount, hy the attentions of the intelligent and benevolent, the transition will become, in most instances, neither perilons, as it has often been made by riotous violence towards those who introduce it, nor alarming to those whose labour may be temporarily shifted by its introduction.'

"It frequently happens, when our own mind is unable to furnish ideas of pleasure with which to drive out the impressions of pain, those ideas may be found in the writings of others, and those writings will probably have a more potent interest when utterance is given to them. To a mind rich in the stores of literature and philosophy, some thought appropriate to the calming of sorrow, or the b rightening of joy, will scarcely fail to present itself, clothed in the attractive language of some favournte writer; and when emphatic expression is given to it, its power may be considerably increased. Poetry often lends itself to this benignant purpose; and where sound and sense, truth and harmony, benevolence and eloquence are allied, happy indeed are their influences."

### THE ORGANIST. BY JOHN GALT.

**ONE** day, while walking towards a neighbouring town, my attention was arrested by a young man, with an organ on his back, travelling in the same direction. He was carolling, unconsciously, as it were, with considerable musical pathos, the following rude Italian ditty :---

My country, my parent!—O mother, austere! How I did love thee, did love thee in heart! Was not my fervent vow ever sincere, Ne'er from thy glory or danger to part? I that so swore to die, mother, for thee! Nor witness the dying of thy liberty. Queen of the stars, O day that is past!— O goddess! to whom still in worship the old Do homage in spirit, why am I thus east, Unshelter'd and lonely to perish in cold? Proud parent! when Fortune was smiling and free, I served thee for love; now I earn poverty.

When he had finished, he sat down on a dwarf wall by the road-side, apparently to rest, with so much of the air *pensieroso*, that I was irresistibly induced to speak to him; and the following conversation arose:

"My father's country," said he, "was Asti, in Piedmont; but Io, Io sono Romano"—(I, I am a Roman.) Something in the generous arrogance with which

be uttered the unusual  $I_{O_1}$  caused me to prick up my cars; and I enquired how that had happened.

"Ah, signore," he replied, "it is the way of the world: One born to greatness does not always enjoy it. I saw the King of France guillotined: a ladrone (a thief) would not have been so used in paese mio," —(my country.)

The manner of this observation interested me still more than the lordliness with which he had pronounced Io sono Romano; and I enquired, with a slight inflection, almost of pity, in my voice, if his father had been born to greatness.

He contemplated me, perhaps, the space of a minute, and then replied, with a degree of simplicity exceedingly affecting, by the helpless childishness of the look and tone with which he expressed himself

"He was born to be a marchese; but his father lost all his money by cards in Turin; and his mother, una donna superba, (a noble woman) died of weeping. Signore, the marchese, then married the daughter of a vine dresser; and my father, with his brother, ran away to Genoa, where they found a vessel which brought them to Livorno. They landed very hungry; so he left his brother weeping on the wharf, with a erowd of boys around him, and came away with an English milady to Rome. My father and his brother were then dressed like the sons of the signori of Asti!"

it is not easy to convey an idea of the heauty with which this was said. The speaker might be turned of twenty; but the pathos with which he spoke, was as if memory had reconverted him into boyhood. I Goddess of my heart!

would do injustice to my own feelings, were I to say that it only awakened my curiosity to hear a little romance.

I know not whether he had perceived the effect he had produced, but again he looked in my face as I said— "And what became of your father's brother?"

"Chi sa!" (who knows!) said he; "perhaps he went into paradise. I think he must, for I have heard my father say he was too good for this world."

"And your father," I added, really with emotion; "what became of him?"

"He lived with the signora while she remained at Rome," replied the pensive organist. "By her he hecame known to many grand persons; and, when she went away, he was taken into the palace of Cardinal Albano. Every one pitied him; and when they spoke to him, it was as to a young marchese, though he was but a servitore. Ah! signore, there is always cold in the heart of those who have heen born to hope, and must live with despair."

The elegance and elocution of this little sentence would have done honour to the celebrated Alfieri, a native of Asti; and, though I saw but the seeming of a poor wandering organist before me, my imagination was excited, and I thought of the many shapes which the proteus genius assumes. Controlling, however, the perturbation which I could not suppress, I requested him to tell me the history of his father, adding, that I hoped he was not allowed always to remain a menial. Again, with that pathetic inquisition of the eye which had first induced me to address him, the organist said—

"Nobody before has asked me about my father: I hope, signore, you are not of the police. Indeed it is truth that I am a poor stranger just come from Dublin, where they are all so poor themselves that they could only listen to my benedetto organ—sono senza danari"—(they have no money.)

"Be not afraid," was my answer; "I am like yourself—a stranger here. Were there no inquiries ever made about your father?"

"Ah, no,"said he; "when men become poor, their friends wish them dead, and willingly think them so when they do not see them. Asti is far away from Rome. My father was not a Rumoroso; he could not laugh; so, in the Cardinal's palace, he fell lower and lower; for he was very thoughtful—always sad—and at last no one heeded him; hut he never forgot the castle of his forelathers."

"Who was your mother?"

"Oh, she was like the holy virgin—so calm, so beautiful, so good, and so kind—Adorata, adorata, Dea del mio core!\* there is no sorrow in my tears when I think of her. Often, when I sit alone in the twilight, I see her, with my heart, as one of the blessed. She was the daughter of an apostolic fisherman. She resided with her parents on the sea-shore, not far from a villa helonging to the Cardinal, where my father was a domestic. Being alone in the world, he took her for his wife. O Madre mia! the spirit of the blessed was in her person. But I shall never see her in this world again."

"Why?" I exclaimed, affected by the singular sense, as it were, of absent objects, to which the evi dently gifted but uneducated youth seemed liable.

dently gifted but uneducated youth seemed liable. "I am seeking my brother," replied he; "and, till I have found him, I have made a vow in the church of St. John the Theologian, never to return. Padre mio, madre, sono in paradiso. Giovanni e Deo fanno

\* This eannot be translated. I give the sentiment-Goddess of my heart!

il mondo per me"--(my father and mother are all dead. Giovanni and God are the world to me.)

I perceived that it was in vain to expect a connected narrative; the sensibility with which the temperament of the friendless foreigner was so evidently saturated, and the tears which began to flow from him, as he remembered his home, were quite irresistible.

Whatever were his mental endowments, his power of pathetic utterance was truly extraordinary; and I could not hut strongly sigh when I thought how much the refined world had probably lost of delight, by the mendicity of one who would have been such an ornament to the opera.

When his emotion had a little subsided, I inquired what he meant by seeking his brother.

"My father," replied he, "died when we were small chiklren. We were four-two sisters, and brother Giovanni. My sisters were yonnger, and brother elder than me. My mother! how she ca-ressed us when father died. The love that she then slied in tears is ever glowing in my bosom. We became very poor, and Giovanni, when he was not ten, went into Rome, when, as we heard, he travelled away into England with an organist. My sisters, the one after the other, when bambini, (babes,) were caken into paradise; and my mother then used to sit on the shore, where, often and often, at night, hath she pointed out to me the very star which Maria and Angelina were dancing with happiness within; and she would then kiss me, and pray that we might soon be there with Maria and Angelina; and, mio padre! her heart was dying then; and, when I was in my ninth year, Jesus Christ stretched down his hand from a star and lifted her up into heaven; so I was left alone in the world. Then it was that I went to the church of St. John the Theologian, and made a vow to wander away till I found Giovanni; and I have never forgotten my vow.

"Gracious! you, then, so young, and have still abided by that yow?"

"You know, signore," said he, looking intently in my face, "that it would be a sin to forget my vow; I durst never, then, hope to join madre mio in cielo" -(my mother in heaven.)

-(my mother in heaven.) "But surely," cried I, "yon have not, since then, been always in search of your brother?"

"I have not been always; but I have never forgotten my vow, nor done anything but to enable me to fulfil it."

"In what way?"

"The servants of the Cardinal when he went back to Rome, at the end of the year after my mother had been taken up to paradise, took me with them, and did all they could to tempt me to break my vow, but I would not; so I hegan to gather money to huy this organ, and they helped me. I beseeched, with its sadness, the world to let me pass into England, where I hope to find Giovanni; but I have not yet heard of him. I have been wandering up and down for three years, and I can hear nothing of him; nor is he in Dublin. Perhaps, signore, you can tell ne if he be in Scozia. He has a black mole on his cheek, and his eyes are the colour of pleasure."

It seemed to me as if there was a more tender beauty in this ineffectual search, than even in the celebrated quest of Telemachus; and I became eurious to know with what feeling he had been so long such a solitary and sentimental wanderer.

He had visited many countries; but his mind was so absorbed by one idea—the fulfilment of his vow —that he had seen nothing which, in any great de-

gree, interested him, but the execution of the unfortunate Louis. The ornaments of nations had never awakened his attention. He spoke of the Alps, however, with something indeed of enthusiasm—Hanno una spetto come Iddio—"They look like God," said he. Paris left no impression; even the magnificent greatness of London seemed only to be remembered as another town. But, when I asked what he thought of it as compared to Rome, he exclaimed, with glistening eyes—

"Roma, ah, Roma! who has seen her may desire to die. There is but one Rome upon all the earth. The stones there are stories, and the dust antiquity. It is only there, and by the basilica of St. Pietro, that you can guess the glory that may be in paradise. Methinks I hear the fountains, in front of the basilica, singing matins, and the voice of Time in the moonlight silence of the Colosseum. Roma, O Roma! Parent of Glory! There are but Heaven and Rome; all else is the rubbish from what they were made of."—Tait's Magazine.

#### THE SKY-LARK.

O, earliest singer! O, care-charming bird, Married to Morning by a sweeter hymn Than priest e'er chaunted from his cloister dim At midnight,—or veiled virgin's holier word At sunrise or the paler evening heard,— To which of all heaven's young and lovely Hours, Who wreathe soft light in hyacinthine bowers, Beautiful Spirit, is thy suit preferred? —Unlike the creatures of this low dull earth, Still dost thou woo, although thy suit be won; And thus thy mistress bright is pleased ever. Oh! lose not thou this mark of finer birth— So may'st thou yet live on, from sun to sun, Thy joy uncheck'd, thy sweet song silent never. BAREY CORNWALL

#### ROBERT ANDERSON,

#### AUTHOR OF "CUMBERLAND BALLADS," AND

#### OTHER POEMS.

THERE are few people in England, who, during these last forty years, have not been gratified at fireside parties, or at clubs, with some of this author's songs; and, in the north of England, there are none of any class who are strangers to their graphic fa-miliarities. The "Cumberland Ballads" are sung by the rural population in the house and in the field in solitude and in society; and both tears and toil have been dispelled or softened by their influence. Yet few people out of the town of Carlisle know any thing of the anthor's life, though the native region of the songs comprehends broad and populous districts, and though their popularity reaches far beyond that region. The statesman who would originate a law affecting the happiness of the entire population of only one English county, for even a temporary period, would have a nation's eyes turned to him, and a nation's tongues occupied in his praise or hlame; but how much more remarkable should we esteem the man whose thoughts, escaping from the point of his pen, or the melody of his voice, spread over a country taking root in the hearts of a people, and there becoming, from sire to son, the ready made incentives, and expressions of mirth and sorrow, hope and joy!

Anderson's ballads can never become universally popular, because of his inveterate adherence to a local dialect and local imagery. But that circumstance renders them the more popular where the dialect and the imagery are felt to be pleasantly famihar. There are in most of his pieces sentiments which touch the chords of human nature; and which, if disentangled from a profise display of Cumbrian peculiarities, would find for his muse a name and place in every circle of society. Yet, though not claiming a high place in poetic literature, his ballads are well worth public attention. We have sailors and soldiers, as fine fellows as the nnited service can boast, from Cumberland and the adjoining counties; and those songs which embody their recollections of home and early days, which make them lovers of their country and their country's customs, which cheer their hearts in foreign lands, and under hard fatigues—those songs must have a national value; and the biography of their author cannot be uninteresting.

We have, therefore, to say that the writer of this sketch visited the birth-place of Anderson a short while ago, and found it in a suburb of Carlisle, called the Dam Side. Handloom weaving and squalid poverty are the characteristics of this part of that otherwise lovely town, as, indeed, of several parts of it. Anderson was the ninth child of poor parents. He was born on the 1st of Fehruary, 1770, and, being a sickly infant, was taken to church a few days after, that he might not die unchristened. He was named Robert. The river Caldew, which runs clear and pleasantly through this suburb, carried him away on one occasion when a child; hut being rescued, he was put to bed until his clothes were dried; for his mother, though she had as many tears to shed for his misfortune as an affectionate mother could have, was too poor to have a change of elothes for him.

He went to school; and, at the age of thirteen, was apprenticed as a calico pattern drawer. Having served his apprenticeship, he proceeded to London, and was employed in the same line. In 1794 he commenced song making, the immediate cause of which we give in his own words:—" Being at Vauxhall Gardens, I happened to fall in with a pleasant youth, whose appearance was truly respectable. We felt equally disgusted with many of the songs written in a mock pastoral Scottish style; and supposing myself capable of producing what might by the publie be considered equal; if not superior, I, on the following day, wrote four, namely, " Lacy Gray of Allendale," "I sigh for the girl 1 adore," "The Lovely Brown Maid, and "Effen and I." "Lucy Gray," was my first attempt at pretical com position, and was suggested by hearing a Northambrian rustic relate the story of the unfortunate lovers."

These songs were set to music by Mr. Hook, father of the late Theodore Hook; and with others of after composition, became popular at Vauxhall. In 1796, he returned to Carlisle, and while employed at his profession, wrote and published a volume of poems. In 1801, his first ballad in the dialect of Cumberland appeared, and was so favourably received, as to make him continue to write in that particular style. When he had produced a number of these, he published them in a volume called "Cumberland Ballads," which immediately became popular in the north, and also among his country-men in London. It sold rapidly, and encouraged him to proceed. The most graphic of his songs, such as " Daft Watty," are so unintelligible to common readers, that we cannot venture on transcribing one of them; while, in fact, his love songs are not much plainer. "Barbary Bell," is one of those which has been sung in all corners of the world where

the English tongue prevails; and yet it would puzzle many people, even in the North, to read it as Anderson wrote it. We shall quote a piece not much known, not overdone with Cumberlandisms, and yet sufficiently su to be a fair specimen of the dialect, and the author's poetry. The subject is the rebuke of a mother who discovers her daughter to be in love; and is so entirely human as to find its way into every heart:---

O, Jenny! Jenny! where's tou been? Thy fadder is just mad at tee; He seed somebody i' the croft, And gulders as he'd wurry me. O, monie are a mudder's whopes, And monie are a mudder's fears, And monie a bitter, bitter pang, Beath suin aud leate her bosom tears!
We brong thee up, pat thee to schuil. And clead te weel as peer fwoke can; We larn'd thee beath to dance and read, But now tou's crazy for a man. O monie are, &c.

When ton was young, and at my knee, I dwoated on thee day and neet; But now ton's rakin, rakin still, And niver niver i' my seet. O monic are, &c.

Ton's proud and past aw gnid adveyce-Yen mnd as weel speak till a stean; Still, still thy awn way reet or wrang-Mess! but ton'll rue't when I am geanel O monie are, &e.

Dick Waters, I hae tel't thee oft, Neer means to be a son o' nine; He seeks thy ruin sure as deeth, Then like Bet Baxter tou may whinc. O monie are, &c.

Thy fadder's comin frae the croft, A bonnie hunsup faith he'll mek; Put on thy clogs, and auld blue brat— Heaste, Jenny, heaste! he lifts the sneck. O, monie are a mudder's whopes, And monie are a mudder's fears, And monie a bitter, bitter pang, Beath suin and late, her bosom tears

The mother's anxiety that Jenny should deceive her father by having her clogs and auld blue brat on, as if she had not been out, is a truthful touch on a mother's common and natural sin. She rails herself, but does not like to hear her daughter railed on by another, not even hy her father.

For some years Anderson resided in Belfast, where he followed his profession, and added to his ballads. He returned to Carlisle in 1820, in reduced circumstances, but met a friendly reception, was publicly entertained, and had a new edition of his works subscribed for. Buthe was not always confortable; one of his besetting sins was the love of social company, and the too frequent use of that which stealeth away the brains. Towards the close of his life a few friends entered into a subscription to provide for him, which provision was comfortably administered up to the time of his death, 26th September, 1833

Amongst others of his qualifications besides tha of song making, may be mentioned, his being able to write by candle light, and without the aid of glasses, the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, the Ten Commandments, a psalm, and his name, upon a picce of paper the size of a sixpence!—Satirist. 0 ТНЕ MOMENT WAS SAD.



When the word of command put our men into motion, Long I fought for my country, far, far from my true Savourna deelish shigan, Oh! [love,

I buckled my knapsack to cross the wide ocean,

Savourna deelish shigan, Ohi Brisk were our troops, all roaring like thunder, Pleas'd with the voyage, impatient for plunder, My bosom with grief was almost torn asunder, Savourna deelish shigan, Oh!

[love,

Savourna deensh shigan, Oh! [love All my pay, all my booty I hoarded for you, love, Savourna deelish shigan, Oh! Peace was proclaim'd, escap'd from the slaughter, Landed at home, my sweet girl I sought her; But sorrow, alas! to her cold grave had brought her, Savourna deelish shigan, Oh!





# MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.





#### SPRING.

SPRING is come at last! There is a primrose colour in the sky—there is a voice of singing in the woods, and a smell of fluwers in the green lanes.

Call her fickle April if you choose—I have always found her constant as an attentive gardener. Who would wish to see her slumbering away in sunshine, when the daisies are opening their pearly mouths for her showers? Her very constancy is visible in her changes; if she veils her head for a time, or retires, it is but to return with new proofs of her faithfulness, to make herself more loveable, to put on an attire of richer green, or deck her young brows with more beautiful blossoms.

Call her not fickle, but modest—an ahashed maiden, whose love is as faithful as the flaunting May or the passionate June. Robed in green, with the tint of apple blossoms upon her cheeks, holding in her hands primroses and violets, she stands beneath the budding hawthorn, her young eyes fixed upon the tender grass, or glancing sideways at the daisies, as if afraid of looking upon the Sun, of whom she is enamoured. Day after day she wears some additional charm; and the Sky-God bends down his golden eyes in delight at her beauty; and if he withdraws his shining countenance she is all tears, weep ing in an April shower for his loss.

Fickle Sun! he too soon forgets the tender maiden, robed in her simple robes, and decorated with tender buds, and, like a rake, hurries over his blue path way, and pines for the full blossomed May or voluptuous June; forgetting April and her sighs and tears.

Oh! how delightful it is to wander into the sweet smelling fields; to set one's foot upon nine daisies; a sure test that Spring is come; to see meadows lighted with white lowers; to watch the sky lark winging his way to his blue temple in the skies

"Singing above, a voice of light;"

to hear the blackbird's mellow flute-like voice ringing from some distant covert, among the young beauties of the woods, who are robing themselves for the mask of summer. All these are sights and sounds calculated to elevate the heart above its puny cares and sorrows, and to throw around it a repose calm and spirit-like as the scene whose beauty hushed its heavings.

There is an invisible chord-a golden link of love, between our souls and nature; it is no separate thing ----no distinguished object, but a yearning towards the universal whole. We love the blue sky, the rolling river, the beantiful flowers, and the green earth ; we are chraptured by the old hills and the hoary forests. The whistling reeds say something soothing to us; there is a cheering voice in the nnseen wind; and the gurgling brook, as it babbles along, carries with it a melody of other years,-the tones of our playfellows, the gentle voice of a lost mother, or the ccho of a sweet tongue that scarcely dared to murof a sweet ongot that scattery dured to mut-nur its love. Who is there that is not a worshipper of Nature? Look at the parties who emerge from the breathless alleys of the metropolis, when the trees have put on their summer clothing! listen to the metry loughter that income the wide forthe from the merry laughter floating over the wide fields from beneath the broad oak where they arc seated; the cares and vexations of this work-a-day world, and all its busy calculations are forgotten, and they loosen their long chained minds, and set them free to dally with the waving flowers. They join in chorus with the birds, and the trees, and the free streams; and sending their songs after the merry breeze, triumph o'er pain and care. THOMAS MILLER.

### THE EDITOR'S KALEIDOSCOPE.

Caliban.—Be not afeard; the isle is full of noises, Sounds and sweet airs, that give delight and hurt not, Sometimes a thonsand twangling instruments Will hum about nine ears; and sometimes voices, That, if I then had wak'd after long sleep, Will make me sleep again; and then, in dreaming, The elouds, methought, would open, and shew riches Ready to drop npon me; that, when I wak'd, I cry'd to dream again.

Stephano.—This will prove a brave kingdom to me, where I shall have music for nothing. TEMPEST.

Assnredly Scotland has now become entitled to a high position amongst musical nations, and its people have a right to be called a most music loving people. This must be the necessary inference, if our good city of Glasgow may be taken in evidence. When we revert to the number and quality of the musical entertainments no further than fifteen years gone, and remember the manner in which songs and concerted pieces were performed, we find it difficult to admit that we are still in the same country So far below medioerity was the talent of the sing ers, and the bad taste, the slovenliness manifested in the execution of what was entrusted to them, compared with what tempts the appetite now, that in spite of Caliban's caution above, "be not afeard," we really do fear lest some sudden shock should awaken us from our extatic trance. We are in a state of "Clairvoyance," and have, by some occult and mysterious circumstance, been induced to undergo the magnetic manipulations of a disciple of the renowned Mesmer. It is unaccountable else, as we feel the atmosphere to be vocal with the melodious syllablings of myriad unfledged songsters-around, above, below, is harmony-and, like Ferdinand in the enchanted island, we are bewildered by the unaccountable phenomena.

In this wealthy and fashionable city, no one can he in want of resources to aid him in wiling away that fatiguing portion of his time which lies between eight and eleven, p.m., as scarcely an evening passes without one or more public musical entertainment inviting him to yield to the "divine enchanting ravishment." Every room capable of containing an hundred or upwards, has its company of vocal and instrumental performers, who, night after night, are cheered on to renewcd exertions by what the play-hills call bumper houses. From these small and unpretending soirces, where ragged urchins occupy the front, middle, and back benches at the small charge of one penny, we ascend to the musical reunions in the 'Trades' Hall and Assembly Rooms, where the merchant Princes congregate to listen with affected enthusiasm to the eloquent singing of Templeton or Wilson-or Grisi

and Lablache-or the Instrumental performances of the Distins-or Linley-or Benedict,-where the audience for their own well assumed raptures, must pay from five shillings to a guinca. Our mode of progression in this rapid coup d' oeil, has been according to the different sizes of the Concert Rooms, so that we now step up the Candleriggs, and enter the capacious "City Hall"-capable of containing upwards of three thousand of an audience-where there arc occasional concerts, besides those given weekly under the direction of the Total Abstinence Society. We can scarcely give that Society sufficient praise for the exertions they have made to provide a profitable, rational, and uncommonly cheap pastime for the people, and there can be no doubt that their labours will ultimately produce an improved taste, and improved habits, too, in those who, from the want of such a pleasing source of enjoyment, were almost necessitated to have recourse to the coarser stimulus of ardent and intoxicating liquors; and is it to be wondered at that those who having never learned how to "cultivate pleasing habits of thought," should greedily attach themselves to a habit of gross sensual indulgence, which, for however short a period of time, made them oblivious to their life of unceasing toil, and made them rise "o'er a' the ills o' life victorious;" and though, during the wild period of their Bachanalian revels, the uncouth and ribald song might be heard swelling its unpolished straips above the Babel from which it emanated, still they were utterly incapable of appreciating the benign influence of the sweet voiced muse, and their feelings were deadened to the pure suggestions which are inseparable from the enjoyment of the best music.

While, however, we accord to this Society all the merit of their discovery, that music has it in its power, to a certain extent, to assist the moral reformation of society-and while we give the Directors great praise for the philauthropic zeal they have exhibited in working out their design-still we are not blind to the fact that they are encouraging a false style, and rather retarding the advance of a taste for pure and good music among the crowds who attend their exhibitions. What benefit can accruc to society, whether musically or morally, from the constant repetition of such inane and vulgar nonsense as they are in the practice of allowing, if not causing. Can modes of thought be changed for the better by stupid negro songs, howled to a series of sounds without theme or melody-and with a chorus jumped without grace -with the additional abomination of a caricature costume and sooty face-these exhibitions illustrate no phase of man's existence, excepting only such an one as the most illiterate would rather be injured than improved by the contemplation of. Can the morale of a people be elevated by wretched burlesques upon the manners and language of the natives of Ireland,

or the north and west of Scotland. These are not holding the mirror up to nature, that man may learn to copy or avoid; and more, they are never what they pretend to be, but only spurious fabrications-base counterfeits-the words and music of which have no nearer relationship to the simple and beautiful music and poetry of the originals, than our Miscellany has to the Vedas and Shasters of Brahminical superstition. Or can a nation of drunkards (supposing such to exist,) he reformed by having chaunted however lugubriously or however comically, such rubbish as is only fit for, and scarcely ever heard beyond the walls of the lowest pot-houses in London No; these things, evil in the meantime, and worse in their effects, must be looked to. The Teetotal Society should entrust their concerts to the management of a committee of men of refined taste-of men who are capable of looking beyond the commercial view of the subject-it is not merely that the concerts should meet by the receipts all expenses which may be incurred, but they should, likewise, bc made subservient, as far as possible, to the end which all public undertakings ought to have in view, namely, the improvement of the social and moral condition of mankind.

These concerts are always well attended, and that they give the fullest satisfaction to those who attend them, we dare not call in question; but we think it possible that, while the Society does not lose sight of their primary motive, they might produce occa sionally some work, or a part of it, which, while it would satisfy the amateur, would gently lead those whose taste is lying fallow, and only requires a little prudent husbandry, to have a relish for the greater achievements of musical genius. Might not a portion of that money which has been so lavishly spent upon individual singers, of however high a status in their profession, and however great their excellence in solo singing, would not a portion of such money have been as well disbursed in training a choir, and in bringing before their audiences some of the rich and majestic choral music of Handel, Haydn, Mo zart, and Becthoven, which does more than please the ear, for altogether independently of the words for which they composed, their works are suggestive of the great, the ideal, the sublime, in a much greater degree than either sculpture or painting, and (when associated, as in many instances they are, with the inspired language of Scripture,) they arc, by their very nature, much more influential, and by far more casy of attainment as a source from which would flow an incalculable amount of pleasure and improvement.

We have more to say regarding the music now in vogue, and the musical taste of the people of Scotland, but it will not be too late though kept for a short time. COME UNDER MY PLAIDY.



Gae 'wa wi' your plaidy! auld Donald gae 'wa, I fear na the cauld blast the drift nor the snaw; Gae 'wa wi' your plaidy! I'll no sit beside ye, Ye might be my gutcher, auld Donald gae 'wa. I'm gaun to meet Johnnie, he's yonng and he's bonnie, He's been at Meg's bridal, fou trig and fou braw! O there's name dance sae lightly, sae gracefu', sae tightly, His check's like the new rose, his brow's like the snaw. Dear Marion let that flee stick fast to the wa', Your Jock's but a gowk, and has naething ava; The hale o' his pack he has now on his back, He's thretty and I am but three score and twa. Be frank now and kindly, I'll busk ye aye finely, At kirk or at market they'll few gang sae braw; A bien house to bide in, a chaise for to ride in, And flunkies to 'tend ye as aft as ye ca'.

My faither ay tauld me, my mither an' a', Ye'd mak a gude husband, and keep me aye braw, It's true I lo'e Johnnie, he's young and he's bonnie, But wae's mel I ken he has naething ava. I ha'e little tocher; ye've made a gude offer, I'm now mair thaa tweaty, my time is but sma', Sae gi'e me your plaidy, I'll creep in beside ye, I thocht ye'd been aulder than threescore and twa

She crap in ayont him, beside the stane wa', Whar Johnnie was list'ning and heard her tell a', The day was appointed!—his proud heart it dunted, And struck 'gainst his side as if bursting in twa. He wandered hame wearie, the night it was drearie, And thowless, he tint his gate deep 'mang the snaw ; The howlet was screamin', while Johnnie cried, "Women Wad marry auld Nick if he'd keep themaye braw."

O the diel's in the lasses! they gang now sae braw, They'll tak' up wi' auld men o' threescore and twa, The hale o' their marriage, is gowd and a carriage, Plain love is the cauldest blast now that can blaw. Auld doitards he wary! tak tent wha ye marry, Young wives in their coaches will whup and they'll ca', Till they meet wi' some Johnnie wha's youthfu' and bonv' then for your plaidy they'll carena a straw. [nie,

ANECDOTE OF ROOKE, THE COMPOSER .--- William M. Rooke, the composer of the delightful music of 'Amilie,' an opera which has spread his musical fame far and wide, had in early life to contend for years in his native city, Dublin, against difficulties which would have broken the spirit of any one, save a man endowed with the strongest mental powers: indeed, many men of great talents have sunk under trials which the genius and perseverance of Rooke have at length overcome, placing him at his present height of celebrity as a British composer. None can so truly estimate his merits as those who are aware of the bard fortune of his early days, and what he had to struggle against previous to his visiting London in 1821. In reference to these struggles, the following singular fact may not prove uninteresting to those fond of the marvellous; and had not the circumstance occurred in my presence, I should have doubted its truth -- Oae morning during the summer of 1818, I called at Rooke's lodgings, and on entering the room found him in a state of great de-jection. "How are you, Billy?" said I (my usual salute), "As well as a man can be," he replied, "who has not yet had his breakfast, and who has not a farthing in his pocket to procure one." This was at eleven o'clock. At the very moment that this reply was uttered, our eyes were attracted by a light piece of paper, which for a short time floating over our heads, inally settled upon the floor; and our astonishment may be imagined on discovering it to be a bank-note! It would not be easy to describe my feelings. I gazed on the object intently, scarcely believing it a reality, although I could plainly see the prominent features of its value—Thirty Shillings. We both remained for some time motionless, except that our eyes were cast alternately from the object of our wonder to the various parts of the room, seeking a cause for so unexpected but welcome a visitor. This apparent mystery, however was soon explained. Some months previous, Rooke had missed a thirty-shilling note, and supposed it to have been stolen from him. On the morning of my call he had been seeking some manuscript music stowed away in a

press near the window, the upper sash of which was down; and in his search the long-lost note had thus been exposed to a strong current of air, which ultimately dislodging it from its place of concealment, restored it to its owner at a moment when it was so much wanted. When last in London, during an evening's chat with my friend, casting our thoughts back upon old times and circumstances, I brought to his recollection the fact here related, the singularity of which principally rests upon the strange chance of the mislaid note re-appearing at such a time and in such a manner; and I question whether, in all its rambles before or since, the said thirty-shilling note ever came to hand so opportunely.—Irish Penny Journal.

The POETRY of MUSIC.—Music is under no necessity of speaking any language but its own. A beautiful instrumental composition is its own poetry, exciting the feelings and imagination without need of the intervention of words, and uttering, in fact, a more direct voice of the mystery and beauty of passion, than poetry itself. There is something so angelical in its being thus independent of speech, that it seems a kind of stray language from some unknown and divine sphere, where the inhabitants are above the necessity of words; and indeed it is a constant part of the charm of music to seem as if it signified still more than we have human words to express; while on the other hand, it is so linked with all our faculties, and has certain proprieties of accord and sequence in its composition so appealing to our very reason and logic, that it is no refinement to say one feels sometimes as if it were pursuing some wonderful and profound argument,-laying down premises, interchanging questions and answers, and drawing forth deductions equally conclusive and bewitching; so that our very understanding is convinced, though we know nothing of the mysterious topicl There are more things in heaven and earth, than are dreamt of in all philosophy; and music assuredly contains its due portion of them.—Leigh Hunt in the "Musical World." MUSICAL JOKE.—Mr. Sutton, of Dover, an admi

MUSICAL JORE.—Mr. Sutton, of Dover, an admir rable musician, once announced a concert at the town of Sandwich. Half an hour after the time appointed for commencing, the Mayor walked into the room solus; upon which the musician, with more whim than policy, struck up the old air of "The Deuce a' one but you, Mr. Mayor, Mr. Mayor."

#### MUSIC'S DUELL.

Now Westward Sol had spent the richest Beames Of Noons high Glory, when hard by the streames Of *Tiber* on the sceane of a greene plat, Vnder protection of an Oake; there sate A sweet Lutes-master in whose gentle nires Hee lost the dayes heat, and his owne hot cares.

Close in the covert of the leaves there stood A Nightingale, come from the neighbouring wood. (The sweet inhabitant of each glad Tree, Their Muse, their Syren, harmless Syren shee) There stood she listning, and did entertaine The Musicks soft report; and mold the same In her owne murmures, that whatever mood His curious fingers lent, her voyce made good: The man perceiv'd his Rivall, and her Art, Dispos'd to give the light-foot Lady sport, Awakes his Lute, and 'gainst the fight to come, Informes it, in a sweet Præludium Of closer straines, and ere the warre begin Hee lightly skirmishes on every string, Charg'd with a flying touch: and straightway slice Carves out her dainty voyce as readily, Into a thousand sweet distinguish'd Toncs, And reckons up in soft divisions, Quicke volumes of wild Notes; to let him know By that shrill taste, shee could doe something too

-His nimble hands instinct, then taught each string A capering cheerfulnesse; and made them sing To their owne dance: now negligently rash Hee throwes his Arme, and with a long-drawne dash Blends all together : then distinctly tripps From this to that; then quicke returning skipps And snatches this againe, and pauses there. Shee measures every measure, every where Meets art with art; sometimes as if in douht Not perfect yet, and fearing to bee out, Trayles her playne Ditty in one long spun note, Through the sleeke passage of her open throat: A cleare unwrinkled song, then doth shee point it With tender accents, and severely joynt it, By short diminutives, that being rear'd In contraverting, warbles evenly shar'd, With her sweet selfe shee wrangles; Hee amazed That from se small a channell should be rais'd The torrent of a voyce, whose melody Could melt into such sweet variety Straines higher yet; that tickled with rare art The tatling strings (each hreathing in his part) Most kindly doe fall out; the grumbling Base In surly groanes disdaines the Trebles Graee. The high-percht Treble chirps at this, and chides, Until his finger (Moderateur) hides And closes the sweet quarrell, rowsing all Hoarce, shrill, at once; as when the Trumpets call Hot Mars to th' Harvest of Deaths field, and woo Men's hearts into their hands; this lesson too Shee gives him backe; her supple Brest thrills ont Sharpe Aires, and staggers in a warhling doubt Of dallying sweetnesse, hovers ore her skill, And folds in wav'd notes with a tremhling bill, The plyant Series of her slippery song. Then starts shee suddenly into a 'Throng Of short thicke sobs, whose thundering volleys float, And roule themselves over her lubricke throat In panting murmurs, still'd out of her Brest, That ever-bubling spring; the sugred Nest Of her delicious soule, that there does lye Bathing in streames of liquid Meledie Musicks hest seed plot, when in ripend Aires A Golden-headed Harvest fairly reares His Honey-dropping tops, plow'd hy her breathe Which there reciprocally laboureth. In that sweet soyle it seems a holy quire, Founded to th' Name of great Apollo's lyre. Whose sylver roofe rings with the sprightly notes Of sweet-lipp'd Angell-Imps, that swill their threats In creame of Morning Helicon, and then Preferre soft Anthems to the Eares of men, To woo them from their Beds, still murmuring That men can sleepe while they their Mattens sing: (Most divine service) whose so early lay, Prevents the Eye-lidds of the blushing day. There might you heare her kindle her solt voyce, In the close murmur of a sparkling noyse, And lay the ground-worke of her hopefull song, Still keeping in the forward streame, so long Till a sweet whirle wind (striving to gett out) Heaves her soft Bosome, wanders round about, And makes a pretty Earthquake in her Breast, Till the fledg'd Notes at length forsake their Nest; Fluttering in wanton shoales, and to the Sky Wing'd with their owne wild Ecchos, pratling fly. Shee opes the floodgate, and lets loose a Tide Of streaming sweetnesse, which in state doth ride On the wav'd back of every swelling straine, Rising and falling in a pompous traine. And while shee thus discharges a shrill peale Of flashing Aires; shee qualifies their zeale

With the coole Epode of a graver Noat, Thus high, thus low, as if her silver throat Would reach the brasen voyee of Warr's hoaree Bird Her little soule is ravisht: and so pour'd Into loose extasies, that she is plac't Above her selfe, Musicks Enthusiast.

Shame now and anger mixt, a double staine In the Musitians face; yet once againe (Mistress) I come; now reach a straine my Lute Above her mocke, or bee for ever mute; Or tune a song of victory to mee, Or to thy selfe sing thine owne Obsequie; So said, his hands sprightly as fire he flings, And with a quavering coyness tasts the strings. The sweet lip't sisters musically frighted, Singing their feares are fearfully delighted. Trembling as when Appollo's golden haires Are fan'd and frizled in the wanton ayres Of his owne breath: which married to his lyre Doth tune the Sphaares, and make Heavens self loek higher.

From this to that, from that to this hee flyes, Feeles Musick's pulse in all her Arteryes; Caught in a net which there Appollo spreads, His fingers struggle with the vocal threads. Following those little rills, hee sinks into A Sea of Helicon; his hand does goe Thro parts of sweetnesse which with Nectar drop Softer than that which pants in *Hebe's* eup; The humourous strings expound his learned touch, By various Glosses : now they seem to grutch, And murmur in a buzzing dinne, then gingle In shrill tongu'd accents: striving to be single. Every smooth turne, every delieious stroake Gives life to some new Grace: thus doth h' invoke Sweetnesse by all her names; thus bravely thus, (Fraught with a fury so harmonious) The lute's light Genius now does proudly rise, Heav'd on the surges of swolne Rapsodyes. Whose flourish (Meteor-like) doth curle the aire With flash of high-borne fancyes: here and there Dancing in lofty measures, and anon Creeps on the soft touch of a tender tone: Whose trembling murmurs melting in wild aires Runs to and fro, complaining his sweet cares, Because those pretious mysteryes that dwell In musick's ravish't soule, hee dare not tell, But whisper to the world: thus doe they vary Each string his Note, as if they meant to carry Their Muster's blest soule (snatcht out at his Eares By a strong Extasy,) through all the sphæares Of Musicks heaven; and seat it there on high In th' Empyraum of pure Harmony. At length, (after so long, so loud a strife Of all the strings, still breathing the best life Of blest variety attending on His finger's fairest revolution In many a sweet rise, many as sweet a fall)

A full mouth'd Diapason swallowes ull.

This done, hee lists what shee would say to this, And shee, although her Breath's late exercise Had dealt too roughly with her tender throate, Yet summons all her sweet powers for a Noate, Alas! in vaine! for while (sweet soul) shee tryes To measure all those wild diversities Of chatt'ring stringes, hy the small size of one Poore simple voyce, rais'd in a Naturall Tone; Shee failes, and failing grieves, and grieving dyes. Shee dyes: and leaves her life the Victors prise, Falling upon his Lute; O fit to have (That liv'd so sweetly) dcad, so sweet a Grave ! RICHARD CRASHAW.

## MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.

THE KISS DEAR MAID.



Must bear the love it cannot shew, And silent ache for thee.

## LAST MOMENTS OF BEETHOVEN.

## (Translated from the French.)

. N the spring of the year 1827, in a house in one of he faubourgs of Vienna, some amateurs of music were occupied in decyphering the last quatuor of Beethoven, just published. Surprise mingled with their vexation, as they followed the capricious turns of this whimsical production of a genius then exhausted. They found not in it the mild and gra-cious harmony, the style so original, so elevated, the conception so grand and beautiful, which had marked former pieces, and had rendered the author the first of composers. The taste once so perfect, was now only the pedantry of an ordinary counterpointist; the fire which burned of old in his rapid allegri, swelling to the close, and overflowing like lava billows in magnificent harmonies, was but unintelligible dissonance; his pretty minuets, once so full of gaiety and originality, were changed into aregular gambols and impracticable cadences.

"Is this the work of Beethoven?" asked the musicians, disappointed, and laying down their instruments. "Is this the work of our renowned composer, whose name, till now, we pronounced only with pride and veneration? Is it not rather a parody upon the master-pieces of the immortal rival of Haydn and Mozart?

Some attributed this falling off to the deafness with which Beethoven had been afflicted for some years; others, to a derangement of his mental faculties; but, resuming their instruments, out of respect to the ancient fame of the symphonist, they imposed upon themselves the task of going through the work.

Suddenly, the door opened, and a man entered, wearing a black great-coat, without cravat, and his hair in disorder. His eyes sparkled, but no longer with the fire of genius; his forehead alone, by its remarkable development, revealed the seat of intel-.ect. He entered softly, his hands behind him-all gave way respectfully. He approached the musicians, bending his head on one side and the other, to hear better; but in vain, not a sound reached him. Tears started in his eyes; he buried his face in his hands, retired to a distance from the performers, and seated himself at the lower end of the apartment. All at once the first violoncello sounded a note, which was caught up by all the other instruments. The poor man leaped to his feet, crying, "I hear! I hear!" then abandoned himself to

tumultuous joy, applauding with all his strength. "Louis," said a young girl who that moment entered, "Louis, you must come back-you must retire; we are too many here."

He cast a look upon her-understood, and followed her in silence, with the docility of a child accustomed to obedience.

In the fourth story of an old brick house, situated at one end of the city, a small chamber, which had for its furniture only a bed with ragged coverlet, an old piano, sadly out of tune, and a few bundles of music, was the abode, the universe of the immortal Beethoven.

He had not spoken during their walk; but when he entered, he placed himself on the bed, took the young girl by the hand, and said-" My good Louise! you are the only one who understands me. You think these gentlemen, who perform my music, comprehend me not at all. I observed a smile on their lips as they executed my quatuor; they fancy my genius is on the decline, whereas it is only now

way, just now, I composed a symphony, which shall set the seal to my glory, or rather, immortalise my name. I will write it down, and burn all my others. I have changed the laws of harmony; I have found effects of which nobody, till now, has thought. My symphony shall have for bass a chromatic melody of twenty kettle drums; I will introduce the concert of an hundred bells; for," added he, bending his head toward the car of Louise, "I will tell thee a secret. The other day, when you took me to the top of St. Stephen's steeple, I made a discovery; I perceived that the bell is the most melodious of instruments, and can be employed with the greatest success in the adagia. There shall be, in my finale, drums, and fusil-shots ;---and I shall hear that sym-phony, Louisc; yes," cried he, with enthusiasm, "I shall hear it! Do you remember." he resumed, after a pause, "my battle of Waterloo? and the day when I directed the performance, in presence of all the crowned heads of Europe? So many musicians, following my signal-eleven masters of the chapel superintending—a firing of guns—pealing of can-non? It was glorious—was it not? Well, what I shall compose will surpass even that sublime work. I cannot deny myself the pleasure of giving you an idea of it."

At these words Beethoven rose from the bed, seated himself at the piano, in which a number of keys were wanting, and touched the instrument with a grave and imposing air. After playing awhile, he struck his hand suddenly on the keys, and ceased.

"Do you hear?" said he to Louise, 'there is an accord nobody else has attempted. Yes, I will write all the tones of the gamut in a single sound; and will prove this the true and perfect accord. But I hear it not, Louise, I hear it not. 'Think of the anguish of him who cannot hear his own music ! And yet it seems to me, when I shall have blended all these sounds in a single sound, they will ring in mine ears. But, enough! I have, perhaps wearied you! I, also, am weary of everything! As a reward for my sublime invention, I think I ought to have a glass of wine. What think you, Louise ?"

The tears ran down the cheeks of the poor girl. She, alone, of all Beethoven's pupils, had not for-saken him, but supported him by the labour of her hands, under pretence of taking lessons. The produce of her work was added to the slender income yielded by the compositions of the master. There was no wine in the house, there scarcely remained a few pence to buy bread! She turned away to hide her emotion, then poured out a glass of water and offered it to Beethoven.

"Excellent Rhenish wine!" said he, as he tasted the pure beverage; "'tis wine good enough for an emperor. 'Twas drawn from my father's cellar; ? know it; it grows better every day!"

He then began to sing, with hoarse voice, hut with true tone, the words of Mephistopheles, in the Faust of Goethe;

"Es war einmal ein Konig der hatt, einen grossen Floh,

but returned, from time to time, to the mystic melody he had composed, formerly, for the charming song of Mignon. "Listen, Louise," said he, returning her the glass

"The wine has strengthened me; I feel better. I would fain compose, but my head grows heavy my genius is on the decline, whereas it is only now again; my ideas are confused; a thick mist seems that I have become a truly great musician. On the before my eyes. I have been compared to Michael Angelo, and properly; in his moments of eestaey he struck great blows with the chisel on the cold marble, and caused the hidden thought to leap to life under the covering of stone; I do the same, for I can do nothing with deliberation. When my genius inspires me, the whole universe is transformed for me into one harmony; all sentiment, all thought, becomes music; my blood revels in my veins; a tremor pervades my members; my hair stands on end;—but hark! what do I hear?"

Beethoven sprang up and rushed to the window, threw it open, and sounds of music, from the house near, were plainly andible.

"I hear!" he cried, with deep emotion, falling on his knees and stretching his hands towards the open window; "I hear! 'Tis my overture of Egmont! Yes, I know it; hark! the savage hattle-cries; the tempest of passion. It swells—it towers—it threatens! Now all is calm again. But lo! the trumpets sound afresh; the clamor fills the world—it cannot be stifted."

Two days after this night of delirium, a crowd of persons were passing in and out of the salon of  $W_{---}$ , the Councillor of State, and Prime Minister of Austria, who gave a grand dinner.

"What a pity!" said one of the guests, "Becthoven, director at the Theatre Imperial, is just dead, and they say he has not left enough for the expense of his funeral."

His words passed unnoticed. The rest of the company were absorbed in listening to the discourse of two diplomatists, who were talking of a controversy which had taken place between certain persons at the palace of a certain German Prince.

#### THE SONG-BIRDS OF SCOTLAND.

The delightful music of song-birds is, perhaps, the chief cause why these charming little creatures are, in all countries, so highly prized. Music is an universal language;—it is understood and cherished in every country-the savage, the barbarian, and the civilised individual, are all passionately fund of musie, particularly of melody. But, delightful as music is, perhaps there is another reason that may have led man to deprive the warblers of the woods and fields of liberty, particularly in civilized states, where the intellect is more refined, and, consequently, the feelings more adapted to receive tender impressions;-we mean the associations of ideas. Their sweet melody brings him more particularly in contact with groves and meadows-with romantic banks, or beautiful sequestered glades-the cherished scenes, perhaps, of his early youth. But independent of this, the warble of a sweet song-bird is, in itself, very delightful ;- and, to men of sedentary habits, confined to cities by professional duties, and to their desks most part of the day, we do not know a more innocent or more agreeable recreation than the rearing and training of these little feathered musicians.-Syme's Treatise on British Song Birds.

\* \* \* At this very moment we hear the loud, clear, mellow, bold song of the Blackbird. There he flits along upon a strong wing, with his yellow bill visible in distance, and disappears in the silent wood. Not long silent. It is a spring-day in our imagination—his clay-wall nest holds his mate at the foot of the silver fir, and he is now perched on its pinnacle. That thrilling hymn will go vibrating down the stem till it reaches her brooding breast. The whole vernal air is filled with 'he murmur and the

glitter of insects-but the blackbird's song 1s over all other symptoms of love and life, and seems to call upon the leaves to unfold into beauty. It is on that one tree top, conspicuous among many thou-sands on the fine breast of wood, where, here and there, the pine mingles not unmeetly with the prevailing oak—that the forest minstrel sits in his inspiration. The rock above is one which we have often climbed. There lies the glorious loch and all its islands-one dearer than the rest to eye and imagination, with its old religious house-year after year crumbling away unheeded into more entire ruin! Far away, a sea of mountains, with all their billowing summits distinct in the sky, and now uncertain and changeful as the clouds! yonder custle stands well on the peninsula among the trees which the herons inhabit. Those coppice woods on the other shore stealing up to the heathery rocks, and sprinkled birches, are the haunts of the roe ! That great glen that stretches sullenly away into the distant darkness, has been for ages the birth and the death-place of the red dcer. Hark, 'tis the cry of an eagle! There he hangs poised in the sunlight, and now he flies off towards the sea. But again the song of our blackbird "rises like a steam of rich distilled perfumes," and our heart comes back to him upon the pinnacle of his own Home-The source of song is yet in the happy ercatree. ture's heart-but the song itself has subsided, like a mountain-torrent that has been rejoieing in a sudden shower among the hills; the bird drops down among the balmy branches; and the other faint songs which that **bold** anthem had drowned, are heard at a distance, and seem to encroach every moment on the silence.

You say you greatly prefer the song of the Thrush. Pray why set such delightful singers by the ears? We dislike the habit that very many people have of trying everything by a scale. Nothing seems to them to be good-positively-only relatively. Now, it is true wisdom to be charmed with what is charming, to live in it, for the time being, and compare the emotion with no former emotion whatever-unless it be unconsciously in the working of an imagination set a going by delight. Although, therefore, we cannot say that we prefer the Thrush to the Blackbird, yet we agree with yeu in think-ing it a most delightful bird. Where a Thrush is, we defy you to anticipate his song in the morning. He is indeed an early riser. By the way, Chanticleer is far from being so. You hear him erowing away from shortly after midnight, and, in your simplicity, may suppose him to be up, and strutting about the premises. Far from it; he is at that very moment perched in his polygamy, between two of his fattest wives. The sultan will perhaps not stir a foot for several hours to come; while all the time the Thrush, having long ago rubbed his eyes, is on his topmost twig, broad awake, and charming the car of dawn with his beau. tiful voeiferation. During mid-day he disappears, and is mute; but again, at dewy even, as at dewy morn, he pours his pipe like a prodigal, nor ceases sometimes, when night has brought the moon and stars. Best beloved, and most beautiful of all Thrushes that ever broke from the blue-spotted shell! thou who, for five springs, hast "hung thy procreant cradle" among the roses, and honeysuckles, and ivy, and clematis, that embower in bloom the lattice of my cottage-study—how farest thou now in the snow? Consider the whole place as your own, my dear bird; and remember, that when the gar.

dener's children sprinkle food for you and yours all along your favourite haunts, that it is done by our orders. And when all the earth is green again, and all the sky blue, you will welcome us to our rural domieile, with light feet running before us among the winter leaves, and then skim away to your new nest in the old spot, then about to be somewhat more cheerful in the undisturbing din of the human life within the flowery walls.

Higher and higher than ever rose the tower of Belus, soars and sings the Lark, the lyrical poet of the sky. Listen, listen! and the more remote the bird, the louder is his hymn in heaven. He seems, in his loltiness, to have left the carth for ever, and to have forgotten his lowly nest. The primroses and the daisics, and all the sweet hill-flowers, must be unremembered in the lofty region of light. Bat just as the Lark is lost, he and his song tegether, both are again seen and heard wavering down the sky, and in a little while he is walking contented along the farrows of the brairded corn, or on the clover lea, that has not felt the plough-share for half a century.

In our boyish days, we never felt that the Spring had really come, till the clear-singing Lark went careering before our gladdened eyes away up to heaven. Then all the earth wore a vernal look, and the ringing sky said, "winter is over and gone." As we roamed, on a holiday, over the wide pastoral moors, to angle in the lochs and pools, unless the day were very cloudy, the song of some lark or other was still warbling aloft, and made a part of our happiness. The creature could not have been more joyful in the skies than we were ou the greensward. We, too, had our wings, and flew through our holiday.

Methinks we hear the "song o' the Grey Lintie," perhaps the darling bird of Scotland. None other is more tenderly sung of in our old hallads. When the simple and fervent leve-poets of our pastoral times first applied to the maiden the words, "my bonnie burdie," they must have heen thinking of the Grey Lintie-its plumage ungaudy and soberly pure -its shape elegant, yet unobtrusive-and its song various without any effort-now rich, gay, sprightly, but never rude or riotous-now tender, almost mournful, but never gloomy or desponding. So, too, are all its habits, endearing and delightful. It is social, yet not averse to solitude, singing often in groups, and as often by itself in the furze-brake, or on the briary knoll. You often find the lintie's nest in the most solitary places-in some small self-sown elump of trees by the brink of a wild hill-stream, or on the tangled edge of a forest; and just as often you find it in the hedgerow of the cottage garden, or in a bower within, or even in an old gooseberry busb that has grown into a sort of tree.-Blackwood's Magazine.

#### TAGLIONI.

The white snew, drifting in its soundless showers; The young bird, resting on a summer bough; The South wind, bending down the opening flowers; The clear wave, lifted with a gentle flow; All things in nature that have gentlest motion, That are most perfect in their natural grace— Whether they float upon the glassy ocean, Rest ou the earth, or soar through azure space, Come to the mind as types of mazy dancing, While THOU dost move with light elastic tread— Like her, the fabled nymph, whose step, scarce glancing. Past on, and left unbrused the flower's bright head. —Schloss's Bijon Almanack.

## THE EDITOR'S KALEIDOSCOPE.

WE this week give verbatim et literatim the opinions of four of the principal weekly journals regarding the abilities of the new debutante at Her Majesty's Theatre.

## Who shall decide when Critics disagree?

"We have purposely postponed mention of the new prima donna, from reluctance to report unfavourably of a debut which had excited great expectations. Fatigue after a long journey-inexperience of Her Majesty's Theatre, and Her Majesty's public, &c.—such pleas were considerately whispered, to modify the judgment, and engage the gentle con-struction of sour critics like ourselves. But giving them all the force they possess, and that which courtesy gladly superadds, and holding ourselves open to change of opinions as reason may appear, we do not conceive that Madame Poggi Frezzolini could succeed to the throne of Pasta, Malibran, and Grisi, without going through most severe studies, or the public losing some portion of its appreciating power. Her voice, it is true, is a *soprano* of the most extensive compass, and fine, solid quality, but it seems to us preternaturally strained in the manner of its production, and not merely from the fatigue of a journey, or the anxiety of a debut. Then, too, with great pretensions to such combined flexibility of detail and breadth of outline in ornament, as are required to deeorate a grand cantabile, her whole style appears deficient in connexion and polish. In person she is very tall, with a face which m repose is handsome, but which the labour of her singing impresses with painful grimaces; her attitudes, too, are stooping and angular. Her faults, in short, appeared to us less aecidents than characteristics."-Athenaum, April 30, 1842.

"Poggi Frezzolini, who made her *debut* on Tuesday night, in *Beatrice di Tenda*, is an artist of the first rate order—a singer of whose station there is no doubt or dispute. To natural powers, abundant and copious, she adds the highest degree of polish substituting for mere clap-trap ornament true classical refinement. Her graces bespeak an elegant mind as well as a cultivated voice, and her singing not only delighted the ear but moved the heart; it added all the fascination of art to the truth of nature."—Spectator, same date.

"Madame Poggi Frezzolini made her *debut* on Tuesday, and though unquestionably an artist of great abilities, is not entitled to the fame which preceded her. She has neither the voice nor the powers of the two opera ornaments, Grisi and Persiani." —Ave. May 1st.

siani." — Age, May 1st. "In face and figure Madame Frezzolini reminds us of the Miss Ellen Tree of some years since. Her voice is a high soprano of excellent quality and great range—in education less perfect. At first she disappointed those who look incessantly for those powerful effects to which they are so accustomed at this theatre; but with quiet art, and not less true, she won upon the audience as the opera went on, and the curtain fell to euthusiasm. She has great sincerity and fervor in her style. In action she is less graceful than in repose; and it may be objected to her that the effects of occasionally undue exertion are visible in voice as well as manner."—Examiner, April 30.

These remarks will in all likelihood, recal to the minds of our readers the story of the Chamelcon.

#### M. ANDRE-M. BOCQUILLON-WILHEM.

THE death of M. Andre, of Offenbach, Kapellmeis. ter to the Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt, and the probable dispersion of his musical manuscripts-is an event likely to create a sensation in one section of the world of European art. As a man, M. Andre was rough, eccentric, and whimsical. But he has many claims to the gratitude of the musician. Besides being a collector and publisher, he was a composer of no mean merit. He was the master in turn of Spohr, Schneider, Lachner, &c. He assisted by his contributions the musical gazettes of Leipsic, Berlin, and Vienna; but he will principally be regretted and remembered as having published the early essays of young musicians of talent. M. Andre has left a musical library containing about 13,000 printed works and 3,000 manuscripts. Among the latter are many unpublished compositions by celebrated authors, ancient and modern, about 300, it is said, by Mozart, which M. Andre purchased three years ago from the widow of that great artist. His funeral was attended by more than 1,500 persons, many of whom came from a distance, some from so far as Frankfort; and two hundred young persons performed a variety of hymns, set to music by himself.

The obituary of the past fortnight is also marked by the name of M. Bocquillon-Wilhem, which has recently become so familiar to our lovers of music and our friends of Art in Education. The early days of this good man's life were obscurely passed in struggle and difficulty; and it was not till his intimacy with M. Beranger enabled the latter to present him to M. Degerando, that he gained a hearing for the plans which have since spread so widely, and, we trust, rooted so deeply, here as well as in France. The latter period of his life, again, was darkened by a severe domestic calamity in the suicide of his son. At his obsequies, the church of St. Sulpice was crowded, and his pupils combined in executing a requiem. His old friend the Chansonnicr was one of the pall-bearers, and M. le Chevalier Neukomm presided over the music. He is buried in Pere la Chaise.-Athenaum, 7th May, 1842.

#### JACKSON THE COMPOSER.

THERE was a musical party in the town, taught by the celebrated W. Jackson of tuneful memory. He used to indulge in private meetings, that is, with four or five of his hest scholars, when they sung canzonets, elegies, &c., chiefly Jackson's compositions, who always accompanied on the instrument, and with his fine deep bass voice. Handel's music was also played and sung, and a harpsiehord, with a double row of keys, for that composer's works, was preferred, although pianofortes had come to light and sound, but not with those strong powers they now possess. I was the only one not a performer allowed to be present, because I could hold my tongue and snuff the candles; and never was a person more delighted at hearing what it night be supposed I could not understand; but harmony reaches all hearts that have feeling, and to this day I recollect "Time has not thind'd my flowing hair," and "In a vale clos'd with woodlands."

Jackson was a man of sense and talent, did not paint badly, made good sketches, had read much and conversed very agreeably. One inconvenience attended him not uncommon in his profession; he had a very nice car, and not being of a sordid disposition, and his compositions having had a very extensive sale at home and abroad, especially in Italy (so that he was in easy circumstances), he resolved on trying the experiment of teaching only those who were likely to play well, and thus save his own ears and his employers' purses. I knew a lady to whom he said, "I cannot any longer pick your pocket, your daughter will never play." He attended a family in the neighbourhood one whole day in the week, for which he received L 100 a year, equal to L.200 at present; there were several daughters who did credit to the instruction they received ; but the father of the family wished to be a musician, and asked Jackson whether, if he took lessons on the violoncello, he should be able to play? "No, never, give me leave to tell your Lordship." Need I say the honest man was dismissed, and another master supplied his place.-Gentlewoman of the Old School.

## WITH FULL VOICED CHOIR.



## THE BRITISH MINSTREL; AND







## THE BANKS OF ALLAN WATER.



None was sad as she.

On the banks of Allan water, When the winter snow fell fast, Still was seen the miller's daughter, Chilling blew the blast! But the miller's lovely daughter, Both from cold and care was free, On the banks of Allan water There a cores lay she.

## THE ROSE OF THE ALHAMBRA.

When brown Autumn spread its store, There I saw the miller's daughter,

Fairest of them all.

None was gay as she.

On the banks of Allan water,

But she smil'd no more.

For his bride a soldier sought her,

And a winning tongue had he, On the banks of Allan water,

For some time after the surrender of Granada by the Moors, that delightful city was a frequent and favourite residence of the Spanish sovereigns, until they were frightened away by successive shocks of earthquakes, which toppled down various houses, and made the old Moslem towers rock to their foundation.

Many many years then rolled away, during which Granada was rarely honoured by a royal guest. The palaces of the nobility remained silent and shut up; and the Alhambra, like a slighted heauty, sat in mournful desolation, among her neglected gardens. The tower of the Infantas, once the residence of the three heautiful Moorish princesses, partook of the general desolation, and the spider spun her web athwart the gilded vault, and bats and owls nestled in those chambers that had been graced by the presence of Zayda, Zorayda, and Zorahayda. The neglect of this tower may partly have been owing to some superstitious notions of the neighbours. It was runnoured that the spirit of the youthful Zorahayda, who had perished in that tower, was often seen by moonlight seated beside the fountain in the hall, or moaning about the battlements, and that the notes of her silver lute would be heard at midnight by wayfarers passing along the glen.

At length the city of Granada was once more welcomed by the royal presence. All the world knows that Philip V. was the first Bourbon that swayed the Spanish sceptre. All the world knows that he married, in second nuptials, Elizabetta or Isabella (for they are the same) the beautiful princess of Parma; and all the world knows that by this chain of contingencies a French prince and an Italian princess were seated together on the Spanish throne. For the reception of this illustrious pair the Alhambra was repaired and fitted up with all possible expedition. The arrival of the court changed the whole aspect of the lately deserted palace. The elangour of dram and trampet, the tramp of steed about the avenues and outer court, the glitter of arms and display of banners about barbican and battlement, recalled the ancient and warlike glories of the fortress. A softer spirit, however, reigned within the royal palace. There was the rustling of robes and the cautious tread and murmuring voice of reverential courtiers about the antichambers; a loitering of pages and maids of honour about the gardens, and the sound of music stealing from open casements.

Among those who attended in the train of the monarchs was a favourite page of the queen, named Ruyz de Alarcon. 'To say that he was a favourite page of the queen was at once to speak his eulogium, for every one in the suite of the stately Elizabetta was chosen for grace, and beauty, and accomplishments. He was just turned of eighteen, light and To the queen he was all deference and respect, yet he was at heart a roguish stripling, petted and spoiled by the ladies about the court, and experienced in the ways of women far beyond his years.

This loitering page was one morning rambling about the groves of the Generalife, which overlook the grounds of the Alhambra. He had taken with Imm for his amusement a favourite ger falcon of the queen. In the course of his rambles seeing a bird rising from a thicket, he unhooded the hawk and let him fiv. The falcon towered high in the air, made a swoop at his quarry, hut missing it, soared away regardless of the calls of the page. The latter fol-lowed the truant bird with his eye, in its capricious flight, until he saw it alight upon the battlements of a remote and lonely tower, in the outer wall of the Alhambra, built on the edge of a ravine that separated the royal fortress from the grounds of the Generalife. It was, in fact, the "Tower of the Princesses."

The page descended into the ravine, and ap. proached the tower, but it had no entrance from the glen, and its lofty height rendered any attempt to scale it fruitless. Seeking one of the gates of the fortress, therefore, he made a wide circuit to that side of the tower facing within the walls.

A small garden enclosed by a trellis-work of reeds overhung with myrtle, lay before the tower. Opening a wicket the page passed between beds of flowers and thickets of roses to the door. It was closed and bolted. A crevice in the door gave him a peep into the interior. There was a small Moorish hall with fretted walls, light marble columns, and an alabaster fountain surrounded with flowers. In the centre hung a gilt cage containing a singing bird, beneath it, on a chair, lay a tortoiseshell cat among reels of silk and other articles of female labour, and a guitar decorated with ribbons leaned against the fountain.

Ruyz de Alarcon was struck with these traces of female taste and elegance in a lonely, and, as he had supposed, deserted tower. They reminded him of

the tales of enchanted halls current in the Alhambra; and the tortoiseshell cat might be some spell-bound princess. He knocked gently at the door. A beautiful face peeped out from a little window above, but was instantly withdrawn. He waited expecting that the door would be opened, but he waited in vain; no footstep was to be heard within-all was silent. Had his senses deceived him, or was this beautiful apparition the fairy of the tower? He knocked again, and more loudly. After a little while the beaming face once more peeped forth; it was that of a blooming damsel of fifteen.

The page immediately doffed his plumed bonnet, and entreated in the most courteous accents to be permitted to ascend the tower in pursuit of his falcon.

"I dare not open the door, Senor," replied the little damsel blushing, " my aunt has forbidden it." " I do beseech you, fair maid—it is the favourite falcon of the queen : I dare not return to the palace

without it.'

"Are you then one of the cavaliers of the court?" "I am, fair maid; but I shall lose the queen's

favour and my place, if I lose this hawk." "Santa Maria! It is against you cavaliers of the court my aunt has charged me especially to bar the door."

"Against wicked cavaliers, doubtless, but I am none of these, but a simple harmless page, who will be ruined and undone if you deny me this small request.'

The heart of the little damsel was touched by the distress of the page. It was a thousand pities he should be ruined for the want of so triffing a boon. Surely too he could not be one of those dangerous beings, whom her aunt had described as a species of cannibal, ever on the prowl to make prey of thoughtless damsels; he was gentle and modest, and stood so eutreatingly with cap in hand, and looked so charming.

The sly page saw that the garrison began to waver, and redoubled his entreaties in such moving terms that it was not in the nature of mortal maiden to deny him; so the blushing little warden of the tower descended and opened the door with a trembling hand, and if the page had been charmed by a mere glimpse of her countenance from the window, he was ravished by the full length portrait now revealed to him.

Her Andalusian bodice and trim basquina set off the round but delicate symmetry of her form, which was as yet searce verging into womanhood. Her glossy hair was parted on her forehead, with scrupulous exactness, and decorated with a fresh plueked rose, according to the universal custom of the coun. try. It is true her complexion was tinged by the ardour of a southern sun, but it served to give richness to the mantling bloom of her cheek, and to heighten the lustre of her melting eyes.

Ruyz de Alarcon beheld all this with a single glance, for it became him not to tarry; he merely murmured his acknowledgments, and then bounded lightly up the spiral staircase in quest of his falcon.

He soon returned with the truant bird upon his fist. The damsel, in the mean time, had seated herself by the fountain in the hall, and was winding silk; but in her agitation she let fall the reel upon the pavement. The page sprang and picked it up, then dropping gracefully on one knee, presented it to her; but, seizing the hand extended to receive it, imprinted on it a kiss more fervent and devout than he had ever imprinted on the fair hand of his sovereign.

"Ave Marla, Senor!" exclaimed the damsel, blushing still deeper with confusion and surprise, for never before had she received such a salutation.

The modest page made a thousand apologies, assuring her it was the way, at court, of expressing the most profound homage and respect.

Her anger, if anger she felt, was easily pacified, but her agitation and embarrassment continued, and she sat blushing deeper and deeper, with her eyes cast down upon her work, entangling the silk which she attempted to wind.

The cunning page saw the confusion in the opposite camp, and would fain have profited by it, but the fine speeches he would have uttered died upon his lips, his attempts at gallantry were awkward and ineffectual, and to his surprise, the adreit page, who had figured with such grace and effrontery among the most knowing and experienced ludies of the court, found himself awed and abashed in the presence of a simple damsel of lifteen.

In fact, the artless maiden, in her own modesty and innocence, had guardians more effectual than the holts and bars prescribed by her vigilant auut. Still, where is the female bosom proof against the first whisperings of love? The little damsel, with all her artlessness, instinctively comprehended all that the faltering tongue of the page failed to express, and her heart was fluttered at beholding, for the first time, a lover at her feet-and such a lover !

The diffidence of the page, though genuine, was short-lived, and he was recovering his usual ease and confidence, when a shrill voice was heard at a distance.

"My aunt is returning from mass !" cried the dam. sel in affright: "I pray you, Senor, depart." "Not until you grant me that rose from your hair

as a remembrance."

She hastily untwisted the rose from her raven locks. "Take it," cried she, agitated and bloshing, " but pray begone."

The page took the rose, and at the same time covered with kisses the fair hand that gave it. Then, placing the flower in his bonnet, and taking the falcon upon his fist, he bounded off through the garden, bearing away with him the heart of the gentle Jacinta.

When the vigilant aunt arrived at the tower, she remarked the agitation of her niece, and an air of confusion in the hall; hut a word of explanation sufficed. "A ger-falcon had pursued his prey into the hall."

" Mercy on us, to think of a falcon flying into the tower. Did ever one hear of so saucy a hawk? Why, the very hird in the cage is not safe !"

The vigilant Fredegonda was one of the most She had a becoming wary of ancient spinsters. terror and distrust of what she denominated " the opposite sex," which had gradually increased through a long life of celibacy. Not that the good lady had ever suffered from their wiles, nature having set up a safeguard in her face that forbade all trespass upon her premises; hut ladies who have least cause to fear for themselves, are most ready to keep a watch over their more tempting neighbours.

The niece was the orphan of an officer who had fallen in the wars. She had been educated in a convent, and had recently been transferred from her sacred asylum to the immediate guardianship of her aunt, under whose overshadowing care she vegetated in obscurity, like an opening rose blooming beneath a briar. Nor indeed is this comparison entirely accidental; for, to tell the truth, her fresh and dawning beauty had caught the public eye, even in her seclusion, and with that poetical turn common to the people of Andalusia, the peasantry of the neighbourhood had given her the appellation of 'the Rose of the Alhambra.

The wary aunt continued to keep a faithful watch over her tempting little niece as long as the court continued at Granada, and flattered herself that her vigilance had been successful. It is true the good lady was now and then discomposed by the tinkling of guitars and chanting of low ditties from the moonlit groves beneath the tower; but she would exhort her niece to shut her ears against such idle minstrelsy, assuring her that it was one of the arts of the opposite sex, by which simple maids were often lured to their undoing. Alas! what chance with a simple maid has a dry lecture against a moonlight serenade?

At length King Philip cut short his sojourn at Granada, and suddenly departed with all his train. The vigilant Fredegonda watched the royal pageant as it issued from the gate of Justice, and descended the great avenue leading to the city. When the last banner disappeared from her sight, she returned exulting to her tower, for all her cares were over: Te her surprise, a light Arabian steed pawed the ground at the wicket-gate of the garden :- to her horror, she saw through the thickets of roses a youth, in gaily embroidered dress, at the feet of her niece. At the sound of her footsteps he gave a tender adien, bounded lightly over the barrier of reeds and myrtles, sprang upon his horse, and was out of sight in an instant. The tender Jacinta, in the agony of her grief, lost all thought of her aunt's displeasure. Throwing herself into her arms, she broke forth into sobs and tears.

"Ay de mi !" cried she; "he's gone !- he's gone ! -he's gone! and I shall never see him more!

"Gone !---who is gone ?---what youth is that I saw

at your feet?" "A queen's page, aunt, who came to bid me farewell."

"A qucen's page, child !" echoed the vigilant Fredegonda faintly; "and when did you become

acquainted with a queen's page?" "The morning that the ger-falcon came into the tower. It was the queen's ger-falcon, and he came in pursuit of it."

"Ah silly, silly girl! know that there are no gerfalcons half so dangerous as these young pranking pages, and it is precisely such simple birds as thee that they pounce upon."

The aunt was at first indignant at learning that in despite of her boasted vigilance, a tender intercourse had been carried on by the youthful lovers, almost beneath her eye; but when she found that her simple hearted nicce, though thus exposed, without the protection of bolt or bar, to all the machinations of the opposite sex, had come forth unsinged from the hery ordeal, she consoled herself with the persuasion that it was owing to the chaste and cautions maxims, in which she had, as it were, steeped her to the very lips.

While the aunt laid this soothing unction to her pride, the niece treasured up the oft repeated vows of fidelity of the page. But what is the love of restless, roving man? A vagrant stream that dallies for a time with each flower upon its bank, then passes on, and leaves them all in tears.

Days, weeks, months elapsed, and nothing more was heard of the page. The pomegranite ripened, the vine yielded up its fruit, the automnal rains descended in torrents from the mountain; the Sierra

Nevada became covered with a snowy mantle, and wintry blasts howled through the halls of the Alhambra-still he came not. The winter passed away. Again the genial spring burst forth with song and blossom and balmy zephyr; the snows melted from the mountains, until none remained but on the lofty summit of the Nevada, glistening through the sultry summer air. Still nothing was heard of the forgetful page.

In the meantime, the poor little Jacinta grew pale and thoughtful. Her former occupations and amusements were abandoned, her silk lay entangled, her guitar unstrung, her flowers were neglected, the notes of her bird unheeded, and her eyes, once so bright, were dimmed with secret weeping.

At a late hour one midsummer night, after her aunt had retired to rest, she remained alone in the ball of the tower, seated beside the alabaster fountain. It was here that the faithless page had first knelt and kissed her hand; it was here that he had often vowed eternal fidelity. The poor little damsel's heart was overladen with sad and tender recollections, her tears began to flow, and slowly fell drop by drop into the fountain. By degrees the crystal water became agitated, and hubble—hubble—bubbleboiled up and was tossed about, until a female figure, richly clad in Moorish robes, slowly rose to view.

Jacinta was so frightened that she fled from the hall, and did not venture to return. The next morning she related what she had seen to her annt, but the good lady treated it as a phantasy of her troubled mind, or supposed she had fallen asleep and dreamt beside the fountain. "Thou hast been thinking of the story of the three Moorish princesses that once inhabited this tower," continued she, " and it has entered thy dreams."

"What story, aunt? I know nothing of it."

"Thou hast certainly heard of the three princesses, Zayda, Zorayda, and Zorahayda, who were confined in this tower by the king their father, and agreed to fly with three Christian cavaliers. The two first accomplished their escape, but the third failed in her resolution, and it is said, died in this tower. The lover of Zorahayda was thy ancestor. He long hemoaned his Moorish love, but time cured him of his grief, and he married a Spanish lady, from whom thou art descended."

Jacinta ruminated upon these words. "That what I have seen is no phantasy of the brain," said she to herself, I am confident. If indeed it be the spirit of the gentle Zorahayda, which I have heard lingers about this tnwer, of what should I be afraid? I'll watch by the fountain to night—perhaps the visit will be repeated."

Towards midnight, when every thing was quiet, she again took her seat in the hall. As the bell in the distant watch-tower of the Alhambra struck the midnight hour, the fountain was again agitated; and bubble—bubble—hubble—it tossed about the waters until the Moorish female again rose to view. She was young and bcantiful; her dress was rich with jewels, and in her hand she held a silver lute. Jacinta trembled and was faint, but was reassured by the soft and plaintive voice of the apparition, and the sweet expression of her pale, melancholy conntenance.

"Daughter of mortality," said she, "what aileth thee? Why do thy tears trouble my fountain, and thy sighs and plaints disturb the quiet watches of the might?"

"I weep because of the faithlessness of man, and I bemoan my solitary and forsaken state." "Take comfort; thy sorrows may yet have an end. Thou beholdest a Moorish princess, who, like thee, was unhappy in her love. A Christian knight, thy ancestor, won my heart, and would have borne me to his native land and to the bosom of his church. I was a convert in my heart, but I lacked conrage equal to my faith, and lingered till too late. For this the evil genii are permitted to have power over me, and I remain enchanted in this tower until some pure Christian will deign to break the magic spell. Wilt thou undertake the task?"

"I will," replied the damsel trembling.

"Come hither then, and fear not; dip thy hand in the fountain, sprinkle the water over me, and baptise me after the manner of thy faith; so shall the enchantment be dispelled, and my troubled spirit have repose."

The damsel advanced with faltering steps, dipped her hand in the fountain, collected water in the palm, and sprinkled it over the pale face of the phantom.

The latter smiled with ineffable benignity. She dropped her silver lute at the feet of Jacinta, crossed her white arms upon her bosom, and melted from sight, so that it seemed merely as if a shower of dew drops had fallen into the fountain.

Jacinta retired from the hall filled with awe and wonder. She scarcely closed her eyes that night, but when she awoke at day-break out of a troubled slumber, the whole appeared to her like a distem. pered dream. On descending into the hall, however, the truth of the vision was established, for, beside the fountain, she beheld the silver lute glittering in the morning sunshine. She hastened to her aunt, to relate all that had befallen her, and called her to behold the lute as a testimonial of the reality of her story. If the good lady had any lingering doubts, they were removed when Jacinta touched the instrument, for she drew forth such ravishing tones as to thaw even the frigid bosom of the immaculate Fredegonda, that region of eternal winter, into a genial flow. Nothing hut supernatural melody could have produced such an effect.

Rumour soon spread the news abroad. The inhabitants of Granada thronged to the Alhambra to eatch a few notes of the transcendent music that floated about the tower of Las Infantas.

The report of her wonderful powers spread from city to city. Malaga, Seville, Cordova, all hecame successively mad on the theme; nothing was talked off throughout Andalusia but the beautiful minstrel of the Alhambra. How could it be otherwise among a people so musical and gallant as the Andalusians, when the lute was magical in its powers, and the minstrel inspired by love ?

While all Andalusia was thus music mad, a dif ferent mood prevailed at the court of Spain. Philip V:, as is well known, was a miserable hypochon driac, and subject to all kinds of fancies. Nothing was found to be so efficacious in dispelling the royal megrims as the powers of music; the queen took care, therefore, to have the best performers, both vocal and instrumental, at hand, and retained the famous Italian singer Farinelli about the court as a kind of royal physician. At the moment we treat of, however, a freak had come over the mind of this sapient and illustrious Bourbon that surpassed all former vagaries. Alter a long spell of imaginary illness, which set all the strains of Farinelli, and the consultations of a whole orchestra of court fiddlers at defiance, the monarch fairly, in idea, gave up the ghost, and considered himself absolutely dead.

In the midst of this fearful dilemma a rumour

reached the court, of the female minstrel who was turning the brains of all Andalusia. The queen dispatched missions in all haste to summon her to St. Idefonso, where the court at that time resided.

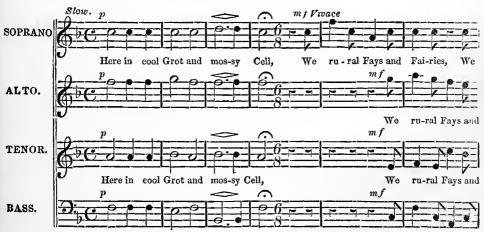
Within a few days, as the queen with her maids of honour was walking in those stately gardens, intended, with their avenues and terraecs and fountains, to eclipse the glories of Versailles, the farfamed minstrel was conducted into her presence. The imperial Elizabetta gazed with surprise at the youthful and nnpretending appearance of the little being that had set the world madding. She was in her picturesque Andalusian dress, her silver lute was in her hand, and she stood with modest and downcast eyes, but with a simplicity and freshness of beauty, that still bespoke her "the Rose of the Alhambra." Jacinta followed the Queen with downcast eyes through files of guards and crowds of courtiers. They arrived at length at a great cham-ber hung with black. The windows were closed to exclude the light of day: a number of yellow wax apers in silver sconces diffused a lugubrions light, and dimly revealed the figures of mutes in mourning dresses, and courtiers who glided about with noiseless step and woe-begone visage. On the midst of a funeral bed or bier, his hands folded on his breast, and the tip of his nose just visible, lay extended this would be buried monarch.

The queen entered the chamber in silence, and pointing to a footstool in an obscure corner, beckoned to Jacinta to sit down and commence. At first she touched her lute with a faltering hand, but gathering confidence and animation as she proceeded, drew forth such soft aerial harmony, that all present could scarce believe it mortal. As to the monarch, who had already considered himself in the world of spirits, he set it down for some angelic melody or By degrees the theme was the music of the spheres. varied, and the voice of the minstrel accompanied the instrument. She poured forth one of the legendary ballads, treating of the ancient glories of the Alhambra and the achievements of the Moors. Her whole soul entered into the theme, for with the recollections of the Alhamhra, was associated the

story of her love. The funeral chamber resonnded with the animating strain. It entered into the gloomy heart of the monarch. He raised his head and gazed around: he sat up on his eouch, his eye began to kindle—at length, leaping npon the floor, he called for sword and buckler.

The triumph of music, or rather of the enchanted lute, was complete; the demon of melancholy was cast forth; and, as it were, a dead man brought to life. The windows of the apartment were thrown open; the glorious effulgence of Spanish sunshine burst into the late lugubrious chamber; all eyes sought the lovely enchantress, but the lute had fallen from her hand, she had sunk upon the earth, and the next moment was elasped to the bosom of Ruyz de Alarcon.

The nuptials of the happy couple were shortly after celebrated with great splendour; but hold-I hear the reader ask, how did Ruyz de Alarcon account for his long neglect? O that was all owing to the opposition of a proud pragmatical old father: besides, young people, who really like one another, soon come to an amicable understanding, and bury all past grievances when once they meet. But how was the proud pragmatical old father reconciled to the match? O his scruples were easily overcome by a word or two from the queen, especially as dignities and rewards were showered upon the blooming favourite of royalty. Besides, the lute of Jacinta, you know, possessed a magic power, and could control the most stubborn head and hardest hreast. And what became of the enchanted lute? O that is the most curious matter of all, and plainly proves the truth of all this story. That lute remained for some time in the family, but was purloined and earried off, as was supposed, by the great singer Farinelli, in pure jcalousy. At his death it passed into other hands in Italy, who were ignorant of its mystic powers, and melting down the silver, transferred the strings to an old cremona fiddle. The strings still retain something of their magic virtues. A word in the reader's ear, hut let it go no further-that fiddle is now bewitching the whole world-it is the fiddle of Paganini !-- The Alhambra, by Washington Irving.



## HERE IN COOL GROT.



## MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.





#### WE'LL BESIDE MEET THE DUSKY GLEN.



We'll meet beside the dusky glen, on yon burn side, Where the bushes form a cosie den, on yon burn side; Though the broomy knowes be green,

Yet there we may be seen, [side.

But we'll meet-we'll meet at e'en, down by yon burn

I'll lead you to the birken bower, on yon burn side, Sae sweetly wove wi'woodbine flower, on yon burn side;

There the busy prying eye, Ne'er disturbs the lovers' joy,

Awa', ye rude unfeeling crew, frae yon burn side,-Those fairy seenes are no' for you, by yon burn side; There fancy weaves her theme,

By the sweetly murm'ring stream, [side, And the rock-lodg'd echoes skim, down by yon burn [side,

Now the planting taps are ting'd wi' goud, on yon burn And gloaming draws her foggy shroud o'er yon burn

Far frae the noisy scene. [side,

I'll through the fields alane, [burn side. While in ither's arms they lie, down by yon burn side. There we'll meet-my ain dear Jean! down by yon

No. 12.

#### MOZART, AND THE GERMAN OPERA.

No man was more gifted by God with the power of enjoying life, and every thing in this beautilal world of ours, than Mozart. And this is the blessing which Heaven confers only on its especial favourites. Few men ever passed through a happier or higher existence. And we may say of Mozart, as Tacitus did of his valiant and noble son-in-law, "Whatsoever of him we loved, whatsoever we admired, remains, and shall remain, in the minds of men, the eternity of ages, the fame of things."

"Brief, bright, and glorious, was his young career."

He was at five years old, when other children are mere animals, an accomplished musician and composer. He died at three or four-and-thirty; just as he had completed his world-famous requiem, which the other day ushered Napoleon to his final restingplace on the banks of the Seine, amongst the French people whom he loved so well. These are the words of his will. Let us hope that, the wish being fulfilled, he now sleeps well. But for Mozart, if I did not firmly believe in the maxim inculcated by the Grecian sage and the Roman satirist,

"Whom the gods love die young,"

I should say of the composer, in the language of the Frenchman,

"Hélas sa brulante énergie, A fait sa gloire et son malheur ; Son cœur inspirait son génie ; Son génie a brisé son cœur."\*

Perhaps no man living ever had a higher musical genius, or greater knowledge to support it. He did for music what Pericles did for oratory, whereof George Croly has well written—

"Full arm'd to life the portent sprung, Minerva from the Thunderer's brow; And his the sole, the sacred hand, That waved her ægis o'er the land."

Since Mozart's day great additions have been made to the orchestra, especially in wind instruments; great improvements have been made in the instruments already in use; and men of exalted genius-Beethoven and Weber-have succeeded him, and taken their position near him, as men who have achieved that renown which shall never pass away. But with all advantages and modern aids, none have surpassed him in any single effort; and for number and variety of compositions, which even an age of barbarism, could it ever again arrive, never would permit to perish, he stands altogether unrivalled and alone. The Fidelio and Der Freischutz are works of the very loftiest character-the composers have made the most skilful possible use of the enlarged orchestral means placed at their disposal; but if they have equalled some of Mozart's compositions, they have not excelled any one of them; and no other opera, except these two, is for one moment to be compared to any opera of Mozart's.

I do well believe that no man ever had a higher inspiration than Mozart—he was the Shakspeare of music. In all his works, like the great dramatist, he mingles tragedy and comedy, and is equally remarkable in both for the intensity and depth of feeling. What a wonderful composition is his *Don Giovanni*! How various the characters, how admirably are they not depicted in his music! What

\* Alas his burning energy, caused at once his glory and his pain; his heart inspired his genius, his genius has broken his heart. character was ever hetter sustained, from first to last than that of "our ancient friend, Don Juan," the heartless libertine ; but one in whom, from his gay and dauntless courage, his graces and accomplishments, we never for a moment lose a breathless in-terest! We feel towards him as we do towards the Anastasius of Hope's grand romance. Love him we must not, pity him we ought not; but we cannot help admiring—ay, and enjoying him. How mighty, too, Mozart is in the management of his ghost! Here he shows a genius which Walter Scott and Shakspeare alone share with him. The ghost of Hamlet's father, clad in complete steel, revisiting the glimpses of the moon and making night hideous, is not a whit more dread than the apparition of the commander's statue shaking the earth by its ponderous steps, ushered in by unearthly music and singing in tones that seem to have come from another world, and for once permitted to be uttered in this. Byron's Don Juan is a fine dashing fellow; but the poet was unable, though he strove, to raise him to the standard of the maestro's Don Giovanni. He is from first to last an Englishman-the child of a cold clime-and not a Spaniard of Seville, whose veins run lava. The Don Giovanni of Mozart, on the contrary, is as regular a hidalgo as blue blood at the boiling point could make him; as herce and haughty as Satan; and, like him, never humbling himself before any creature mortal or immortal-except the woman he is anxious to betray. But the whole opera as a work of transcendent taste and genius, is delicious most exceedingly. Hush ! they are beginning to prepare for the overture to the Zauberflote. Certainly it is a splendid band in number, and you will soon feel in skill, moreover. The ensemble (pardon the foreign word, for I use it in the absence of any English equivalent) is perfect. The same is true of the choruses. The Germans, on their stage, have an advantage which is supreme in its effects-I mean their drill.

German music is as superior to Italian music as the rich and accurate language of the old Greeks was to the meagre Latin. Italian music is rarely addressed to anything higher than the senses; it wants depth, devotion, and earnestness; German music is always addressed to the soul. I invariably feel holier and happier after having listened to an opera of Mozart's or Beethoven's. I feel as if, through the music, I had held communion with thoughts that lay too deep for words. One, also enjoys the delight of having been engaged upon a perfect work, into every portion of which the master-mind has been thrown. There is no deficiency, as there is no predominance; the orchestra and the vocalists are made to work together on terms of as perfect equality as the singers in a duet; and both are managed, however numerous may be the band, the chief vocalists, and the chorus, with the same consummate ease and with the same singleness of purpose-the same concentration to effect, that the less learned and enthusiastic composers of any other school could display with respect to one singer and one fiddle to accompany. The great charm of the German opera is the ensemble and equality in all points of interest between the vocal and instrumental melodies and concerted pieces; and the conviction that the whole work has been wrought by the inspirations and labour of one mighty mind. In Italian operas your present praise and pleasing recollections relate almost exclusively to the singers—Pasta, Grisi, Tamburini, Ruhini. The composer is comparatively little thought of: you know that his ana

has been wonderfully embellished and improved by the art of the singer, and your gratitude is great in proportion to the vocalist. You reflect, as the notes come back to charm you in your bed,—Oh! these are exquisite! but they are Grisi's. What would are exquisite! but they are Grisi's. What would they have been from any other lips? None know! but certainly nothing comparable to what they were. And thenceforth and for ever, Grisi's Mary Magdalene face (as Guido loved to paint the Magdalene) is for ever associated with the air you have heard, and it usurps your memory as a thing of grace and beauty in the precise mode and form in which she executed it, and for this no other can be substituted. But you think little of the composer-the Rossini, Donizetti, Bellini-and you dream only of snatches of the opera as sung by this or that performer; the opera, as a whole, has raised in you no lofty and soul-searching sensations; there has been nothing of what Aristotle styles a purification of the passions.

In a German opera, on the contrary, you commune with the spirit of the master; and forgetting singers, fiddlers, and all other accessories, as you would the common file of officers and men in a battle-field, you think of the whole opera with a devotional feeling of the composer's genins. In fact, the very peculiarities and faults of the German character tend to make great musicians-dreaminess, mysticism, enthusiasm, transcendental speculations, intense powers of labour, and aspirations scarcely earthly-these combine in giving their great men the use, as uone others have possessed it, of a language whose native seat is supposed to be in another world, and which is intelligible only to the most finely moulded of earth's creatures-those whose minds and bodies are alike attempered and attuned, and of whom you can say, with Dryden,

"This is the porcelain clay of human kind, And therefore cast into those noble moulds."

Otherwise to speak, I look upon Italy's operatic music (I exclude the church music) to be such to our senses and our feelings as Shakspeare's words might thus describe, or well nigh thus describe,—

"A violet iu the youth of primy nature-

Forward, not permanent—sweet, not lasting,— The perfume and suppliance of a minute; No more."

On the other hand, one might say of the music of Germany, with Milton, that it is

"----- such as raised

To height of noblest temper heroes old, Arming to battle; and instead of rage Dcliberate valour breathed, firm and unmoved With dread of death to flight or foul retreat; Nor wanting power to mitigate or suage With solemn touches troubled thoughts, and chase Anguish, and doubt, and fear, and sorrow, and pain, From mortal or immortal minds."

I know no overtures which are to be mentioned in the same category with that of the Zauberflote, except those of Der Freischutz and Coriolan. True, one can never tire of the first,—it is so true, so admirable an introduction and exposition of the whole story of the opera. Every thing is shewn you there as in the magic mirror of the wizard: the mutterings of demons and the strivings of the evil one are not made less apparent to you than the passages of free and gentle domestic life under the shadow of the reverent and holy forest. When Weber's demons are on the scene, he seems to make the very air murky by his weird sounds. You do not know the other over ture. Well ! I believe it is an overture by Beethoven to an opera (never written) on the story of Corio-

lanus; and by the majesty of Jupiter Stator, it is composed with Shaksperian ability. The whole story of the patrician's services, pride, wrath, triumphs, vengeance, pious yielding, indignation, death-strugle, and last gasp, accompanied by a faint and final tap upon a mufiled drum, which leaves you in abrupt and horror-stricken silence, is told as distinctly to the reader of Sir T. North's *Plutareh* by the sounds of the composer as by the page of the poet. Now for the opera. \* \* \* What do I think? I am delighted! Never in my life have I (with one or two exceptions in minor singers) heard an act of an opera more exquisitely performed. And oh what delicious music ! I never knew it before except in fragments! How flowing is the melody given to the singers-how delightful the sympathy of the orchestra! Bravo, maestro! You who, as a musician, combine the inventive genius of Homer and the scientific mind of Newton, bravo! And let us not omit to praise the singers! That man Staudigl, who, as I see from the hill, plays Sarastro, has one of the finest bass voices that was ever heard-the richest, the most flexible; and his style is chaste to perfection, and his feeling to the music of his great countryman is religious and true. Every note he sings hears upon it the imperial impress of Mozart. Surely, it is a pleasure to have a faithful utterance of such notes as Mozart issued! The first woman, too, is an excellent musician, and has great compass of voice, and no inconsiderable powers as a vocal actress. Haitzinger, too, whom we knew of old in Monck Mason's time, has high merit, and great skill and judgment. I like Mellinger, who plays Papageno, moreover, very much. I admire his singing for its correctness, and, if I may so say, appropriateas an actor. \* \* \* You have not yet been able to understand the story? You will recollect the beautiful, and hearth and heart-home super-tition of the activity with constant. stition of the ancients which connected you with the world of spirits, and infinitely raised your heart and hopes as a child of clay. I mean that about the good and the evil genius which attended and accompanied, invisibly, man from the first moment he was born-the one persuading to good, the other to evil-things of middle essence, called genii, because they have tuition over us from the time we are born. Upon this principle of the existence of supernatural suggesters of good and evil to man, the opera turns. Of course you have a pair of lovers. They are despitefully used by the Queen of Night and her attendants, and comforted by angels of light dressed in white and spangles. But every thing except the music is trash not worth thinking of; and as we have the good fortune not to know a word of German, we shall not be troubled by the abomination of contact with any thing but the music. And the music is certainly, both as regards the solos, the concerted picces, and the opera, in Mozart's very highest style of art. \* \* \* Now that the Magic Flute has come to its conclusion, you desire to know what I think. I think, from the ineflable beauty of the music, the merits of the performers of all classes. and the genuine enthusiasm of an audience who have felt and enjoyed what they heard, that the German opera has acclimated itself to this country; and that we shall never again pass a season without being able to hear the first of all musical compositions whereof the world knows, performed with ability and truth. \* \* \* Let me recommend you carnestly to see the Oberon, as played by the Germans. It never will be so popular as We-

ber's Freischutz-the subject is not so good or so genial; but, nevertheless, it is a work of surpassing genius. Performed with singers true to the music, and with choruses and an orchestra perfectly competent to do their duty, the opera wears a very different form, indeed, from what it did on the English stage. The sacrilegious impudence of the spoiled favourites of the London galleries was never more conspicuously displayed than upon the production of Oberon at Covent Garden. Poor Weher entreated the singers, with tearful eyes, to be good enough to sing the music as he wrote it, and not to deform his composition by their unmeaning shakes and abominable additions; but in vain. Mr. Braham, with lofty coolness, informed the German that no English andience would tolerate his music if it were not for the mode in which he sung it. Even then this was a foul libel. But since then the public taste in music has become infinitely more pure amongst all classes of the people. We have for several years past had an opportunity, not only of hearing the inest singers in the world, but, in the French phrase, assisting at Operas got up after a style of elegance with an ensemble-that was never equalled in any other country. But nothing, perhaps, tended so much to refine and elevate the taste of common audiences as the introduction of Malibran to the English stage. The Somnambula probably charmed John Bull more than any opera he ever heard, and no singer or actress ever gave him more unmixed delight. Apropos to delight, however, you should hear Mozart's Marriage of Figaro by the Germans. It is admirably cast; and never was there any thing wrought by mortal brain more delicious than the You have seen it at the Italian Opera. music. No doubt the artists who sing in it are of the very highest order of excellence. Yet your recollection of them will not in the least interfere with the fulness of your enjoyment from the performance of the Germans. The pleasure is of another, hut not of a less exalted order. You ask about Fidelio. Most beantiful-most grand it is; but I confess in hearing it, my thoughts dwell on Schroeder Devrient, whom Malibran even did not equal in the impersonation of the heroine. No character on any stage was ever performed with greater tenderness, truth, and power, than Fidelio by Madame Devrient. Stockel Heinfetter sings the part correctly and ably; but it wants the soul which Devrient threw into it. I wonder what has become of Devrient. It is strange that after having won such high favour in this terrestrial paradise of singers and fiddlers, she has never been induced to pay us a second visit. She was not handsome-quite the reverse. The eyes-the whole countenance was ordinarily dull, but recollect what fire and passion she could throw into them on occasions when she rose to the height of her great argument. The face was only as a mask to a mind of genins and beauty. Truth to say, however, the only pretty German actress I ever saw was Sontag; and she, in my eyes, was pretty enough to redeem the character of a nation .- Fraser's Magazine.

## THE MUSIC OF THE REFORMERS.

THE feeble rays of divine truth which broke from the mind of Wickliff, on a dark and corrupt age, and which increased their radiance, till the deformity and impions domination of the Romish church was broken at the reformation, carried with them some alteration in the choral service of the church. A more simplified style of singing was practised by the followers of Wickliff, and which was carried forward by the Hussites.

With these examples before him, Calvin gave a still greater impulse to dissent from the choral service of the popish church, with which, on many other accounts, it is well known he had but little sympathy. With the assistance of Theodore Beza, he introduced a new version of the psalms, set to music by Guillaume Franco, in one part only. These compositions soon became popular through all the reformed churches.

Martin Luther, from having an ear, no doubt more correctly attuned to melodions sounds than those of the two foregoing celebrated men, and a soul on which devotion ascended more readily on the sublime strains of devotion, retained more of the splendonr of the established choral service. He composed many hymns, some of which he himself set to music; specimens of both remain to the present time. The hymn beginning, "Great God, what do I see aud hear," &c., and the "Old Hundred" tune, are considered, amidst some doubts, to be of the number.

In England many of the reformers disupproved of the secular spirit, and cumbersome ceremonies, of the musical part of the church service, and Lattimer went so far as to forbid singing of any kind within the limits of his diocese.

Marbeck is supposed to have been the first who set the Cathedral service of the Reformed Church of England. He composed but for one voice, and they were published in 1511. Elizabeth, in her direction to the clergy, gave particular attention to the music of the church, saying, "Let there be a modest and distinct song used in all parts of the common prayers of the church; and for the comforting of all such as delight in music, it may be permitted, that, in the heginning and in the end of the common prayer, either morning or evening, there may be sung an hymn, or such like song, to the praise of Almighty God." The purity of her motives in this affair are, however, rendered very questionable; at all events, she manifested an arbitrary spirit in the manner in which she sought to supply choristers with singing boys.—Hirst's Music of the Church.

## SUMMER MORNING AND EVENING.

The glowing morning, crown'd with youthful roses, Bursts on the world in virgin sweetness smiling, And as she treads, the waking flowers expand, Shaking their dewy tresses. Nature's choir Shaking their dewy tresses. Of untaught minstrels blend their various powers In one grand anthem, emulous to salute Th' approaching king of day, and vernat Hope Jocund trips forth to meet the healthful breeze, To mark th' expanding bud, the kindling sky, And join the general pæan. While, like a matron, who has long since done With the gay scenes of life, whose children all Have sunk before her on the lap of earth-Upon whose mild expressive face the sun Has left a smile that tells of former joys-Grey Eve glides on in pensive silence musing. As the mind triumphs o'er the sinking frame, So as her form decays, her starry beams Shed brightening lustre, till on night's still bosom Serene she sinks, and breathes her peaceful last, While on the rising breeze sad melodies, Sweet as the notes that soothe the dying pidow When angel-music calls the saint to heaven, Come gently floating: 'tis the requiem Chaunted by Philomel for day departed.

Hone's Every Day Book.

## THE LIMERICK BELLS.

THE remarkably fine bells of Limerick Cathedral were originally brought from Italy. They had been manufactured by a young native, who devoted himself enthusiastically to the work, and who, after the toil of many years, succeeded in finishing a splendid peal, which answered all the critical requirements of his own musical ear. Upon these bells the artist greatly prided himself, and they were at length bought by the prior of a neighbouring convent at a very liberal price. With the proceeds of this sale the young Italian purchased a little villa, where, in the stillness of the evening, he could enjoy the sound of his own melodious bells from the convent cliff. Here he grew old in the bosom of his family, and of domestic happiness. At length, in one of those fends common to the period, the Italian became a sufferer amongst many others. He lost his all; and, after the passing of the storm, he found himself preserved alone amid the wreck of fortune, friends, family, and The bells too, his favourite bells, were carhome. ried off from the convent, and finally removed to Ireland. For a time their artificer became a wanderer over Europe; and at last, in the hope of soothing his troubled spirit, he formed the resolution of seeking the land to which those treasures of his memory had been conveyed. He sailed for Ireland; and proceeding up the Shannon on a beautiful evening, which reminded him of his native Italy, his own bells from the towers of Limerick Cathedral suddenly struck upon his ear. Home and all its loving ties, happiness, early recollections, all—all were in the sound, and went to his heart. His face was turned towards the cathedral in the attitude of intently listoning; but when the vessel landed he was found to be a corpse.—Metropolitan.

#### HANDEL MADE EASY.

WHILST Dibdin was pedestrianising in Corowall, he chanced to meet a village choir going, one Sunday morning, from their own village to a neighbouring parish to assist their brethren of the pitch-pipe in the performance of a "Rorytory," as it was denominated, in honour of their new vicar.

"My good friend," said Dibdin to the violoncello, a thin, lanky tailor of the village of Trevery, "my good friend, whose compositions do you sing?" "Handel, sir, of course—nothing like Handel,"

"Handel, sir, of course-nothing like Handel," replied the owner of the big baritone, rather supercilionsly.

"Indeed !" remarked Charles; " do you not find him rather difficult ?"

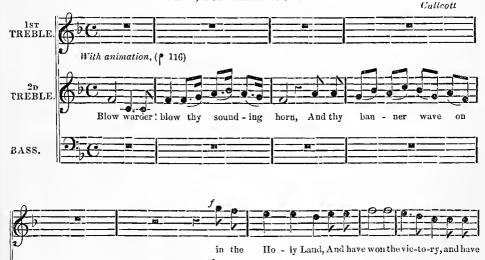
"Oh dear! no, sir," replied the man, " not nowpractice does much."

"Yes," replied Dibden ; practice does much, but knowledge more."

"Why, you see, sir," continued the violoncello, "we did find him rather hard at first, but you see we altered him."--New Monthly Magazine.

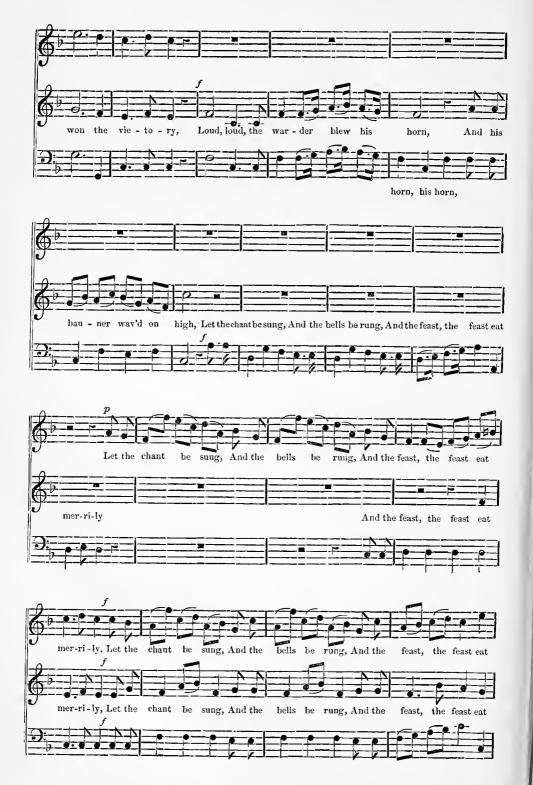
## THE RED CROSS KNIGHT.

#### GLEE, FOR THREE VOICES.











THE BRITISH MINSTREL: AND



## MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.



No. 13.





MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.



## THE EDITOR'S KALEIDOSCOPE.

#### "Another, and another still succeeds."-MACBETH.

It will be easily admitted that times are changed; and that so, in like manner, is what was called the taste of the town; when we find that the deep, earnest, sublime music of Handel and Mozart is appreciated, and night after night, throughout a season, applauded by crowded audiences consisting of the humble classes of society; while the clattering noise of Donizetti is provided constantly as the appropriate entertainment for the ears of the higher classes; who, not very long time since, had a monopoly of musical taste and enthusiasm, of musical knowledge and critical power, and, finally, of a capability of a pure and lofty musical enjoyment. The frequenters of our national theatres are, now-a-days, delighted with "Acis and Galatea," and the "Marriage of Figaro," the frequenters of the Italian Opera are devoted to the enjoyment of such productions as "Gemma di Vergy," "Lucia di Lammermoor," and "L'Elisir d' Amore." Byron's story about the critical taste of the Lady Mayoress is no longer an acclimated fact, further than belonging to the feelings and manners of bygone days. "Rut your Italianos! give me an English ballad." A Lady Mayoress in our time might still feel "Rot your Italianos! leave them to the west end and your high folk, but give me something of Handel's-of Weber's-of Mozart's, of Beethoven's." In a word, within the last few years, mu-sical taste has stepped beyond the pale of aristocracy, in which it was so long imprisoned, and is walking abroad amongst the people.

"Gemma di Vergy," we observed last month, is very had; perhaps "Lucia di Lammermoor" is not intrinsically worse, but it is more offensive. Of "Gemma" we know nothing; and the composer and the writer of the libretto arc alike determined that our ignorance never, through them, shall be enlightened. A more stale, flat, and unprofitable affair, full of sound and fury signifying nothing, was, perhaps, never heard. But there is no sacrilege about it. Harrible, however, is the desecration of Scott's most exquisite "tale of tears," alike in the libretto and in the music of "Lucia di Lanmermoor." When the composer has genius, he translates the poetry of a story into music—bear witness "Don Giovanni!" bear witness "Der Freischutz!" But thronghout the whole of " Lucia di Lammermoor" there is not a single gush of poetry, not one ray of genius-no terror, nu pity! The notion that Donizetti seems to have of terror, resolves itself into the crash of the cymbals; of pity, into the dissonant shrieks of the orchestra. Never was there a story wrought with the most consummate art and power, so brutally marred—a fatidical story, which, if properly cast in the mould of the lyric drama, and dressed in the language of Æschylus and Sophocles, might have been played of old to the rapture of an Athenian andience. We sicken at the profanation. "L'Eliser d'Amore," is a poor thing; but here the story and the music ure worthy of each other. Donizetti should try no higher flights .- Ainsworth's Magazine.

Mozart's Zauberflote was enacted on Wednesday; the beauties of this wonderful composition can only be heard through the medium of a German company. It would have been a sort of sacrilege if such

music, so sung, had not obtained some degree of protection: for, to say nothing of its other treasures, the *Isis and Osiris*, by STAUDICL, is something (as is written, we believe, somewhere by somebody) not only occasionally to remember, but never entirely to forget. Sarastra, in the hands of this great artist is a piece of profound painting—an odd phrase to use, perhaps, but one that conveys a speaking truth to those who will see and hear, and reflect. It is the embodiment of the composer's thought—a glorious creation by the one, and a complete fulfilment thereof by the other. But the Pamina of Madame Heinfetter is little, if at all, short of the rival personation; and we doubt if, taken altogether, there is a more thoroughly beautiful performance in the whole German Repertoire, than the Zauberflote by Mozart.—Age, May 15th, 1842. Spontini's opera, Die Vestalin, was produced by

Spontini's opera, Die Vestalin, was produced by the German company at Covent Garden theatre on Thursday night. It is a composition of great heauty; resembling Norma in many respects as to the character of subject; but far transcending that popular opera in all essential points, whether of pure and simple melody, or of noble instrumentation. But the singularly quiet and truthful character of its pathos, will not tend to its popularity amongst us. Madame Schödel surprised us with the power and sweetness of many passages in her performance of the Vestal; and in what fell to the share of Standigl (the bass singer) as High Priest, that singer was magnificent Such a "giant voice" was never in our recollection guided by a taste so pure, a genins in all respects so masterly.—Examiner, May 14th, 1842.

SPONTINI'S Die Vestalin was brought out on Thursday night; but not with sufficient success, we imagine, to induce a repetition of it. SPONTINI is a composer who has maintained a respectable station in his art, hut no more. He was brought up in the CIMAROSA, and afterwards occupied the place of Director at the Conservatory of Naples. In all the mechanical resources of dramatic composition he is an adept; and the process of constructing an opera secundem artem he has completely attained; but his works want the stamp of true genius; and hence few of them have attained lasting popularity, and probably none will outlive him. Die Vestalin is regarded as his hest opera; and at Paris it was, for a time, much admired. The libretta of Norma is chiefly derived from it; and of the two operas, SPONTINI'S IS much the better: it has stronger evidences of the musician's art-more variety and greater power. The scena "Götter hört mein heisses Flehn" is worth the whole of Norma. Die Ves-talin, being formed on the Italian model, is little suited to the powers of a German company; who uniformly fail when they quit their own school and endeavour to naturalise the operas of foreign masters. They wear the dress of Italy but awkwardly, and always seem, as they are, constrained and emha-rassed by the attempt. Under this disadvantage, Madame SCHODEL's personation of the offending Vestal deserves high commendation; her performance was full of expression and she sang with the skill of an accomplished artist. STAUNICL's representation of the High Priest was magnificent. - But with these performers our commendations must end. Spectator, May 14th, 1842.

The German company, as it stands, has but one singer, who is Herr Standigl; and one voice, the property of Madame Stöckl Heinfetter.—*Athenœum*, *May* 21st, 1842.

#### THE WORKHOUSE GIRL.

THE Rev. Mr. Warner, in his "Literary Recollections," relates the following romantic story :-- Mrs. Hackman's garden, in which she found particular pleasure, stood in need, as is usual in the spring season, of a weeder; and John, the footman, being despatched to the poor house to select a little pauper girl for the performance of this necessary labour, brought back a diminutive female of eight or nine years of age, and pointed out the humble task in which she was to employ herself. The child, alone amid the flowers, began to 'warble her native woodnotes wild' in tones of more than common sweetness. Mrs. Hackman's chamber window happened to be thrown up; she heard the little weeder's solitary song; was struck with the rich melody of her voice, and inquired from whom it proceeded. 'Naney Bere, of the poor house,' was the answer. By Mrs. Hackman's order, the songstress was immediately brought to the lady's apartment, who was so pleased with her naivete, intelligence, and apparently amiable disposition, that she determined to remove the warbling Nancy from the workhouse, and attach her to her own kitchen establishment. The little maiden, however, was too good and attractive to be permitted to remain long in the kitchen. Mrs. Hackman soon preferred her to the office of lady's maid, and had her carefully instructed in all the elementary branches of education. The intimate intereourse that now subsisted between the patroness and the protegee quickly ripened into the warmest affection on the one part, and the most grateful attachment on the other. Nancy Bere was attractively lovely, and still more irresistible from an uncommon sweetness of temper, gentleness of disposition, and feminine softness of character; and Mrs. Hackman, whose regard for her daily increased, proposed at length to her complying husband, that they should adopt the pauper orphan as their own daughter. Every possible attention was henceforth paid to the education of Miss Bere; and, I presume, with the best success, as I have always understood that she became a highly accomplished young lady. Her humility and modesty, however, never forsook her, and her exaltation to Mrs. Hackman's family seemed only to strengthen her gratitude to her partial and generous benefactress. Shortly after this alteration in the workhouse girl's fortunes, a clergyman of respectable appearance, had taken lodgings in Lymington, for the purpose of amusing himself with partridge shooting. The hospitable Mr. Hackman called upon the stranger—shot with him, and in-vited him to his house. The invitations were repeated, and accepted, as long as the shooting days lasted; nor had many taken place ere their natural cffeet on a young unmarried clerk was produced. He became deeply enamoured of Miss Bere, and offered his hand. She, for anght I know, might have been 'nothing loth' to change the condition of a recluse for the more active condition of a clergyman's wife; but as the gentleman had no possession save his living, and as Mr. Hackman could not, out of a life estate, supply Miss Bere with a fortune, it was judged prudent, under these pecuniary disabilities, that she should decline the honour of the alliance. A year elapsed without the parties having met, and it was generally imagined that absence had obliterated from their minds the remembrance of each other. But such was not the case. At the ensuing partridge season, the gentleman returned to Lymington; and, with the title of 'very reverend' prefixed to bis name (for he had obtained a deanery in the interval), once more repeated his solicitations and his offers. These, as there was no obstacle to the marriage, were accepted. The amiable pair were united; and lived, for many years, sincerely attached to each other—respected, esteemed, and heloved by all around them. The death of the husband dissolved at length the happy connexion. His lady survived his loss for many years; and a few years ago the little warbling pauper, Nancy Bere, of Lymington workhouse, quitted this temporal being, the universally famented widow of the Right Rev. Thomas Thurloe, Palatine Bishop of Durham.

## SCOTTISH MUSIC.

From "Lays and Lyrics," by Capt. Chas. Gray, R.M.

#### - Strike up, my masters!

But touch the chords with a religious softness; Teach sound to warble through the night's dull ear, Till Melancholy start from her lazy couch, And Carelessness grow convert to attention, OLD PLAY.

O SWEET are Scotland's lyric strains, Of days long past the sole remains; By nameless bards her lays were sung, And saved by dark Tradition's tongue. But sweeter far than Doric rhyme Her melodies of the olden time; O sweet are they as mavis' note Wild-warblen through its little throat; Sweet as the skylark's early strain, When Spring walks tiptoe o'er the plain Soft as the breeze at evening's close, When dew hangs on the blushing rose; Softer than Beauty's love franght sigh Beneath a watchful guardian's eye; More plaintive than the blackbird's song, When evening stills the choral throng; More mournful than the nightingale, When not a whisper stirs the vale; As simple as the cuckoo's lay Heard from the wood at close of day: Or angel's harps, when martyrs die, Heard chiming from the balmy sky!

O when shall I on Fife's loved plain List Scottish melodies again, As erst on winter nights so drear, They fell on my delighted ear And eharmed my soul? The sooth to say, The cares of life would pass away Unnoted; while the boars flew by On the glad wings of melody. Now sad of heart, and dull of ear My native strains I may not hear.

O when shall Roslin's ruined wall The memory of the past recall? That chaunt, as sweet as lovers' rows— 'The bonnie broom o' Cowdenknowes?' 'Auld Robin Gray,' and Jenny's woes; Or 'Barbara Allan's' mournful close; Or 'Gala Water,' round me roll— Or 'Ewe-bughts, Marion,' thrill my soul? When shall I list that plaintive lay, 'The forest flowers are wede away?' O'er my lone heart the notes prevail Of 'Waly, Waly's' woeful tale? That wail so touching, soft and tender,

12 . . .

'Ah woes my heart that we should sunder?' Or that sad dirge, without a marrow— 'My true love found a grave in Yarrow?' Or 'Highland Mary's' heavenly strain Suffuse my eyes with tears again? For simple words, and musie's tone, Can make another's woes our own; And I have o'er the harp-strings bent, Rapt in song's sweetest ravishment! Enchanting strains! rude, simple, wild, I've loved you from a very child; When, wedded to the poet's song, Your thrilling tones are all divine : The mingled strains my joys prolong— The happy past again is mine;— I live in days of auld langsyne!

Spike Island, Cove of Cork.

# O WAT YE WHA'S IN YON TOWN.





O, wat ye wha's in yon town, Ye see the e'enin sun upon? The fairest dame's in yon town, That e'enin sun is shining on. Now haply down yon gay green shaw, She wanders by you spreading tree; How blest ye flowers that round her blaw, Ye catch the glances o' her e'e!

How blest ye birds that round her sing, And welcome in the blooming year l And doubly welcome be the spring, The season to my Lucy dear.

The sun blinks blithe on yon town, And on yon bonnie braes o' Ayr; But my delight in yon town, And dearest bliss, is Lucy fair.

Without my love, not a' the charms O' Paradise could yield me joy; But gi'e me Lucy in my arms, And welcome Lapland's dreary sky!

My cave wad be a lover's bower, Tho' raging winter rent the air; And she a lovely little flower, That I wad tent and shelter there.

O sweet is she in yon town, Yon sinking sun's gane down upon; A fairer than's in yon town His setting beam ne'er shone upon.

If angry fate is sworn my foe, And suffering I am doomed to bear; I careless quit aught else below, But spare me-spare me, Lucy dear !

For while life's dearest blood is warm, Ae thought frae her shall ne'er depart, And she-as fairest is her form !

She has the truest, kindest heart !

O, wat ye wha's in yon town, Ye see the e'enin sun upon?

The fairest dame's in yon town That e'enin sun is shining on.

The heroine of this fine song was Lucy Johnstonemarried to Mr. Oswald, of Auchincruive; an accomplished and lovely woman, who died early in life. This beautiful burst of poetic sensibility will convey no unjust image of her attractions to succeeding generations. The song is written in the character of her husband. "Did you ever, my dear Syme," said the Poet, " meet with a man who owed more to the divine Giver of all good things than Mr. Oswald? A fine fortune;" a pleasing exterior; self-evident amiable dispositions, and an ingenuous, upright mind—and that, too, in-formed nuch beyond the usual run of young fellows of his rank; and to all this, such a woman! But of her I shall say nothing at all, in despair of saying anything adequate. In my song I have endeavoured to do jus-tion to whot would be his follows on scaing in the tice to what would he his feelings on seeing, in the scene I have drawn, the babitation of his Lucy. As I am a good deal pleased with my performance, I, in my first fervour, thought of sending it to Mrs. Oswald." What the Bard hesitated to do for himself, was done by Sume it has not how told how the lady meaningd by Syme; it has not been told how the lady received the rich incense offered to her beauty. She was rich and liberal, and might have regarded the song as a portrait of herself by a first-rate painter-worthy at least of acknowledgment.- Cunningham's Burns.

## I'LL AY CA' IN BY YON TOWN.

AIR.—Same as foregoing.

I'll ay ca' in by yon town, And by yon garden green, again; I'll ay ca' in by yon town. And see my bonnie Jean again. There's nane sall ken, there's nane sall guess, What brings me back the gate again, But she my fairest faithfu' lass, And stownlins we shall meet again. She'll wander by the aiken tree, When trystin-time draws near agaiu And when her lovely form I see, O haith, she's doubly dear again ! I'll ay ca' in by yon town,

And by yon garden green, again; I'll ay ca' in by yon town, And see my bonnie Jean again.

## MADAME CAMPORESE.

WHILST in Paris, I was introduced to Camporese, in the autumn of 1816, by Pucitta, at the house of the celebrated composer Paer. She did me the favour to sing, and was accompanied by that great master on the piano. The next place where I saw her was at the Scala at Milan. The people crowded nightly to hear her. She was an immense favourite; and many anecdotes were told of her kindness and the excellence of her disposition. The following is one.

An intimate acquaintance waited on her one morning to make a request. In the hospital for the insane, a man was confined, literally fanatico per musica; he had lost his senses on the failure of an opera, in which the labour of the composer was greater than the excellence of his music. This unfortunate had by some accident heard of Camporese, whose fame filled the city, and immediately conceived an ungovernable wish to hear her. For awhile his representations passed unnoticed, he grew outrageous, and had to be fastened to his bed. In this state, Camporese's friend had beheld him.

She was dressing for an evening party, when this representation was made to her. She paused a moment on hearing it. Then throwing a cloak over her shoulders, said, "Come then." "Whither?" "To the Ospedale." "But why? there is no occasion to go now—to-morrow, or the next day." "Tomorrow—no, indeed, if I can do this poor man good, let me go instantly." And they went.

Being shown into a room, separated from that of the maniac only by a thin wall, Camporese began to sing one of Haydn's melodics. The attendants in the next room observed their patient suddenly become less violent, then composed, at last he burst into tears. The singer now entered, she sat down, and sang again. When she had concluded, the poor composer took from under the bed a torn sheet of paper, scored with an air of his own composition, and handed it to her. There were no words, and nothing in the music, hut Camporese running it over, sang it to some words of Metastasio, with such sweetness, that the music seemed excellent. "Sing it me once more," said the maniac. She did so, and departed accompanied by his prayers, and the tears of the spectators.

Few public performers have received the same degree of countenance in private circles as Madame Camporese. She was treated, by persons of the first quality, with all the respect and attention befitting her talent and character, mingling in their entertainments, not as merely tolerated, but recognised as one whose respectable birth and connexions qualified her to mix in polished society. The Countess St. Antonio, one of the most distinguished patrons of the Italian Opera, was her firm friend; so were the Marquis and Marchioness of Bristol; and a number of celebrated names might be added.

Camporese's countenance, fraught with a power of the most vivid change of expression, accommodated itself to every grade of passion, and in all its inflexions showed the operations of a mind capable of appreciating the niceties of character. She never sang a character mcrely, without looking and acting it.

At the conclusion of the season of 1823, Madame Camporese took her final farewell of the English stage. Respected and regarded as she had been, she could not leave, witbout regret, a country where her talents had been equally appreciated and encouraged. Other performers, it is true, may have received more

enthusiastic applause in public, as claimed by their superior physical powers; but in private society, none ever received the distinction bestowed on Camporese. Her kind and affectionate disposition was very sensitive to these marks of friendly interest, and her love for the country where they had been shewn her, was manifested in her anxiety to take with her memorials of England. She took away the Worcester china, the glass, and all the articles of English produce or manufacture, which she had used during her residence here. Few things are more grateful to dwell on than these little touches of feeling, which shew the unclouded purity of the heart, beneath all those artificial coverings, with which business and the cares of life invest the character. After taking a grateful leave of those to whose kindness she felt so much indebted, Camporese returned to Italy, and along with her husband, took up her residence at Rome, where they yet continue, under their proper name of Giustiniani.

Some of her English friends have visited her since her restoration to Italy, and speak with an uniform voice of her desire to please and oblige. I have already mentioned the attention paid to her by the Marquis and Marchioness of Bristol; and when the sister of the Marchioness visited Camporese at Rome, the latter sent many little remembrances to those in England whom she looked npon with gratitnde.— *Ebers' Seven Years of the King's Theatre.* 

ANECDOTE OF MADAME MALIBRAN.—One evening she felt rather annoyed at the general prejudice, expressed by the company then present, against all English vocal compositions, the opinion being altogether in favour of foreign music; some even going so far as to assert that nothing could be good of which the air was entirely and originally of English extraction. Malibran in vain endeavoured to maintain that all countries possess, though perhaps in a less equal degree, many ancient melodies, peculiarly their own; that nothing could exceed the beauty of the Scottish, Irish, Welsh, and even some of the old English airs. She then named many compositions of our best modern composers, Bishop, Barnett, Lee, Horn, &c.; declaring her belief, that if she were to produce one of Bishop's or Horn's ballads as the works of a Signor Vescovo, or Cnerno, thus Italianising and Espagnolising their names, they would *faire furore*. In the midst of this discussion she volunteered a new Spanish song, composed, as she said, by a Don Checarreria. She commenced—the greatest attention prevailed; she tonched the notes lightly, introducing variations on repeating the symphony, and with a serions feeling, though a slight smile might be traced on her lips, began :—

> Maria trayga nn caldero, De aqua, Llama levante Maria pou tu caldero Ayamos nuestro te.

She finished—the plaudits resonnded, and the air was quoted as a further example how far superior foreign talent was to English. Malihran assented to the justice of their remarks, and agreed to yield still more to their argument, if the same air sung adagio should be found equally beautiful when played presto. The parties were agreed; when to the positive consternation of all present, and very much to the diversion of Malibran herself, the Spanish melody, which she had so divinely sung, was, on being played quick, instantly recognised as a popular English nursery song, by no means of the highest class. Shall we shock our readers when we remind them that

#### Maria trayga un caldero,

means literally, "Molly, put the kettle on !"-Memoirs of Madame Molibron.

# WHEN ROSIE WAS FAITHFU'.



I wander the glens and the wild woods alane, In their deepest recesses I make my sad mane; My harp's mournful melody joins in the strain, While sadly I sing of the days that are gane. Though Rosie is faithless, she's no the less fair, And the thoughts of her beauty but feeds my despair; With painful remembrance my bosom is full, And weary of life is the Harper of Mull. As slumb'ring I lay by the dark mountain stream, My levely young Rosie appeared in my dream; I thought her still kind, and I ne'er was sae blest, As in fancy I clasp'd the dear nymph to my breast: Thou false fleeting vision, too soon thou wert o'er; Thou wak'd'at me to tortures unequall'd before; But death's silent slumbers my griefs soon shall lull, And the green grass wave over the Harper of Mull.

No. 14.

#### THE HARPER OF MULL.

THE story of the "Harper of Mull," on which Tannahill founded the preceding song, may be thus abridged :—

In the Island of Mull there lived a harper who was distinguished for his professional skill, and the affectionate simplicity of his manners. He was attached to Rosie, the fairest flower of the island, and soon made her his bride. Not long afterwards, he set out on a visit to some low-country friends, accompanied by his Rosie, and carrying his harp, which had been his companion in all his journeys for many years. Overtaken by the shades of night, in a solitary part of the country, a cold faintness fell upon Rosie, and she sank, almost lifeless, into the harper's arms. He hastily wrapped his plaid round her shivering frame; but to no purpose. Distracted, he hurried from place to place in search of fuel to revive the dying embers of life. None could be found. His harp lay on the grass, its neglected strings vibrating to the blast. The harper loved it as his own life, but he loved his Rosie better than either. His nervous arms were applied to its sides, and ere long it lay crackling and blazing on the heath. Rosie soon revived under its genial influence, and resumed the journey when morning began to purple the cast. Passing down the side of a hill, they were met by a hunter, on horseback, who addressed Rosie in the style of an old and familiar friend. The harper, innocent himself, and unsuspicious of others, paced slowly along, leaving her in converse with the stranger. Wondering at her delay, he turned round and beheld the faithless fair seated behind the hunter on his steed, which speedily bore them out of sight. The unhappy harper, transfixed in astonishment, gazed at them. Then, slowly turning his steps homewards, he sighing exclaimed—"Fool that I mas, to burn my harp for her !"-Ramsay's Tannahill.

## THE CARPENTER'S DAUGHTER. A COUNTRY TALE.

WILLIAM JERVIS, the only son of a rich carpenter, in the county town of B----, had been attached, almost from childhood, to his fair neighbour, Mary Price, the daughter of a haberdasher in a great way of business, who lived in the same street. The earpenter, a frugal artisan of the old school, who trusted to indefatigable industry for getting on in life, had an instinctive mistrust of the more dashing and speculative trades-man, and even, in the height of prosperity, looked with cold and doubtful eyes on his son's engagement. Mr. Price's circumstances, however, seemed, and at the time were, so flourishing, and his daughter's character so excellent, that to refuse his consent would have been an unwarrantable stretch of authority. All that our prudent carpenter could do was, to delay the union, in hopes that something might still occur to break it off; and when, ten days before the time finally fixed for the marriage, the result of an unsuccessfol speculation placed Mr. Price's name in the Gazette, most heartily did he congratulate himself on the foresight which had saved him from the calamity of a portionless daughter-in-law. He had, however, miscaleulated the strength of his son's affection for poor Mary, for, on Mr. Price's lying within a very few months, of a broken heart, William Jervis, after vainly trying every mode of ippeal to his obdurate father, married the orphan girl-in the desperate hope, that the step heing once taken, and past all remedy, an only child would find forgiveness for an offenee attended by so many extenuating circumstances.

But here, too, William, in his turn, miscalculated the invincible obstinacy of his father's character. He ordered his son from his house and his presence, dismissed him from his employment, forbade his very name to be mentioned in his hearing, and up to the time at which our story begins, comported. himself exactly as if he never had had a child.

William, a dutiful, affectionate son, felt severely the deprivation of his father's affection, and Mary felt for her William; but so far as regarded their/ worldly concerns, 1 am almost afraid to say how little they regretted their change of prospects. Young, healthy, active, wrapt up in each other and in their lovely little girl, they found small difficulty and no hardship in earning—he hy his trade, at which he was so good a workman as always to command " high wages, and she by needle-work—sufficient to supply their humble wants; and when the kindness of Walter Price, Mary's brother, who had again ` opened a shop in the town, enabled them to send their little Susy to a school of a better order than their own funds would have permitted, their utmost ambition seemed gratified.

Mrs. Jervis possessed, in a remarkable degree, the rare quality ealled taste; and the ladies of B\_\_\_\_\_, delighted to find an opportunity of at once exercising their benevolence, and procuring exquisitely-fancied caps and bennets at half the cost which they had been accustomed to pay to the fine yet vulgar milliner who had hitherto raled despotically over the fashions of the place, did not fail to rescue their new and interesting protegee from the drudgery of sewing white seam, and of poring over stitching and button-holes.

For some years, all prospered in their little house.<sup>J</sup> hold. Susy grew in stature and in beauty, retaining the same look of intelligence and sweetness which had in her early childhood fascinated all beholders. Even her stern grandfather, now become a master builder, and one of the richest , tradesmen in the town, had been remarked to look long and wistfally on the lovely little girl, as, holding by her father's hand, she tripped lightly to ehurch, although, on that father himself, he never deigned to east a glance; so that the more acute denizens of B— used to prognosticate that, although William was disinherited, Mr. Jervis's , property would not go out of the family.

So matters continued awhile. Susan was eleven years old, when a stunning and unexpected blow tell upon them all. Walter Price, her kind uncle, who had hitherto seemed as prudent as he was prosperous, became involved in the stoppage of a ; great Glasgow house, and was obliged to leave the town ; whilst her father, having unfortunately accepted bills drawn by him, under an assurance that they should be provided for long before they became due, was thrown into prison for the amount. There was, indeed, a distant hope that the affairs of the Glasgow house might come round, or, at least, that Walter Price's concerns might be discntangled from theirs, and, for this purpose, his presence, as a man full of activity and intelligence, was absolutely necessary in Scotland : but this prospect was precarious and distant. In the meantime, William Jervis lay lingering in prison, his creditor relying avowedly on the chance that a rich father could not, for shame, allow his son to perish there; whilst Mary, sick, helpless, and desolate, was too .

broken-spirited to venture an application to a quarter, from whence any slight hope that she might otherwise have entertained, was entirely banished by the recollection that the penalty had been incurred through a relation of her own.

"Why should I go to him?" said poor Mary to herself, when referred by Mr. Barnard, her husband's creditor, to her wealthy father in law-"why trouble him? He will never pay my brother's debt: he would only turn me from his door, and, perhaps, speak of Walter and William in a way that would break my heart." And with her little daughter in her hand, she walked slowly back to a small room that she had hired near the gaol, and sate down sadly and heavily to the duily diminishing millinery work, which was now the only resource of the once happy family.

In the alternoon of the same day, as old Mr. Jervis was seated in a little summer house at the end of his neat garden, gravely smoking his pipe over a tumbler of spirits and water, defiling the delicious odour of his honoysuckles and sweet-briars by the two most atrocious smells on this earth-the fumes of tobacco and of gin-his meditations, probably none of the most agreeable, were interrupted, first by a modest single knock at the front-door, which, the intermediate doors being open, he heard distinctly, then by a gentle parley, and, lastly, by his old housekeeper's advance up the gravel walk, followed by a very young girl, who approached him hastily yet tremblingly, caught his rough hand with her little one, lifted up a sweet face, where smiles seemed breaking through her tears, and, in an attitude between standing and kneeling-an attitude of deep reverence-faltered, in a low, broken voice, one low, broken word-"Grandfather !"

"How came this child here?" exclaimed Mr. Jervis, endeavouring to disengage the hand which Susan had now secured within both hers-"how dared you let her in, Norris, when you knew my orders respecting the whole family ?"

"How dared I let her in?" returned the house-keeper---"how could I help it? Don't we all know that there is not a single house in the town where little Susan (heaven bless her dear face!) is not welcome? Don't the very gaolers themselves let her into the prison before hours and alter hours ? And don't the sheriff himself, for as strict as he is said to be, sanction it? Speak to your grandfather, Susy love-don't be dashed:" and, with this encouraging exhortation, the kind-hearted housekeeper retired.

Susan continued, clasping her grandfather's hand, and leaning her face over it as if to conceal the tears which poured down her cheeks like rain.

"What do you want with me, child ?" at length interrupted Mr. Jervis in a stern voice. "What hrought you here?"

"Oh, grandfather! Poor father's in prison!" "I did not put him there," observed Mr. Jervis, coldly ! "you must go to Mr. Barnard on that affair.

"Mother did go to him this morning," replied Susan, "and he told her that she must apply to you

"Well!" exclaimed the grandfather, impatiently. "But she said she dared not, angry as you were with her-more especially as it is through uncle Walter's misfortune that all this misery has happened. Mother dared not come to you.'

"She was right enough there," returned Mr Jer-"So she sent you?"

vis. "So she sent you?" "No, indeed, she knows nothing of my coming. She sent me to carry home a cap to Mrs. Taylor,

who lives in the next street, and as I was passing the door it came into my head to knock-and then Mrs. Norris brought me here-Oh, grandfather! 1 hope I have not done wrong! I hope you are not angry! but if you were to see how sad and pale poor father looks in that dismal prison; and poor mother, how sick and ill she is, how her hand trembles when she tries to work. Oh, grandfather ! if you could but see them you would not wonder at

my boldness." "All this comes of trusting to a speculating knave like Walter Price !" observed Mr. Jervis rather as a soliloquy than to the child, who, however, heard and replied to the remark.

"He was very kind to me, was uncle Walter! He put me to school to learn reading and writing, and cyphering, and all sorts of needle-work; not a charity-school, because he wished me to be amongst decent children, and not to learn bad ways. And he has written to offer to come to prison himself, if father wishes it; and indeed, indeed, grandfather, my uncle Walter is not so wicked as you think forindeed he is not."

"This child is grateful !" was the thought that passed through her grandfather's mind, but he did not give it utterance. He, however, drew her closer to him, and scated her in the summer-house at his side. "So you can read and write, and keep accounts, and do all sorts of needle-work, can you, my little maid? And you can run of errands, doubtless, and are handy about a house. Should you like to live with me and Norris, and make my shirts, and read the newspaper to me of an evening, and learn to make puddings and pies, and be my own little Susan? Eh? Should you like this?"

"Oh, grandfather !" exclaimed Susan, enchanted. "And water the flowers," pursued Mr. Jervis, " and root out the weeds, and gather the beau-pots ? Is not this a nice garden, Susy?" "Oh, beautiful! dear grandfather, beautiful!"

"And you would like to live with me in this pretty house and this beautiful garden; should you Susy

"Oh yes, dear grandfather !"

"And never wish to leave me?"

"Oh, never ! never !"

"Nor to see the dismal gaol again-the dismal, dreary gaol ?"

"Never !--- but father is to live here too?" enquired Susan, interrupting herself-" father and mother?"

"No!" replied her grandfather-" neither of them. It was you whom I asked to live here with me. I have nothing to do with them, and you must choose between us."

"They not live here! I to leave my father and my mother—my own dear mother, and she so sick ! my own dear father, and he in a gaol ! Oh, grand. father, you cannot mean it; you cannot be so cruel !'

"There is no creekty in the matter, Susan. I give you the offer of leaving your parents, and living with me; but I do not compel you to accept it. You are an intelligent little girl, and perfectly cupable of choosing for yourself. But I beg you to take notice that, by remaining with them, you will not only share, but increase their poverty; whereas, with me you will not only enjoy every comfort yourself, but relieve them from the burthen of your support.

"It is not a burthen," replied Susan, firmly-"I know that, young, and weak, and ignorant as I am now, I am yet of some use to my dear mother, and of some comfort to my dear father; and every day 1

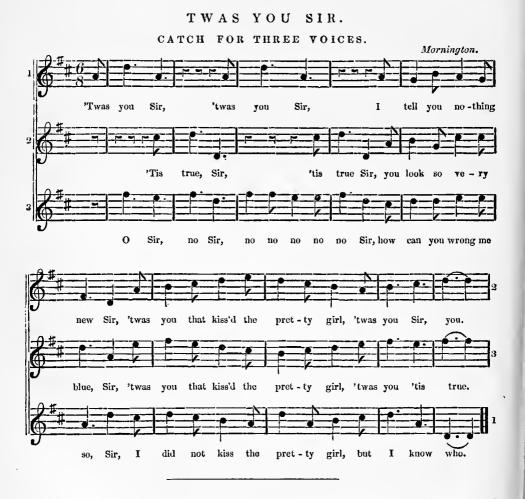
shall grow older and stronger, and more able to be 1 you. The father and mother who brought up such v a help to them both. And to leave them! to live |v| a child, must be worth bringing home. So, with

here in plenty, whilst they were starving! to be gathering posies, whilst they were in prison! Oh, grandfather ' I should die of the very thought. I thank you for your offer," continued she, rising, and dropping her little curtsy, "but my choice is made. Good evening, grandfather !"

"Don't be in such a hurry, Susy," rejoined her grandfather, "don't be in such a hurry: you and I shan't part so easily. You're a dear little girl, and since you won't stay with me, I must e'en go with by Miss Mitford.

you. The father and mother who brought up such a child, must be worth bringing home. So, with your good leave, Miss Susan, we'll go and fetch them."

And, in the midst of Susy's rapturous thanks, her kisses, and her tears, out they sallied; and the money was paid, and the debtor released, and established with his overjoyed wife, in the best room of Mr. Jcrvis's pretty habitation, to the unspeakable gratitude of the whole party, and the extatle delight of the CARPENTER'S DAVOITER.—Country Stories, by Miss Mitford.



# INFLUENCE OF SINGING UPON PHYSI-CAL EDUCATION.

The various parts of the human body, in order that they may be kept in a healthy and active condition, require to be exercised according to the different functions assigned to them by nature. We are provided with a voice having the two-fold power of articulating words, and of uttering musical sounds.

We may thence conclude, that both singing and speaking contribute to maintain, and even to improve, the healthy state of the various muscles and other organs, called into action when these physical faculties are exercised. The first question, however, that suggests itself when we would consider the peculiar advantages singing affords to physical education, is this: Why do we prefer singing to performance on any musical instrument; and why does the former exercise a more powerful influence than the latter, on physical education? This question will be easily solved by an analysis of the results already obtained from the practice of singing: these results sufficiently prove that the elementary exercise of this art materially aids the future developement of the chief physical faculties, and prepares that developement by removing such obstacles as the individual organization of the papil may offer; ander which latter circumstance instruction in singing is peculiarly valuable as a remedial measure.

One of the first benefits arising from vocal instraction, is improvement in speaking. It has been justly asserted that singing is the most effective means of improving the organs, if naturally good, and of correcting any defect in the speech; such as stammering, hissing, or a nasal enunciation. We therefore act in direct opposition to the purpose, and diminish the utility of vocal instruction if, as is frequently done, we exclude from it those children who have defects in the organs of speech. Such natural impediments, if made known at first, may be entirely overcome, provided the master apply earnest care to their removal, and the pupil attend with persevering patience to his advice.

In the munner of speaking, as well as of singing, as in the voice itself, there is a marked difference in different persons. This difference consists in more or less facility of utterance, more or less agreeableness of pronunciation, and in the peculiar tone with which nature has provided each individual. However varions the shades of voice and tone, the practice of singing will be for all, we are assured, a never-failing means of improvement.

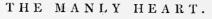
Instruction in singing serves to develope and cultivate the sense of hearing, the organs of which, like those of the voice, are not equally perfect in every individual. A great error will therefore be committed, in depriving those children of singing lessons who do not in the first instance evince a decidedly musical disposition, or what is popularly termed a musical ear. That quality, or faculty, is developed much more slowly in some persons than in others; there are some, indeed, in whom it seems totally deficient; but its absence often proceeds from their seldom or never having heard singing, und from their consequently not having had the opportunity of imitating the tones of others. By listening to singing we learn to distinguish the relative position of the notes uttered by the voice; our ear thus becomes practised, and able to convey the nicest distinction of tone to the seat of perception. Thus, by endeavouring gradually to imitate others, we succeed in rendering the organs of voice capable of reproducing the sounds which the ear has received.

We come now to consider the influence of singing on the health of children. One of the prejudices most obstinately maintained against teaching children to sing, arises from an opinion frequently broached, that singing, if practised at a tender age, may have a baneful influence on the health, and occasion spitting of blood, and other pulmonary affections. It is not long siace this idea prevailed in Germany also; but the most minute investigations, made by governments as well as parents, have proved it to be quite erroneous. From the many thousand instances of contrary results, the German people have at last learnt the utter fallacy of this notion, and have not only ceased to dread singing as being injurious to health, but go so far as to con-

sider it one of the most efficacious means for giving strength and vigour to all the physical organs it calls into action. Nothing is better calculated than the practice of singing, to produce the power of free and lengthened respiration. In confirmation of this we may safely refer to all who have cultivated their voices, and who have been able to compare the results of their first, with those of their subsequent lessons. At the commencement, to take a long breath, as it is familiarly expressed, is very annoying to the learner; he finds it difficult to hold even a quarter note [crotchet], and several quarters in succession entirely exhaust his breath; but in a short time the pupil gains so much facility, that he finds it less fatiguing to sing several quarters with one breath, than to take breath at each note. He acquires by degrees the power of singing two, three, lour quarters; then two, three, four halves [minims] consecutively, of a quicker or slower movement. It often occurs, that it would be beyond the capability of an untrained adult to sing that which the lungs of a child execute with ease. Nevertheless, in this case as in every other, excess would become injurious, and it would be as dangerous to fatigue the pupil by prolonged exercise, as it would be unjust to ascribe every pulmonary complaint by which he may be affected, to the practice of singing.

On the whole, then, we are convinced that singing, or as it may be termed, the art of breathing, is one of the best preventives of, and surest remedies for, general weakness of the chest; and that its use, provided always it be proportioned to the otherphysical powers of the singer, is calculated to exert a most favourable influence on delicate constitutions, to impart vigour to the organs connected with the lungs, and thus to conduce to a healthy state of' all parts of the body.—Mainzer's Singing for the Million.

A POWERFUL INSTRUMENT.-During the early part of the French invasion of Algiers-occupation, we believe, is the milder diplomatic term-a small party of the French troops fell into an Arab ambuscade, and those who were not immediately slain or taken prisoners, were obliged to place more trust in their hels than their muskets. It happened that the regimental band was with the party, and the musicians made a retreat with the rest, in a prestissimo movement of the most rapid execution. The ophicleid player was, however, embarrassed by his instrument, and he was hesitating about carrying it further, when, happening to cast a Parthian glance behind, to his consternation, he beheld an Arab horseman close upon him. Further flight was useless; there was nothing for it but to fight or surrender. Years of desart slavery made a gloomy prospect; and yet what could his side-sword avail against the spear of his pursuer? Desperation is the parent of many a strange resource. The lately abused ophicleid was lifted to his shoulder, musket fashion, and the musket brought to cover his foe. The Arab was struck with panic; doubtless this was some new devilry of those accursed Giaours-some machine of death, with a mouth big enough to sweep half his tribe into eternity. Not a second did he hesitate, but, wheeling round, he galloped off at a pace that soon took him out of what he conceived might be the range of this grandfather of all the muskets. Had Prospero been there to have treated him to a blast, something between a volcaso and a typhoon, that side of Mount Atlas would never have beheld him more. Our musician made his retreat good, with a higher opinion of the powers of his instrument than he ever hefore possessed; and the story was the amusement of the French army for many a day afterwards.







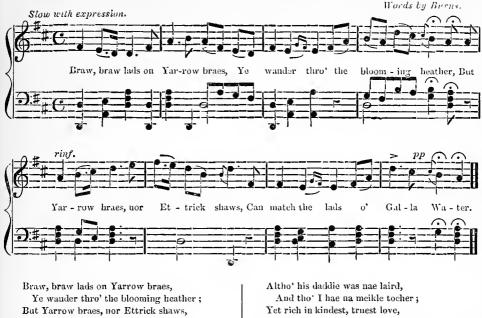
# MUSIC AMONGST THE ARABS.

M. Edmond Combes, commissioned by the French government to renew his explorations in Abyssinia, has addressed a letter to the editors of La France Musicale, dated from the ruins of Thebes [1839,] giving some account of the state of music in the East, and musical feeling amongst the Arabs, of which the following passages may interest our readers :--- "In quitting France, I have regretted few things so much as the music I leave behind. As often, therefore, as an opportunity has presented itself of listening to music, I have seized it with avidity. At Malta, I was present at the representa-tion of Mercadante's 'I Briganti,' but, in spite of my inclination to be satisfied with the orchestra and singers, I am obliged to avow that they were detest. able; and greatly was I grieved to hear this score of Mercadante, which seems to me very fine, so ill understood and interpreted. I found, too, a theatre at Alexandria, and another at Cairo; but he who would enjoy them must not be too particular. Nevertheless, the establishment of these two theatres in a Mussnlman country is a remarkable fact, well worth recording. Arab music makes little progress; it is monotonous, without sweetness or charm of any kind. The Arabs have some few melodies slightly striking; but all the rest are impressed with one character, which offers no variety. Of harmony, they are entirely ignorant. If they sing in chorus, they sing the same notes; and yet they are passionate lovers of music. No fete can take place amongst them without music, nor do they ever work but to the accompaniment of singing. Their musical sense only wants enlightening; they want composers and teachers. It is remarkable that music is here more intensely felt by the multitude-the populace-than by the higher classes. The few European musicians who have visited Egypt, have asserted that the Arabs were insensible to our music. This is not strictly true; and the following incident proves the contrary :--- We were journeying towards Upper Egypt, and had halted in the neighbourhood of a beautiful village, called Magaga, situated betwixt Benisouef and Mignie, on the left bank of the Nile. The sky was cloudless, and the full moon shone on a fairy landscape. The ripples of the river ran silver in its light, and majestic palm trees threw their waving shadows on the bank. At intervals veiled women passed silently by; and in the distance was heard the barking of famished dogs. The firmament glittered with stars; and I wandered slowly through the palm-groves, drinking in the heanty of the spectacle which spread out before me. All at once, I was seized with a passionate desire for music, and I entrcated Peluchenau, one of my travelling companions, to send for his violin, which was in the boat, and play for me. With his accustomed cour-tesy, he indulged my longing; and at the first sounds of his instrument, a number of natives, who were scattered about, grouped themselves around us, and leaning on their clubs, listened attentively. The first pieces played were heard in silence, and it was evident that the auditors were agreeably affected hy the music. A murmur of pleasure hailed the overture to 'La Caravane ;' but the enthusiasm somewhat cooled at the andante. A waltz, by Labitski, excited transports; but Weber's Last Waltz seemed to strike them as wearisome. The allegros, the quick and light movements, were decidedly more to their taste than grave and imposing compositions Tho 'Prayer of Moses,' however, made a profound

impression on them. They listened in religious silence, and questioned us as to the meaning of that mysterious and sublime language. When I explained to them that it was the prayer of a prophet to God, they asked for a repetition of it; and when their request was complied with, they looked at one another with astonishment, and expressed their admiration by a general exclamation. An Arab never stands when he can sit; yet, so long as the sounds of the violin continued, no one sat down : the pleasure which they evidently experienced made them forget that they were on their legs-a fact sufficiently remarkable to any one familiar with oriental habits. A native-I mean an Arabianair, performed by Peluchenau, concluded the musical entertainments of an evening which will be long impressed on my memory. Peluchenau was vehemently applauded; and the Arabs-grateful for the pleasure which they had received from us-repaid the debt by dancing to the sound of the tarabouk, and singing their favourite airs. We passed a portion of the night beneath the palm-groves, and the hours glided rapidly away. I hope, shortly, to send you some of these airs noted, with some curious details of the actual state of music amongst the Arabs."—Athenœum.

ANECDOTE OF MRS. WOOD .- A General, living in the neighbourhood of Philadelphia, who had become suddenly rich, furnished a house in a costly manner, and gave gay parties. He had little else but his wealth, however, to render them attractive; his wife being especially untutored and unpolished, as he had married before he became rich, and both were elevated to their present importance without the requisite personal qualifications to sustain it. To render one of their parties more than usually popular, they invited Mr. and Mrs. Wood among their guests; these at first re-spectfully declined, on the ground of fatigue; but they were pressed with so much earoestness, that they at length were subdued into consent. When the enter-tainments of the evening were fairly commenced, and several ladies among the visitors had sung, the hostess invited Mrs. Wood to seat herself at the piano, as the company would be delighted to hear her beautiful voice; but Mrs. Wood begged, with a very serious coun-tenance, to he excused. At first the astonishment created by this refusal was evinced by a dead silence, and a fixed stare; but at length, the disappointed hos-tess broke forth: --- "What I not sing ! Mrs. Wood; why, it was for this that I invited you to my party. I should not have thought of asking you but for this; and I told all my gnests that you were coming, and that they would hear you sing !" " Oh !" replied Mrs. Wood, with great readiness, "that quite alters the case; I was not at all aware of this, or I should not have refused; but since you have invited me professionally, I shall of course sing immediately!" "That's a good shall of course sing immediately!" "That's a good creature," rejoined the hostess, "I thought you could not persist in refusing me." So Mrs. Wood seated herself at the piano, sang delightfully, and, to the entire gratification of hostess and guests, gare, without hesi-tation, every song she was asked for, and some were encored. On the following day, however, when the host and hostess were counting up the cost of their entertainment, (for, rich as they were, they had not lost their former regard for economy,) to their utter consternation there came io a bill from Mr. Wood of two hundred dollars for Mrs. Wood's "professional services" at the party of the preceding evening, accompanied by a note, couched in terms which made it quite certain that the demand would be legally enforced if attempted to be resisted; and, however much they were mortified by this unexpected demand, they deemed It most prudent to pay it and hold their tongues .--Buckingham's America.

BRAW, BRAW LADS



- Can match the lads o' Galla Water.
- But there is ane, a secret ane, Aboon them a' I loe him better, And I'll be his, and he'll be mine, The bonnie lad o' Galla Water.

And tho' I hae na meikle tocher ; Yet rich in kindest, truest love, We'll tent our flocks by Galla Water. It ne'er was wealth, it ne'er was wealth,

That coff contentment, peace, or pleasure, The bands and bliss o' mutual love, O that's the chiefest warld's treasure!

#### SINGING CLASSES IN PARIS.

PARIS, JANUARY 18th, 1840 .- Two years ago, while writing to you from hence, I described the exhibition of part-singing, directed by M. Mainzer, in the Place de l'Estrapade. This time I have been admitted to the inspection of the singing classes among the operatives, organized according to M. Wilhem's system. A leaf from my journal, in which is chronicled my Saturday evening's occupation, may afford some far off idea of one of its best features namely, its providing adequate and simultaneous interest and occupation for scholars of every degree, from the urchin, on his first evening's entrance from the quai or alley, progressively upward to the wellpractised monitor, so firm in scientific knowledge, that he is able not only to read, at sight, a single solfeggio from Steffani, Durante, and Haudel, of any intrieacy, but also to maintain his own part in proper style and spirit, however complicated be the whole, of which that part is only a third or a fourth.

The dark, dingy, *Halle des Draps*, where the pupils assemble, was filled with busy, industrious individuals, and wore an air of animation and rational enjoyment which was delightful. I was present at the drilling of a class of men, of all ages, and, it seemed, of all conditions. When the moment for commencement arrived, the entire party

was separated into twenty or thirty smaller eompanies, each numbering some biteen or twenty individuals-each, too, under the guidance of a monitor, who referred to an exercise board in aid of his explanations. Thus arranged, they extended round the room, leaving its centre free for the superintendent, who, baton and tuning fork in hand, presided over their exercises. Nearest the door were the new comers, to whom their monitor was explaining the numbers of notes in the scale, and their names, "Do, re, mi," &c .- availing himself, at the same time, of an ingenious memoria technica, which is one of the peculiar inventions of M. Wilhem's system, and in which the fingers, and the spaces between them, are employed by the neophyte to represent to himself the octave and its divisions. The next knot consisted of those who, having learned their notes, were reading verbally, not vocally, a scale exercise, in which some of the simplest divisions of rhythm and tune were inenleated. A third group was stu-dying the first intervals—the hand alphabet which I have mentioned being employed by all, and every pupil being compelled to read and count his exercise ere he attempt to sing it; while a fourth party was taking in filths, sevenths, ninths, &c. ; and so on, until those were progressively reached who were firm and ready enough to attack a composition in two or more parts. It was so arranged, that while one section of the pupils was singing, others might continue their reading practice undisturbed; and, from a careful inspection of the whole, resulted the impression, that no element of music was overlooked, or its comprehension empirically forced upon the pupil before he was prepared for its reception. I ought to add, that the exercises commenced and closed by the whole body singing the scale together: first, the notes of the common chord—then the tones and semi-tones of the octave, ascending and descending, pianissimo and fortissimo—now detached, now bound—then in thirds—lastly, in a full harmony, of three parts. The effect of this, from the purity, firmness, and sweetness of the tone, was very fine.

If I was musically pleased with the results of a system so comprehensive in its operation, I was no less morally gratified by the diligence and respectable demeanour of the learners. The mature man of forty (and there were many such in the company) was not more sedulous or attentive than the gamin of twelve, with his longer life of a tenor or bass voice before him. There was no rude joking-no making a pretext of the presence of strangers for carelessness or want of application. All seemed interested, because amused, by that healthiest of all amusements, the reception of new ideas, upon a subject in itself welcome and agreeable. I must insist, moreover, that M. Wilhem's method, here carried into effect by his able pupil, M. Hubert, seems excellent, as inculcating, from the first, some principles of style as well as of science. Of this, I had confirmatory proof in the exercises gone through by the monitors after their pupils were dismissed. These young men first read, and alterwards sang, solfeggi of great complication and difficulty, at first in single parts, then in combination; and this, not merely with a mechanical firmness, which no syncopation, or protracted division, or difficult interval, or accidental sharp or flat, could shake; but with a feeling for that expression and regulation of phrase, which, when in perfection, almost as much as physical attainment, distinguishes a Thalberg or a Mendelssohn from the well-trained child, who makes | results.-Athenaum.

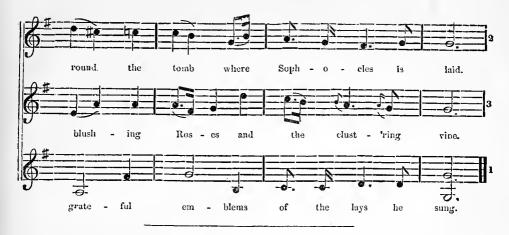
impartial friends yawn with her *pianism* at holidaytide! In short, all that I saw and heard satisfied me highly at the moment—satisfies me yet more completely on reflection.

JANUARY 27th.—I have a word or two more to say about the Singing Schools. The other morning I heard the girls of a charity school go through their vocal exercises, on the plan described in my last; and, I think, even with greater satisfaction than I had derived from watching the progress of those, from whose riper years we might expect concentration and attention. Some of the children could hardly have reached eight years of age; yet they were in the firm possession of the elements of music: while the first class, without preparation or warning, executed solfeggi, contrived at the moment, by M. Hubert, which, I am sure, would have balled nineteen out of twenty English professors. The universal truth of their intonation struck me as much as this elever readiness, which proved them to be armed at all points. M. Wilhem considers that, to this, the use of his Manual Alphabet largely conduces. I saw many of the youngest children correct themselves when at a loss, by employing it; and this with a quickness and certainty, which a glance at a printed stave would hardly have ensured. I regret that I shall not witness some of the grand results of this contemporaneous tuition-one of those meetings when all the separate classes are united to execute fall chornses, in the presence of their families and of the municipal anthorities. (Think what a sublime effect might be thus produced on the occasion of the assembling of our charity children in St. Paul's!) I have no doubt of their ability to meet the call upon them by any composition. I am sure of the high pleasure which must be derived from seeing the vagrant and "dangerous" population of a feverish metropolis like this combining in a pursuit which links them with the highest and most refined, and which-unless all the old poets and proverbialists be so many false prophets-cannot pass away without some humanising

# WIND GENTLE EVERGREEN.



CATCH FOR THREE VOICES.



#### HULLAH'S CLASSES AT EXETER HALL.

DURING the reign of Elizabeth and her immediate successors, a knowledge of vocal or instrumental music formed a necessary part of the education of every person who wished to be considered as well informed. The individual who could not join in a madrigal, or take his part in a song for various voices, was treated as a person whose education had heen neglected, and folks "wondered where such people had been brought up." 'The busy time of Oliver Cromwell and the gloomy tenets of the Puritans frowned down a great deal of this cheerful and healthy feeling for a season. The Restoration succeeded, and singing became again a fashionable thing, but associated as it was too frequently with the loose rhymes of the Rochesters, the Sedleys and D'Urfeys of that licentious period, it failed in getting an universal footing among all classes, and had little or no claims upon the consideration of those individuals whose sense of propriety refused to adopt such an union. The string of fiddlers introduced by Charles II. into the Chapel Royal, in allusion to which the song of "Four-and-twenty Fiddlers all of a row" was written, tended so little to make church music popular, that it only excited feelings of astonishment and dislike, and the music of the people became almost exclusively confined to simple ballad melodies. For such airs they always had an open ear and ready voice, and the gay strains of Lilliburlero aided powerfully in bringing about the deposition of James II., and the glorions revo-lution of 1688. "It made an impression," says Burnet, "on the King's army that cannot be imagined by those who saw it not. The whole army, and at last the people both in city and country, were singing it perpetually." This powerful charm, inherent in many strains, has been frequently observed. Napoleon forbade under pain of death the playing of the "Ranz des Vaches" in his army, as the melody had such an effect on his Swiss soldiers that they deserted in dozens, the melody having excited an unconquerable home sickness by its associations with their native land.

The distaste of the English for music had become a word of reproach among the neighbouring nations during the reign of the Georges, and certainly with some reason. A lively sense of its importance as a means of national improvement is of the recent growth of the last few years. A legislator, a few

years ago, would have been-nay, has been, laughed at as an amiable visionary, for suggesting the propriety of making singing a part of education in every school. How forgetfal were the laughers, of the important fact, that the coarseness of manners so painfully developed in too large a portion of our population was owing, in a great measure, if not entirely, to the want of more rational enjoyments, and the proper direction of their minds to higher means of gratification than the beer-shop could furnish, or the bull hait present to them. It may thus raise the national mind through the gentle medium of its pleasures. Mr. IIullah and his music classes are an army to aid the good cause; a few pioneers have been struggling for years to make its way, but the deaf ear of government has only slowly and recently opened to the importance of their views.

John Hullah became first favourably known to the public as the composer of the music to "The Village Coquettes," a little opera by the celebrated "Boz," and which was for some time played at the St. James's Theatre. He is a young man of gentlemanly and prepossessing behaviour, and possesses that essential qualification in a teacher, without which he can never hope for great success-a goodnatured kindliness of feeling, that will smile when the scholar smiles, at anything ludicrous (and there are many things ludicrons in the system), or appreciate fully the difficulties a student may have to encounter, and do his best to remove such difficulties, by as clear an explanation as he can give, not with the sour air of a learned superior, but with the good nature of a friend; and this, in a great mea-sure, is the secret of the success of a system that undoubtedly has many faults, and in other hands than Mr. Hullah's will fail in realising the expectations formed of it.

The method of teaching singing employed by Mr. Hullah, is an adaptation to English use of the one used in France by Monsieur Wilhem, a gentleman who had the good fortune to obtain the ear of the French Government, through the help of his friend Monsieur Orfila, a member of the "Conseil Royal" for public instruction. Wilhem altimately reigned lord supreme as a teacher in Paris, to the exclusion of all other professors, towards whom a most unjustifiable spirit of illiberality prevailed. M. Mainzer, who was the first to shew brw fruitful a field of instruction might be opened among the working classes, on applying for leave to open gratuitous { schools for their benefit in Paris, was refused, and having by great influence succeeded in giving a public concert in that capital, when nearly a thousand of his pupils, common working men of the city, whom he had taught gratuitously, executed a variety of concerted pieces with great precision and effect; he was never allowed to repeat his performances. The lame reason given was the fear of an emeute, if so large a number of working-men were allowed to meet; but M. Wilhem was allowed to continue with his myriads unmolested. This is not a solitary instance of exclusive patronage.

Let us walk into Exeter Hall, where, day and night, is to he seen the indefatigable and ever cheerful Hullah busily superintending his classes. He is mounted on the platform in front of the great organ and between two powerful lamps, where, baton in hand, he regulates the movements of some hundreds of pupils before him. Each pupil has a "Manual" of instructions open in front of his seat, and alternately listens to the teacher or goes through the exercises to be found in these lessons. We will begin "at the beginning." The first lesson teaches us what "scales" and "intervals" are; the major diatonic scale is "represented by a ladder," and the eight lines of this ladder represent the octave, the

.6 -5 3 -2

first line being "Do" or C. The pupil is first taught to repeat the numbers in ascending the scale or ladder; at the same time elevating the right arm, and keeping the hand open, closing it on reaching the semitones at 3 and 7, and then descending, closing the hand at 8 and 4. The general effect of this process, when some hundreds are employed upon it, is not a little grotesque. The eager looks of the learners, who are doing something, for the first time in their lives, which they are anxious to do properly, the hundreds of up-

raised arms and clenched fists all directed towards Mr. Hullah, seem to give that gentleman a most unenviable position; albeit, it is quite irresistible to all who have a taste for the ludicrous, and we must plead guilty to a frequent laugh ourselves.

The hand is a very essential feature in the system, and is continually brought into use; the five fingers of the hand answer to the five lines in music; and the spaces between them to the corresponding musical spaces, the little finger representing the lowest line of the stave and the thumb the highest, thus taking in the notes from E to F; or, as this system calls them, from Mi to Fa. This method of naming the notes is open to many objections; the grand one being, that the pupil will begin and finish his course of lessons without being acquainted with the names of the notes as they are universally used in England. A writer in the Spectator of July 10th, 1841, says, "Turn one of Mr Hullah's pupils into any English orchestra, and he will be ignorant of the very language which is spoken and written by every performer in it. He will, literally, and not by a figure of speech, be ignorant of the difference be-This is an unnecessary change, tween A and B." and will at once preclude the pupil from gaining any additional knowledge from the many works on singing published in this country, all of which are constructed according to the usual manner of naming the notes from the first seven letters of the alphabet.

The places of the notes on the five lines and spaces, or rather on the hand, having been taught;

beating time is the next part of the pupil's instruction. He takes a bar of four beats, and practises thus :- The left hand is held open, and with the palm uppermont, on a level with the waist; the right hand (also open) is first placed in contact with it, and is then moved swiftly, first across the chest towards the left elbow, then back in a contrary direction towards the right, is next raised directly upwards, and is then swiftly brought down upon the left palm, regaining the position from whence to recommence the same series of movements, and the hands thus clap together at every fourth movement. This action is accompanied at first, by counting 1, 2, 3, 4 (one at each move,) which after a little practice is abandoned for mental counting. The effect of this practice is singular to a spectator. Three or four hundred arms more backward, forward, up, and down, in solemn silence, and with various degrees of violence, until the fourth beat, when the ringing sound of an army of clapping hands echoes suddenly through the hall, followed by another deep quietude, to which another violent clap succeeds at proper intervals during the lesson. The violent contrasts of silence and noise are strikingly peculiar, and add much to the odd effect of the whole process.

The scholar is afterwards taught the value of a semibreve, minim, or crotchet, by repeating the word "semibreve" on the first beat, and remaining silent on the three following ones, repeating the word "minim" on the first and third beats, being silent on the second and fourth ; while for crotchets he repeats that word shorn of a limb, and exclaims aloud "crotch" upon every move of his arm. The monotonous ery of "crotch, crotch," ad libitum, carries the imagination at once to a village duckpond, and the "quack, quack," of its innocent tenants equally husy and harmless.

There is nothing very peculiar in the lessons that immediately follow these, or the songs introduced in them, except one on the interval of the octave, 

How I wonder what you are !"

which never was, and never will be, sung without a roar of laughter. It is irresistibly funny (remember, dear reader, that we belong to the school of Democritns) to hear adults singing such words-men of thirty summers, or "by'r lady inclining to threescore," and jumping an octave at every other sylla-ble. The words might do well for children, from and jumping an octave at every other syllathem such words may come with propriety, but then the music! What child would, or rather what child could, sing it, except as a punishment? Such music should not be wedded to such words, and the sooner a divorce takes place the better.

The hand is again brought into use for sharps and flats, the central joint of each finger representing the natural notes, the tip of the finger the sharp notes, and the root the flats-thus, when the teacher points to the middle joint of the fore-finger, the pupils sing D natural, when he points to the tip of the little finger, they sing E sharp, to the root of the middle finger, B flat, and so on. This use of the hand is far from being a novelty, as is generally supposed. It is 700 years of age, being the invention of Guido Aretino, the musical mark of Arezzo, who flourished in the eleventh century, and who first applied the syllables still used in solfeggio exercises to the notes, having selected them from a catholic hymn to St. John. In England even it is no novelty, having been used for the same purpose forty years ago, but abandoned as an unprofitable waste of the pupil's

time. Surely the general disuse for centuries of so well known a thing is a sufficient proof of its worthlessness. It may amuse children who like to play with their fingers, but it can be attended by no better result, for it produces an association of *fixed* ideas, and as the key-note in music is constantly shifting, it can be nothing but an embarrassment to the pupil, because it is not adapted to such change of keys.

We must now close our necessarily brief notice of a system which at present occupies a considerable share of public attention. Let not our remarks be misunderstood. We hail with pleasure the introduction of a musical taste, and are glad to find it so extensively sought after. But "a clear stage and no favour" should he given, and we much doubt the amount of good that will be the *abiding* result of this system. It appears to us, and we speak from experience, that the pupils obtain only that amount of knowledge, which convinces men better grounded, of their ignorance. That they are herded together and driven on to a certain point, aided by the ear, listening to some few apter scholars, and are thus enabled to do much together, but to do nothing for themselves, we are certain. We speak of scholars who have been taught their only knowledge of music through this system, but a large number of scholars are to be found among a class who had some previous knowledge, therefore the public exhibition of their voeal powers is in nothing more wonderful than the public school examinations of pupils in arithmetic, who perform great feats while under the eye and system of the master, but who are utterly unfit for a counting house. There is after all no royal road to learning of any sort, and the pupil after going certain lengths in such pretended road, is obliged to retrace his steps, or worse still, unlearn much that he has learned, and which only serves to hinder instead of aid him. The railroad system of tnition is always suspicious, and but throws hundreds of conceited smatterers upon a land where too many are already found. All such schemes, however successful in appearance, are

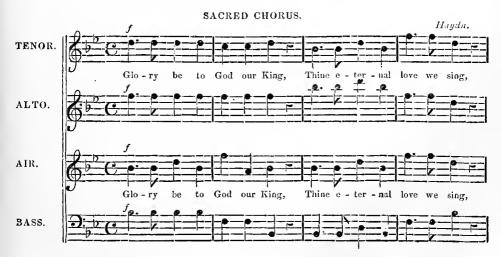
amazingly like the notable one of building a town without mortar.—The Illustrated London News.

ANECDOTE OF MADAME CATALANI .-- When Cap. tain Montague was ernising off Brighton, Madame Catalani was invited, with other ladies, to a brilliant fete on board his frigate. The captain went in his launch on shore, manned by more than twenty men, to escort the fair freight on board, and as the boat was cutting through the waves, Madame Catalani, without any previous notice, commenced "Rule Brittaunia." Had a voice from the great deep spoken, the effect could not have been more instantaneous and sublime. The sailors, not knowing whom they were rowing, were so astonished, that with one accord they rested on their oars, while tears trembled in the eyes of many of them. "You see, Madame," said the Captain, "the effect this favourite air has upon those brave men, when sung by the finest voice in the world. I have been in many victorions battles, but never felt any excitement equal to this." On arriving on board, the sailors, with his consent, entreated her to repeat the strain. She complied with increased effect, and with so much good nature, that when she quitted the ship they cheered her until she reached the shore.

#### A BROOK

Choose in the middle wood a small green nook, Through whose dim arbours winds a pausing brook, Now with low chime-now with precipitate shout, Amid the cool grass idling in and out-Here in a short laugh let its music die-There let it with uprisen songs sweep by But ever with its voice be blent the rustling Of edging grass, and the unquiet bustling Of the bold thrushes from the upper sky-Within its current let the inverted trees Glow with long chasms-while the capricions breeze Widens or clasps their counterparts on high-Through all the day in wood-paths let it flow-Morning and sultry noon-but when the eve Dusks the wide heaven above, the hills below, And winds forlorn among the alders grim In busier channels let its waters thrive Afar by solitary cotes, anear The hurrying voices of the pastoral hive, And see the shepherd hark with sidelong ear!

## GLORY BE TO GOD OUR KING.









O WALY WALY.



# THE STORM.—AN ANECDOTE OF THE LIFE OF HAYDN.

#### CHAPTER I.-1751.

**ELEVEN** o'clock at night sounded from the cathedral of St. Stephen; time's iron voice echoed far and wide through the still and deserted streets of the imperial city of Vienna with the deep and solemn tone peculiar to that hour, and which a great French poet has so well rendered in those two lines, the imitative harmony of which would do honoar to the genius of a musician:

"Le bruit ébranle l'air, roule, et long-temps encore Gronde comme enfermé sous la cloche sonore."

At the sixth stroke of the hammer upon the bell, the door of a small obscure dwelling, against which a barber's ensign trembled in the wind, was opened by the hand of a young man apparently about nineteen years of age, and, hy a counter movement closed again with nicely calculated precision, in order that such slight noise might be lost-absorbed in the pealing resound of the clock. But that sage precaution was rendered abortive by the indiscretion of the very party by whom it had been adopted. So that, as though some irresistible impulse stronger than prudence itself, had made him forget that silence was necessary to secure his retreat, scarcely had he placed foot in the street, ere he trilled with clear and melodious voice an extempore stave, to which the booming of the clock served as a bass, and which he ended in a sharp C several times repeated, whilst the bell-hammer struck the same note two octaves lower.

The principal, or to speak more correctly, the sole tenant of this dwelling, the barber Keller, shewed himself at the easement, and recognising the singer,

"'T'is you, Joseph? I thought you had been within this long while; what the deuce are you at, my fine fellow, in the street at such an hour?"

Without making reply, and perhaps with a design to avoid the question, Joseph said to his interlocutor,

"With what sublime accents time speaks in the night by means of these clocks, don't you think so Master Keller? When all around is hushed and steeped in that repose which is horn of fatigue, that voice, which the intelligence of man has given to time, still mounts towards heaven, to glorify him, even as a bomage rendered while he sleeps; and hence it is, religious minds ean never, under such thoughts and circumstances, hear it without emotion."

"All very likely," replied the barber; "but these fine metaphysics, of which I understand not one jot, don't explain to me the reason of your being in the street at this hour singing away there like a nightlark; you'll soon lose all the little voice you have left, and then, good by to your pupils."

"What matter!" replied the young man; "if I should become domb, the violin will sing for me! Do you really think, then, my good friend, that I was created and brought into the world merely for the bonour of the sofra? The meal of a nightingale is the pittance of those who have neither the bead nor heart of a master. Be easy on that score, the airs that are humming through my brain, will never lack echoes for their repetition."

"True, Joseph, thou art a great mosician: I well know it. I have always said so from the first day I heard thee sing; and, out of gratitude for the pleasure afforded me, have I lodged and boarded you beneath my root, ever since you were expelled from the soprani class at St. Stephen's, for a boyish prank which merited not so severe a punishment. But don't let foolish ideas run in your head; throw not away that which you have in your possession, to run after a shadow."

He reiterated his recommendation, and perceiving that the young man was not lending the most attentive ear possible, he followed it up with, "Come, get in doors." "That's impossible," said Joseph.— "And why, if it so please you?" "Because, far from wishing to eome in, I was just taking my departure when you opened the casement."

"Heaven forgive me!" cried Keller, gazing more attentively at him, "heaven forgive me, for as plain as I cau see by help of the moonlight, thou hast decked thyself gaily, and wear'st the black coat thou we'rt wont to reserve for fete days alone. Ah! Joseph, Joseph, I fear me much, thou art taking to bad courses, and that I have just surprised thee setting forth on some gailant adventure!"

"Believe me it is not so, Master Keller; you full well know I have no other sweetbeart than your daughter Anne—and meanwhile that I await her becoming my bride, have none other mistress than the sweet muse, who, wooing me even from the cradle, has taught me to express by song that which passes within my heart."

"Where are you going then?"

"Under the balcony of a lady, it is true; but merely to ask her opinion, touching the serenade Icomposed yesterday, and which I am going to execute with Georges and Grantz, who are waiting for me behind the church."

"And what lady is this?" "The lovely Wilhelmina."—"The mistress of old Count de Staremherg! Know you her?" "I know her not; save by name, and as a relative of the harlequin Bernardone."—"The very same."

"Really !" said Joseph laughingly, "you treat me like a gossip eustomer, and retail at second-band all the scandalous chit-chat of the city. But whether sponse or mistress, they say she is a good musician, and therefore I hope after having heard me, she will deign to open her window and ery, 'Bravo! the serenade was well sung.' So a good night to you Master Keller. Here have we been half an hour already, chatting together, my orchestra will become impatient, the night is cold, and that costume of yours seems somewhat too scanty for you prudently to remain any longer there with your elbows upon the balcony. So adieu ! I have a presentiment I shall bring you back good tidings."

So saying, Joseph set off at full speed, and turning the corner of the square, disappeared behind the church. The barber casting up his eyes towards the heavens, and emitting a sound, half groan, half sigh, betook himself to hed. The three young men traversed a considerable portion of the city, taking the road towards the Corinthian theatre, of which the harlequin was manager. They stopped before a window, from which a soft and tranquil light made its way through a double curtain of silk and ganze. The serenade commenced, was continued and ended, without the slightest movement being observable within the chamber. The three disappointed musicians had already exchanged several uneasy glances with each other, when the door of the house opened. The harlequin Bernardone appeared upon the threshold, and inquired of the singers whose music they had just executed.

"It is mine, signior," replied Joseph, "and to speak frankly, us I thought it passable, I was desirous of offering the first essay to you and your wife." - "Thine, my good lad, why how old are you? There is a very charming air in that sercnade of yours then, which has just caused a dispute to arise between my niece and a great personage who honours us with his friendship-the Count Staremberg. The Count, who is in an ill humour this evening, I know not why, deems this said *aria* a very miserable composition; Wilhelmina has declared it ravishing, and I have left them both at high words thereon. As for myself, the tune pleases me exceedingly. Arrange it for me as a dance, bring it me to morrow, and I will pay you handsomely."

"Many thanks for your proposition, signior; but the serenade shall remain a serenade. As for airs de danse, if you require them, I have here," said he, tapping his forehead with his finger, "I have here wherewithal to set all the harlequins in the world spinning, en cadence. Bestow, upon me one touch of your wand, and the stream will burst forth." "Per Dio!" exclaimed Bernardone, "the

exclaimed Bernardone, "the lad pleases me. Could you compose an opera for me?" "Why not, signior?"

"Well, come up stairs; we'll have some talk about the matter.'

Joseph, begging his companions to wait for him, followed Bernardone. He was introduced to a richly furnished chamber, balmy with exhalations of the most exquisite perfume, wherein, though all around breathed of luxury, yet a somewhat confused and disorderly kind of elegance prevailed. But Joseph was far too great a novice in the world to remark this. Besides, his opera alone occupied his thoughts to such a pitch of abstraction as scarcely to allow of his observing that the Count Staremberg, who was pacing the apartment with folded arms and a frowning brow, limped about in a most frightful manner. Wilhelmina, tired of the disputation, was extended, with her back towards the door, upon a sofa; she raised her head as her relative entered, and judging that the new-comer-short, mean, and meagremerited not a second glance, she resumed her first position.

"Count," said Bernardone, "I have brought you the culprit. I am grieved that I am unable to be of the same opinion as your excellency; but I am sure that this lad will do something. He talks about composing an opera."

The Count stopped shuffling about for an instant, shrugged up his shoulders, and said, "Capital! I'll go and hiss it."

Joseph bowed in reply to this polite intimation, and the Count recommenced his limping tour of the chamber.

"And I will go on purpose to appland it," retorted Wilhelmina, seizing the opportunity of contradicting her old cicisbeo, and I should like myself to choose your libretto. Thank Heavens! we're in no want of such," added she, at the same time opening a cabinet in which some hundreds of manuscripts were heaped. After a short search, she drew forth one and placed it in the hands of Joseph.

"Thanks! madam," said Joseph; "I have ever experienced kindness from the hands of the fair sex. The black coat I wear upon my shoulders I owe to the generosity of an Italian lady, to whom I gave singing lessons some twelve months ago, at the baths of Marendorff, whither, in the capacity of servant, I had followed the celebrated Porpora.

The Count cast a disdainful glance at the narrator. "Yes, madam," continued Joseph, "for that great

a man as ever existed, still deigned to give me what I prized more than all—instruction in harmony; for which I brushed his clothes, blacked his shoes, and powdered his old peruke. He paid me my wages in basses and counterpoint. The lady of whom I have just made mention having learned my history, sent for me to her house, and for twelve lessons gave me six sequins, with which I purchased this attire, that enables me to appear everywhere dressed in as good style as Prince Esterhazy. You are equally as kind as she, madam, and the contemplation of your beauty would be ample recompense for passing one's life in composing serenades for the sole satisfaction of obtaining a word of thanks, or even one look during the evening from you through the apertures of your Venetian blinds; but it would be sheer folly of me to think of such a thing, and all I desire is that you may esteem me somewhat for my music."

The Count, who was limping all the while round the apartment, halted again, and ironically begged to know what might be the title of the poem selected as a subject for the intended opera.

The young man, with some difficulty, suppressed a smile that had well nigh curled his lip, on seeing written in large characters upon the first page of the manuscript : Le Diable Botteux,-[The Cripple Devil.] His glance met that of Wilhelmina, as he thus answered the Count, "Excuse me, noble Count, if I cannot satisfy your curiosity. The title of the piece shall remain a secret from you until the day of representation ; then you will know, time enough to bestow your hisses on the occasion, without the necessity of my indicating it beforehand to your hostility, of which you may perhaps make others partakers." "This young man has decidedly talent," said Wilhelmina. "I do not think there is much indication of it in the latter speech," murmured Staremberg; "the reply is certainly more impertinent than witty.

The sum agreed upon for the score, between Bernardone and Joseph, was twenty-four sequins, under an express condition that the young man should deliver the work complete within eight days. It was more time than the composer needed-far more embarrassed to repress the crowd of ideas whirling through his brain, than to produce the melody. At the end of four days the score was finished, with the exception of a passage which was blank despair to the composer. The good Keller was first consulted, but in vain ; the poet in his turn was appealed to :

"You have written upon your manuscript," ' said Joseph, "here a storm arises, but I have never seen one, and cannot, for the life of me, embody such a thing in music. Can you help me out of this dilemma ?'

"Not I," replied the poet; " I put the tempest in a parenthesis, because I could not put it into verse. Like you, I have never seen either sea or storm."

The difficulty was serious. How was it to be got over ?- 'They went to Bernardone.

"Have you ever seen a storm, signior ?" inquired Joseph on entering.

"Pardieu! I should think I have. I have nearly perished four times from shipwreck."

"Can you picture it to me, my good friend-I will go to the piano."

"I'll do it better than that; I'll act you one." And Bernardone, exhausting all the resources of ultramontaine pantomime, and giving a thousand varied inflexions to his voice, began to gesticulate with every variety of action, raising and lowering master, though as ill-tempered and brutally behaved | bis arms, balancing his body from poop to prow, as

he said, to describe the movement of the vessel upon the waves, and at the same time striving to imitate the noise of the thunder and whistling of the wind.

"Do you comprehend, my lad?"

"Nota whit," said Joseph; "it must be something different from that; your tempest resembles the caterwaaling grimalkins make on the housetops."

"Figure to yourself," resumed Bernardone, overtarning tables, chairs, and fateuils, one after another, thrasting, kicking and plunging them about with hands and feet, "figure to yourself the heavens overcast: Pchi.... that's the wind howling; the lightning cleaves the cloads; the vessel mounts and descends—Bound.... that's the thunder. Now look; here a mountain rises up, there a valley plunges down, then again a mountain and a valley; the mountains and the valleys chase after, but cannot catch one another; the mountain is swallowed up by the valley; the valley throws up the mountain, the lightning flashes, the thunder roars, the vessel floats like a straw;—paint me all that distinctly. Diable! all that I've told you is clear enough, I should think."

Joseph, dumfonndered by this imposing description, accompanied as it was by initative contortions, and stunned by such a poetical *charivari*, shrieked out his part, stamped his feet, rattled his fingers over the keys, running through the chromatic scales, prodigalising his sevenths, leaping from the lowest and flattest to the highest and sharpest notes; it was one of those inconceivable hashes, alike void of time and sense, that in our days are dignified by the title of *air variè*—but as for a storm, it was far from such. Bernardone perspired *sang et eau*, and was still unsatisfied; at last the young man, grown impatient, placed his hands at the two ends of the harpsichord, and drew them rapidly together, exclaiming:—"May the devil take the tempest!"

"That's it ! Pardieu ! that's it !" cried the transported harlequin, and leaping over the wreck of furniture by which he was surrounded, had well nigh stifled the virtuoso in a vigorous embrace.

"You have got it, my lad. Begin once more. That's it. Superb! Astonishing! I give you thirty sequins instead of twenty four."

The opera of Le Diable Bolteux, got up in a few days, had a great success; but the Count de Staremberg, designated by epigrams all over the town, through the vengeance of Wilhelmina, whom it was well known he had quarrelled with and quitted, had interest sufficient to cause it to be forbidden after the second representation. Disgusted with the theatre, wherein he would ever have remained in the second rank, Joseph entered upon the legitimate career of his genias, and became the king of instrumental music.

#### Снартев II.—-1790.

THERTY-NINE years after the events narrated in the foregoing chapter, a vessel sailing from Calais to England, overtaken by a violent storm, very narrowly escaped shipwreek. One man alone, amid the general consternation, displayed such fits of inordinate gaiety, that in the critical situation in which the vessel was placed, might have passed for a species of idiotism. Before the danger grew imminent he had maintained a rigid taciturnity, and, seemingly absorbed in thought, took no part in that which was passing around him : whilst the bravest of the mariners were trembling, he manifested an exuberant mirth—frequently bursting into paroxysms of laughter. They were compelled at

length to make him quit the spot he had chosen upon deck, whence the wind would infallibly have blown him into the sea, and in the cabin where the passengers were crowded together, the women weeping and praying, this man laughing unceasingly was heard to exclaim aloud :--

"There's the mountain rising up: there's the valley plunging down: mountains and valleys chas. ing one another without catching ... —the lightning flashes, the thunder roars, the vessel floats like a straw ... pchi ... bound—the deuce take the storm! Ha! ha! how like it mine was!"

These strange exclamations were as so many enigmas to the terrified hearers; and when the danger had passed, they were vividly recalled to mind on perceiving that this same man, so obstreperous a while ago, had become calm and taciturn. His physiogoomy was inexpressive—indeed, common-place. His peruke and general attire, of an antiquated fashion, gave him the appearance of ar anlic counsellor from France. He was seated in a nook of the cabin, and listened not to the pleasant. ries that were showered upon him; he appeared occupied in counting the beads of a rosary. A young man, resolving to divert the company at the expense of this singular personage, made up, and accosted him.

"Sir," said he, "you seemed very merry just now. Would there be any indiscretion in asking what might be the cause of your laughter ?"

This man, torn from his reverie by such an interpellation, and perceiving that all eyes were turned towards him, rose up with a somewhat embarrassed air, and bowed with all the simple urbanity and bland good-nature one meets with sometimes in aged men; the which caused no small diversion to the bystanders, and increased the general inclination to quiz him.

"I was remembering me of a youthful adventure, at the time when I composed my first opera!"

"The gentleman is a musician then; and doubtless an illustrious one?"

"I do not know as to that, gentlemen; I do my best; drawing all my inspiration from yonder heaven, which so kindly bestows it upon mc. Not a single opera have I written without inscribing at its head, In nomine Domine; and at the end Laus Deo. The critics are pretty well satisfied with me, and I am going to London, invited thither by Saloman, the concertist. By my compositions I carn my bread; but as for fame, I do not think it will be my lot to attain it."

"That's a doubt of which it may be in our power to absolve you, if you'll tell us your name."

"My name is Joseph Hayda!"

All present rose up and took off their hats.

"Pardon me," cried the young man who had accosted him, "pardon me; I would have jested at your expense, and I ought rather to fall at your feet!"

"At my feet! and wherefore?" said the old man, who, perhaps, was the sole individual in Europe ignorant of the fame attaching to the name of Haydn, which he believed confined to the circumference ol Vienna.

"Wherefore?" rejoined the young man, "because you are the greatest musician in the world?"

"You are mistaken," replied Haydn; "you would mean Mozart. Would you like now, ladies," continued he, with an engaging smile (his name having embellished him in their eyes), would you like me to relate the adventure which made me laugh so heartily, when you were all of you shaking with the history of his opera, Le Diable Batteur, and of fear?" The proposition was eagerly accepted. They the Indicrous storm of the harlequin Bernardone.— made a circle round him, and Haydn commenced The Parterre.



#### THE EDITOR'S KALEIDOSCOPE.

THOMSON, the Poet of the Seasons, in the second part of his poem, "Liberty," says of Greek music,

"The sweet enforcer of the poet's strain, Thine was the meaning music of the heart, Not the vain trill, that, void of passion, runs Io giddy mazes, tickling idle ears, But that deep searching voice, and artful hand, To which respondent shakes the varied soul."

Every reader of history or poetry, must have wondered at the laudation bestowed upon, and the miraculous powers attributed to the music of ancient Greece; and regretted that the strains should have been lost which were endowed with such wonderworking efficacy; and he will be apt to mourn over the decadence of human taste and human ingenuity, as, in consequence, men have forgotten how to construct and to manage instruments, whose tones could baild or raze the mightiest structures, and lament that no more is heard "that deep searching voice" which could subdue and control the wills and actions of savage brutes, and not less savage men-and perhaps wish to hold in amicable bonds that "artful hand" not made to "tickle idle ears," but which caused trees, towers, ayc, and Dolphins too, to waltz and gallop. And what can we say to the imaginative reader, if he should infer that the music of modern times is dull, prosaic, and unimaginative in comparison? Why, truly nothing.

In the absence of any more reasonable hypothesis, it may give pleasure to many to peruse the following paper from the "Winter Evening Lucubrations," of Dr. Viscesimus Knox. Without attempting a critical examination of the subject, he says as much

as is necessary, or, indeed, as can well be said concerning the music of Greece; and, in the last paragraph, if he does not arrive at the absolute truth, he approaches as near to it as may be, when he ascribes such marvellous tales to what he delicately calls the "disposition to fiction," which was a characteristic of the ancient Greeks.

#### ON THE EFFECTS OF ANCIENT AND MODERN MUSIC.

IF a general ardour of a whole people in the pursuit of excellence, he likely to obtain it in its highest degree, it might reasonably be expected that the English nation should at this time he singularly distinguished for a skill in music. The musical mania, if it may be so called, has diffused itself from the court to the cottage, from the orchestra of royal theatres to the rustics in the gallery of a country church. As Juvenal said of the Greeks of his time who migrated to Rome for interest, that it was a nation of comedians, we may say of the English, thut they are a nation of musicians.

But has this general ardour produced that stupendous, unexampled excellence which might have been expected? 1 allow the effect only to be an adequate criterion of that excellence. And what is the usual effect of a concert? It is in general an admiration of the performers, of the skill in execution, the volubility of fingers, the quickness of the cye, and the delicacy of the ear. But how are the passions affected? Look round the room and see the index of the passions, the eyes and the coun-tenances of the audience. Smiles and complacent looks abound ; but these are no indications of those sudden transitions of violent emotion, which music is said to have charms sufficiently to excite. A few may sometimes appear affected; but there is reason to suspect that it is too often an affectation, not the most laudable or amiable.

Among the ancients, the effects of music are said to have been almost miraculous. The celebrated Ode of Dryden has made every one acquainted with the magic power of Timotheus over the emotions of the human heart. And all who have read anything of ancient history, must have remarked the wonderful effects attributed to the musical instrument in the hand of a master.

Among a hundred other stories, which evince the power of music, I recollect the following :- Pytha. goras was once likely to be troubled at his lecture, by a company of young men, inflamed with wine, and petulant with the natural insolence of youthful levity. The philosopher wished to repress their turbulence, but forbore to address them in the language of philosophy, which they would either have not attended to, or have treated with derision. He said nothing; but ordered the musician to play a grave majestic tune, of the Doric style. The effect was powerful and instantaneous. The young men were brought to their sober senses, were ashamed of their wanton behaviour, and with one accord tore off the ehaplets of flowers, with which they had decorated their temples in the hour of convivial gaiety. They listened to the philosopher. Their hearts were opened to instruction by music, and the powerful impression being well timed, produced in them a permanent reformation.

How desirable is it to revive the music of Pythagoras! How concise a method of philosophising to the purpose! What sermon or moral lecture would have produced a similar effect so suddenly?

But nothing of this kind was ever produced by the most snecessful efforts of modern music. Let ns suppose a case somewhat similar to the preceding. Let us imagine a number of intoxicated rakes entering the theatre with the professed intention to cause a riot. Such a case has often heen real. The music in the orchestra has done all that it could do to soothe the growing rage; but it was as impotent and contemptible as a pistol against a battery. It would be a fine thing for the proprietors, if a tune or two could save the benches, and the fiddlers preclude the carpenters. But Timotheus and the Doric strains are no more; yet surely in so general a study of music it might be expected that something of their perfection might be revived.

"That the music of the ancients," says Jeremy Collier, "could command farther than the modern, is past dispute. Whether they were masters of a greater compass of notes, or knew the secret of varying them more artificially; whether they ad-

justed the intervals of silence more exactly, had their hands or their voices farther improved, or their instruments better contrived; whether they had a deeper insight into the philosophy of nature, or understood the laws of the union of the soul and body more thoroughly; and thence were enabled to touch the passions, strengthen the sense, or prepare the medium with greater advantage; whether they excelled us in all, or in how many of these ways, is not so clear; however, this is certain, that our improvements in this kind are little better than alehouse crowds (fiddles) with respect to theirs."

I must leave it to the Burneys and Bateses of the age to determine to what cause the little effect of music on the passions is to be ascribed. In reviving and performing the works of Handel, they have done much towards vindicating the declining honours of impassioned music. But still the commanding effect recorded by antiquity seems to remain a great desideratum. I profess to consider the subject not as a musician, but as a moralist; in which character I cannot help wishing to hind that sort of music cultivated, which possesses an empire over the heart, and which, like oil poured on the troubled waves of the sea, can soothe the tumultuous passions to tranquillity. 1 wish to see the musician, who not only pleases my ear by his sounds, and delights my eye by his legerdemain, but who, in the words of Horace, irritat, mulcet, enrages or stills my emotions at his discretion. I wish to hear musical Shakspeares and Miltons touch the lyre, or inspire the tube.

I should have ventured to conclude, from the universal application to music, from the perfection of the instruments, and the ingenuity of the compositions, that the art is at this time arrived at its ultimate excellence. It is not easy to conceive that much more can be done; and I am very doubtful whether the ancients had equal excellence in theory or in execution. Yet after all, when I consider the effect, I am compelled, however reluctantly, to deplore the great inferiority of the modern to ancient music. As I am no artist on the pipe or on the lyre, I can only suspect that the defect arises from the want of simplicity. It may not, after all, be unjust to surmise that the accounts handed down of the stupendous effects of music among the Greeks are exaggerated by Græcia mendax, or that disposition of ancient Greece to fiction, which gave rise to the nonsense of mythology.

HOW MERRILY WE LIVE.

GLEE FOR THREE VOICES.



How mer - ri - ly we live that shepherds

## MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.





WEEL MAY THE KEEL ROW.



#### MOZART'S REQUIEM.

**ONE** evening the illustrious composer, Mozart, was seated at his piano, not engaged in playing, but with his head resting upon his hand. His look was that of one who had just undergone some severe physical exertion, and is left by it weak and exhausted. A heetic flush was yet upon his cheek, and an unnatural glow in his fine large eyes. "My dear Wolfgang," said the wife of the musician, entering the room while he was in this condition, "you have again I see made yourself ill—worse than before. Oh, why, for my sake, will you not refrain from this incessant labour?" As she spoke, she kissed his pale brow tenderly, and a tear rose to her eye.

"It is in vain, my love, answered Mozart; "I cannot avoid my destiny. Were I placed on a barren rock, or in the deserts of Afriea, with neither instruments nor paper within a hundred miles of me, my thoughts would be equally intent on my divine art; I should exhaust mysell not less than I do here. To follow out the suggestions of faney, and commit them to paper, is not the weakening or toilsome portion of my occupations. On the contrary, I derive pleasure and refreshment from the fulfilment of my conceptions. The preliminary workings of the brain are the causes of exhaustion, and those I cannot put a stop to. It is my fate, Constance; it is my fate." The composer seemed so much wearied as he uttered these words, that his attached wife pressed him to lic down on the sofa, and endeavour to snatch some minutes of sleep. Mozart complexely blaced, his wife retired.

The ailing composer-for he had been ill, very ill, for some months-was not destined, however, to enjoy his repose for any length of time. He was roused by a servant, who informed him that a stranger desired to speak with him. "Show him this way," said the musician, rising from his re-cumbent position. The visiter was immediately introduced. He was a person of very striking appearance, tall and commanding in stature. His countenance was peculiarly grave, solemn, and even awe striking; and his manners were dignified and impressive. Altogether, his aspect was such as to arrest the attention of Mozart in a forcible manner. "I come," said the stranger, after bowing courteously to the composer's salutation, "to request a peculiar favour from you. A friend, whose name I am required not to mention, wishes to have a solemn mass composed, as a requiem for the soul of a dear relative, recently lost, whose memory he is desirous of honouring in an especial manner. You alone, he conceives, have the power to execute the task wor-thily, and I am here to pray you to undertake it." Mozart, though unwell, saw no great difficulty in such a task as this, and he even felt that to one so interesting in look and deportment as the stranger it would have been difficult for him to refuse a much harder matter. "In what time," said he, after a pause, "must the work be completed?" "In a month or so," answered the stranger; "and expense is not to be considered. Make your own terms for remuneration." Mozart mentioned a moderate sum. The stranger immediately pulled out a purse, and, taking from it one hundred ducats, a sum exceeding the composer's demand, laid the money on the table. Immediately afterwards, he took his leave.

The concealment of the name of the party requiring the requiem, and the remarkable air and appearance of the stranger, caused this visit to make

a strong impression on the sensitive mind of the great master. It was not long after the stranger had left, ere Mozart commenced to the work which he had engaged to perform. He had been brooding over the subject for a time, and suddenly started up, and called for writing materials. For a period he proceeded in his composition with extraordinary ardour, but the excitement of the task was hurtful to him. His fainting fits returned, and for some successive days he was confined to bed.

As soon as he was able he resumed his occupation, but, being too enthusiastic to proceed with only moderate diligence, he soon brought back his illness. Thus it was that the work was carried on by fits and starts. One day, when his wife was hanging over him, as he sat at his piano, he abruptly stopped, and said, "the conviction has seized me that I am writing my own requiem. This will be my own funeral service !"

At the end of the month, the stranger made his appearance punctually. "I have found it impossible to keep my word," said Mozart; "this work has interested me more than I expected, and I have extended it beyond my first design." "Then take a little additional time," answered the stranger. "Another month," said Mozart, " and it shall be ready." "For this added trouble," returned the stranger, " there must be an additional recompense." With these words he drew his purse, and, laying down fifty ducats, took his leave, with the promise to return again at the time appointed.

Mozart resumed his labours, and the requiem proceeded. Every day the composer grew more and more enthusiastic in the prosecution of his task, but every day his bodily powers became more and more enfeebled. The impression which he had communicated to his wife gained additional strength, and the more so as his endeavours to discover the name and character of the interesting and mysterious stranger proved unavailing. He had ordered a servant to follow the stranger on the occasion of his last visit, but the man had returned with the announcement that the object of his pursuit had suddenly disappeared from hefore his eyes. Inquiries amongst friends were equally fruitless. These circumstances, as we have said, deepened the conviction on Mozart's mind that he was composing his own requiem, and composing it at no earthly com-mand. This idea, so likely to impress the romantic spirit of the great composer, rather favoured than impeded the completion of the requiem. As his physical powers decayed, the zeal of the composer increased. He finished the task, as far as he considered necessary, and, almost immediately after-wards, the soul of Mozart left its mortal tenement.

When the stranger returned—for he did return at the appointed day—Mozart was no more. Strange to tell, the visiter showed now no anxiety for the requiem, and it was left to serve as a commemoration of the great master himself. It is yet well known by the name of Mozart's Requiem.

This story has been often told in nearly the above terms. Mr. Hogarth's agreeable volume, "Musical History, Biography, and Criticism," enables us to add all that is known or conjectured with respect to the mysterious stranger. "The *Requiem* was afterwards completed by Sussmayer, a composer of considerable eminence, who was a friend of Mozart's family. The circumstances under which this work was composed, and the state in which it was when Mozart's pen was arrested by death, have occasioned, at different times, a good deal of controversy in Ger-

many; but the matter has not been fully cleared up. In the year 1827, an edition of the Requiem was published by André, a respectable music publisher at Offenbach, the preface to which contains all the information on the subject that can now be obtained. From M. André's statements it would appear, that the person by whom Mozart was employed to compose this work, was a Count Waldseck, who, having lost his wife, took it into his head not to obtain, but to pretend to compose a requiem to her memory; that he determined to procure a composition of which the reputed anthorship would do him credit; and that his steward was Mozart's mysterious visit. ant. M. André's evidence amounts to a presump. tion, and nothing more, that this might have been the case; but the truth will now probably never be ascertained."-Chambers's Journal.

### O WALY, WALY.

This beautiful old song has hitherto been supposed to refer to some circumstance in the life of Qucen Mary, or at least to some unfortunate love affair which happened in her court. It is now discovered, from a copy which has been found as forming part of a ballad, in the Pepysian Library at Cambridge (published in Motherwell's "Minstrelsy, Ancient and Modern), to have been occa-sioned by the affecting tale of Lady Barbara Erskine, daughter of John, ninth Earl of Mar, and wife of James, second Marquis of Douglas. This lady, who was married in 1670, was divorced, or at least expelled from the society of her husband, in consequence of some malignant scandals, which a former and disappointed lover, Lowrie of Black. wood, was so base as to insinnate into the ear of the Marquis. What added greatly to the distress of her case, she was confined in child-bed at the time when the base plot took effect against her, Lord Donglas never again saw her. Her father, on learning what had taken place, came to the house and conveyed her away. The line of the Douglas family has not been continued through her. Her only son dicd Earl of Angus, at the battie of Steinkirk, unmarried; and the late venerable Lord Douglas was grandson of her ladyship's husband by his second wife. It most be allowed to add greatly to the pathetic interest of the song, that it thus refers, not, as hitherto supposed, to an unfortunate amour, hut to the more meritorious distresses of "wedded love."-Chambers's Scottish Songs.

We append the ballad, as printed in the Appendix to Motherwell's Minstrelsy, where it is given without note or comment.

#### LORD JAMIE DOUGLAS.

O waly waly up the bank,

- And waly waly down the brae,
- And waly waly by yon burn side,
- Where me and my lord was wont to gae.
- Hey Nonnie nonnie but love is bounie,
- À little while when it is new; But when love grows and it grows mair cauld,
- And fades away like the morning dew.
- I lean'd my back against an aik, I thoeht it was a trustie tree,
- But first it bowed and syne it break,
- And sae did my fanse love to me. My mother tauld me when I was young, That young man's love was ill to trow,
- But untill her I would give nae ear,
  - And alace my ain wand dings me now!

- O wherefore need I busk my head? Or wherefore should I kaim my hair?
- For my good lord has me forsuok, And says he'll never love me mair.
- Gin I had wist or I had kisst, That young man's love was sae ill to win a
- I would hae lockt my hert wi' a key o' gowd, And pinn'd it wi' a siller pin.
- An I had kent what I ken now,
- I'd never crosst the water Tay, But stayed still at Athole's gates,
- He would have made me his lady gay. When lords and lairds cam to this toun,
- And gentlemen o' a high degree; I took my auld son in my arms,
- And went to my chamber pleasantlie. But when lords and lairds cam through this toun,
- And gentlemen o' a high degree; I must sit alane intill the dark,
- And the babie on the nurse's knee. I had a nurse and she was fair,
- She was a dearly nurse to me:
- She took my gay lord frae my side, And used him in her companie.
- Awa awa thou fanse Blackwood, Aye, and an ill death may thou die,
- Thou wert the first and occasion last, Of parting my gay lord and me.
- When I lay sick and very sick,
- Sick I was and like to die, A gentleman, a friend of mine,
- He came on purpose to visit me; But Blackwood whisper'd in my lord's car
- He was ower lang in chamber with me. When I was sick and very sick,
- Sick I was and like to die, I drew me near to my stairbead.
- And I heard my ain lord lichtly me.
- Come down, come down, O Jamie Douglas, And drink the orange wine with me,
- I'll set thee on a chair of gold,
- And daut thee kindly on my knee. When sea and sand turn far inland,
- And mussels grow on ilka tree; When cockle shells turn siller hells,
- I'll drink the orange wine wi' thee. What ails you at our youngest son,
- That sits upon the nurse's knee, I'm sure he's never done any harm,
- An its not to his ain nurse and me, If I had kent what I ken now,
- That love it was sae ill to win,
- I should ne'er hac wet my cherry chee't For onie man or woman's son.
- When my father came to hear That my gay lord had forsaken me,
- He sent five score of his soldiers bright To take mc sale to my ain countrie.
- Up in the mornin' when I arose,
- My bonnie palace for to lea',
- I whispered in at my lord's window, But the never a word he would answer me.
- Fare ye weel, then, Jamie Donglas, I need care as little as ye care for me;
- The Earl of Mar is my father dear, And I soon will see my ain countrie.
- Ye thought that I was like yoursell, And loving ilk ane I did see;
- But here I swear by the heavens clear, I never loved a man but thee.
- Slowly slowly rose I up,
  - And slowly slowly I cam down;

And when he saw me sit in my coach, He made his drums and trumpets sound. When I into my coach was set, My tenants all were with me tane; They set them down upon their knees, And they begg'd me to come back again. Its fare ye weel my bonnie palace, And fare ye weel my children three; God grant your father may get mair grace, And love thee better than he has done me. Its fare ye weel my servants all, And you my bonnie children three, God grant your father grace to be kind Till I see you safe in my ain countrie. But wae be to you, fause Blackwood, Aye, and an ill death may you die; Ye are the first, and I hope the last, That put strife between my good lord and me. When I came in through Edinburgh town My loving father came to meet me, With trumpets sounding on every side; But it was no comfort at all to me, For no mirth nor music sounds in my ear, Since the Earl of March has forsaken me. "Hold your tongue, my daughter dear, And of your weeping, pray let abee, For I'll send to him a bill of divorce, And I'll get as good a lord to thee." "Hold your tongue, my father dear, And of your scoffing, pray let abee: I would rather hae a kiss of my ain lord's mouth As all the lords in the north countrie." When she came to her father's land, The tenants a' cam her to see; Never a word she could speak to them, But the Buttons aff her clothes did flee. The linnet is a bonnie bird, And aften flces far frae its nest ; So all the world may plainly sce They'rc far awa that I love best ! She looked out at her father's window, To take a view of the countrie; Who did she see but Jamie Douglas, And along with him her children three. There came a soldier to the gate, And he did knock right hastilie: " If Lady Douglas be within, Bid her come down and speak to me, O come away, my lady fair, Come away, now, alang with me: For I have hanged fause Blackwood At the very place where he told the lie." ON THE MORAL TENDENCIES OF THE PARISIAN SINGING CLASSES. THE singing classes have a relation to the amuse-

ments of the people; and for this reason it is, perhaps, that they have been judged less favourably than those courses of instruction which had reference to objects purely utilitarian. It has been said that they are not in harmony with the condition of those for whom they are designed. The objection is not a conclusive one; for the most brilliant airs of our operas are daily hawked about our streets and song in our highways. These airs, caught flying, if we may so express ourselves, by the workmen, are repeated by them in their workshops and garrets. Why forbid them access to the punctuated music and accentuated harmonies of scientific composition, when you cannot prevent their seizing, and render-

ing often with great taste, by their musical instinct alone, the airs which float through the works of our greatest masters? The municipal administration, depend on it, is walking in a wise direction-and let us offer no obstacle! It may not, as yet, have fully satisfied itself as to the utility of the moral and civil effects which will result from the funds granted for the establishment of these music classes; for, unhappily, there is, even amongst the enlightened, a disposition to believe that the people are not susceptible of the charm of noble or refined amusements, or of emotions which are purely intellectual. Yet it is a fact in evidence, that such amusements have an irresistible attraction for them. I am anxious to point out this error, and call attention to the facts which attest it, because it is most mischievous. In truth, our rulers and political economists have re-flected too little on the moral hearing of public amusements-on those especially adapted to the labouring classes. Yet, amusement of some kind is a necessity of all ages and all conditions. The poorer a man is, and the more he is the slave of toil, the more needful it is that he should find diversion and refreshment of some kind for his weary spirit, and the more important that he should find it in enjoyments which are not sensual, and which, while they soothe his senses, refine them. The human heart is naturally so unquiet, morose, and jealous a thing—so apt to make self the centre of all its thoughts and sentiments, that the happiest man is he who can most frequently find the means of escaping from his own narrow personality, to fix his attention on something which is not himself. Interest him in the recital of some noble action, excite him by verses or songs which give expression to lofty sentiments or paint the beautiful features of natural scenery, and you will see him rejoicing in his own emotions, mastered and inclued by the omnipotence of the arts. Music, the most seductive and purest of them all, is calculated more than all to exercise a sway over the popular heart, raising therein sensations alternately glowing and refined. The historical monuments of antiquity universally attest the influence of this art as a means of civilisation. Why, then, should we reject a means so powerful, at a moment when the springs of morals are so weakened amongst us? Governments which seek to secure the affections of the masses will do well to attract their confidence by procuring for them, as far as the power lies in their hands, work, education, and amusement. Let the industrious poor, when assailed by the solicitations of the factories, be able to reply-" We, too, have our share in the distribution of the social enjoyments; that share is adapted to our simple tastes and proportioned to our scanty leisure. With it we are content; and, far from striking at a social condition of things in which we hold an honourable place, we are ready to defend it against every species of attack." For myself, I feel satisfied that the adminis-tration has rightly apprehended the wants of the people; it has justly felt that the labourer must have some diversion from his labour. His leisure hours it has sought to fill up in a manner which should be agreeable while it was useful; and, in that design, it has created this great and admirable system of scholastic institutions appropriated to different sexes and various ages,-and of which the musical one is, in my opinion, neither the least brilliant nor the least moral. I am firmly persuaded that the singing-schools are worthy of all favour, and fit objects of the munificence of the municipal councils.—Frégier on the Dangerous Classes of Society.

# MUSIC AMONG THE PEASANTRY OF

THURINGIA AND SAXONY. CLAUDIUS the poet of the famous popular song, "Am Rhein, am Rhein da wachsen uns' re Reben, chanced one holiday to be in a village church among the mountains of Thuringia: they were performing there a mass with fugues. He relates how much he was astonished with the precisiou of their performers, and their unshakeable firmness in time. He approached the organist, and begged to be per-mitted to touch the organ. The other, surprised, looked at him suspiciously, as if he would measure the stranger's capacity. It was only after the re-peated entreaties of an important personage—the churchwarden of the parish-that he quitted his seat, only yielding his place key by key, finger by finger. Claudius attempted to throw out the performers in their time: in an instant they were aware of the absence of their organist. Each kept one eye attentively fixed on his music-desk, from time to time glancing stealthily with the other towards the organist-smiling malicionsly the while. After all was over, the astonished Claudins approached an old man who was among the first violins, and asked him how they had been able to acquire such precision of time. "It is by threshing," replied he; "if there are two of us, we keep a time of two beats—if three, that of three-fourths or three eighths--if four, that of common time--if six, that of six-fourths or six eighths-and if it happens by chance," added he, with a sardonic smile, "that a flail comes in out of time, it does not disconcert ns."

There exist in Germany particular bodies of crafts. men, among the members of which music is cultivated with more than common zeal. Such is the case, for instance, in some China manufactories at Echternach, at Metloch, on the banks of the Sarre. The miners are, in particular, distinguished by their knowledge of music. What seems more surprising is, to find the art cultivated in localities entirely deprived of the means of instruction. They told us of a man who, without having ever had the least instruction in music, had learned it alone, and seemed to have fed his children with it, at an age when most children are fed on milk only. We had great desire to know him, and prolonged our journey in the Tyrol, as far as Berchtesgaden, in the neigh. bourhood of Salzhurg. On our road to the dwelling which had heen pointed out to us, we heard some Tyrolean songs, often accompanied on the Zitter. At last we arrived at the cottage; it was shut up. We knocked in vain; no one answered us. The whole family, Grassl, his wife and children, was out on the mountains, occupied in their daily work —that of finding aromatic herbs and wood. This man, who had no other means of subsistence than the sale of simples, procured with such hard labour by himself and family-had himself built, with the aid of his wile and children, the little cabin they inhabited; and at evening, when they came home, bending under their burdens, they took a frugal meal, and then betook themselves to the study of music, by way of repose and diversion after the labours of the day. Grass learned the ganut and the time-table, and fathomed the principles of art, without any other assistance than his own wonderful perseverance. Little by little, he began to play on the violin, the bassoon, the clarionet, the flute, the octave flute, the trumpet, the keyed trumpet, the horn, and the trombone. Nor is that all: this naturalist in music has inoculated his children with

all he knows. \* \* The Queen of Bavaria, who possesses estates in this district, wished like our. selves, to know this interesting family. She arrived, with her suite, about six o'clock in the evening. The little family had not returned from its rural labours-some were foddering the cows, some dig ging up potatoes. The Queen had them collected, and when they arrived, without taking time to change their clothes or clean themselves, they ranged themselves round their table; and the poor children, with earth on their hands and sweat on their foreheads, began to perform the "Bavarian Troops' March," the "Salzburg Waltz," the "Chamois Hunter's Air"—some on stringed, some on wind instruments, sometimes on brass instruments only. A little boy on a chair, only five years old, played the double bass .- Mainzer's Musical Sketches.

BRAHAM'S FIRST CONCERT IN AMERICA .-- Long before the doors opened, a dense crowd surrounded the entrance to the Tabernacle; and, by 8 o'clock, between two and three thousand people were seated in breathless silence to hear the great Braham, whose reputation in London, as first tenor, both in sacred and secular music, has been undisturbed for the last forty-five years. The overture to the Messiah was ably performed by Dr Hodges on the organ, which, however, is not one of the best specimens of Erben's manufacture; after which Mr Braham made his first appearance before an Ame-rican audience. The applause and cheering with which he was greeted had a visible effect upon his nerves, for he commenced, although an experienced artist of years, trembling and rather flat; but he soon rallied and became himself. His first tender and expressive cadence was received with a feeling of surprise which seemed too great for utterance; but, when he once showed the full power of his wonderful voice, there was no controlling the enthusiasm of the andi-tors, and a burst of applause took place, such as has been seldom heard in the Tabernacle. "Thy rebuke hath broken his heart," brought tears into the eyes, in spite of many a manly struggle not to show such weak-ness; but "Thon shalt dash them in pieces," was a perfect tornado of tone, and a volume of voice to which there appeared to be no end. His *crescendo*, at the end, was the most extraordinary musical effort we ever listened to. It appeared as if a thonsand mortals were dashed into pieces like a potter's vessel; in short, each effort was crowned with increased effect and astonishment. In his "Jephtha's rash Vow," no one can ima-gine anything more expressive of the heart broken grief of a father than Mr Braham in the words, "My only daughter—so dear a child!" and the struggle to sing "Bnt Gilead hath triumphed o'er his foes;" again with convulsive sobs, "Therefore to morrow's dawn," and the hopeless "I can no more," seemed almost too much to listen to. To say he has lost his powers, is ridiculous; his expression of feeling and tenderness he can never lose, for it was born with him, and will descend with him to the grave. His flexibility is the only point in which his age may be detected; in all other respects he is as full of freshness and vigour as

when he was in the prime of life.—New York Mirror. EDWIN.—The man who played the flute, by some accident broke it while in the orchestra at Covent Garden Theatre; Edwin running into the green-room, cried out, "Poor fellow, poor fellow |--" What's the dam, rejoined Edwin, poor Mr. Green has just split his wind-pipe."

GEORGE COLMAN THE YOUNGER .--- A young gen-CHEARGE COLMAN THE YOUNGER.—A young gen-tleman being pressed very bard in company to sing, even after he had solemnly assured them that he could not, observed testily, that they were wanting to make a butt of him. "No, my good Sir," said Mr. Colman, who was present, "we only want to get a *stave* out of you."

# THE BRITISH MINSTREL; AND

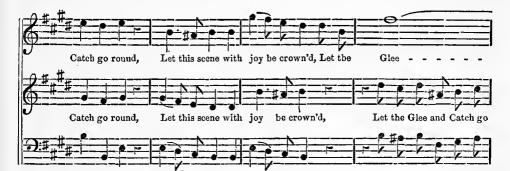
# LIFE'S A BUMPER.



# MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.









THE BRITISH MINSTREL; AND



GLOOMY WINTER'S NOW AWA'.



Gloomy winters now awa', Saft the westlan breezes blaw, 'Mang the birks o' Stanley shaw

The mavis sings fu' cheerie, O; Sweet the crawflower's early bell Decks Gleniffer's dewy dell, Blooming like thy bonnie sel',

My young, my artless dearie, O. Come, my lassie, let us stray O'er Glenkilloch's sunny brae, Blythely spend the gowden day

'Midst joys that never weary, O. No. 18.

Towering o'er the Newton woods, Lav'rocks fan the snaw-white clouds, Siller saughs, wi' downy buds,

Adorn the banks sae briery, O; Round the sylvan fairy nooks, Feathery breckars fringe the rocks, Neath the brae the burnie jouks,

And ilka thing is cheery, O; Trees may bud, and birds may sing, Flowers may bloom, and verdure spring, Joy to me they canna' bring,

Unless wi' thee, my dearie, O.

#### MOZART'S VIOLIN.

About forty years ago, a poor dealer in nick nacks and *bric a brac*, named Ruttler, took up his abode at the upper extremity of the Fauxbourg Saint Joseph at Vienna. The scanty profits of his little trade but ill sufficed for the support of a young wife and fourteen children, the oldest of whom was but sixteen years of age. Ruttler, however, notwithstanding the discouraging position of his affairs, was kind-hearted, ever ready to serve his friends, and the needy traveller was never known to quit his door without the benefit of his advice or his charity. An individual, whose serious deportment and benevolent expression of countenance were calculated to inspire respect and interest, passed regularly every day before the door of Ruttler's shop. The individual in question was evidently struggling against the influence of a desperate malady ; nature seemed no longer to have any charm in his eyes. A languid smile would, however, play around his discoloured lips as Ruttler's children each morning saluted him on his passage, or heedlessly pursued him with their infant gambols. On such occasions his eyes were raised to heaven, and seemed in silence to implore for the young innocents an existence bappier than his. Ruttler, who had remarked the stranger, and who seized every occasion to be of service, had obtained the privilege of offering him a seat every morning on his return from his usual walk. The stranger frankly accepted the proffered civility, and Ruttler's children often warmly dis. puted with each other the prerogative of setting the humble stool before their father's guest. One day the stranger returned from his walk rather earlier than usual. Ruttler's children accosted him with smiles; "Sir," said they, "mamma has this night given us a pretty little sister." Upon this the stranger, leaning on the arm of the eldest child, presented himself in Rattler's shop, and kindly asked after his wife. Ruttler, who was going out, confirmed his children's prattle; and, after thanking his guest for his inquiries, "Yes, sir," said he, "this is the fifteenth that Providence has sent us."--"Worthy man," cried the stranger, in a tone of anxiety and sympathy, "and yet a scanty portion of the treasures showered on the conrtiers of Schoenbrunn lights not on your humble dwelling. Age of iron! when talent, virtue, honour are admired only when the tomb closes upon them for ever: but, added he, " have you a godfather for the infant?" "Alas, sir, the poor man with difficulty finds a sponsor for his child. For my other children I have usually claimed the good offices of some chance passer or neighbour as poor as myself." "Call her Gabrielle. Here are a hundred florins for the christening feast, to which I invite myself, and by

taking charge of which you will oblige me." Ruttler hesitated. "Come, come," said the stranger, "take them, when you know me better you will see that I am worthy to share your sorrows. But you can render me a service : I perceive a violin in your shop; bring it me here—to this table— I have a sudden idea, which I must commit to paper." Ruttler hastily detached the violin from the peg to which it was suspended, and gave it to the stranger, whose skill drew from the instrument such extraordinary sounds that the street was soon filled with a crowd of inquisitive listeners. A number of personages of the highest distinction, recognizing the artist by his melody, stopped their carriages.

The stranger, entirely engrossed by his composi-

tion, paid no attention to the crowd that surround. ed Ruttier's shop. When he had terminated, he thrust into his pocket the paper on which he had been writing, left his address with Ruttler, and took leave of him, intimating that he should expect to receive due notice of the christening. Three days elapsed, and the stranger returned no more. In vain Ruttler's children placed the stool before their father's door. On the third day, several people, dressed in black, and their countenances impressed with the seal of woe, stopped before the humble seat, which they contemplated with sadness, and Ruttler then determined to make some personal inquiries as to the fate of his former guest. He arrived at the house to which the stranger had addressed him. The door was hung with black, a coffin was illuminated with an immense quantity of wax-lights; a crowd of artists, of grandees, of scientific and literary men, deplored the fatal event that had taken place. For the first time the truth flashed across Ruttler's mind; he learned with astonishment that he whose funeral obsequies were on the point of celebration-his guest, his benefactor, the proposed godfather of his child-was Mc-ZART! Mozart had exhaled his last melodions sigh at Ruttler's miserable threshold! Seated on the shapeless stool, he had composed his harmonions Requiem-the last strain of Germany's expiring swan. Ruttler paid the last sad tribute of respect to one whom he had honoured and revered without knowing him. Returning home, he was astonished to find his modest asylum invaded by the idle crowd, who often incense the shrine only when the deity has departed. The circumstances just detailed brought Ruttler's establishment into vogue, and en. abled him to amass a competence, and provide for his fifteen children. Conformably to the wish expressed by Mozart, the youngest was named Gabrielle, and the violin on which the great composer had played a few days before his death, served as the marriage-portion of his god-daughter when she had attained the age of sixteen. The same violin was afterwards sold for four thousand florins. With the seat on which Mozart had sat, Ruttler never would consent to part, notwithstanding the tempting sums offered for it. The honest merchant resolved to keep it as a monument at once of his former poverty and of his present good fortane.

# ON "WILHEM'S METHOD OF TEACHING SINGING,

ADAPTED TO ENGLISH USE, UNDER THE 'SANCTION OF THE COMMITTEE OF PRIVY COUNCIL ON EDU-CATION, BY JOHN HULLAH."

A VERY notable change has taken place during the present century, in the mode of imparting instruction to large bodies of pupils. Formerly a master had to undergo the toil of instructing each pupil separately; and too often one pupil was idle or worse than idle while the master was attending to another. When Dr. Bell and Mr. Lancaster, the one in connection with the Established Church, and the other distinct from it, founded their respective schools for the instruction of the poor, they adopted the system of division into classes, by which many pupils could be instructed simultaneously, each class being superintended by a monitor or assistant teacher.

To trace the progress of these schools, and of others on a similar system, is no part of our plan. We shall at once proceed to our object,—viz., to de tail the remarkable and interesting attempt now being made to teach vocal music on a similar plan. Au observant individual can hardly fail to have remarked the movement which English society has lately made in this direction; choral societies, saered harmonic societies, and other associations for the practice of vocal music, have been formed in great number, and are largely attended hy persons principally of the middle classes. When this circumstance became gradually known and appreciated by the benevolent persons who desire to impart the hlessings of education to the poor, it became a subject for thought, whether vocal music might not aid in elevating the moral character of the people. In an official document, to which we shall more particularly allude presently, it is well observed that,—

Vocal music, as a means of expression, is by no means an unimportant element in civilization. One of the chief characteristics of public worship ought to be the extent to which the congregation nnite in those solemn psalms of prayer and praise, which, particularly in the Lutheran Churches of Germany and Holland, appear the utterance of one harmonious voice. One of the chief means of diffusing through the people national sentiments is afforded by songs which embody and express the hopes of industry, and the comforts and contentment of household life; and which preserve for the peasant the traditions of his country's triumphs, and inspire him with confidence in her greatness and strength.

It is still more important to remark, that the degrading habits of intoxication which at one time characterised the poorer classes of Germany are most remarkably diminished since the art of singing has become almost as common in that country as the power of speech; and this improvement is in great part attributed to the excellent elementary schools of Germany.

The reader is probably aware, that a few years ago a portion of her Majesty's privy councillors were appointed a "Committee of the Privy Council on Education." The office of this committee is to superintend certain arrangements arising out of an annual parliamentary grant for educational pur-poses; and their attention was after a time directed to the subject of vocal music in schools. The secretary to the committee was empowered to make such inquiries both in foreign countries and in England, as would enable the committee to form some plan of proceeding. In the first place, it was necessary to ascertain how far singing had been carried in our elementary schools, how far the national taste seemed to lead that way, and whether there are any obstacles in the way of "voice" or "ear," to the attainment of moderate musical skill among us. In a "prefatory minute," subsequently pub-lished by the council, it is stated that,—

The information derived from the inspector of schools, and from various other sources, had made the Committee of Council acquainted with the fact, that vocal music has been successfully cultivated in comparatively few of the elementary schools of Great Britain. In the Sunday schools of great towns the children have commonly been taught to sing, in an imperfect manner, certain of the psalm and hymn tunes used in divine service. These tunes are learned only by imitation, from persons of little or no musical skill, and are therefore generally sung incorrectly and without taste. Thus the children acquire no power of further self-instruction, and little or no desire to know more of music. It is stated, however, in the same "Minute," that though vocal music has been comparatively neglect. ed in the elementary schools of England, there is sufficient evidence that the natural genius of the people would reward a careful caltivation. It is stated that in the northern counties of England, choral singing has long formed the chief rational amusement of the manufacturing population. The weavers of Lancashire and Yorkshire have been famed for their acquaintance with the great works of Handel and Haydn, with the part-music of the old English school, and with the old English melodies. In respect of "voice," and "ear for music," we shall have to offer a few remarks hereafter.

The committee, being convinced that there was no vocal music, worthy of the name, practised in any of our elementary schools, and that our labouring classes are capable of learning and appreciating the heauties of this delightful recreation, set about inquiring what mode of instruction could be most fittingly introduced into schools. They sent their secretary to collect, from various parts of Europe, where music has been cultivated in elementary schools, the books most frequently used in teaching it. Such works were accordingly procured from Switzerland, Holland, the German States, Prussia, Austria, and France; and were then carefully examined, with a view to determine their relative fitness for the proposed object.

It was desirable that the system of teaching should proceed by easy gradations, beginning with the simplest details, and progressing by degrees to those more difficult, and the method of M. Wilhem, as pursued by that gentleman at Paris, seemed to the committee the one most fitted for their purpose. M. Wilhem had instructed large numbers of persons in Paris on his plan, under the sanction of the Minister of Public Instruction, whose sanction also was extended to the work in which M. Wilhem's method is developed. The Committee of Council accordingly sent their secretary to France, accompanied by Mr. Hullah, a gentleman who had bestowed great attention on the subject. The report of those gentlemen being every way satisfactory, Mr. Hullah was commissioned to prepare a "Manual," or book of instructions, which, while it adhered to the general principle of Wilhem's method, should be adapted to the particular wants of an English clementary school.

The general system pursued by M. Wilhem hasbeen to instruct a certain number of monitors in music, and then to give to each monitor the teaching of a small class of eight children. The committee of Council thought it desirable, however, to adapt the system to the mode of instruction in one large class, as well as in sub-classes. In Paris, a body of 400 artisans are being instructed in the subclass or monitorial method, one monitor being appointed to every eight learners, who assemble round a large printed tablet, on which some of the instructions are given. The committee have caused similar tablets to be prepared for the English schools; and have further authorised the publication of Instruction Books, some adapted for the use of both master and scholar, and some for the scholars only.

While these measures were in progress, steps were taken for the establishment of a "Singing-School for Schoolmasters." It is plain that unless the master of an elementary school be competent to teach singing, and to make it part of the regular school routine, the general introduction of singing into the school could hardly be accomplished. The

committee of education, though they did not feel justified in applying any part of the parliamentary grant to this purpose, nevertheless gave their full sanction and approval to the plan. Some liberal friends to the cause of education, subscribed sufficient funds to set the matter on foot; and at length, on the 1st of February, 1841, a " Singing School for Schoolmasters" was opened at Exeter Hall, under the immediate superintendence of Mr. Hullah. The experiment was so novel, and the desired result so important, that it was seen to be necessary to make an extremely low charge for admission to the school; the students, who were confined to masters and teachers in elementary schools for the humble classes, were charged fifteen shillings for the com. plete course of sixty lessons. As it is a part of the plan that all the pupils should progress simultaneously, no new pupils could enter the class after it had commenced. To admit other applicants, therefore, another class was formed on the 2d March, and a third on the 22d March. All these classes belonged to the School for Schoolmasters, but as the object in view applies equally to both sexes, a " Singing-School for Schoolmistresses" was formed on the 24th of March, under precisely the same regulations as the others.

These four classes, thus established, continued their course of studies during the greater part of the past year; and much curiosity was excited to observe the degree of progress made by the pupils. On this point we shall speak hereafter; but it may here be observed, that at the conclusion of the course of study prescribed to the first class, another was formed to which admission could be gained by persons not belonging to the scholastic profession. At the present time, Exeter Hall is, three evenings in the week, the busy scene of a vocal discipline, which would have excited no small surprise a few years ago.

We shall endcavour, in a Inture article, to give some idea of Wilhem's method, and of the chief differences between it and the methods commonly followed. We here conclude, in the meantime, with an extract from the "Prefatory Minute of the Committee of Council on Education," prefixed to the work used in these schools, (the title of which we have given at the head of the present article), explanatory of the sort of publications employed in the developement of the system :--

The Committee of Council have now published only the first part of the course of instruction. This first part consists of exercises and school songs, printed in two forms, viz .:---on tablets for the use of the monitorial drafts, (*i.e.*, sub-classes of eight pupils each, taught by a monitor,) and in a royal octavo edition for the use of schoolmasters and their assistants. It comprises those portions of a course of elementary instruction in vocal music, which a master of moderate skill may easily succeed in communicating to an ordinary elementary school. The music is all of a comparatively simple character; it is arranged in synthetic order, and words have been adapted to it, chiefly suitable to the use of children in elementary schools, and therefore to be denomi-nated "School Songs." The second part of the course will encounter some of the greater difficulties of the art, and will be adapted to the use of normal and training schools, and those classes of young men which it is desirable to form, in order to continue the cultivation of vocal music beyond the period when the children of the working classes or-dinarily attend elementary schools. The words

adapted to the music in this part of the course will chiefly be such as may inspire cheerful views of industry, and will be entitled "Labour Songs." To this will succeed such religious music as it may be deemed desirable to furnish for the use of elementary schools.—Saturday Magazine.

#### TO THE NIGHTINGALE

# Which the Author heard sing on New Year's Day, 1792.

- Whence is it, that amaz'd I hear From yonder wither'd spray, This foremost morn of all the year, The melody of May.
- And why, since thousands would be proud Of such a favour shown,
- Am I selected from the crowd, To witness it alone !
- Sing'st thou, sweet Philomel, to me, For that I also long
- Have practised in the groves like thee, Though not like thee in song?
- Or sing'st thou rather under force Of some divine command, Commission'd to presage a course
- Of happier days at haad?

Thrice welcome then! for many a long And joyless year have I,

As thou to-day, put forth my song, Beneath a wintry sky.

But thee no wintry skies can harm, Who only need'st to sing, To make ev'n January charm,

And ev'ry season Spring.

COWPER.

## NATIONAL MUSIC.

A NOBLE national music, if not a certain mark, is yet a probable indication of many national virtues. The general diffusion of beautiful traditionary melodies among a people implies the prevalence of refined taste, and of tender or exalted feelings. Such compositions could not be produced, appreciated, or preserved, among men whose hearts were engrossed with sensual or sordid things, or refused admittance to the kindly and imaginative sensibilities of which music is the powerful and universal expression. We shall not deny that the qualities which are akin to musical taste may sometimes nationally, as well as personally, degenerate into softness and effeminacy, or wander into impetuosity and violence. But, if properly regulated and attuned, the same affections that are awakened by musical sounds, which are but the echoes of a higher and holier harmony, will not be insensible to the voice of moral sympathies. Popular music, too, it will be remembered, is generally the parent or the sister of popular poetry. The mass of maukind are too sensuous in their constitution, too foud of vivid and tangible images, to rest contented with the shadowy suggestions and wandering idealities of mere melody in its ethereal state, while unincorporated with significant language. National music is thus the frequent origin, as well as subject, of poetical genius. It will often, indeed, happen that the finest melodies, instead of being married to immortal verse, are but very indifferently provided with yoke fellows; but it is not necessary, in order to

produce a powerful effect, that the words of a song | should be equal to the music. Rude and feeble expressions may be sufficient to give a definite object and distinct character to a melody, and may, in combination with its influence, create impressions equal to those which proceed from the most superior poetry. The poetical leelings, which are thus called into action, will necessarily belong to the better parts of our nature, and, by the exercise which is given to them, will tend to ameliorate the character. At the same time, and by the same process, the mnsic of a country will become linked more strongly with those local objects 'and events that are most cherished and most memorable. It will become the depository of all that is interesting to human feelings or dear to national pride; and, by the innu. merable recollections which it involves, united with its natural power to excite emotion, it will acquire a magie influence over the heart which no other art can lay elaim to. The love of country, a love which is the concentration of all social and domestic charities, appears to be the passion that is most powerfully moved by means of national music. A few characteristic notes, breathed from a simple reed, or sung by a rugged voice, will, to men at a distance from their native land, more readily and forcibly rccall the images and feelings of home than the most elaborate description, or the most lively picture. The mind is at once replaced amid those pleasing scenes which formerly echoed to the same familiar strain, amid those beloved objects with which its melody so sweetly harmonised. As an auxiliary, therefore, to virtue and happiness, the possession of a national music is an inestimable blessing. It lightens labour, and enlivens recreation; it embellishes plenty, and compensates for hardship; abroad it reminds us of the loves that we have left, and the hopes that are before us; at home it invests every spot and object with the light of poetry and the charms of recollection; in the hours of peace it knits more closely the ties of neighbourhood and affection; in the day of battle it nerves the arm for victory or the soul for death.

Having said so much of the moral influence of national melody, let us add something as to its effects upon the progress of musical art. There is little doubt that the principal charm of modern music arises from the adoption, in scientific composition, of the peculiar attractions of popular melody. We should still be wearied with the drawling dulness of the old chants, if composers of discernment as well as science had not seen the necessity of following the universal taste of mankind, and of incorporating the results of experience with the speculations of theory. Music is the art of pleasing the ear, and the only standard of such an art is success. A scientific musical composition that gives no pleasure is a solecism-a contradiction in terms. Musical science may be of service in pointing out faults and in extending knowledge, but it cannot create beauties; and here, as well as elsewhere, the observation holds true-Maximum est vitium carere virtutibus. To be cold and tiresome is infinitely worse than to be incorrect. But the art of pleasing in music has been very much derived, or at least improved, from a study of those effusions which have either spontaneously sprung from the popular taste, or have been preserved by its influence amidst the wreck of other productions of a less congenial and buoyant character. The most successful works of modern composers have been formed, in a great measure, upon the model of national melody; and

an enlarged view of the science has shown that no sacrifice of musical system is necessary in order to please the simple as well as the erudite. The sources of musical beauty are the same, whether popularly or technically viewed. From adventitious circumstances, the pleasing and the profound may at times appear to diverge; but in this art, as in every other that is intended to address and to ameliorate human feelings, the highest perfection is to be found in that region where popular and scientifie excellence are united and identified.

The subject of national melody, its origin, character, and influence in different countries, have been very imperfectly investigated or considered; and we have no doubt that much discovery, at once useful and interesting, might yet be made in this department. The affinities existing between the music of different nations, if carefully and scientifically traced, might, we conceive, throw much light both upon their community of origin, and also upon the predominant principles of musical sensibility among mankind; and in this last view we might, by such enquiries, more surely approximate to those immutable and universal laws of the art that ean best assist composers in writing for a permanent and extensive popularity. Transcendant genius will often attain this object by its own instinctive perceptions : but merit, even of a high order, might, by instruction from this source, be preserved from those local or temporary aberrations into which it is often tempted by caprice or fashion, and which, though pleasing in a partial degree, must ultimately obscure its real excellence.

In the general dearth of information, which we believe prevails on this subject, we yet think that we cannot he much mistaken in claiming a very high degree of relative praise for the national mu-sic of our own country. The opinions of Scotch-men on such a question, may be suspected of bias, but the testimony of high and impartial authorities has been repeatedly given to the same effect. The Scottish music is extensive and various, and in every department possesses unquestionable merit. Our dancing tunes have a spirit and force unrivalled to our ear by any other music, and so electrically fitted to rouse the national fervour and enthusiasm, that we doubt not they will ere long regain their legitimate ascendency in the ball room. Our humorous airs have an eminent power of clever or grotesque merriment. Our serious melodies are often highly polished and graceful; and those of a plaintive character are as exquisitely pathetic as the most finished compositions of the greatest masters. Taken all in all, we are not convinced that there is any other body of national music in the world that surpasses that of Scotland, in force, in character, in versatility, or in genius. We certainly feel not a little exaltation at our superiority in this respect over our neighbours of England, to whom we are willing to bow with a proud humility in many other subjects of competition, but whom, we rejoice to think, we can always outdo in the matter of mountains and music. We are far from denying to the English the praise of musical feeling, and we are grateful for the great contributions which, by their regular and scientific compositions, they have made to the general stock of musical pleasure. Not to eunmerate the early madrigal and canon writers of England, who were equally remarkable for their talent, learning, and ingenuity, or to refer to her an. cient church music, which will always command admiration, the country that owns Purcell for her

son, and can boast of Handel for her foster-child, deserves one of the highest places among modern nations in the scale of musical genius. But we are here speaking of that aborigmal or self sown music which is referable to no individual author, or school of authors, but seems to be the fruit of the very soil itself, and reveals, by the raciness of its character, the peculiar qualities of its native hed. In point of national music, properly so called, we think our-

selves entitled to claim the advantage over our southern countrymen. The English have, undoubtedly, a national music. But, although recognising the great spirit and sweetness of many of the English airs, we think that, so far as we have yet seen, few or none of them exhibit those decided features either of antiquity or of peculiar origin by which our Scottish airs are so strikingly marked.—Blackwood's Magazine.

# WE ARE THREE FRIARS.

### GLEE FOR THREE VOICES, FROM "HARLEQUIN AND OBERON."

(The 2d Stave is the Air, and may be sung by a single voice as a Song, altering the words to

"I am a Friar," &c.)







We are three Friars of orders Grey, And down the vallies we take our way, We pull not blackberry, haw, or hip, Good store of ven'son does fill our scrip, Our long bead roll we merrily chaunt, Wherever we walk no money we want, Wherever we walk no money we want, And why we're so plump the reason we'll tell, Who leads a good life is sure to live well, Who teads a good life is sure to live well, What Baron or Squire, or Knight of the Shire, Lives half so well as a holy Friar. After supper of Heaven we dream, But that is fat pullets and clouted cream, Ourselves by denial we mortify— With a dainty bit of a warden pye; We're cloth'd in sackcloth for our sin, With old sack wine we're lined within, With old sack wine we're lined within, A chirping cup is our matin song, And the vesper bell is our bowl, ding dong, And the vesper bell is our bowl, ding dong. What Baron or Squire, or Knight of the Shire, Lives half so well as a holy Friar. WITH LOWLY SUIT AND PLAINTIVE DITTY.



And fearing ne'er to see him more. Relieve my woes my wants distressing, And heav'n reward you with its blessing.

From passing strangers aid intreating, I wander thus, alone, forgot.

No. 19

Relieve my woes my wants distressing,

And heav'n reward you with its blessing.

### SINGING FOR THE MILLION-M. MAINZER.

THERE are few of our readers, we believe, but must have heard something of the new systems of Singing lately introduced into England by Mr Hullah and M. Mainzer, but many very probably (particularly in Scotland) may have little more than heard of them. We have already inserted the first of a series of notices of the Exeter Hall Classes. At present we propose to lay before our readers a brief account of M. Mainzer's system and its progress.

Joseph Mainzer, who is by birth a German, and by nature a musical enthusiast, came to England about the middle of the year 1841, having previously taught singing both in Germany and France. Shortly after his arrival he succeeded in establishing classes here, and despite the numerous difficulties he had to encounter, (amongst others, that of having to convey his instructions in a language hitherto foreign to him,) he has had great success; and his system of instruction is rapidly spreading throughout the principal towns of England, and is about to be introduced both in Scotland and Ireland.

M. Mainzer's first London classes were begun under the auspices of the Temperance Societies. At the commencement he had great difficulty in obtaining scholars, indeed he states that at first he "paid men two shillings and sixpence each per week to attend, besides sapplying them with lesson books gratuitously." Things, however, soon began to wear a different aspect-the system of payment was speedily reversed-pupils began to increascand at present hc has numerous classes established in the metropolis, several of them under the sanction of respectable public institutions; the numbers that have joined these classes has been quitc extraordinary, and beyond parallel in the history of music -at the present period there are not less than six thousand scholars, in London and its neighbourhood alone, receiving instruction from M. Mainzer or others under his superintendence.

Besides M. Mainzer's numerous classes in the metropolis, he has gradually extended his exertions over many of the principal towns in England. He usually, we believe, commences the classes himself, and they are afterwards carried on by his assistants. In Brighton his classes have gone on for a considerable period, and have made great progress. At Newcastle-upon-Tyne above 5,000 persons have already been instructed upon his system; in Bristol his success has been as great; in Reading, Oxford, and other places in the south of England, great progress has been made; and we understand that persons properly instructed in his method of teaching and supplied with his class books, have taken their departure for New York and Sydney, to extend to these cities the benefit of the new system.

In order to convey an idea of M. Mainzer's manner of commencing his classes, and generally of his system, we cannot do better than subjoin from the *Brighton Herald* the report of his first lecture in Brighton :--

"M. Mainzer is between 30 and 40 years of age; of a rather light complexion, remarkably thin, and his countenance bears the marks of study; but it is wonderfully benign, yet animated to a high degree when addressing his audience. Having read a beautifully constructed lecture, which he delivered with much grace and propriety, though at times, perhaps from his German enunciation, accenting the words differently from our custom; he at once entered upon his subject; premising, however, that in these early lectures he did not profess to enter upon matter that would be useful to the singer or musician, but he took it ab initio, and as if all present were about to become acquainted with the art for the first time. Nor did he profess to teach any thing absolutely new in itself, but merely in the manner of communicating it. In music we dealt with the invisible, and there were three things in it principally to be considered-sound; the signs by which sound is denoted; and the application of sound and those signs to the voice. Every person had a voice, though some could sing or speak higher, and some lower, than others; but there was a tone which all persons could make, and this was sol (G in the trehle clef), and this, therefore, he called the. speaking note. M. Mainzer then caused the whole assembly to sing this one note five times in a bar. Having succeeded without the least difficulty in this he caused the audience to rise one tone to la (A treble clef). Upon this he exercised them through eight exercises, and then proceeded to si (B the major third), and then on to do (C the 4th). He next proceeded to direct his numerous and pleased audience to the scale downwards from sol(G) to fa, being the second note downwards, and from that to mi (E treble clef)-and thus proceeded through 20 or 25 exercises, which all accomplished with little difficulty. As he gave the various tones himself and chords on the instrument, the audience followed him with little hesitation. His next task was to give an idea of time. He discards all the old terms of breve, semibreve, crotchets, &c., which, as he truly observed, were arbitrary signs, conveying no clear notion of their import, and calls them (the signs observed being the same as those in common use) whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, and so on up to the thirty-second part of a note. Thus the old semibreve is a whole note; the minim a half note; the crotchet, a quarter note; the quaver, the eighth of a note; the semiquaver, the sixteenth; and the demi-semiquaver, the thirty-second of a note. He first made his audience hold the full whole note whilst he counted four slow heats. He then made them count the two half notes; then the fourth, eighth, and sixteenth, but avoided for the present the thirty two notes, as it would have led only to confusion. His next step was to set out a passage of a bar or two in notes marked on the lines upon a black board, and these he caused the audience to sing, calling each note by its proper name—sol, la, si, do, as required. He then placed some notes in the downward scale beneath the former notes, and these he caused the whole of the audience next to sing. Having done this, he prepared them for the next step. He caused the audience to divide into two masses, directing those on his left hand to sing

the higher notes on the board, and those on his [ right hand to sing the lower notes on the board, and thus a duet was at once executed by about 300 voices on each part, and hundreds began to form a conception for the first time of musical notation, time, and counterpoint. The effect was striking and pleasing; and when the pupils get confidence, and give force to their voices, the combination of such masses of harmonious sound will be tremendous. M. Mainzer then asked for a theme that would be familiar to all, which being given to him by the Rev. Gentlemen present, he immediately set it to music so as to form a duet, and this also, after a few trials, was perfectly executed by the audience. This closed the first and introductory lecture and lesson. The audience were now animated and delighted beyond the power of any words we possess to describe. Mr. Holtham, the chairman of the Committee, came forward and proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer, and a scene presented itself which we never can forget. The audience rose tumultuously, and waving their hats and handkerchiefs, burst forth in one round of applause, such as we never saw exhibited on any former occasion. This was repeated again and again, and every time the enthusiasm increased.'

One particular feature of M. Mainzer's system (in common with Hollah's) and a great advantage, so far as the working classes are concerned, is the great number of persons who are enabled to receive lessons at one time, the number being only limited by the size of the class room, in consequence of which the terms for instruction are enabled to be reduced to a very small sum, amounting only to about 1d. or  $I_2^I$ d. per lesson. The first or elementary course of instruction cmbraces fifteen lessons, during which the pupils are made acquainted with the appearance, positions, sounds, and time of the various notes, and exercised in singing easy pieces of harmony; from the pupils who have gone through this course, a second or superior class is afterwards formed, which proceeds to the study of the higher branches of the science. Afterwards M. Mainzer proposes that there should be frequent holiday assemblages of the pupils in the different towns, for the purpose of joining in the execution of Chorusses, Anthems, &c.; these meetings to be occasionally held in fine weather in the open air, similar to those musical meetings so often held in Germany. Several of these festivals have already been held at Brighton, London, and other places, and have gone off very happily and with every appearance of having contributed greatly to the pleasure and enjoyment both of the singers themselves and of their auditors. An account of one of these festivals, held at Brighton, by a correspondent of Cleave's Gazette, we shall subjoin, as also of one at Reading, from the Musical Times :-

"In my last communication on the subject of Mr. Mainzer's classes in Brighton, I spoke of an approaching open air festival, a *fete champetre*, in which it was to be shown even to the most sceptical, that choral music might, and perhaps at no distant period would, become a very striking feature in all the public and private festivals of the people. This promised musical fete has taken place. Thursday, 2d June, was fixed for Mr. Mainzer's farewell mecting, and was anxiously looked forward to by his pupils, as to a day that was to realize a new enjoyment. The 'fea Gardens' was selected as the most fitting place for our meeting, and perhaps no place could have better answered the purpose. This garden is prettily laid out, and the trees and shrubbery were in the full beauty of their spring-time luxuriance.

A platform, seats, &c., were arranged on the bowling green, and at 3 o'clock, the scene that presented itself on entering the garden was beautiful and striking. As a proof of the socialising effects of music, were to be seen persons of great respectability, in the ordinary acceptation of the term, commingled with the poor and the lowly, it was a spectacle as gay as it was animating; and the luxuriance of the surrounding trees and shrubbery, with the beautiful vista opening in the rear, gave an additional charm to the coup d'ail of the spectator at the entrance. At one time there were not less than 2000 people assembled in the bowling-green and the surrounding bank. At a little past three, Mr. Mainzer arrived, and seated himself at the Mr. Mainzer arrived, and seated minisen at the pianoforte. Among the chorusses were "The Call to Prayer," "The Sea," "The Cuckoo," "Frater-nity," "Blowing Bubbles," "Psalm 15," "The Hymn," "The Village Chimes," "Super Fulmina Babylonis," "Contentment," "Invitation to a Red-breast." The hours from 4 till 6 were set apart for "the content wolling, so and at 6 the interest. refreshment, walking, &c., and at 6 the singers reunited around Mr. Mainzer; when in addition to the "Pilgrims at the Holy Sepulchre." (a heautiful Cantata by Hauman) were sung "Britain's Hymn," an exercise from the manual, the chorusses "I travelled among unknown men," "The Shepherd

Boy," "Departure," and "God save the Queen." I should have stated that at the close of the first part of the choral performance a piece for three voices, written and composed with a pianoforte accompaniment by a gentleman who is strongly attached to Mr. Mainzer's classes, was presented to the latter as a mark of respect for his benevolent and arduous exertions in endeavouring to imbue all classes with a love of music. In acknowledging this act of respectful gratitude, Mr. Mainzer took occasion to impress on the minds of his audience, that he attached to music not simply an intrinsic value, but felt a strong conviction, that it had a powerful tendency to develope the softer and better feelings of man; that it was this conviction alone that prompted him to the exertions which he had made, not only in this, but in his own country, and in France. Mr. Ingram then presided at the piano. forte, and the tributary piece of which I have spoken, was sung; and when it is borne in mind that it was a difficult piece, requiring great nicety in marking the time, and firmness in singing the intervals, it will surely be deemed a strong proof that facility in 'sight singing' is within the reach of the 'million.' when I state that about an hour and a half had been the full extent of the practice given by the singers to this piece. If there was anything that might be called a failure in this day's performance it was the deficiency of musical accompaniment; for the first time, singing in the open air, and on such an occasion there was an inevitable timidity on the singers. This would have been in a measure

obviated, and more hody given to the harmony by the assistance of wind instruments, and double basses; these, however, could not be had conveniently, nor without great expense. The most gratifying part of the performance was when, in a retired part of the gardens in the cool of the evening, Mr. Mainzer was surrounded by his pupils, and several chorusses were sung with great spirit without any accompaniment whatever. This closed the festivity of the day, and the admired teacher took his leave in order to prosecute his object at Oxford, Bristol, R. COLLING. Se.

"The Reading Fête Champetre on the 23d, went off as delightfully as heart could wish. The weather was delicious. The preparations were extensive, and the supplies abundant. Five tents, one of which was devoted to culinary purposes, were erected round a beautiful spot, called the Slopes, a part of the magnificent wilderness of Whiteknights. These noble gardens were in a very handsome manner given for the use of Mr. Mainzer and his pupils by the proprietor, Mr. Pollock.

The company began to assemble about two o'clock, and shortly after Mr. Mainzer arrived from Bristol. He was accompanied by Mr. Guynemer, who has conducted the Reading classes since their commencement. The 'master' was enthusiastically received by his pupils, and they soon commenced the business of the day by singing several chorusses, which, considering they had received but eight or ten lessons, they executed in a very creditable manner; though Mr. Mainzer complained that he could hear few 'lady voices,' owing to the intervention of the bonnets, which his almost pathetic appeal failed to coax off the heads of his fair pupils. The deficiency in volume of sound which was so perceptible in the first chorusses sung, was in a great measure owing to the situation in which the singers were placed-a hollow between two grassy banks (the Slopes) which appeared to deaden the voices; an effect that is often felt in a room crowded with fur-When the choristers afterwards removed niture. into the large tent on the summit of the southern bank, the singing was far more effective. A seraphine, ordered by Mr. Mainzer from London, furnished an appropriate and organ like accompaniment.

The following is the programme of the perform. ances:

At three o'clock precisely, the trumpet will sound the first call, when the party will meet at the Slopes, near the Fountains-the ladies arranging themselves on the north side, and the gentlemen on the south. The following music, coastituting the FIRST PART will then be executed :-

1. Instrumental Piece.

- 2. Cherus-"Praise," Mainzer.
- 3. Instrumental.
- 4. Chorus-" Temperance," Mainzer.
- 5. Instrumental.
- 6. Solo or Glee.
- 7. Chorus-107th Psalm, Mainzer.
- 8. Instrumental.

9. Solo and Chorus-" Britain's Hymn," Mainzer. At five precisely the company are requested to assemble at the sound of the trumpet, for tea, which will be served up in and about the tents. The following Grace and Thanksgiving will be sung at the table, the former to the music of the first chorus (Praise)-the latter to that of the second chorus (107th Psalm) :--

BEFORE MEAT.

Be present at our table, Lord ; Be here and everywhere adored;

Bless our repast, and grant that we May feast in Paradise with Thee.

AFTER MEAT.

We thank thee, Lord, for this our food;

Thy grace bestows whate'er is good ;

Let manna to our souls be given-

The bread of life sent down from Heaven

At half past seven the classes will re assemble at the Slopes, for the performance of the SECOND PART of the music, to consist of the following pieces (the trumpet sounding as in the former cases):

- Instrumental—(Overture).
   Round—(composed for the occasion) Guynemer.
   Chorus—"The Cuckoo," Mainz er.

4. Instrumental.

Solo and Chorus-"I've travelled," &e. Mainzer.
 Chorus-"Liberty," Guynemer.

7. Instrumental.

8. Chorus—"Village Chimes," Mainzer. To conclude at nine o'clock with the National Anthem, as arranged by Mr. Mainzer.

Among the chorusses, "Britain's Hymn" seemed here, as elsewhere, to be the favourite. Mr Guynemer's new chorus, "Liberty," was also very favourably received, being vociferously encored. It contains a delicate compliment to Mr. Mainzer in the form of an acrostic. We hope to see many more from the same source. The glee which is marked in the first part of the programme was sung by Mr. Guynemer, Mr. Corrie, and two other gentlemen, with great taste and spirit.

The important hour of tea passed away amid much fun and enjoyment, if we might judge by the eager, smiling faces, and brightened eyes which crowded around the long tables, and the frequent bursts of langhter which shook the tents.

After some of the gentlemen had politely resigned their places to the ladies who could not find seats, the singers performed the beautiful "grace before meat." The effect was so good owing to the awning overhead, that Mr Mainzer desired it might be repeated; and all the subsequent pieces were sung in the same place. After the grace, hostilities commenced in real carnest. The sounds of attack arose in a mingled din from the assembled mass. A thousand tea-cups clattering against a thousand saucers might he compared to the ringing shields and helms of ancient warriors-spoons and knives, like the spears and falchions of former days, were busied in the work of demolition-there were loud cries for water-but it was not "blessed water from the spring" to lave the brow of some dying soldier, but hot water to replenish the friendly tea-potthere were furious and gallant assaults upon bristling batteries of bread and butter. \* \* \* Such a tea-drinking we never before beheld, and we doubt if the temperance folks themselves could surpass these Millionites in their enjoyment of the social beverage. Several visitors from London were present; and among the residents, besides several of the principal people of Reading, Miss Mitford, the amiable and well known authoress, was pointed out to us, smiling benevolently upon a seene which was doubtless as novel as it was delightful to her. All was joy and harmony; the sercne sky above, the quiet trees below, the lnxnrions carpet of softest turf, the warbling of the birds, the untiring splash of the fountains, and more than all the peaceful and brotherly purpose for which this multitude was met together, cast an indescribable charm over the whole.

The scene, indeed, was such as we had never hoped to witness, but which we trust often to see again. The harmony which prevailed, the happiness that was beaming from every countenance, the absence of anything that might offend the most fastidious, and, above all, the spirit of fraternity which united all present, stamped this meeting with a distinct and most ennobling character. Many, many more such may Britain see in every town, from John O'Groat's House to the Land's End, from the white cliffs of Dover to the most westerly point of the Emerald Isle."

From all the various accounts we have seen of M. Mainzer's system and progress, we are disposed to attribute a very considerable portion of his remarkable success to his evident enthusiasm in his occupation and his imparting a portion of the like feeling to his pupils. We have looked into his class-book, the "Singing for the Million," in vain for any marked improvement in the ordinary system, we cannot perceive that there is any important variation in the lessons and exercises contained in it from those usually taught in their classes by our own teachers. M. Mainzer himself says that the difference is in the manner of communicating the instructions, this, we are happy to learn, we will soon have an opportunity of personally witnessing in the classes, our good city being one of the places announced as likely to have an early visit from M. Mainzer. As to the new mode of naming the notes introduced by him, we do not see that the alteration is any improvement; if the value of each of the written notes is explained to the pupils, it will be easily remembered by them although that value be not expressed in the name, and if alterations were to be made we think it would be more desirable to alter the absurdly long demisemiquaveral names into others short and distinct, although without previous meaning altogether. Many persons will be disposed to think that change of any kind is uncalled for; we do not say that it is, but when decided upon we would have been pleased to see an improvement made. A complete alteration in the names of the notes would certainly be productive of some confusion and inconvenience at first, but, like the change effected in transposing the notation of the tenur and counter-tenor into the treble cliff, and against which great outery and many objections at the time were raised, it would soon become familiar, and the inconvenience speedily disappear with its general use. M. Mainzer's plan of large classes and low charges is not a new one in Glasgow, whatever it may be in other parts of the country, a class on the same principle having been taught here for the last three sessions, in connection with the Glasgow Mechanics' Institution, by Mr. Samuel Barr. This class has usually consisted of from one hundred and fifty to two hundred scholars, and is intended to be continued each winter.

On the whole, it cannot but be gratifying both to the lover of music and the philanthropist, if indeed the latter be not included in the former, to contem.

plate the present remarkable awakening of a musical taste amongst the people, which, if well followed up by a sound and thorough-going system of teaching, cannot fail of being extensively and permanently beneficial. For contributing largely to the calling forth of this taste, we cannot doubt that very much is due to the exertions of M. Mainzer, whose skill and enthusiasm seem to have wrought almost miracles amongst our population, and, whatever opinion we may hold as to minutiæ of his system, this praise, so far as our humble voice goes, we cordially award him. We trust that throughout the length and breadth of our islands, wherever he goes, he will be met in the same spirit in which he goes forth-that he will be received as a friend and benefactor of his fellow men, and that his exertions will be aided and seconded by all who can render him any assistance, and we trust and hope that his success will continue to be as remarkable and as highly gratifying in those places he has yet to visit as it has been hitherto.

We now take our leave of M. Mainzer for the present, but shall continue to notice his progress as we see occasion.

BERLIN ROYAL CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC.-The statutes of the new Royal Conservatory of Music, at Berlin, the establishment of which was ordered in the month of November last, have been decreed by the Ministry of Public Instruction. They are in substance as follows :-- 1. The Conservatory will occupy a building pertaining to the Palace of the Royal University of Berlin. 2. There are to be a hundred pupils (fifty of each sex), who shall receive gratuitous instruction, and of whom forty (twenty boys and twenty girls), shall be maintained at the public expense. 3. The number of professors is fixed for the present at eighteen, but shall be successively raised to twenty-four. 4. All the duplicates of musical works and of treatises on the theory of music, contained in the royal or public libraries, shall be hestowed on the Conservatory, to form the nucleus of its future library. 5. A sum of 100,000 dollars (about £16,000 sterling) from the funds of the Ministry of Public Instruction, is to be applied to the necessary purchases, and the expenses of founding the institution. Count Redfern, Intendant-general of Music in Prussia, is placed at the head of the Conservatory, and Mendelssohn is appointed its Director. It will commence its labours in January or February next .-Examiner

THE GERMAN OPERA COMPANY .- The German Company, who have been giving Operas at Covent Garden Theatre during the season, terminated their performances on Saturday, the 2d July. The theatre was prematurely closed on account of the want of success which attended the undertaking. In consequence, however, of the appeal which the company made to the public, the performances of the concluding week, patronised by the Queen and Prince Albert, drew crowded houses, and, we hope, afforded the company some compensation for their previous losses. This want of success is much to be regretted, as the performances of tho chefs d'œuvre of the German school, for several years past, have contributed to improve the public taste in Dramatic Music, and have given lessons from which our own theatres have profited, especially in regard to chorus singing. We trust, nevertheless, that the Germans will not be discouraged from making us another visit, which may turn out more successful,-Ibid.

# THE BRITISH MINSTREL; AND



MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.





## THIRD GREAT CHORAL MEETING AT EXETER HALL.

A STRANGER arriving in London after a long and tedious journey, for the first day is sadly at a loss what to do with himself. \* \* \* What shall we do? Reader! this was the very question we asked ourselves as we sat listlessly sipping our coffee on Tuesday the 21st June (we like to be particular), at 10 o'clock, A.M., precisely, when our attention was unwittingly drawn to a conversation at an adjoining table, in the great room of our hotel. The purport was this: The Third Great Choral Meeting of Hullah's Classes, instructed in the Wilhem system of singing, took place that same evening in Excter Hall, under the auspices of the Queen, Court, and a whole host of the beau monde. There was a scram. ble for seats; perhaps there was not one to be had, but that would be known by applying at Parker's, the great publisher in the Strand. Gemini! here's a pretty piece of business; the very thing that would take us three hundred miles out of our way at any time to hear, and us dreaming of what we are to do! a truce to uncertainty; and with such energy did we bestir ourselves that in five minutes after we were walking in the direction of the West Strand. On reaching the locale our spirits fell apace; a string of elegant equipages blocked up the door, the owners no doubt all as anxious as ourselves to secure places. However, in we went, and were shown into a room mostly filled with the fairer portion of the ereation; it was, in short, a sort of levee, and the dispenser of favour a pale aristocratic looking youth like Jacques, "melancholy and gentlemanlike."-Whether this young gentleman sympathised in our impatience, or that we were indebted entirely to our own good luck, we know not-at all events, we were secured a front seat in the organ loft. We speedily departed with our prize, resolving to be there in good time and enjoy the music in peace and comfort.

On entering the hall the coup d'ail was very imposing. The whole of the body or audience part of the hall was filled with a dense array of singers, on our extreme right was the tenor corps, on the left the basso eorps-both these wings extending the whole length of the hall, and each mustering, as far as we could judge, about 450 strong. In the centre were the sopranos and altos, and in the vanguard of these two columns was a separate division ealled the upper class, and these three, viz., the upper class, sopranos, and altos, were mostly females, and the appearance of the entire array was that of respectability. The galleries at our right and left, the platform in front of the organ, as also the gallery at the west end of the hall, are being filled with visitors and spectators \* \* More cheering! it is in honour of Mr. Hullah, that pale young man walking hastily up these steps; he has the luok of a dauntless ardent student, an enthusiast in his profession, whom no difficulties will overcome, and who will either gain his object or perish in the attempt; he is very like perhaps a brother of the aristocratic looking youth in the Strand; he walks up to his own platform, he raises both his hands above his head and silence is instantly restored. He lifts up his ivory baton, and whisks it briskly in the air-it drops down-and lo! as at the invocation of a wizard, there arises from the body of the ball a COLUMN OF SOUND, broad, stately, massive, over-powering. Reader! that is the key note of the Hundredth Psalm. \* \* \* After the key-note, the scholars sing the chord of the Hundredth Psalm.

The harmony of this piece is simple and impressive. and the effect of such a mass of sound bursting cr. the ear was sublime beyond description. Each singer of the multitude made time with his or her hand, and it was given with perfect steadiness and correctness. This was followed by a full anthem by Richard Farrant, "Lord for thy tender mereies" sake;" which was also finely executed, and with an evident perception of the author's meaning; the diminuendo and crescendo passages were admirably observed. To our notion, the boldest effort of the evening was a motet of Palestrina's "I will give thanks." The melody of this piece is characterised by a broad and stately simplicity, but in the execntion full of counterpoint and imitation; and on the whole, we should say, it was a fair criterion to judge of the capacity of the singers, as unless they were thoroughly grounded in the performance of vocal music, it must have been a grievous failure. On the contrary, the beauty of the piece was gradually amplified by the majesty of the execution, and proved in the most convincing manner the superior musical education of the scholars.

After the CXLIX. Psalm, an evening Hymn, "The day is past, its works are done," by Mr Hul-lah, was given-both the subject and harmony was masterly, and proved him a man of genius and a thorough musician; we noticed a little obscurity of effect in one marked staccato passage, and are inelined to think that Mr. Hullah makes too great a work with the staccato expression. This was evinced in the performance of the National Anthem at the conclusion; by using the staccato often, the solemnity of expression is destroyed. Haydn's celebrated Hymn to the Emperor, with words adapted to the Prince Royal, was then sung, and if Palestrina's motet was the boldest effort of his army of vocalists, this hymn had the most sublime effect and of the whole performance pleased us bestpleased did we say? it was rapturous, overwhelming, and carried us fairly off our feet. That sublime burst at the middle of the second part! The Evening Hymn composed by Wilhem, although the harmony is simple, was a remarkable performance as to effect; it abounds in unison passages, and when you hear that host of vocalists all singing in unison—'tis something awful.

Previously to the performance of the Queen's Authem, which concluded the night'sperformances, Mr. Hullah exercised his pupils in singing at sight and time. We may explain it thus :- The four fingers and thumb of the hand are used as the five lines of the stave on which music is written, the spaces between corresponding to those on the paper. This would allow of an ascending passage of eleven separate notes, without the use of ledger lines; a couple of these lines are imagined by the pupil, one above and one below, and thus a diatonie scale of thirteen notes is obtained. In the first he desired them to sing so many erotchets, quavers, &c., in a bar, making rests in given places, and tying notes together when they were divided by the bars. This they did with great precision. In the second he rapidly passed the finger of one hand over the extended fingers and thumb of the other, indicating thereby the lines and spaces of the stave, and the whole array of scholars instantaneously sung the corresponding notes. This was raised in every form of voeal difficulty, introducing sharps and flats, and even distant intervals. This ort was very extraor-dinary, and showed great progress in the actual practice of singing.

It must be evident to all enlightened men, that this system is an argument of hope to all classes of the community, for the attainment of a new, innocent, and rational gratification, and that by it our congregational music will be immensely improved, especially in this country.

The congregational music of Scotland is a dis-grace to the country. The precentor, generally speaking, is some journeyman tradesman, and learns the gamut over hours. When he has picked up a few Psalm tunes, he applies for the situation of precentor. When he gets it how seldom can he improve himself? he receives for salary a miserable pittance, scarcely sufficient to keep him in "parritch and sour milk," let alone paying for lessons under some good master. Look at the result :--- He gives out the first line, or, as he calls it, raises the tune, in a way something between clearing his throat and singing the words. You expect the congregation to join boldly, with a fair mixture of tenors and basses-on the contrary, you have only a wheezing consumptive treble, as irresolute and timid as if the singers were afraid of ghosts. There are a few churches exceptions, and occasionally a man of mind among the precentors-but what we have stated holds good, as the rule in Scotland.-Edinburgh Intelligencer.

THE DRURY LANE PRIZE .- The most noticeable sign during the current week, with reference to Music, has been the prize of £10 offered by the Drury Lane management to the English composer who shall best set the song of Hymen, in the last scene of "As You Like It." That this step has originated in a desire to encourage native talent, it were injustice to donht : but is it not calculated rather to humiliate than to cherish ambition? Are there no rccognised compos-ers worthy to be entrusted with Shakspeare's words? Our opinions of English creative talent is less exalted than that of some contemporary critics: but still we do not forget Mr. Bishop's elegant compositions to Shakspeare's words,—his duet, "Orphens with his lute," and his canzonet, "By the simplicity," especially to be commemorated with gratitude. Neither can we ornal cole the fact that size Mr. Bisher between overlook the fact, that since Mr. Bishop's retirement from the stage, Messrs. Barnett, and E. Loder, and Hullah, and Rooke, and Macfarren, have each of them produced operas (we pass Mr. Balfe, because he has not an atom of nationality in his compositions), so far successful as to have justified the proffer of the com-mission to any one of the company. The mistake mission to any one of the company. The mistake in question is the more important, because the words themselves are not peculiarly inspiring, and demand more than the usual self-possession and experience re-quired of him who would grapple with one of Shakspeare's songs .- Athenaum.

# IN THE DAYS O' LANGSYNE



(FROM M'LEOD'S ORIGINAL SCOTTISH MELODIES.\*)

\* It may be well to mention here, that in every case in which copyright songs are introduced into the British Minstrel, it is with the permission of the authors.

MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.



In the days o' langsyne, we were happy and free, Proud lords on the land, and kings on the sea; To our foes we were fierce, to our friends we were kind, An' where battle raged loudest, you ever did find The banner of Scotlaud float high on the wind.

In the days o' langsyne, we aye ranted an' sang, By the warm ingle side or the wild braes amang; Our lads busked braw, an' our lasses looked fine, An' the sun on our mountains seemed ever to shine : O! whan is the Scotland o' bonny langsyne. In the days o' langsyne ilka glen had its tale, Sweet voices were heard in ilk breath o' the gale; An' ilka wee burn had a sang o' its ain, As it trotted alang through the valley or plain: Shall we e'er hear the music o' streamlets again?

In the days o' langsyne, there was feasting an' glee, Wi' pride in ilk heart, an' joy in ilk e'e; An' the auld, 'mang the nappy, their eild seem'd to tine, It was your stoup the night, an' the morn 'twas mine O! the days o' langsyne! O! the days o' langsyne!

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### To the Editor of the British Minstrel.

S1R,-It is with some little feeling of elation at the spread of musical education in this town, that I sit down to write a few lines to you on the subject. \* \* \* \* Mr. Burnett, Mr. Weston, and several other eminent professors, are giving instructions to large classes on Wilhem's method of teaching; Mr. Harris, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Walton, and three others of our best, are at the head of the Mainzerian classes in their respective districts. These last are only just established; many classes on the other [Wilhem's] system, have almost completed the first course of sixty lessons. \* \* \* \* Our Choral Societies, and we possess three-the Choral, the Amateur Choral, and the Hargreaves' Choral-are in a most floarishing condition. Separate, they are in the first rank; what would they be if joined together? The Hargreaves' Choral Society is the offspring of the bounty of the late Mr. Hargreaves, who left £1000 for the support of such an institution. Both our then Choral Societies claimed the legacy, but the Executors decided that neither of them were entitled, and a society was formed to receive the benefit of it. Its first concert took place just twelve months ago, when it took its place in the front rank at once; long may it keep its proud position. Then we have Glee Clubs, both public and private, and many of them. The Cheetham Hill Club takes the lead of these. Of the private ones, I can speak hut for one, and with that one is connected my greatest enjoyment. We all feel deeply grateful for the opportunity of obtaining cheap music and good, which is now opening upon us; and having practised, with much gratification to ourselves, the music with which you have already presented us, beg to tender our best wishes, and present our humble petition for a Part each month, winter and summer. We can easily make up the arrears when our winter meetings commence, and are persuaded you cannot be a loser by it.

#### I am, &c.,

TENOR.

Manchester, 30th Aug., 1842.

### MANIFOLD USES OF MUSIC.

PRINCE GEORGE of Cumberland, the son of Ernest, king of Hunover, has contributed to the literature of the present day an Essay on the Properties of Music. The young author's loss of sight has doubtless quickened his sense of hearing, and he thus enthusiastically speaks of the power of music :—

A most peculiar and extraordinary influence is exercised over our minds, on our whole way of thinking, acting, and feeling, when we sing, or hear sung, what is dear and valuable to us, our profession, our relations, our feelings, and inclinations. Every object to which we are attached—persons, countries, seasons, days of joy, places of remembrance, appear to ns in a fairer light when music surrounds them with the halo of its tones. The overcharged heart pours itself out in song; grief is assuaged by soothing harmonies; sullen sorrow is mitigated and dissolves into tears; and joy and gratitude ennoble themselves in the realm of song. We become fonder of our vocation, and its load is lightened when we sing it.

And under all circumstances, for every class of persons, Poetry and Song dispense their refreshing gifts. The soldier sings but an hour before death overtakes him on the hattle-field; the hunter sings amid the toils and dangers of the chase, even in the icy steppes of Siberia; the hardy seaman sings when he ploughs the raging billows, and the roaring of the hurricane accompanies his song; the miner sings while ransacking the bosom of the earth for treasures; the fisherman, the herdsman, the husbandman, the artisan, the wanderer, the day-labourer, all sing songs apposite to their calling and profession, all pay to their Maker the tribute of their morning and evening hymn. The lullaby of the fond mother composes her suckling to sleep, and children sing to the hoary grandsire the tunes that he has taught them.

Music displays the height of its omnipotence when, very often with the simplest powers, it excites love of country, or longing for home. If a son of the Alps, when in a foreign land, hears a tune that is piped on his native mountains—if a Scotch highlander, far from his native country, hears the sound of the bagpipe—tears of the most ardent longing for the home where he has left all that is most dear to him, trickle from his eyes. Fur from the paternal hearth, he feels solitary and forlorn; and not nnfrequently have such sounds in a foreign land, where none understood the language of the sufferer's country or of his heart, produced that mortal home-sickness, which consumes the lives of these poor creatures in silent sorrow, and for which there is no remedy but home, here or—hereafter.

It is in a different way again that Music exercises its power over the human heart under other circumstances. I have known persons whose spirits were broken, and their hearts rent by care, grief, and allliction. They wandered about, murmuring at their fate, absorbed in meditation, in vain seeking hope, in vain looking for a way to escape. But the excess of their inward pangs needed alleviation; the heart discovered the means of procuring it: the deep drawn sighs of the oppressed bosom were involuntarilly converted into tones of lamentation, and this unconscious effusion was productive of relief, composure, and courageously cahn resignation.

Yes, indeed, it is above all in the gloomy hours of affliction that Music is a soothing comforter, a sympathising friend to the sufferer; it gives expression to the gnawing anguish which rends the soul, and which it thereby mitigates and softens; it lends a tear to the stupefaction of grief; it drops mollifying healing balsam into every wounded heart. Whoever has experienced this effect himself, or witnessed it in others, will admit with me that for this fairest service rendered by the art, we cannot sufficiently thank and revere it.

But even bodily pain Music can very often alleviate. The vibration of the air, which produces tones, operates npon the extremely sensitive anditory nerves, and through them upon the whole nervous system of the human body, and hence it may well have the effect of calming a feverish excitement of the blood. The annals of the Academy of Science

in Paris relate, that Music actually cured a composer of a fever.

And even on the bed of deatb, Music kindly cheers the good man, mitigates the pangs of the final struggle, and gives him a foretaste of a better world. could here mention instances of sufferers who, at the approach of death, heard in their inward ear a Music infinitely sweeter, softer, more soothing than ours, which was to them an anticipation of the purest joys of heaven, were not silence enjoined me by a regard for tender duties.

#### TO MISS HOPKINSON,

### On her excellent performance of the vocal parts in an Oratorial Exercise at the College of Philadelphia.

In the year 1757 the MASQUE OF ALFAED was acted in the college of Philadelphia, by the students of that seminary: several young ladies condescending to sing the songs. On that occasion the following poetical epistle was written by J. DUCHE, one of the students :-

To thee, sweet barmonist! in grateful lays, kindred muse her softest tribute pays; Bids every art with every grace combine, For thy fair brow the laureate wreath to twine ; Blest, would a smile from thee reward her care, And doubly hlest, wouldst thou the garland wear. Tell me, ye powers, whence all this transport

springs?

Why beats my breast, when Seraphina sings? I feel, I feel, each struggling passion wake, And, rous'd by turns, my raptur'd bosom shake. Heavens! with what force the varying accents move? I joy, I mourn, I rage, I melt, I love! Each power, each spring, each movement of my soul, Charm'd by her voice, all bend to her controul. Not half so sweet the lark's shrill soaring lay, Whose sprightly matin wakes the slumbering day; Not half so soft the lonely night-bird's strain, Whose pensive warblings lull the weary swain; Less plaintive flows the turtle's love-lorn tale; Loss sweet the sweetest note that wakes the dale.

But oh! when such soft charms their influence lend To gain the fairest prize, the noblest end; To kindle in each breast the patriot flame, And urge each arm to deeds of martial fame. To bid stern vengeance rise with rigid hand, Crush the proud foe, and save a sinking land; To make each virtue grace the public weal, And justice, mercy, goodness, truth, prevail. When such the themes, and such the vocal charms, What thrilling transport every bosom warms? Each sense, each passion, all the soul is mov'd. Each ear is ravish'd, and each heart improv'd; The listening throng in dumh attention panse, And silent rapture speaks their just applause.

[The foregoing specimen of early American poetry, is extracted from the manuscript memoranda of a Literary Lounger, and serves a double purpose, viz., as a tolcrably good specimen of juvenile complimentary verse, and as a historical evidence of the feeling which pervaded the minds of the masters and pupils in Philadelphia with regard to the influence of music as a powerful means to produce salutary and pleasing consequences .--- En. B. M.J

GLOOMY WINTER'S NOW AWA'.-This melody was published in Nathaniel Gow's collection, under the name of "Lord Balgonie's Favourite," as a very ancient air. Afterwards, however, it was claimed by Alexander Campbell, who asserts, in Atbyn's Anthology, volume i, that it was originally composed by him as a strathspey. The song, "Gloomy Winter's now Awa'," was written by Tannahill for Smith, who adapted the metody to the words, and published it in the key of C Minor about the year 1808. It became very popular, and was the reigning favourite in Edinburgh for a considerable time. Twenty years afterwards, when the song was, comparatively speaking, forgotten, its popularity was renewed from the inimitable manner of Miss E. Paton's singing; and Smith was induced to publish a new edition with an entirely new arrangement, and a third lower, and more suitable for the generality of voices.—Ramsay's Tannahill.

#### THE LORD $\mathbf{O}$ BE JOYFUL 1 N

SACRED CHORUS. Haydn. TENOR. Lord, in the - fut fut 0 be jey 0 joy be ALTO. SOPRANO. Lord, oful. the - fut in Ō be joy joy 0 be BASS.



### MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.





KITTY OF COLERAINE.



As beautiful Kitty one morning was tripping, With a pitcher of milk from the fair of Coleraine, When she saw me she stumbled, the pitcher it tumbled, And all the sweet buttermilk water'd the plain. Oh! what shall I do now, 'twas looking at you now, Sure sure such a pitcher I'll ne'er meet again, 'Twas the pride of my dairy, O! Barney M'Cleary, You're sent as a plague to the girls of Coleraine.

I sat down beside her, and gently did chide ber That such a misfortune should give her such pain, A kiss then I gave her, and before I did leave her, She vow'd for such pleasure she'd break it again. 'Twas hay-making season, I can't tell the reason, Misfortune will never come single 'tis plain, For very soon after poor Kitty's disaster, The devil a pitcher was whole in Coleraine.

No. 21.

## THE TRAGEDIAN'S TRUNK.

One fine day in the summer of 1812, a short and very important looking gentleman was pacing backwards and forwards, in a state of great agitation, before the door of an inn at Naples; from time to time he placed his hand on his lorehead with a look of despair, as if vainly endeavouring to bring forth a reasonable idea.

"Unfortunate man that I am!" cried he, as the hostess passed him.

"What has happened to you, Signor Benevolo, that you distress yourself?" inquired the good woman.

"You ask me why I am in despair? Don't you know that it is the day after to-morrow I open my theatre at Salerno, when I have engaged to give them tragedies?"

"Well, what then?"

"What then! I have a splendid company, a beautiful princess, with eyes like two black diamonds, and a voice fit only to utter the language of the most sublime poets."

"In that case, why do you complain?" "I have also," added he, "a most admirable low comedian, a frightful face, as ugly as Sancho Panca himself, a visage which can laugh and cry at will; a perfect monster."

"Then why, I ask you, are you distressed?" "Because I want an actor I cannot find, and without whom all my treasures become useless-a tragedian."

"How unlucky!" said the hostess. "Unlucky, indeed," said the poor manager; "for without a tragedian all my golden dreams must vanish.'

"I'll tell you what, Signor Benevolo," cricd the hostess, whose eyes suddenly sparkled with joy, "I esteem you and wish you success, and therefore I'll give you what you want."

"What! a tragedian?"

"Yes, a tragedian! a young man in the town who has run away from his family to become an actor, who wants only the tragic dagger to make his fortune and that of his manager.'

"How fortunate; kind, good hostess, bring him to me instantly."

She did not wait to be told a second time; in a few minutes she returned, leading by the hand a great fat boy.

"Here's your man, Signor."

"Man, do you call him," said the disappointed manager, looking at the chubby-faced youngster, who aspired to represent the Roman Emperors and Italian Tribunes; "why, he's only a lad."

"A lad that'll make his way in the world," replied the good woman, a little angrily; "hear him recite, and look how he stands, isn't that tragic?"

In truth the boy had begun to recite some of Dante's verses, and had placed the skirts of his threadbare coat by way of drapery. "Bravo, hravissimo!" cried Benevolo; "you will

be admirable in Othello; you will make a superh Moor when your face is blacked; so give me your hand, my boy, I take you with me as first tragedian; I'll pay the expenses of your journey, and, as an encouragement, here's twenty gold ducats for pocket money until your debut; will that do for you?"

"Capitally?" "What's your name?" "Luidgi."

" Luidgi what?"

youth has reasons to conceal his name, as his family might find him out, and cause his return.

"Very well, then; let us prepare our baggage and be off," said Benevolo.

In less than an hour the young Luidgi had quitted Naples in company with Benevolo and his comedians.

On his arrival at Salerno the manager announced his youthful tragedian as a prodigy of talent; the result was everything that he could desire; for long before the doors were opened an immense crowd awaited to be admitted.

Benevolo rubbed his hands with delight; whilst Luidgi, dressed in the costume of the Roman Emperors, was studying the most imperial attitude; already the treasurer counted his piles of money; all was joy and happiness-when, alus! the genius of evil cast her envenomed breath over his pasteboard castle of bliss, and the whole cdifice crumbled into nothing. Six sbirri marched up to the debutant, and arrested him, by virtue of an order from H. M. Joachim Murat, who, for the moment, possessed the advantage of being King of Naples by the grace of his brother-in law. The family of Luidgi had obtained this order, that he might be brought back to the Conservatoire of Music, where he was studying, before his flight, under the able direction of the celebrated *Maestro*, Marcello Parveno.

"Lord! Lord! did ever any body see the like; to prevent a man's doing what he likes, and what he is so calculated to shine in," exclaimed Benevolo.

"Never mind, friend," said Luidgi, squeezing his hand; "I'll be a tragedian in spite of them."

"Maybe; but that wont restore my lost receipts." "No; but I will when I am rich," answered the boy, struggling with the gens d'armes, who dragg d him forcibly away.

I havn't lost everything, thought Benevolo; the lad has left a large trunk, the contents of which will now be mine, and he instantly proceeded to force the lock, hoping that he should be amply indemnified for the money he had advanced. When, oh, horror! the trunk was filled with-sand. Luidgi had invented this plan in order to appear respectable, and thus hide his poverty in the inn at which he resided. In a towering passion, the manager wrote to him as follows:-

"You are a young rascal. You have left in my hands a trunk of no value. You will never be a tragedian. BENEVOLO."

To which Luidgi answered in the same laconic style:-

"You are an old fool; keep the trunk; in ten years I will pay you twenty times the sum you advanced me, with money I shall have gained in LUIDGI." acting tragedy.

'Ten years-twenty years elapsed, and Benevolo heard no news from Luidgi. The boy has forgo: me, said he, and his promise also; for, instead of acting the sublime tragedy, he is singing stupid operas. What madness!

About six years ago poor Benevolo was living in a garret at Naples, when one morning he was surprised by the receipt of a letter couched in these terms:-

"Come and see me, old boy; bring my trunk of sand, and I will pay you for it. Here are 500 francs for the expenses of your journey. Luipei.

Rue Richelieu, 102, Paris.'

The old manager was almost wild with joy. He "Luidgi nothing," observed the hostess; "the lost no time in preparation; but, taking the trunk with him, started for Paris, where he was received with open arms by his former pupil.

"Here, old boy," said Luidgi, who was now become of an enormous rotundity, "take this deed, which ensures you 1200 francs a year for your life; it is the ransom of my trunk at Salerno."

"A sum like this! impossible. I cannot take it," said the ex-manager.

"Make your mind easy, old friend; since we met my fortune has grown with my *embonpoint.*" "You make me happy, Luidgi—there is only one

"You make me happy, Luidgi—there is only one thing which vexes me, and that is that you have not kept your promise, and are become a singer instead of a tragedian; but I suppose, as an old comedian, I must forgive this weakness of yours."

"You think, then, I have failed in my promise."

'Undoubtedly."

"Here's an order for the Italian Opera to night; you will see me, and we will sup together afterwards."

Benevolo did not fail; there he was in his stall, wild with delight, literally trembling with pleasure; for Luidgi played the part of the Doge in Othello, and at the moment the Doge curses his daughter, Benevolo absolutely screamed, so excited were his feelings.

After the opera, Benevolo, in a state of feverish agitation, awaited Luidgi at the door of the theatre. "Well," said Luidgi.

The ex.manager threw himself into his arms, exclaiming "Tragico--oh, Tragico!" which were the only words he could utter; that same evening, taking Luidgi's hand, he said--

"Friend, till now I have never even asked your real name; but now that you are a celebrated artist, I would tell it to my friends in Italy; I would repeat it with my last breath; therefore from your own lips let me hear that name."

"LAULACHE," replied the singer, much affected.— Court Gazette.

#### MUSIC FOR THE PEOPLE.

On Thursday evening, the 28th July, at a concert of choral and madrigal music, given at the British School, Harp Alley, Mr. H. E. Hickson delivered a farewell address, in which he took a brief review of the progress of popular instruction in music. He observed that, within the last few years, a great and an important change had been cffected. When the proposition was first made that the people should be taught to sing, as a means of weaning our neglected operatives from the vice of intemperance, it was received with ridicule; and when he had endeavoured, by lectures and pamphlets, to show that music might be rendered a great moral engine for softening the manners, refining the taste, and raising the character of the working classes, he was treated as a well intentioned but an impracticable enthusiast. It was up-hill work in those days, and required both perseverance and some moral courage, but it was now pleasant for the pioneers in the cause, in retiring from the field of their labours, to observe that the path they had opened for others had become the road to profes-sional saccess and personal distinction. When Mr. sional success and personal distinction. Wyse once intimated an opinion in the House of Commons that, amongst other branches of useful instruction, children should be taught to sing, as in Germany, the legislators present replied to his re-marks by a laugh. Now Ministers of State, the highest dignitaries of the Church, the first nobles in the land risc in both Houses of Parliament, to avow their conviction that a normal school for instruction

in singing is a suitable object for a public grant; and although there was some reason to apprehend that any grant now contemplated would be confined to the propagation of music by one particular method (and exclusive government patronage had a tendency to check improvement, by operating practically as a discouragement to the professors of other methods of equal or superior merit), that, perhaps, after all, should be viewed by the friends of the object as but a slight drawback to the success which had attended their exertions, and the result, on the whole, must be considered as highly gratifying. And it ought to be especially gratifying to some of those he saw around him, because undoubtedly the impression produced on the public mind might, in great part at least, be traced to the impulse originally communicated from the place in which they were assembled. The first public demonstration of the practicability of Part Singing as a branch of school instruction was given, with the assistance of the children he had himself taught to sing in that place, the boys and girls of the British School. At the numerous lectures which he had undertaken the daty of delivering, he had been accompanied by about sixty of the children from that school, and undoubtedly the interest excited by those amateur javenile concerts, the tuneful voices, and the happy faces of the children, greatly tended to prepare the way for a movement which had since become too strong for prejudice to resist. This was a circumstance to be remembered with pride, and he trusted the Society would long continue to prosper, as a permanent memorial of efforts commenced within those walls in favour of a great and good object, now in train of happy accomplishment. Musical instruction in some form or other, was certain to penetrate into every corner of the United Kingdom; and as the same reason which had formerly induced him to sacrifice a large portion of his time to the object, no longer existed, it was fitting that in the same place where they commenced should now close that series of public duties (self-imposed, but sometimes of an arduons character) which he had undertaken to perform in connexion with the subject of music.- Athenæum.

### MUSIC.

I speak in Morn's first breath to the opening flow'rs, Warble a promise of the coming sun;

At noon I softly sigh 'midst summer bow'rs, And chant Day's requiem when her course is run.

I am the gentle voice of murmuring waves, As with slow measured pace they kiss the shore; And I, deep hid in Ocean's darkest caves,

Rave midst the storm, and hercest fury pour.

The dashing torrent owes to me its spell, Lulling the senses by its solemn roar; O'er the still lake, and in the deepest dell,

There am I felt too, with my magic power.

The graceful Poplar loves to call me Friend; For I delight its lofty hymn to breathe,

The varied language of the trees to blend, And with their garlands my glad brow to wreathe.

The measured cadence of the matchless oak,

Nor less the trembling Aspen's sweeter strain, Are but the melody with which I spoke

Our Maker's praise, ere man began his reign.

In early Spring in every breeze I laugh;

List to yon wood-note, doubt not I am there; I, with the wild hee, Nectar stoop to quaff,

And as we rise, my song salutes the air.

I can to maiden's cheek the pale blush call, When her fond ear dctects loved footsteps near; And o'er her heart in softest echoes fall,

As with low accents I dispel all fear.

Mine is the varied might to reign a Queen, O'er mystic Memory, and her hallowed stores; And by a touch wake Fancy's wildest dream,

Or change to Sadness the erst smiling hours.

And not on Earth alone, my power I wield,

For Heaven's pure arch resounds to my high strain; And when that hour shall come when worlds shall yield

Their empire, power, their being, and their fame

To him who gave them; then while elements dissolve,

And sea gives up her dead, I'll wake a song, Shall drown the crash of worlds, and swell through

ceaseless ages. M. L. Tait's Magazine.

#### THE BEGGAR'S OPERA.

THE paramount whim, the captivating absurdity of the season, was "The Beggar's Opera," with all the characters metamorphosed; men being substituted for women, and women for men. This folly was introduced by a prelude written with considerable humour, in which Bannister played the prompter, and prepared the way for the follies which were to ensue, by a grave apology for a delay in begin-ning the performance, as Polly was only half shaved. The most striking travesties were Mrs. Cargill in Macheath, Mrs. Webb in Lockit, and Mrs. Wilson in Filch; Mr. Bannister, the father, in Polly, Edwin in Lucy, Jack Bannister in Jenny Diver, and Dick Wilson in Mrs. Peachum. We have with pleasure seen ladies perform male characters-but the contrary disguise, even to carry on during one scene a particular part of the plot, has been generally viewed with impatience and distaste. A few exceptions occur; but there the females are so masculine, that, if women were to perform them, the metamorphosis would almost be petitioned for; take as an instance, Moll Flaggon in "The Lord of the Manor." Could a woman be tolerated in it, if Liston were engaged at the house? In "The Beggar's ' the extraordinary merit or the extreme Opera.' whimsicality of the performance reconciled the audience even to this portion of its impropriety. Wilson's vulgarity in Mrs. Peachum was often ludi-crous and effective, but if Sir Hugh Evans was shocked at the old woman who had a "peard under her muffler," the spectators of "The Beggar's Opera" had much more right to he so, when Mrs. Pcachum, holding her dress a little awkwardly, or swinging too heedlessly in her chair, let them perceive a pair of black plush breeches under her petticoats. They were not so much offended when Charles Bannister, managing his dress too carelessly, showed an ancle which, for its elegance, the fairest lady present might have wished her own. Edwin's Lucy was everything that a low virago, transplanted from the bar of a dram-shop to the nister.

high office of an inferior turnkey at Newgate, could be expected to display. Her Indicrons grief, her vulgar rage, her nauseous fondness, and her petulant vituperation, were delineated even beyond the life. Those who witnessed it cannot easily forget the tone and spirit which he infused into the songs "Thus when a good housewife sees a rat," and "I'm hubbled, I'm hubbled." The line, "These fingers, with pleasure, could fasten the noose," was given with a most unfeminine energy. In the mock female characters, the great achievement was Charles Ban. nister's Polly. \* \* \* Had he, with his ample, muscular, manly frame, and deep intonation both in speaking and singing, attempted to mince in his gait, or to "aggravate his voice" into any feminine softness, the effect would, however successful for a moment, in the end have become tiresome and disgusting. The public had been used to witness his imitation of the Soprano of Tenducci; and his Arionelli, a similar personage in "The Son-in-law:" but they were short, and produced an effect very different from that which would have attended a repetition during three long acts. He appeared overloaded, but not encumbered, by a complete dress of white muslin, with a hoop, and a middle which appeared tightly laced; and however inconsistent his large size, a certain trick of his countenance, and his manly step, might be with the delicacy of a young female, no antics, or superadded drolleries of his own, drew down the senseless laugh, so often a tribute to mere grossuess and absurdity. His 'big manly voice' alone produced a sufficient comic effect: his Caliban roar when Peachum pinches his daughter to make her confess, in the press-yard fashion, 'by squeezing an answer from hcr;' and the deep intonation of her kindness when she recommends a repetatur haustus from the ginbottle-Give her another glass, sir; my mamma drinks double quantity whenever she is out of order,' would have drawn a hearty laugh from the sourest misanthrope. The songs, whether tender or spirited, were given with the utmost taste and judgment; and as much applause as could possibly be bestowed on an attempt of the kind, was readily given to Polly's male representative. To the ladies in the travestie no less praise may be assigned. Mrs. Cargill's small and unincumbered figure, made her a ludicrous contrast to Bannister, who, when singing the line, 'Fondly let me loll,' hardly knew on what part of her diminutive person to accommodate himself: yet the sweetness and spirit with which she gave the songs more than reconciled, it captivated the public. After her, Mrs. Kennedy played the hero of the highway; and that not in the disguised opera only, but when the other characters were restored to their proper sexes: the unrivalled tones of her exquisite voice made the audience forget that nature had denied her every advantage of face and form. \* \* Mrs. Wehh shewed much ability in Lockit; she was superior to Mrs. Lefevre in Peachum, and their quarrel produced much amusement; but Mrs. Wilson, the arch, comical little creature, nick-named, from the colour of her locks, the Goldfinch, presented in Filch the perfect personification of a handy, expert pickpocket, and the genuine manners of a well-plumed Newgate bird. So complete was the representation, that I remember hearing a lady remark that, if she saw such a fellow near her in the street, she would not require the admonition of a Bow Street officer to ' take care of her pockets.'-Ladies wore pockets in those days .- Memoirs of John Ban-

# THE DUBLIN CRIES.



LOVE AND FOLLY.



## LONDON PHILHARMONIC CONCERTS. Sixth Concert of 1842, Monday, May 30th.

The principal feature in this concert, indeed the only one requiring notice, was the new Symphony by Spohr, "Descriptive of the Conflict of Virtue and Vice in Man," and now produced for the first time in this country.

The power of music to excite ideas of things by inarticulate sounds is very limited indeed, and most of the attempts so to apply it have generally proved abortive, and frequently ridiculous. The notes of birds, the sound of bells-"the far off curfew," for instance-the noise of thunder, or artillery, may become subjects for direct imitation; for indirect imitation, elemental strife and the battle field are allowable, or, more correctly speaking, music may be made to suggest these. But the endeavour to represent to the mind such pure abstractions as Virtue and Vice, and their workings, hy means of fiddles and flutes, trumpets and trombones, crotchets and quavers, was an exploit worthy of him who undertook to describe "The Silence of Sound," and this by the agency of those gentle instruments, double basses. In charity, then, to the author of the present symphony, we will view it only as a musical composition; and even thus considered, we must be rather sparing in encomiums. In form it is quite original; and, by a licence in language, may be called a Symphony Concertante. It is written for eleven principal instruments, placed in front of the orchestra, accompanied by a full band, and is divided into three movements, besides an introduction. Except what is given to the leading violin, the Soli parts do not sufficiently stand out to be easily dis tinguished from the secondary instruments, and the crowding all together produces, if not a confusion, at least a want of clearness, an obscurity, however, which a familiar acquaintance with the work would, perhaps, in a considerable degree abate. But the crowding, the overburthening his score, is the defect of the composer now before us. As an instrumental composer, he has no great fund of new ideas to draw upon, and often falls-unintentionally, we helieveinto the phrases and passages of others, giving them frequently, we admit, a new colouring by means of added and often rich harmony, though this is too commonly redundant. The scientific musician is apparent in every part of this symphony; it is graceful, and sometimes heautiful, particularly the last slow movement, which is solemn, hymn like, and impressive. But the design excepted, there is a want of originality throughout. Much is traceable to Beethoven and Mozart, and as a whole it is far too long; passages are too often repeated, and the materials are not strong enough to bear the attenua.

tion—the spinning-out—to which they are subjected: and this is one of the least defects of the new composition, by which hopes were raised that certainly have not been realized.—*Examiner, June 4th*, 1842.

We have oftener than once had occasion to notice the novel direction in which SPOHR has been led to test the powers of his art, and to remark that, unlike those of his great predecessors who have given expression to material objects, he has chosen to connect music with the world of mind. This is scarcely the result of deliberate preference, but rather of individual temperament, and partly of national character. We must think of SPOHR in his tranquil home, living in and for his art, and using its language as his own; not as a composer, dwelling in a bnsy metropolis, and writing for public de-mand or individual speculation. "I sit down," he may truly say, "to write what I shall think, not to think what I shall write." In such a spirit and un. der a similar impulse our greatest poets have spoken to us-the sonnets of SHAKSPEARE reflect his owu thoughts and feelings, and are the unbidden utterance of his mind. Their publication was an accident -their production was involuntary. So, in many, if not most, of Milton's minor poems, his thoughts

"Involuntary mov'd harmonious numbers,"

and the same may be affirmed of SPOHR. How far the bold experiment has succeeded, is another question; but in regarding a work of this kind, it is necessary to regard its origin, and as far as we can, to become acquainted with the mind that produced it and the motives which called it into being. The imitative or the descriptive power of music, as it is one of its most effective attributes, is also one which often misleads and ensnares a composer. The most eminent of these have given evidences of signal failure as well as complete success; and if this risk is incurred in the attempt to imitate or describe sensible objects, how much more fearful is the attempt to enter the ideal world, and to make the appeal to the imagination alone! We know the difficulty even in the sister art. What volumes have been written in order to expound the purpose and intent of DANTE ! And when a composer professes to make the conflict between Vice and Virtue in the mind of man the subject of instrumental illustration, he must be aware that no audience can follow his The language which he employs train of thought. is not sufficiently definite for his purpose, and the impression must be indistinct.

The general design of SFOHR'S Sinfonia may be gathered from the argument prefixed to it, of which the following is the translation by Professor TAYLOR:---

"FIRST PART-INFANCY. "O'er childhood's bright and blessed age No dark or threatening tempest lowers; Nor anger's storm nor passion's rage Disturbs its pure and tranquil hours; Even should temptation's arts assail, They pass-like clouds before the gale. "SECOND PART-AGE OF CONFLICT. "But in the youth's impetuous mind, By pride assailed, by passion tost, Calm reason is to rage resigned, And in the whirl of passion lost; In vain religion's mild control Seeks to restrain his troubled soul.

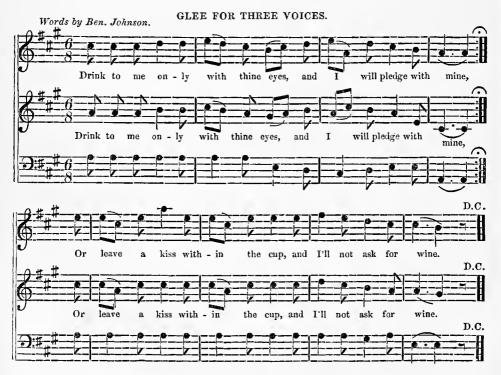
"THIRD PART-FINAL TRIUMPH OF VIRTUE. "The tempest and the strife subside, The storms of pride and passion cease: Within the breast again reside Devotion's calm and virtue's peace. The first part represents the innocent joy and sportiveness of childhood, in a movement replete with grace and beauty. The storms and strifes of youth and manhood succeed: and here the composer's aim could only be partially discerned. The language of the conclusion was as intelligible as it was beautiful; a strain of more celestial harmony never was breathed by instruments.

As the plan of this Sinfonia is altogether original, so also is its orchestral arrangement; there are, in fact, two orchestras—one of solo instruments, ranged in front of the band, each being employed either separately or in combination. This idea is wrought out with consummate skill, and displays all that command of orchestral effect which SPOHR so preeminently possesses.

That such a composition will be at once approciated, and its right character and station accurately ascertained, it were vain to expect. He who ventures beyond the beaten path in music must not expect, at least in England, to be attended with a crowd of followers. Viewed as a mere musician, SPOHR's course is not to be tracked by the crowd. His harmonies are the study and the admiration of

the most accomplished artists; to the many they present merely an assemblage of sounds which produce a novel impression on the ear. But regarded as the poet of his art, fewer still will be able to follow him, or understand that exquisite sense of beauty and power that cannot be contained within itself-that is impatient of all limit-that strives to link itself to some other image of beauty or gran-deur, and to enshrine itself in the highest forms of fancy. In Germany this feeling is stronger and more pervasive. It is displayed in the fiction, in the poetry, in the metaphysics, in the theology, of the people; and the musician finds ready sympathy as well as competent knowledge among his hearers. Among English musicians, properly so called, there will be, and we believe there is, but one feeling towards this composition, simply regarded as a work of art. They will feel, with the judicious critic in the Morning Chronicle, that "it is worthy of its author's great name, though one which it would be rash and presumptuous to criticise on a single hear-Other less competent judges will give a ing." bolder opinion, and probably the wholly incompe-

DRINK TO ME ONLY WITH THINE EYES.



Drink to me only with thine eyes, And I will pledge with mine, Or leave a kiss within the cup, And I'll not ask for wine.

The thirst that from the soul doth rise, Doth ask a drink divine, But might I of Jove's Nectar suck, I would not change for thine. I sent thee late a rosy wreath, Not so much hon'ring thee, As giving it a hope that there It could not wither'd be.

But thon thereon didst only breathe, And sent it back to me, Since when it looks and smells. I swear, Not of itself but thee.

# DR. JOHN ALCOCK.

JOIN ALCOCK, Doc. Mus, was born in the year 1715, a native of London. When only seven years of age he was entered as Chorister of St. Panl's; and at fourteen became an articled pupil to John Stanley, Bac. Mus., who, althongh at that time himself only sixteen, was organist of two London Churches. Dr. Alcock died at Litchfield in the year 1806, aged 91 years. His works consist of six suites of lessons for the harpsichord, and twelve

songs, published at Plymouth; six concertos and some psalms, hymns, and canons, published at Reading; twenty-six anthems, and a collection of glees, called the "Harmonia Festi," also many double and single chants, published at Litchfield. At each of the above places he was organist. A glee by Dr. Alcock, entitled, "Hail, ever pleasing Solitude," gained a prize medal at the Catch Club, and is considered to he a beautiful as well as scientific performance.



#### No. 22.

# MUSIC OF THE CHURCH IN ITALY.

HITHERTO I have heard little which has given me pleasure; the constant introduction of secular music into the service is offensive; in the midst of religious ceremonies, to hear the airs from Rossini's or Bellini's operas, or noisy overtures of Auber, is so dis-cordant with my feelings that I have often left the church in disgust. Widely different is the effect produced by the music which may he said properly to belong to the Church-I should say rather to the service of religion; for music is truly catholic in its spirit; and in my opinion it is delightful to reflect that, differing as men must do in matters of doctrine and belief, there is a power in this truly divine art which sets aside these differences and appeals to their common sentiments of devotion. It is interesting to observe the various forms under which this power is manifested in the different styles of ecclesiastical music-each according with the tone and spirit of the services to which it is adapted. But those composers who have really understood the powers of their art, and felt the true influences which it is capable of producing, have uniformly studied simplicity and grandeur. I confess that in the compositions of the modern school of church writers-in the masses even of Mozart and Haydn

-these principles seem to me often lost sight of or disregarded. The florid style of these compositions (independent of their total disregard of rendering in music an expression of the sentiment of the words) is false in principle, and often offensive in execution. Those alone who have heard the sublime and massive harmonies of Palestrina, performed as they are at Rome by the Papal choir, can feel all the influence which ecclesiastical music possesses over the The Mass which we heard this morning was mind. a noble specimen of the ancient Roman school of music; I was told (but whether on good authority or not I know not) that this was the famous work of Palestrina which saved music from being banished from the Church service. I could well believe that the divine harmonies we listened to this morning had produced such an effect .- Miss Taylor's Letters from Italy.

HAYNN AND MOZART.—The sincerest and most enthusiastic of all Mozart's admirers was Joseph Haydn. When both these illustrious Masters were invited to Prague, to assist in the musical department of the ceremony of Leopold's coronation, Haydn excused himself, exclaiming, "Where Mozart is Haydn dares not come."

# O' A' THE AIRTS THE WIN' CAN BLAW.



### MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.



O' a' the airts the wind can blaw, I dearly lo'e the west, For there the bonnie lassie lives, The lass that I lo'e best : Tho' wild-woods grow, and rivers row, Wi' mony a hill between ; Baith day and night my fancy's flight Is ever wi' my Jean. I see her in the dewy flowers, Sac lovely sweet and fair I hear her in ilk tunefu' bird, Wi' music charms the air : There's no' a bonnie flower that springs By fountain, shaw, or green, Nor yet a bonnie hird that sings, But minds me o' my Jean. O blaw ye westlin winds, blaw saft Amang the leafy trees, Wi' gentle gale frae hill and dale Bring hame the laden bees And bring the lassie back to me That's aye sae neat and clean Ae blink o' her wad banish care. Sae lovely is my Jean. What sighs and vows, among the knowes Hae passed atween us twa! How fain to meet, how was to part, That night she gaed awa ! The powers aboon can only ken, To whom the heart is seen, That nane can be sae dcar to me As my sweet lovely Jean.

Burns wrote this charming song in honour of Jean Armour, during their honeymoon. The poet published but the first and second verses, the others are added, not only on account of their beauty, but because they contain a part of the author's history, and deserve to beheld in remembrance.—*Cunningham's Burns*. The air, "Miss Admiral Gordon's Strathspey," was the composition of William Marshall of Keithmore, who, in Burns' time, was butler to the Duke of Gordon. Mr. Marshall was also the composer of "Wishaw's Favonrite," "Madame Fredcrick," "Honest men and bonnie lasses," and other favourite Scottish airs.

Mr. Wm. Reid, late bookseller in Glasgow, wrote the following two additional verses to this song, which are very generally sung in the west country:--

> Upon the banks o' flowing Clyde The lasses busk them braw; But when their best they hae put on, My Jeanie dings them a': In hamely weeds, she far exceeds, The fairest o' the town; Baith grave and gay confess it sae, Tho' drest in russet gown. The gamesome lamb, that sucks its dam, Mair harmless canna be; She has nae faut, (if sae ye ca't) Except her love for me: The sparkling dew, o' clearest hue, Is like her shining e'en; In shape and air, nane can compare Wi' my sweet lovely Jean.

# SPOHR AND THE NORWICH FESTIVAL.

FROM a correspondent in the Norwich papers we perceive that the above illustrious musician is nnable to fulfil his intention of being present at the approaching festival, in order to conduct the performance of his Oratorio, The Fall of Babylon, writ-ten expressly for it. At the last festival, he conducted in person the performance of his Calvary; and the gratification which he received on that occasion induced him not only to engage to produce another great work for the next festival, but to make its performance the occasion of another visit to England. On his applying, however, to the Elector of Hesse Cassel (whose chapel master he is), for a few weeks' feave of absence for that purpose, he met with a peremptory refusal! And this refusal was rudely persisted in, without even the courtesy of assigning a reason, when the request was afterwards made, first by the British Minister for Foreign Affairs, and next by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, who is related by marriage to the Elector. To such petty tyranny is the greatest musician of the age subjected, in a country which is called the Paradise of Musicians! Never was such an epithet more misapplied than to the country in which Mozart and Beethoven struggled all their days with neglect, and died in pennry-where Haydn lived all his life little better than the domestic servant of a great magnate, unaware of the greatness of his own name, even when it was familiar as a household word all over Europe-where Hummel has been seen, at Weimar, waiting in an ante-chamber among his master's menials, till he should be called in to amuse the company-and where Spohr, without the civility of a cause assigned, has been refused to make a brief visit to England. A PRETTY PARADISE OF MUSICIANS! Our Germanised composers, we think, may console themselves under the misfortune of being Englishmen. The absence of Spohr is much to be regretted, though he appears to feel no anxiety as to his Oratorio. "I console myself," he says, in a letter to Professor Taylor, "with thinking that my Oratorio will be conducted by you. I have no anxiety respecting its performance." His confidence is based on the solid ground of experience, and will, we doubt not, be justified by the event .- Chronicle.

### THE GRESHAM MUSIC LECTURES.

Among the musical incidents of the times, the Gresham Lectures claim occasional notice. **The** value of Sir Thomas GRESHAM's gift to his fellowcitizens is now generally felt, crowds flock at every succeeding term to partake of its advantages. His College was founded at a time when musical education was neither rare nor costly, and when an exclusion of music from the circle of the sciences would have been regarded as an imperfection in its plan of instruction, which was liberal in every sense of the word. To a similar state of society we are slowly but surely approaching. We are now at the very commencement of seed-time; the harvest must be gathered in by our successors; meanwhile, the thirst for musical knowledge increases, and the citizens of London gladly avail themselves of that provision for their instruction which the princely merchant of a past age bequeathed them. This was designed to embrace, not merely elementary knowledge of the art, which it was presumed had been already attained, but an exposition and critical examination of its results. The subject of the lec-

tures of the term just concluded, as well as those of the preceding one, was the music of the German school up to the time of HASSE. The lectures on Friday and Saturday were devoted to the labours of SEBASTIAN BACH; commencing with an exposition of the principles on which his system was founded, and the objects he proposed to accomplish. These were illustrated by the performance of some of his Chorals, and one of his entire Motets, consisting of various movements, all marked by the originality of his genius and his extraordinary power of combination. On Saturday evening Professor TAYLOR continued his review of the system of BACH as displayed in his compositions for keyed instruments; which was illustrated by his masterly Triple Concerts, played by Messrs. Moscnettes, Benenicr, and TURLE. Before its performance, the Professor ex. pressed his thanks to these accomplished artists for having most kindly offered their services in furtherance of his endeavours to elucidate the principles and display the genius of its author. "Some persons," he added, "may feel surprised at such an act of spontaneous liberality from men of such distinguished reputation; but those who know as well as I do the sincere and ardent love of their art by which their conduct is guided, will only recognise in this desire to aid in the accomplishment of our founder's intention, and to further the humble exertions of his representative in this place, another manifestation of the same generous and high-minded feeling." On the merits of this composition it would be idle to descant. It embodies in a pre-eminent degree that wonderfal power of invention and combination which is stamped, to a greater or less extent, upon all its author's works; and its fitting place of performance was in a lecture, of which those works formed the theme. Crowded as the theatre was, the concerto was listened to with breathless attention; and the tumult of applause which broke out at its termination did not subside for several minutes. Much of this, doubtless, resulted from mere wonder. Many had heard of such players as Moschelles and Benedict, who now saw and heard them for the first time; but there were not a few to whom this performance would be an event in their musical lives, a privilege to be highly valued, and an impression never to be erased. The lecturer then proceeded to review BACH's celebrated Gros Passions Musik; from which oratorios several sacred detached portions were sung. This work has never been heard in England, and probably never will in its entire form ; no portion of it has ever been published in this country, although abounding with those original thoughts and masterly conceptions which are stamped upon all its author's writings. MOLIQUE, PIRKHART, HAUSMANN, and MOHR, were present, who, as well as MOSCHELLES and BE-NEDICT, appeared to listen with great interest to the eulogy on their immortal countryman, with which the lecture concluded.

The compositions of HASSE, so widely different in plan and purpose from those of his great contemporary, formed the subject of Monday's lecture. The Professor's remarks were illustrated by selections from several of his Operas and Oratorios; among which the delightful air, "Cara, ti lascio," admirably sung by HoBS, deserves especial notice. We commend this, and the beautiful Chorus, "O godete cari amanti," to the attention of the Directors of the Aneient Concerts, who seem to have forgotten that such a composer as HASSE ever existed. BACN is out of their reach.—Spectator, May 14th, 1842. CONTENTMENT.

(From the Bostan, or Garden of Sadee, the Persian Poet.) Smile not, nor think the legend vain, That in old days a worthless stone, Such power in holy hands could gain, That straight a silver heap it shone.

Thy Alchemist contentment be, Equal is stone and ore to thee.

The infant's pure, unruffled breast, No avarice nor pride molest; He fills his little hands with earth, Nor knows that silver has more worth.

The Sultan sits in pomp and state, And sees the dervish at his gate; But yet of wealth the sage has more Than the great King with all his store.

#### DANCING GIRLS OF EGYPT.

AT Damenour, near the mouth of the canal, I had an opportunity of witnessing the performances of the dancing ladies, called Alme. Some five-and. twenty of them were living in their tents here, assembling every evening at an adjoining coffee house, to exhibit before the passengers of the various boats; the crews of which club their ten or twelve paras, to have their first of all enjoyments, music and dancing. The Alme are called Zinganee, in Constantinople, and Ghaise, in Cairo. Niebuhr calls them gipsies. In fact, the dancing girls of Egypt are of the same race as our gipsies, who were originally, as their name imports, Egyptians. About 1512, Selim the First, having conquered Egypt, drove his opponents into the desert, where one party of them, headed by a swarthy slave, called Zinganeus, became formidable to the towns adjoining the desert, by their frequent depredations; they were at length dispersed by the Turks and Bedouins, and henceforth they straggled about various countries as magicians, fortune-tellers, and dancers, preserving always a distinct character wherever they went. I have heard some of them boast of their origin from a Grand Vizier of one of the Caliphs, and talk of their yet being restored to the possession of Egypt, and with as much certainty as the Jews speak of regaining Jerusalem. This tribe of the Zinganees take the name of Alme in Lower Egypt, and are the only professed votaries of the Turkish Terpsichore. Notwithstanding the dissoluteness of their conduct, they are brought by the most respectable Turks into their harems, to teach the young ladies the voluptuous mazes of the dance, the most befitting postures and graceful attitudes, and to instruct them in the art of feigning raptures which they do not feel.

The Alme are dressed for the dance in a flamecoloured silk gown, fitted closely to their shapes, and coufined over the hips by a large shawl; an immense pair of chintz drawers completes the costume: their hair is plaited in ringlets, and in Lower Egypt is smeared with suet, or castor oil in the upper country: their chins and lips are tattooed with blue spots, their eyelids are painted black, their hands and feet yellow, and she who desires to surpass all her companions in loveliness, has her nose bored, and a tremendous ring hanging over her mouth.

and a tremendous ring hanging over her mouth. The music is a rude sort of lute called *seminge*, and a tambourinc or kettle drum, made of an earthen pot covered with parchment. Five or six ladies commonly set to at a time, singing at the commencement a "merry dump," which becomes more thrilling as the vibrations of their joints increase, and at length becomes so langnid, that "the dying fall" of the music is lost in languishing sighs, corresponding with the soft passion their dance is meant to illustrate. Denon, in a few words, has described the Alme, "leur danse fut d'abord voluptuense; mais bientôt elle devint lascive, ce ne fut plus que l'expression grossiére et indècente de l'emportement des sens." When it terminated, the ladies seemed quite exhausted; they accosted me with a demand for money and a few glasses of brandy. I had no brandy, but gave them two botles of wine, which they finished in a very lew minutes.—Dr. Madden's Travels.

### MUSICAL MONSTROSITY.

THE members of a Russian family of *fifty-three* persons (*twenty-seven* men and *twenty-six* women), called the KANTROWICZ family, have been training their *voices*, confining each to two or three notes, on the principle of their famous Horn Bands. These performers are about to *sing* at the Grand Opera of Berlin, a series of *instrumental* compositions.— *Athenaem.* 

[The people of Russia must have a strange penchant for reducing themselves lower in the scale of rationality than any other people on the face of the earth, or how else could they study to become as useless individually, as one pipe of an organ would be without the other pipes of the *Register*. Their Horn Band was the most pitiable exhibition that could have been presented to gratify a vulgar and However excellently well they depraved taste. might succeed in the performance of their musical selections, or however precisely they managed to play in correct time, still we are certain that the same music could have been as correctly executed upon the organ, by a single performer, and his whole intellect all the while actively employed in giving sentiment and character to his study. But in the case of these wretched and debased serfs-human wind chests-what sentiment or expression could they infuse into their music? Why truly none; unless, indeed, the feeling of pain, which every rational mind and regulated taste and judgment would feel, at the presence of such a total prostration of all qualities and capabilities which go to make a progressive and intellectual humanity. In the case of the Horn Band or the Kantrowicz family, it requires no very great stretch of imagination, to believe that their exercises have not enabled any single one of them to sing or play over any one piece which, with such misapplied industry, they have trained themselves to perform certain notes of. Such rude and irrational attempts could only have been suggested and perpetrated in a state as barbarous, with a people as enslaved, and a go vernment as despotic as that of Russia .- En. B. M.]

# THE HAPPY VALLEY.

### BY THOMAS MILLER.

It was a valley filled with sweetest sounds.

From rustling corn, and song-birds calling clear, Down sloping uplands, which some wood surrounds,

With tinkling rills just heard, but not too near; Or lowing cattle on the distant plain,

And swing of far-off bells, now caught, then lost again.

It seemed like Eden's angel-peopled vale,

So bright the sky, so soft the streams did flow ; Such tones came riding on the musk winged gale, The very air seemed sleepily to blow,

- And choicest flowers enamelled every dale, Flushed with the richest sunlight's rosy glow:

It was a valley drowsy with delight,

- Such fragrance floated round, such beauty dimmed the sight.
- The golden-belted bees hummed in the air,

The tall silk grasses bent and waved along; The trees slept in the steeping sunbeams' glare, The dreamy river chimed its undersong,

And took its own free course without a care: Amid the boughs did lute-tongued songsters throng,

Until the valley throbbed beneath their lays,

And echo echo chased, through many a leafy maze.

And shapes were there, like spirits of the flowers, Sent down to see the summer-beauties dress,

And feed their fragrant mouths with silver showers; Their eyes peeped out from many a green recess, And their fair forms made light the thick-set bowers;

The very flowers seemed eager to carcss

Such living sisters, and the boughs long leaved, Clustered to catch the sighs their pearl-flushed bosoms heaved.

One through her long loose hair was backward peeping,

Or throwing, with raised arm, the locks aside; Another high a pile of flowers was heaping,

Or looking love askance, and when descried, Her coy glance on the bedded-greensward keeping;

She pulled the flowers to pieces, as she sighed,-Then blushed like timid day-break when the dawn Looks crimson on the night, and then again 's withdrawn.

One, with her warm and milk-white arms outspread, On tip-toe tripped along a sun-lit glade;

Half turned the matchless sculpture of her head, And half shook down her silken circling braid;

Her back-blown scarf an arched rainbow made, She seemed to float on air, so light she sped:

Skinning the wavy flowers, as she passed by, With fair and printless feet, like clouds along the sky.

One sat alone within a shady nook,

With wild wood songs the lazy hours beguiling, Or looking at her shadow in the brook,

Trying to frown, then at the effort smiling Her laughing eyes mocked every serious look ; 'Twas as il' Love stood at himself reviling;

She threw in flowers, and watched them float away, Then at her beauty looked, then sang a sweeter lay.

Others on beds of roses lay reclined,

The regal flowers athwart their full lips thrown, And in one fragrance both their sweets combined,

As if they on the self-same stem had grown, So close were rose and lip together twined-

A double flower that from one bud had blown, Till none could tell, so closely were they blended,

Where swelled the curving-lip, or where the rosebloom ended.

One half-asleep, crushing the twined flowers, Upon a velvet slope like Dian lay;

Still as a lark that 'mid the daisies cowers:

Her looped-up tunic tossed in disarray Showed rounded limbs, too fair for earthly bowers; They looked like roses on a cloudy day;

The warm white dulled amid the colder green;

The flowers too rough a couch that lovely shape to screen.

Some lay like Thetis' nymphs along the shore, With ocean-pearl combing their golden locks,

And singing to the waves for evermore;

Sinking like flowers at eve beside the rocks, If but a sound above the muffled roar

Of the low waves was heard. In little flocks, Others went trooping through the wooded alleys,

Their kirtles glancing white, like streams in sunny valleys.

They were such forms, as imaged in the night, Sail in our dreams across the heaven's steep blue; When the closed lid sees visious streaming bright,

Too beautiful to meet the naked view;

Like faces formed in clouds of silver light. Women they were, such as the angels knew-

Such as the Mammoth looked on, ere he fled, Seared by the lovers' wings, that streamed in sunset red.

Friendship's Offering for 1841.

#### ΝΟΓΕ 5. 0 THOU WHOSE



MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.



THE BRITISH MINSTREL; AND



#### BURNS'S BONNIE JEAN.

THE father of this young woman was a master mason or builder, of some substance, in the village of Mauchline. She was rather above the middle stature, of dark complexion, and irregular features, but of a fine figure, and great gentleness of nature, and a very agreeable singer and dancer. According to her own story, she and Burns first saw each other as she was one day spreading out elothes on the green to be bleached. As he passed by, his dog ran over some of the clothes; she called to the animal in no gracious terms, and requested his master to take him off. The poet made a sportive allusion to the old saying of "Love me, love my dog," and some badinage was interchanged. Probably neither knew on this occasion who the other was; but their acquaintance was not to stop short here. We are enabled to continue its history by John Blane, a decent old man now residing in Kilmarnock, who was at this time Burns's plough boy and bed fellow. There was a singing-school at Mauchline, which Blane attended. Jean Armour was also a pupil, and he soon became aware of her superior natural gifts as a vocalist. One night there was a "rocking" at Mossgiel, where a lad named Ralph Sillar sung a number of songs in what was considered rather good style. When Burns and Blane had retired to their sleeping-place in the stable-loft, the former asked the latter what he thought of Sillar's singing, to which Blaue answered that the lad thought so much of it himself, and had so many airs about it, that there was no occasion for others expressing a favourable opinion-yet, he added, "I would not give Jean Armonr for a score of him." "You are always talking of this Jean Armour," said Burns, "I wish you could contrive to bring me to see her." Blane readily consented to do so; and next evening, after the plough was loosed, the two proceeded to Mauchline for that purpose. Burns went into a publie-house, and Blane went into the singingschool, which chanced to be kept in the floor above. When the school was dismissing, Blane asked Jean Armour if she would come to see Robert Burns, who was below, and anxious to speak to her. Having heard of his poetical talents, she said she would like much to see him, but was afraid to go without a female companion. This difficulty being overcome by the frankness of a Miss Morton-the Miss Morton of the six Mauchline Belles-Jean went down to the room where Burns was sitting, and from that time her fate was fixed.

The subsequent history of this pair is well known. Jean ultimately became the poet's wife, and the partner of all of weal or woe which befel him during the Ellisland and Dumfries periods of his life. It is rather remarkable that, excepting two or three passing allusions, Jean was not the subject of any poetry by Burns during the earlier period of their acquaintance, nor till they were seriously and steadfastly married. He then, however, made up for his former silence. It was during the honeymoon as he himself tells us, and probably while preparing a home for her on the banks of the Nith, that he composed his charming song in her praise—

# "Of a' the airts the wind can blaw,"

Not long afterwards, he infused his love for her into the still more passionate verses beginning, "Oh, were I on Parnassus Hill!" of which one half stanza conveys a description certainly not surpassed, and we are inclined to think not even approached, in the whole circle of British poetry—the vlviduess and passion rising in union from line to line, until at the last it reaches a perfect transport, in which the poet involves the reader as well as himself.

> "I see thee dancing o'er the green, Thy waist sac jimp, thy limbs sac clean," Thy tempting lips and roguish een— By heaven and earth, I love thee!"

Mrs Burns is likewise celebrated in the song, "This is no my ain lassic," in which the poet describes himself as meeting a face of the fairest kind, probably that of some of the elegant ladies whom he met in genteel society, but yet declaring that it wants "the witching grace" and "kind love" which he found in his "own lassie!" a very delightful song, for it takes a fine moral feeling along with it. Of "Their Groves o' Sweet Myrtles" we are not so sure that Mrs. Burns was the heroine, though, if the wives of poetical husbands always had their duc, she ought to have been so. Jean survived in decent widowhood for as long a time as that which formed the whole life of the poet, dying so lately as March 1834. She was a modest and respectable woman, and to the last a good singer, and, if we are not greatly mistaken, also a tolerable dancer. She had been indulgent to her gifted though frail partner in his life, and she cherished his memory when he was no more.—*Chambers's Heroines of Burns*.

\* This phrase is apt to displease an English ear: but the displeasure vanishes when its Scotch meaning is understood—namely, the reverse of clumsy.

## ADVICE GRATIS.

#### To the Conductor of a Concert during the performance of a Symphony.

ALWAYS, upon the commencement of any extremely beautiful passage, over which the composer has marked "p. p. dolce possibile," and with which the audience are in such an extacy of subdued delight, that you may hear a pin fall,—announce your own importance by a tolerably long, and, to a certain degree, powerful "Husk!" directed towards the orchestra, and driven through the teeth thus:— H-1-S-H!! You may, by this means, eertainly annoy a few fastidious ears, and rouse a few drowsy old ladies; but never mind that. You will most likely earn the character of an extremely careful and clever conductor. Mem. Do not make the noise any more like a goose than you can help, lest some wag take it into his head to roast you.

#### To the Leader.

Stand up in the middle of the orchestra, and flourish your bow right and left. Never mind your part; there will be plenty of fiddles without you, and the occasional weakness of the leading melody will scarcely be felt among so many; besides, it would be a pity to let the Conductor have all the flourishing to himself. I know it is supposed by many addle-headed old fools, that the *Conductor* ought to give and keep time; but that's nothing. Flourish your bow as enthusiastically as he does his "baton of harmonic command," and the odds areyou are taken more notice of than he is. By the bye, do not on any account let the *first flute* leave off and flourish his instrument too. I dare say he will think he has as much right as yourself; but never mind that; don't let him do it. One of the joints of his fute might fly off, and he would create endless confusion, by scrambling down after it.

#### To the Orchestra.

Take your time from the first fiddle; never mind

the conductor-hc's nobody! Start off "con spirito," and keep it up well. You may bring out a little stronger, if you can, upon the fortissimos ; but never mind the pianos-run over them. An Englishman scorns to have his tongue tied-why should he have his fiddle-strings? Besides, what's the use of writing notes that are scarcely to be heard?-fetch them out! and if they are good, the more they are heard the better; its only the thief that hides his face; so fiddle away, and if the people say you "rasp," tell them they know nothing about it! I heard the horn-player in the opening movement to the overture to Oberon, some time ago, most heroically defy and set at nought the "il tutti pianissimo possibile," should be not do what he likes with with which Weber deemed it necessary to preface the performance. What was that to him? He was it like heas finished.—Musical World.

in possession of a fine-toned instrument; and who was to know it, if he did not let it be heard?---so he "gave tongue" right manfully. To be sure it *did* astonish the natives, who had rather prematurely prepared their ears for the soft and distant singing of the fairy horn; but that could not be helped;its all very well for the gentlemen of the "honoura-ble house" to talk about sacrificing the interests of the one for the welfare of the many, but let me tell them that it won't do. With you, every man must be heard; and I consider the horn-player perfectly justified in seizing upon the three first notes of the overture; they were written for him, and "why should he not do what he likes with his own." If people don't like to hear it, let them stop their cars

# WHEN AUTUMN HAS LAID HER SICKLE BY. (FROM M'LEOD'S ORIGINAL SCOTTISH MELODIES)





When Autumn has laid her sickle by And the stacks are theekit to haud them dry; And the sapless leaves come down frae the trees, And dance about in the fifth' breeze; And the Robin again sits bird alane, And sings his sang on the auld peat-stane: When come is the hour o' gloamin' gray, O sweet is to me the minstrel's lay.

When Winter is driving his cloud on the gale, And spairgin' about his snaw and his hail; And the door is steekit against the blast, And the winnocks wi' wedges are firm and fast: And the ribs are ryppet, the cannel alight, And the fire on the hearth is bleezin' bright; And the bicker is reamin wi' pithy brown ale,— O sweet is to me a sang or a tale.

Then I tove awa' by the ingleside, An' tell o' the blasts that I was wont to bide; When the nights war' lang and the sea ran high, And the moon hid her face in the depth of the sky And the mast was strain'd, and the canvass rent, By some demon on message o' mischief bent; O! I bless my stars that at hame I can bide, For dear, dear to me is my ain ingle\_side.

#### FAMILIAR EPISTLE

TO PETER M'LEOD, ESQ., EDINDURGH; ON HIS HAVING SET "WHEN AUTUMN HAS LAID HER SICKLE BY" TO MUSIC.

(From "Lays and Lyrics," by Capt. Chas. Gray, R M.) Instead of prose, my honest Peter, Accept from me a blaud o' metre; For, whate'er some folk may suppose, I write in verse as fast as prose. Of crambo-clink I'm sic a master, Indeed, I think I scrawl it faster; And could I add to Scotland's glory, I'd e'en turn Improvisatore. I'll no just say, on nae pretence, I burst the bounds o' common sense; That I, at ilka time and season, Pour forth at ance baith 'rhyme and reason;' But I aver, wi' judgment cool, I've found it sweet to play the fool; And sweeter still, in place and time, To play the fool in Scottish rhyme! Just now I feel the words come rushing-Like to a stream o' water gushing; And rhymes within my brain are bizzin, Enough to fill of sheets a dizzen: And Metaphors for vent are striving, Like bees frae byke when busy hiving; Then hark ye, lad-'tis my intent To gie this brain-born matter vent.

COWPER hath sung in measured strains, The pleasure o' poetic pains; That none clse felt what poets feel, As up Parnassus' hill they speel: That 'terms, though apt'--(reverse o' sin !) Are 'coy and difficult to win.' As I ne'er thumb'd the muses' primer-A ready, raffin, rustic rhymer I never felt the pains and fash Of those that rack their brains for cash; Or bards that strive to leave a name, And write (hard task!) for deathless fame. Yet, with the Unite's\* assistance, I've seen Parnassus at a distance, Not with a phrenzied dreamer's eye, 'But soaring snow-clad through the sky, In pomp of mountain majesty Lend me your lug-the truth to tell, I write-for what? to please mysel; Through rhyme and sang I aften skelp it-For why? because I canna help it. A laverock thus, at skreek of morn, Soars frae a field o' brairded corn; She feels the impulse glad of spring, And plies at once her throat and wing;-To man her song may flow in vain-No ear but Nature's list the strain; Her notes may all be lost in air, Yet still she sings her matins there. I grant my lays are cauld and tame, But still, the promptings are the same. It's true I've many a stanza penn'd In idle hour, to please a friend; Nay, more, I've often touched the keys For her 'whom man was born to please;' Aft has she set my fancy bummin, That dear capricious creature, Woman! With all her wit and whim about her, The warld wad stand stock-still without her.

\* H. M. Ship Unité, in which the author served for several years in the Mediterranean.

In fact, it was a look no chancy That first set fire to my young fancy; And though of years I feel the chill, Its flame around me flickers still, And Scottish song that used to warm My heart, has still the power to charm.

Jog-trotting thus alang life's course, Ilk on his favourte hobby-horse; I wi' my pen—yon wi' your fiddle, In fact, time seldom finds ns idle. 'Tis said, (and they stand heavy knocks) That music's charms 'can soften rocks,' 'And bend,' like twigs, 'the knotted oaks:' A tale so strange may weel be doubtit— Just now, I've nae time to dispute it. Go we where verbal thunders roll, There 'Eloquence' can charm 'the soul;' And though to skill we've nae pretence, Wha hasna felt—'song charms the sense?' This is a fact we wad hae notit, Though MILTON'S sel' had never wrote it.

In fiddlers' phrase I hardly ever Could tell a crotchet frae a quaver; For ay when I began to play, I found a bar stood in my way; And though I talked o' lyres and harps, My sharps were flats-my flats were sharps: Of every tune I tint the key; True notes were counterfeits to me; But though I ne'er could reach the treble, My semitones were far frae feeble. Nor jig nor solo could I play; I lost the tenor of my way; My bass was base-my grave was gay ;-In short, my chaunts would never chime,-I spent my breath, and murdered time.-Though Nature, wha has welth at will, In music has denied me skill, She wadna ilka fancy balk;-'I ken a hand saw frae a hawk;' A fiddle frae a German finte; A bagpipe frae a Hessian boot; A trumpet frae a tootin horn; A magpie frae a lark at morn; A blackbird frae a craw wanwordy; An organ frae a hurdy gurdy; A big bassoon frae barrow tram; An epic frae an epigram:-But why waste further words upon it? I ken a satire's no a sonnet That music moves the mind to pleasure, And sangs, like breeks, are made to measure ;---O nonght imparts such charms to me As Scotland's simple melody!

Then thanks, dear Peter, for the score,— I ne'er sae tunefu' was before; Yon 've passed me through the Muses' portal, And made my Scottish verse immortal; My sang shall yet be sung wi' praise, By Scottish lips, in after days; Oar names thegither be renowned, Where mirth and music most abound:— Sooth, I foresee, my rustic rhyme, A foam bell on the stream of time:— Say, shall we there securely float Alang wi' ALLAN RAMSAY'S boat? Shall onr erank coble trim the sail, To catch wi' BURNS the balmy gale; Shall the same breeze out-owre us steal, That waves the streamer o' MACNEIL? Shall our wee barkie follow still Close in the wake o' TANNAHILL, As down we glide for that deep sea; Where Time's lost in Eternity? Spike Island, Cove of Cork, 1st Feb., 1833.

## MUSIC OF THE ANCIENTS.

MUSIC, like all other arts, has been progressive, and its improvements may be traced through a period of more than three thousand years. Being common to all ages and nations, neither its invention nor refinement can, with propriety, be attributed to any single individual. The Hermes or Mercury of the Egyptians, surnamed Trismegistus, or thrice illustrious, who was, according to Sir Isaac Newton, the secretary of Asiris, is, however, commonly celebrated as the inventor of music.

From the accounts of Diodorus Siculus, and of Plato, there is reason to suppose, that in very ancient times, the study of music in Egypt was confined to the priesthood, who used it only in religious and solemn ceremonies. It was esteemed sacred, and forbidden to be employed on light or common occasions; and all innovation in it was strictly prohibited.

It is to be regretted that there are no traces by which we can form an accurate judgment of the style or relative excellence of this very ancient music. It is, unhappily, not with music in this respect, as with ancient sculpture and poetry, of which we have so many noble monuments remaining; for there is not even a single piece of musical composition existing, by which we can form a certain judgment of the degree of excellence to which the musicians of old attained. The earliest Egyptian musical instrument of which we have any record, is that on the guglia rotta at Rome, one of the obelisks brought from Egypt, and said to have been erected by Sesostris, at Heliopolis, about four hundred years before the siege of Troy. This curious relic of antiquity, which is a musical instrument of two strings, with a neck, resembles much the calascione still used in the kingdom of Naples, and proves that the Egyp-tians, at a very early period of their history, had advanced to a considerable degree of excellence in the cultivation of the arts, indeed there is ample cvidence, that at a time when the world was involved in savage ignorance, the Egyptians were possessed of musical instruments capable of much variety of expression.

We learn from Holy Scripture, that in Lahan's time instrumental music was much in use in the country where he dwelt, that is, in Mesopotamia, since among the other reproaches which he makes to his son-in-law, Jacob, he complains, that by his precipitate flight, he had put it out of his power to conduct him and his family "with mirth and with songs, with tabret and with harp." The son of Sirach, in giving directions to the master of a banquet, as to his behaviour, desires him, amongst other things, "to hinder not the music;" and to this he adds, "a concert of music in a banquet of wine, is as a signet of carbuncle set in gold; as a signet of emerald set in a work of gold, so is the melody of music with pleasant wine." In speaking in praise of Josias, he says, "the remembrance of Josias is like the composition of the perfume, that is made hy the art of the apothecary; it is sweet as honey in at mouths; and as music in a banquet of wine." There we have a pleasing recollection, illustrated by a comparison, with the gratification of three of the senses. Ossian, on an occasion a little different, makes use of the last comparison, but in an inverted order, when he says, "The music of Caryl is like the memory of joys that are past, pleasing and mournful to the soul."

The Hebrew instruments of music were principally those of percussion; so that on that account, as well as the harshness of the language, the music must have been coarse and noisy. The great number of performers too, whom it was the custom of the Hebrews to collect together, could, with such language and such instruments, produce nothing but clamour and jargon. According to Josephus, there were two hundred thousand musicians at the dedication of the Temple of Solomon.

Music appears to have been interwoven through the whole tissue of religions ceremonies in Palestine. The priests appear to have been musicians hereditarily, and by office. The prophets accompanied their inspired effusions with music; and every prophet, like the present *Improvisatore* of Italy, appears to have been accompanied by a musical instrument.

Vocal and instrumental music constituted a principal part of the funeral ceremonies of the Jews. The pomp and expense on these occasions were prodigious. The number of flute players in processions amounted sometimes to several hundreds, and the attendance of the guests continued frequently for thirty days.

It has been imagined, with much appearance of probability, that the occupation of the first poets and musicians of Greece, resembled that of the Celtic and German bards, and the Scalds of Iceland and Scandinavia. They sung their poems in the streets of cities, and in the palaces of Princes. They were treated with great respect, and regarded as inspired persons. Such was the employment of Homer. In his poems, so justly celebrated, music is always uamed with rapture; but as no mention is made of instrumental music, unaccompanied with poetry and singing, a considerable share of the poet's praises are to be attributed to the poetry. The instruments most frequently named are the lyre, the flute, the syrinx. The trumpet does not appear to have been known at the siege of Troy although it was in use in the days of Homer himself.

The invention of notation and musical characters marked a distinguished era in the progress of music. There are diversity of accounts respecting the person to whom the honour of this invention is due; hut the evidence is strongest in favour of Terpander, a celebrated poet and musician, who flourished 671 years before Christ, and to whom music is much indebted. Before this valuable discovery, music being entirely traditional, must have depended much on the memory and taste of the performer. The character of the Grecian music appears to

The character of the Grecian music appears to have been noisy and vociferous in the extreme. The trumpet players at the olympic games used to express an excess of joy when they found their exertions had burst a blood vessel or done some other serious injury. Lucian relates of a young flute player, Harmonides, that on his first public appearance at these games, he began a solo with so violent a hlast, in order to surprise and elevate the audience, that he breathed his last breath into his flute, and died on the spot.

The musicians of Greece, who performed in public, were of both sexes; and the beautiful Lamia, who was taken prisoner by Demetrius, and captivated her conqueror, as well as many other females, are mentioned by ancient authors in terms of admiration.

The Romans, like every other people, were, from their first origin as a nation, possessed of a species of music which might be distinguished as their own. It appears to have been rude and coarse, and probably was a variation of the music in use among the Etruscans, and other tribes around them in Italy; but as soon as they began to open a communication with Greece, from that country, with their arts and philosophy they borrowed also their music and musical instruments .- Percy Anecdotes.

#### FRENCH MODESTY.

A Frenchman considers every work of merit an emanation of his own countrymen; and himself, his own race and nation epitomized. Whatever is great, good, and useful, had its origin in France, and Frenchmen have never achieved anything but what is great, good, and useful. They first discovered the revolution of the earth, the laws of gravitation, and the new world-for Galileo, Newton, and Columbus were, if not Frenchmen, certainly descendants of Frenchmen-because they were great geniuses. We have heard it gravely maintained that the application of steam power first originated with a Frenchman; that the perfection of naval architecture was dispensed at Toulon; and that David is the greatest painter that ever existed. When the Allies took away the pictures from the Louvre, they should, "Let them go, we will paint others!" A gentleman who makes pictures in chalks, assured us the other day, with that profound self-complacency which a Frenchman only can assume, that his sole motive for visiting England was, because we have no artists who can take likenesses. The following anecdote exhibits the French as the inventors of counterpoint, in addition to every other branch of science invented, or to be invented. "In my researches after old music in Antwerp (says Dr. Burney), I was directed to Mons. —, the singing master of St. James's Church, a Frenchmao. Upon my acquainting him with my errand, and asking him the question I had before put to all the musicians and men of learning that I had met with in France and Italy, without | English ears .- Diary of a Nun.

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obtaining much satisfaction, "When and where did counterpoint, or modern harmony begin?" the Abbe's answer was quick and firm, "O, Sir, counterpoint was certainly invented in France!" "But," said I, "L. Guicciardini and the Abbe du Bos give it to the Flamands." This made no kind of impression on my valiant Abbe, who still referred me to France for materials to ascertain the fact. "But, Sir," said I, "what part of France must I go to; I have already made all possible enquiry in that kingdom, and had the honour of being every day permitted to search in the Bibliothique du Roi, at Paris, for more than a month together, in hopes of finding some-thing to my purpose, but in vain; and as you were in possession of the old manuscript music belonging to your church, I was inclined to think it possible that you could have pointed out to me some compositions which, if not the first that were made in counterpoint, would at least be more ancient than those which I had found elsewhere. "Mais, Monsieur, soyez sure que tout cela était inventé en France." ["But, Sir, rest contented that all that was invented in France."] This was all the answer I could get, and upon my pressing him to tell me where I might be furnished with proofs of this assertion, "Ah, ma foi, je n'en sais rein,"-["Ah, by my faith, I know nothing about it,"]-was his whole reply. I had for some time been preparing for a retreat from this ignorant coxcomb, by shuffling towards the door, but after this I flew to it as fast as I could, first making my bow, and assuring him, sincerely, that I was extremely sorry to have given him so much trouble."-Musical World.

MADAME CATALANI'S LOVE OF THE ENGLISH .-She atways speaks with great warmth of the kindness she experienced in England, and says she feels that she can never do enough to prove to the English her deep sense of gratitude for all the hospitality she received from them. Her frankness and cordiality emboldened us, before taking leave of her, to profier a humble peti-tion for a song. With the most perfect good humour she instantly complied with our request, though she she instantly complied with our request, though she said she was still suffering from the effects of a recent cold, and hoped we would put up with some "*petite bagatelle*." With a truly French refinement of po-liteness, she sang, "Home, sweet Home," thinking, no doubt, that nothing could be more grateful to our

#### LITTLE FARM WELL TILL'D.

TRIO, FROM THE COMIC OPERA OF "THE SOLDIER'S RETURN."



# MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.





# CELIA'S CHARMS.



ANCIENT HISTORY OF THE ORGAN. The following sketchy paper concerning the origin and progress of this noble instrument, is translated from the French, by a Lady Correspondent of the Musical Quarterly:-

THE ORGAN.-A wind instrument, superior to THE ORGAN.—A wind instrument, superior to every other, from its variety, compass, and power. It is composed of many pipes, divided into rows, and played on by means of keys. The organ appears peculiarly consecrated to divine worship. There is in its composition an infinity of curious parts, too numerous for a detailed description, we shall there. | swering to them are put down. The feet of the

fore only mention the principal. The common key board in large, as well as in cabinet organs used for private rooms, has more than one row of keys, and is composed of thirteen sounds in the octave. It is sichord. The wind chest is a coffer, closely covered with leather, and receives the wind previously to distribution among the pipes. The interior of the wind chest is filled with small pieces of wood, called suckers. The suckers stop the bottom of the pipes, and only suffer the wind to pass when the keys an-

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pipes arc supported by a plank, called the mattrass, having holes pierced in it corresponding with the size of each pipe. There is also another plank which serves to keep the pipes upright and firm in their places. The wind passed into the pipes proceeds from bellows, the number of which is indeterminate.

The registers are species of keys or bars which serve to open and shut the holes of the grooves communicating with certain pipes and by this means the musician augments or diminishes the number of stops. By stops are understood certain pipes, which produce sounds of various kinds. Pipes are generally made of brass, pewter, lead, or wood, these latter are square, although they may be constructed cylindrically.

There are pipes in which are placed reeds, and to which are affixed springs, in order to lower or raise the tone, as it may be necessary. The stops of the organ are divided into simple and compound. The union of several of the stops constitutes the compound; the chief of which is called the full organ.

The small organ, usually placed at the bottom of the large one, is called the positive. The compass of the organ is generally about four octaves.

The organ is a most important instrument; its invention and use being widely spread, have contributed insensibly to bestow a new direction on music. Originally the word organum, from whence organ is derived, had a very extended acceptation, and designated all instruments, whatever their uses. By degrees it was applied solely to musical instruments; it was afterwards confined to wind instruments, and at last the word organ, organum, only signified the magnificent instrument now bearing the name of organ. The flute of Pan, the syrinx or pipe of reeds, doubtless gave the first idea of the organ. It must soon have been observed that there were other means of producing sounds from a pipe than by the mouth. It must also have been discovered that the air might be confined in close cavities, and afterwards emitted at pleasure by means of openings of different sizes. This discovery was applied to united pipes like the syrinx, or to a simple flute, and subsequently a species of bag-pipe was invented. By pursuing this course, they could not fail to arrive at an instrument strongly resembling our organ. Instead of a leathern bag, they used a wooden case to enclose the wind; above this they placed pipes, the opening of which was closed by suckers, which could be opened or shut at will, in order to produce the embouchure of any one pipe. The descriptions left by authors of different ancient musical instruments, together with their representations on several monuments, prove that the ancients were occupied at different periods with these experiments. For some time they were constantly employed in seeking the best means of introducing air into the pipes of the instrument we call an organ. They employed the fall of water, pumps, steam, bellows of different kinds, &c. In these experiments water was most frequently the cause of the motion by which the wind was introduced. They at last stopped at wind bellows set in motion either by water or by human strength. The application of these various means has distinguished two kinds of organ; that moved by water was called Hydraulic, that by wind Pneumatic, although there was no real difference in the principle. It is only by means of air that the pipes can produce a sound. Whether the air be introduced into the pipes by water, human labour, or any other machine, it comes to the same point, and the difference is reduced to this question—which mode of applying the wind is the easiest? These distinctions, and the different meanings affixed to the word organum, have caused great confusion in the history of this important instrument. When an author spoke of organum, it was frequently imagined he treated of an organ, when he was alluding to some other musical instrument. There was the same mistake when the difference between the hydraulicon and pneumatic organ was the subject of discussion. These two instruments were generally confounded. These differences have thrown great obscurity on different passages of ancient authors relating to this instrument. It was from the hydraulicon and when the organ in its greatest perfection.

There are indeed sufficient proofs that they possessed an instrument with pipes, but it is evident that it differed extremely from our organ. This difference is ably pointed out by a Monk in the congregation of ST. MAUR. DON MARTIN, in his preface, entitled "Explanations of several singular remains of antiquity, which have relation to reli-gion," says: in fact, the hydraulicon was on a small, what organs are on a large scale; thence proceeds the name they bear, for neither Greek nor Latin authors speak of the hydraulicon without designating it by the general and indefinite term organum. can even perceive they were often ignorant of its structure; I wish, therefore, to know if they can first follow the progress of the hydraulicon up to the organ, and afterwards descending from the organ to the hydraulicon, explain the mechanism of that instrument. It seems proved that hydraulicons were on the small, what the pneumatics are on a large scale. ATHENÆUS, in the chapter where he treats of musical instruments, also speaks of the hydraulicon, and in a way which proves that it was small enough to be transported from place to place, like the portable hand-organs of the Savoyards. same passage informs ns that the people were then as much charmed by it, as they now are when an instrument of this kind is unexpectedly heard at a fair.

The most ancient notice taken of an instrument of any size, to which bellows were adapted, and, according to some, keys likewise, is to be found in the anthology, and was first quoted by DU CANGE. in his Glossarium naidiæ et infirmæ latinatis, on It the word organum, and since, by several others. is the description of an organ, said to have been in the possession of JULIAN, the Apostate, who lived in the fourth century. DU CANGE concluded that it was not an hydraulic instrument, but that it very much resembled the modern pneumatic organ. Nevertheless, the leathern bag appended to it was not our modern bellows, and the introduction of the wind into the pipes was not likely to be effected by keys, as in our organs. The description CASSIONORUS has given of an organ in his explanation of the 150th Psalm, is more applicable to a small hydraulicon, than to our modern instruments. The barbarism which spread amongst the people of Europe, after the time of CASSIODORUS, was not only destructive to the arts and sciences, but also to many of the works of art; and it seems that the organ, such as it then was, shared the same fate. What several authors have said upon the ancient use of organs in christian churches, is not sufficiently established by proof. Thus when PLATINA, in his Lives of the Popes, advances that VITALIEU I. ordered that the organ should accompany the hymns of the church,

it appears that this word organ or organum rather signifies other instruments. It does not seem that at this epoch there existed a real organ in the West. The first true indication of an organ is dated about the eighth century; towards this period the Greek Emperor CONSTANTINE CUPRONYMUS presented an organ to PEPIN, King of France. EGINHARD, in his annals of King PEPIN, speaks in the year 755, of this fact, but he employs the word organa, which being in the plural, it may be reasonably imagined that he does not speak of an organ, but of several musical instruments, and the following authors, MARIANUS SCOTUS, LAMDERT D'ASSCHAFFEMBOURG, and AVENTINUS, were therefore in error when they declared it to be an organ. The description given by the last of these authors, proves that he had such an organ in view as were known in his own time with pedals, bellows, &c. During the reign of CHARLEMAGNE, organs are mentioned as having heen brought from Greece, into the western parts of Europe. According to the pompous descriptions given of this instrument by a Monk of St. Galles, in his second book of his work on the Military Exploits of CHARLEMAGNE, it would really seem of some importance; but if it had been as complicated as the historian describes it, it may be imagined that the artists of CHARLEMAGNE would not so easily have succeeded in imitating it, particularly after considering it so superficially. If the Monk of St. Galles had said what became of this organ, how long it existed, and by what accident it was lost or destroyed, it might have thrown some light on the subject. WALAFRID STRADO gives a description, no less emphatic, of an organ which existed in the ninth century, in a church at Aix la Chapelle. The softness of its tone he asserts to have caused the death of a female. Perhaps this was the organ built by the artists of CHARLEMAGNE in 812, upon the model of that brought over by the Greek Ambassadors. It appears that this Greek organ was not intended as a present to the Emperor, but to be employed in their divine service. In order to have transported it thus easily from Constantinople to Aix la Chapelle, to have exhibited it in that town amongst other curiosities, and afterwards to allow it to be heard, it must have been very small. If it were necessary to dismount the smallest of our organs, and carry it as far as from Constantinople to Aix la Chapelle, it would at least take several months to remount and fit it for playing.

After the time of CHARLEMAGNE, the organ is first mentioned in the annals of Louis LE DEBON-NAIRE, by EGINHARD, in 826. A Presbyter, named GEORGIUS, arrived from Venice at the Court of the Prince, and boasted of his ability in making organs. The Emperor sent him to Aix la Chapelle, and gave orders that he should be furnished with the necessary materials for constructing an organ. NIGELLUS, an historian of the nineteenth century, in describing the life and actions of LOUIS LE DEHONNAIRE, in an elegiac poem, printed in the Scriptores Italici de Muratori, also speaks of this organ. Don BEnos DE CELLES, in his art of building organs, says, that it was an hydraulicou, according to a passage of EGINHARD, in which it was designated by the word hydraula. EGINHARD adds, that it was only em-ployed in the palaee of the Emperor; it therefore differed from that spoken of by WALAFRID STRADO, which he expressly says was in a church at Aix la Chapelle. DON BEDOS DE CELLES thinks this was the first organ having bellows, and for which water was not employed.

It will easily be conceived that the employment of water in a church must have been attended with great inconvenience, and probably this was one of the reasons why organs were not oftener used in churches; besides which, the water must have been very pernicious to the structure of an organ, on account of the constant humidity attending it.

In the latter part of the ninth century, the Germans possessed organs, and were able to construct and play on them; but it has not been ascertained how they acquired the art. ZARLINO, in his Supli-menti Musicale, book 8, p. 290, after having treated of the organs of the ancients, says that some authors imagine the pneumatic organ to have been first used in Greece; that from thence it passed into Hungary, afterwards into Germany, and subsequently to Bavaria. They pretend, continues ZARLINO, to have seen one amongst others in the cathedral at Munich -all the pipes of which were of box, of a single piece, of the size of our metal pipes, and like them, of cylindrical form. They think it was the oldest organ, not only in Bavaria, but in the world, on account of its size and structure. It is true that this passage does not determine the period at which they pretend to have seen this organ at Munich; but, if towards the conclusion of the ninth century, as it is sufficiently proved, they sent from this German province, organs, organists, and organ builders, into Italy, it is natural to suppose that for some years before, they could not have been ignorant of the art of building organs and playing on them. In the fifth book of the Miscellanea of Baluze, there is a letter from POPE JOHN VIII. to HANNON DE FRISINQUE, in Bavaria, praying him to send him into Italy a good organ, with a skilful artist to repair and play on it. DON BEDOS DE CELLES thinks that GEORGIUS, of Venice, who, under Louis LE DEBONNAIRE, buil. the organ at Aix la Chapelle, might have had scholars, hy whom the art of constructing organs was spread throughout several of the German provinces; and he attributes to this circumstance the fact, that Germany had, thirty or forty years before the death of Louis, sent organists and organ builders into other countries. This author, nevertheless, imagines it to have been an hydraulicon, as we have already said, and we are now treating of pneumatic organs. There is no doubt but that pneumatic organs existed sooner than is generally supposed. They were of limited compass; had few pipes, perhaps only a single register, and probably resembled those small obselete organs long used in churches and schools, under the titles regale, positif, and poratif. If the pipes of the organ at Munich, of which we have been speaking, were of box, and cut out of a solid piece, the instrument could not have been of very considerable dimensions.

MERSENNUS ascribes a more ancient origin to the small pneumatic or positive organs: he relates, in the sixth book of his Universal Harmony, p. 387, that the celebrated NANOI sent him a drawing of a small cabinet or positive organ found in the gardens of the Villa Mattei, at Rome, the bellows of which resembled those we use for blowing the fire. A man placed behind the instrument, is engaged in introducing the wind by means of these bellows, and the key board is played on by a woman sitting before the organ. MENENNUS has given no copy of it; but it may be found amongst the papers of HAYM, the compiler of the Jesorio Brittanico delle midaglie antiche, and HAWKINS has engraved it in his History of Music, p. 403. The small pneumatic organs were thon known long before the period to which their

invention is ascribed, and it is in the nature of | things that they should be more known than the hydraulic organs. Their employment appears a sort of aberration, by which the original invention was for some centuries prevented from arriving at per-The ancients imagined they had found fection. something better-but it proved otherwise, and they were compelled to return to the first invention, and endeavour to perfect and extend it; by degrees the pneumatic organ entirely superseded the hydraulicon; but as these ameliorations were not generally known, in some countries the old organ continued to be used. Thus in the ninth century AURELIAN, in his Musica Disciplina, only speaks of hydraulic organs. Those which GERBERT constructed in the tenth century, when SILVESTER was Pope II., were ac-cording to WILLIAM, of Malmesbury, hydraulic organs. Whilst in Germany, France, and Italy, organs were but little esteemed, and iu an imperfect state, England possessed some of surprising compass, and which surpassed all those of the above named countries. WOLSTAN, a Benedictine Monk of Winchester, and singer or chorister to his concert, gives, in his life of SwITHINUS, the description of an organ that ELFEGUS, Bishop of Winehester, had made for that church in 951. According to this description, that organ was larger than any other then known. It had twelve bellows above and fourteen below, and required seventy strong men to work it. It was played by two organists, each of whom, to use WOLSTAN'S own expression, directed his particular alphabet. By the twenty-six bellows the wind was introduced into a great chest, where it was distributed through 3 holes into as many pipes. This remarkable account is to be found in the Acta Sanctorum ord. S. Benedict, published by MABILLON, vol. 8, p. 617. Whatever the size of this organ, it had but ten keys, and for each key forty pipes; the wind produced by the twenty-six hellows requiring the strength of seventy powerful men, could not have heen very moderate. In the same work MABILLON, (at p. 734) describes another organ existing at the same time. A certain Count Elwin entreated SAINT OSWALD, Archbishop of York, to inaugurate the church of the convent of Ramsay, in which he had placed an organ. The pipes were of brass, and cost thirty pounds sterling. They were placed in holes above the chest, and bellows were used to introduce the wind, and their sound is described as melodious, and sufficiently powerful to be heard at a considerable distance. Notwithstanding the imperfection of these organs, they evcrywhere produced the greatest astonishment, and every church was soon desirous of possessing so efficacious a means of attracting a congregation. We therefore find in the tenth century, that organs multiplied not only in the eathedral churches of the episcopal seats, but also in many churches of the convents.

In the ancient organs the number of notes must have been very limited. From ten to fifteen was nearly their greatest extent, and the execution of the plain chant did not require more. They could not have then had any idea of harmony, or a greater number of notes would have been necessary. I oes not appear probable, but it has been proved that the different pipes of the ancient organs, struck by the same key, were not tuned uniformly in unison, but also by fifths, octaves, and even by fourths. This mode of tuning organs, so that each key should give a fifth or octave, suggested the idea of innitating in singing, the union of different sounds, also called organum; they had an organum triplum and

quadruplum, according to the number of voices; each voice was considered as the pipe of an organ, and in the necrologium of an ancient church at Paris, it is determined how much each singer, who represented the pipe of au organ, should be paid.

The keys of organs were formerly very roughly worked and of considerable dimensions. The key hoard of the old organ of the cathedral of Halberstadt had only nine keys, yet it was thirty-six inches wide. The old organ in the cathedral of Madgeburg had a key-board of sixteen keys; they were square, and each three inches wide; these sixteen keys occupied therefore a space of forty-eight inches, and were consequently wider than our key-boards of five octaves and a half, or forty keys. Don BEDOS DE CELLES, in his art of building organs, speaks of some whose keys were five inches and a half wide. The manner of playing was conformable to these immense keys. One finger was not sufficient to put them down; it was necessary to strike them with the whole force of the fist; something resembling the method of playing the carillons, yet in use in several villages, and on which the player cannot perform without the greatest fatigue; it appears the ancient organists had the same trouble.

The bellows were not more perfect than the organs themselves. We have already said that it required seventy men to set in motion the twenty-six bellows of the Winchester organ. The great organ of the eathedral of Halberstadt had twenty, and that of Madgeburg twenty four small bellows, nearly resembling those of our smith's forges; they were not furnished with a weight to enable them to introduce a sufficient quantity of wind; the intensity of the wind depended therefore upon the strength of those who worked them. This mode must have been very fatiguing, and the quantity of wind very irregular, because all men are of different weights, and the equality of the wind produced by the bellows, depends on the equality of weight which serves to lower them; the manner of lowering them was also very singular. Upon each of the bellows was fixed a wooden shoe; the men who worked them hung by their hands on a transverse har, and each placed a foot in one ot those shoes, lowered one bellows with one foot, while with the other he raised another bellows. To work twenty bellows, ten men were necessary—for twenty-four, twelve, &c. PRÆTORIUS has given a drawing of this mode of blowing, in the twenty-sixth plate of his Organography. It is easy to coneeive that by this means the organ could never be in tune, because the wind was admitted unequally. The organ pipes were usually of brass, and so roughly manufactured, that the sounds they produced were extremely sharp and noisy, on account of the want of registers, each key made all the pipes corresponding with it sound at once; at the present time the registers open or shut the necessary pipes; to this add the noise caused by all the bellows, and it will easily he conceived why the introduction of organs into churches encountered so many difficulties.

EALFRED, an English author of the beginning of the twelfth century, says, that these organs made a noise resembling thunder, which could not be favourable to the assembling of the faithful, and from what has been related of their construction, his description could not be exaggerated. PRETORUS (in his Organography), and MATHESON, two competent judges in such a case, do not give a more favourable opinion of the ancient organs. It was not alone their imperfection that opposed their

introduction, for in the early stages of christianity, the building churches, and even temples, met with more difficulty than the introduction of organs. ORIGEN, in the eighth book of his Book against CELSUS, expressly says, that "we christians believe we ought not to worship God in visible and inanimate temples." At this early period it was desirable to render divine worship as simple as possible, in order to distinguish it from that of the Jews and Pagans. Towards the middle of the thirteenth century, Sr. THOMAS D'AQUIN holds nearly the same language: "Our church, he says, does not admit of instruments of music such as the cithara, the psaltery, &c., in order to celebrate the glory of God, that we may not resemble Jews." The number of persons of more moderate sentiments was very great; they favoured the introduction of organs and other instruments into the church, as soon as they perceived that their use, instead of injuring the principal end of worship, was, on the contrary, favourable to it. Others, such as BALDIERUS, Bishop of Dol, in Britagne, in the eleventh century, regarded the introduction of organs with indifference. Notwithstanding these contradictions, organs, and even other instruments, were soon admitted, not only into all great churches, but also into those of convents, and small towns. The historians of this era celebrate several monks, distinguished for the art of playing on the organ, and for their general musical abilities. For some time organs were only used on great feasts, solemn occasions, and not habitually in the celebration of all the offices. In the fifth vol. of the Annals of the Benedictines, by MABILLON, there is at page 505 mention made of an organ in the Abbey at Fecamp, and he says expressly that it was only used at certain times. LE BEUF, p. 112, of his State of the Sciences in France, since the reign of ROBERT, &c., says, that it was customary for the laity of distinction to present organs to religious houses, which, according to all appearances, were of small power.

The fiftcenth century, one of the most important in the history of the civilization of Europe, had a very decided influence upon music as well as upon all the arts and sciences. The general introduction of figurate music produced a sensible amelioration, and induced a greater use of instruments, and particularly the organ.

This led to its gradual improvement, the registers were separated from each other, and were made to imitate the sound of a particular instrument. The Gormans were the inventors of several reed stops, such as the hantbois, bassoon, &c. They were also well acquainted with the trumpet and vox humana stops. In augmenting and separating the registers, and the voices, it was necessary to extend the key-board. They had before only the diatonic scale, and a few octaves; they then inserted the chromatic tones, and increased the number of octaves. DON BEDOS DE CELLES thinks that they had begun in the thirteenth century to place the chromatic tones in the organ of the church of St. Salvator, at Venice. This first chromatic key-board had an extent of two octaves. The invention of pedals by a German named BERNHARD, residing at Venice, contributed greatly to the perfection of the organ. The construction of bellows, and the exact and proper quantity of wind, are of so much importance, that without them it is impossible to construct a good organ. The invention of the anemoneter to measure the exact quantity of wind necessary to each register, by a German organ builder, named. CHRISTIAN FÆRNER, of Wetlin on the Saale, in the seventeenth century, has greatly

aided in bringing the organ to a state of perfection. It might be thought that the example of the Pope's Chapel, in which an organ was never admitted, would have been injurious to their introduction into churches. Several in Italy and France, and still those of the Chartreux, had prescribed the use of them, but their utility in sustaining and accompany. ing the voices of large congregations was so percep tible, that they were very generally adopted. hn Germany they spread very quickly. In 1412, there were two organists at Nœrdlinguen, who received salaries; and at the same time a new organ was constructed in the convent of the unshod Carmelites. In 1466, STEPHEN CASTENDORFER, of Breslau, constructed a third organ there. They were introduced at a later period in some other considerable towns in the south of Germany. The first organ was placed at Nuremberg in 1443, and at Augsburg in 1490. These organs had no pedals, but they had very large pipes. According to the ancient chronicles, there were organs in different towns in the north of Germany, which had no pedals, and only served to play slowly the plain chant. It was not till after the invention of pedals that the improve-ments in the organ became important. This invention appears to have been early known in Germany. In 1475, in the church of the unshod Carmelites; at Nuremburg, there was an organ with an ordinary key-board and pedals constructed by the son of a baker in that city, named CHARLES ROSENBURGEN. This organ builder was then in great reputation, and erected the great organ of the cathedral at Bamberg. Towards the end of the filteenth contury, almost every church endeavoured to procure the advantage of possessing an organ.

One of the oldest organ builders of celebrity was ERHART SMID, of Peyssenberg, in Bavaria, whom DUKE ERNEST, in 1433, exempted from every species of impost and contribution, on account of his skill in constructing organs. ANDRE, who built in 1456, the old organ of S. REGIDIA, at Brunswick, also enjoyed great celebrity. HENRY IRAXDORF built organs with and without pedals. According to PRETORIUS, FREDERICK KREBS, and NICHOLAS MULLER, of Mildenburg, were very skilful organ builders. RODLFILD SARICOLA, HENRY KRANTZ and JOHN THOMAS, &c., are also mentioned.

We are acquainted with but few celebrated organists of this early period, and in fact before the sixteenth century there appears to have been none whose merit was worth recording. Everything was then reduced to the indication and support of the plain chant, which was very uniform. ANTONIA SQUARCIALUPO seems to have been one of the first who used more art in his performance; he lived about 1430, at Florence, and many strangers travelled expressly to Florence to be acquainted with and hear him. POCCIANPI, in his catalogue of Florentine authors, says, that he published some compositions, but without explaining whether for the organ or the voice. He adds, that his portrait in marble was placed at the entrance of the cathedral, with an honourable inscription, which continued to exist in the last century. BERNHARD, the inventor of the pedals, must have been in his time a good organist; this may be deduced not only from the testimony of SABELLICUS, but also from his invention. JOHN HOFHAIMER, organist to the EM-PEROR MAXIMILIAN First, may also be cited among skilful performers. But whatever progress they may have made, the real art of playing the organ did not begin to flourish till towards the end of the sixtcenth

century. Notwithstanding the imperfection of this) the necessary signs were invented. In Germany, instrument, and its conclusive application to plain chant, a mode of writing these melodies was early discovered. In Italy they probably used the same notes employed in writing for the voice, as soon as



I will quickly lay down my sword and my gun, An' put my blue bonnet an' my plaidie on, Wi' my silk tartan hose an' leather heeled shoon, An' then I shall look like a sprightly loon. An' when I'm sae dressed frae tap to tae, To meet my dear Maggie I vow I will gae, Wi' target, an' hanger hung down to my heel, An' I'll feast npon bannocks o' barley meal.

I'll buy a rich present to gie to my dear, A ribbon o' green for my Maggie to wear, An' mony thing brawer than that I declare, Gin' she will gang wi' me to Paisley fair; An' when we are married I'll keep her a cow, An' Maggie will milk when I gae at the plow, We'll live a' the winter on beef and lang kail, An' we'll feast upon bannocks o' barley meal. Gin Maggle should chance to bring me a son, He's fight for his King as his daddy has done, We'll hie him to Flanders some breeding to learn, An' then hame to Scotland and get him a farm. An' there we will live by our ain industrie, An' wha'll be sae happy's my Maggie and me? We'll a' grow as fat as a Norawa seal, Wi' our feasting on bannocks o' barley meal.

Then, fare ye weel citizens, noisy men, Wha' jolt in your coaches to Drury-lane, Ye bucks o' Bear-garden I bid ye adien, For drinking and swearing I leave it to you. I'm fairly resolved for a country life, An' nae langer will live in hurry or strife, I'll aff to the Highlands as hard's I can reel, An' I'll whang at the bannocks o' barley meal.

This song, said to have been written by John, Duke of Argyle and Greenwich, who was born in 1678, and died, 1743, was published in Herd's Collection of 1776; by others it has been ascribed to James Boswell ef Auchenleck, the biographer of Dr. Johnson.



sound - ing. It hur-ries a-long, black line up - on line, And the shrill voic'd horns in the pp.



What gleams from yon wood, in the bright sunshine? How roars in the valley the angry fight; Hark! nearer and nearer 'tis sounding ; It hurries along, black line upon line, And the shrill-voiced horns in the wild chase join, The soul with dark horror confounding: And if the black troopers' name you'd know 'Tis Lützow's Jäger-forth to the huatiag they go. From hill to hill through the dark wood they hie, And warrior to warrior is calling; Behind the thick bushes in amhush they lie, The rifle is heard, and the loud war ery, In rows the Frank minions are falling And if the black troopers' name you'd know, 'Tis Lützow's Jäger-torth to the hunting they go ! Where the bright grapes grow, and the Rhine rolls wide, He weened they would follow him never; But the pursuit came like the storm in its pride, With sinewy arms they parted the tide, And reached the far shore of the river

And if the dark swimmers' name you'd know, 'Tis Lützow's Jäger - forth to the hunting they go ! Hark 1 how the keen swords are clashing f High-hearted Ritter are fighting the fight, The spark of freedom awakens bright, And in crimson flames it is flashing And if the dark Ritters' name you'd know, 'Tis Lützow's Jäger-forth to the bunting they go !

Who gurgle in death, 'mid the groans of the foe, No more the bright sunlight seeing? The writhings of death on their face they shew, But no terror the hearts of the freemen know, For the Frantzmenn are routed and fleeing: And if the dark heroes' names you'd know, 'Tis Lützow's Jäger—forth to the hunting they go.

The chase of the German, the chase of the free, In bounding the tyrant we strained it ! Ye friends, that love us, look up with glee ! The night is scattered, the dawn we see, Though we with our life's-blood have gained it ! And from sire to son the tale shall go : 'Twas Lützow's Jager bore down the ranks of the foe.

"Lützow's Wild Chase," was composed at Leipzic on the Schneckenberg, 24th April, 1813; for the translation, from the German of Theodore Körner, we are indebted to Tait's Magazine, it appears in one of a series of articles on the "Burschen Melodies," published in that Magazine in 1840-41.

JOHN ANDERSON MY JO.



Burns formed these two verses on the model of an old and somewhat indelicate song, which was sung to the same tune, and which may be found in Johnson's Musical Museum. It is stated in the Museum, that the John Anderson mentioned in the song was said, by tradition, to have been the town piper of Kelso. The air is believed to have been a piece of sacred music previous to the Reformation.—*Chambers's Scottish Songs*.

## THE ITALIAN WANDERER.

THE Captain of an English merchant-vessel was walking at a hurried pace along the Cours, the principal street at Marseilles, intent upon transacting the last commercial business which detained him in the city. His brig was lying in the harbour, with all her crew on board; the wind was favourable. He stopped an instant at the door of an hotel, to bid farewell to a friend, when a little boy seized the skirt of his coat, and with almost extravagant volubility, accompanied by very significant gestures, showed that he had some favour of a peculiar nature to ask of the good-tempered seaman. The boy was evidently not a beggar; but the impatient captain thrust a few small coin into his hand, and increased

the rapidity of his movement. Still his little friend was at his heels, and pursued him with nnceasing perseverance, till they both stopped at the door of the merchant whom the Englishman sought. Fairly run to carth, he was obliged to grant a moment's attention to the importunate child; but even his patience was fruitless. The boy spoke only his native Italian, with the exception of a few of the very commonest words of French. The captain's acquaintance with languages was noon a level with that of many other honest voyagers, who would scorn to permit their own dear English to be corrupted by the slightest disuse. Still the hoy was inexhorably persevering; and the captain, to save time, was obliged to take him to his friend the merchant

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who was proud of his talents as an interpreter, and delighted to carry on his correspondence with London, Hamburgh, and Leghorn, in the languages of their respective countries.

The mystery was speedily solved. The little Italian had followed the captain from the quay, where he had watched him giving the last orders to his men. He wanted to go to England.

"Psha! silly boy, what can he do in England? Does he mean to carry images, or exhibit monkeys?"

"He wants to find his father."

The poor child rapidly told his story. His father had been compelled, by the distractions of Italy, having taken an active part in the ill-judged Neapolitan insurrection, to fly from his native shores. He had left Julian, his only child, with a sister residing at Palermo. His relative was dead; he had no one to protect him; he had perhaps money enough to pay his passage to England; he was determined to seek his father.

"But what will the poor boy do when he gets to London? He will starve."

The doubt was communicated; but the anxious Julian exultingly produced twenty ducats, with which he proposed to pay his passage, and to maintain himself after his arrival.

The Englishman laughed; but the gesticulations of the boy were irresistible. The merchant made interest to procure for him a passport without delay. A handsome poodle, which the sailor had not before observed, was leaping upon the boy, who seemed anxious to communicate to the dog a decision which had caused him so much gladness.

"He does not mean to take that confounded cur with him?" said the sailor.

The interpreter remonstrated; but the boy was firm. His dog had wandered with him along the coast; had shared with him his scanty food and his leafy bed. He could not part with his dog; it was his dear father's favourite. The last appeal subdued the captain; and Julian and his dog were soon under weigh.

The young adventurer performed his voyage with. out any great perils. He found himself, after six weeks, in the streets of London, with his twenty ducats still in his pocket, for the good-natured captain gave him his passage; but he was without the slightest knowledge of any human being in the wide city; without the least clue to his father's address, for he had forgotten how the letters to his aunt were dated; and without any chance of procuring a subsistence when his little money was expended. But his object was to find his father, and to that purpose he devoted himself with such an enthusiasm as nothing but deep affection can supply. He wandered up and down the crowded streets; he lingered about the doors of hotels and coffee houses ; he even ventured to pronounce the name of the Marquis de , but all in vain. The wilderness of London was ever shifting its appearances, though ever the same. He was lost in wonder and perplexity, but he did not despair.

At the end of three months the unfortunate Julian was without a shilling. He had met with boys of Italy, but they were low and profligate vagabonds, and they drove him from their company as much as he shnuned them. He perceived that there were irregular modes of obtaining subsistence in London. He went into the parks and attracted the attention of the idlers there with his faithful dog. Numberless were the tricks that Pedro could execute; and they were of infinite use to poor Julian in his extremity. The little wanderer soon became comparatively rich. He observed that the English were fond of street music. One evening he ventured to sing, in a bye-court, a song of Italy. The attempt succeeded. His means thus increased. He was invited to join an itinerant party that compelled a subsistence out of the musical barbarism of England. For some months he led a vagabond life with his companions; but Julian was a boy of real taste, and he despised their filthy and pilfering habits. He hated also the hurdy-gurdy, upon which he learnt to play; but he was instructed that the English are fond of that delicious instrument, and it became the constant companion of his wanderings.

Two years had passed in this wretched state of existence. Julian was growing beyond childhood; he was ashamed of his occupation, but he could not starve; and the thought that he might meet his father supported him.

The wandering pair, Julian and his dog Pedro, had one day been exhibiting their choicest performances at the door of a cottage. The master sung his merriest airs, and the dog balanced a stick with wonderful agility. They were invited within the walls, for the children had possession of the premises. Julian was weary, and had sat down, while four happy urchins were delighting themselves with the tricks of poor Pedro. Very uproarious was the joy; when in an instant the little company was alarmed by the voice of a gentleman up stairs—the lodger in one bed room.

With a step of authority, the interrupter of mirth descended. He was a thin, pale personage, in very shabby black; and his domicile was established at this humble cottage, in a suburb of London, as he had the honour to teach Italian, at four guineas per annum each, to six delightful pupils, at the "Brunswick House Establishment for Young Ladies." He reproved the children in very broken English. Julian discovered a countryman—the sagacious poodle recognised a nearer acquaintance. In an instant the dog ceased his tricks and was at the feet of the gentleman in black. Julian blushed—then grew white—then stared—then rose from his seat—and at the moment when the well known voice exclaimed to the faithful dog, "Porerino! Poverino!" the boy sighed out, "Mio Padre!" and was in his father's arms.

The Marquis de ——— has trebled the number of his pupils, and is very contented with an income of seventy pounds *per annum*. Julian has cultivated his musical taste; and it is not unlikely that, in the ensuing winter, he may obtain an engagement in the orchestra of one of the minor theatres—*Friendship's Offering.* 

#### JOHN WALL CALLCOTT

WAS born at Kensington Gravel-pits, on the 20th November, 1766. He was placed under the care of Mr. WILLIAM YOUNG, where his progress was considerable for his age. At twelve years old, when he was removed from school, he had read much of Ovid, the greater part of Virgil, and had begun the study of the Greek Testament. From this early period his acquirements, which were very great, were the fruits of his own industry.

His attention was addressed to music at the period of his leaving school (1778), when he obtained an introduction to the organist of Kensington, and began to practice upon a spinnet, which his father bought for him. About the year 1782, he often attended the service at the Abbey and the Chapel

Royal, and made some acquaintance with several of the heads of the profession. In this year he was also appointed assistant organist at St. George the Martyr, Queen's Square, Holborn, by Mr. REINHOLD. He nearly at the same time, through the kindness of Dr. COOKE, obtained admission to the orchestra of the Academy of Ancient Music, and he sung in the chorusses of the oratorios of Drury Lane Theatre during 1783, 1784, and 1785.

In the first of these years he began to bestow some attention upon the principles of vocal composition, and he finished his first glee to the words of GRAY'S ode, "O sovereign of the willing soul;" printed in WARREN'S 23d collection. From this period he continued to improve in vocal harmony. During the year 1784, he had the pleasure to attend the commemoration of HANNEL in Westminster Abbey. In the following year he gained three prize-medals given by the Catch-club, and took his bachelor's degree at Oxford, on the invitation of Dr. HAYES. His exercise on the occasion was upon WARTON'S ode to Fancy. In 1786 he hore off two medals, at the Catch club, and succeeded to several valuable engagements in teaching, through the interest of Dr. ARNOLD, by whom his glee, "When Arthur first in court began," was introduced among the music of "The Battle of Hexham." In 1787, he gained two more medals at the Catch-club. In 1788 he did not write for the prizes, though he still employed all his leisure in the study of composition for voices. In 1789 he again became a caudidate for the medals, and had the good fortune (the concomitant of his uncommon abilities), to gain all four; a circumstance which never occurred before nor since. He was elected organist of Covent Garden Church in 1789. The election was, however, strongly contested, and the husiness terminated by a proposal, on the part of Mr. CALLCOTT, to divide the situation with his opponent, Mr. CHARLES EVANS. In 1790 the celebrated HAYDN arrived in London. Mr. C. was introduced to him by Mr. SALOMAN, and re-ceived some lessons from that emincnt musician. He accepted the office of organist to the Asylum for Female Orphans in 1792, which situation he retained till 1803, when he resigned it in favour of Mr. HORSLEY, the present worthy incumbent, afterwards his son-in-law. In 1800 he took his degree of Doctor in Music, in company with Mr. CLEMENT SMITH, of Richmond. Mr. HORSLEY, at the same time, took the degree of Bachelor. Dr. CALLCOTT first conceived the design of composing a Musical Dictionary in 1797, and he persevered in it for some years after; hut finding that such a work would interfere too much with his business as a teacher, he laid it aside till some future period of leisure and advantage, and in 1804 and 1805, employed himself in writing the "Musical Grammar," one of the most popular works in our language.

The Grammar was first published by BIRCHALL in 1806. In the following year his various pursuits and incessant application, brought on a nervous complaint, which compelled him to retire altogether from business, and it was not till 1813 that his family and friends again had the happiness of seeing him among them. He remained well till the autumn of 1816, at which time symptoms of his former indisposition again appeared.

From this period his professional avocations were wholly suspended, and on the 5th May, 1821, he ceased to feel all further affliction. He was interred at Kensington on the 23d of the same month.

The basis of Dr. CALLCOTT's fame rests upon his

glees, but he has written some songs that are unequalled in point of legitimate expression, and which, as we esteem them, are models for the formation of a fine English style. Such a one is his "Angel of Life." His glees certainly place him among the very foremost of those who have cultivated that species of composition.

No man was ever more deservedly loved than Dr. CALLCOTT, for the gentleness and benignity of his disposition, nor more highly respected for the extent of his various attainments in language, literature and in science.—Musical Quarterly Review.

## EMINENT COMPOSERS

# WHO BEGAN THEIR MUSICAL STUDIES WITH THE VIOLIN.

As the finest artificial medium for the conveyance of *expression*, the Violin has wooed and won to its converse some of the highest of musical geniuses.

MOZART, whose mastery over expression I cann it but consider (if I may refer to my own humble opioion) to have constituted him the greatest of all musical beings, living or departed, had a very early affection for the instrument, which his little fingers clasped with cestacy hefore they could stretch themselves over the full extent of the miniature fiddle which they held. On this, while his elder companions indulged his infantine humour hy carrying his playthings in procession from room to room, he would play a march as he went; and he soon made such progress in self-tuition as to astonish Wenzl, the famous violinist, by the mode in which he worked through, first the second, and then the third part, in three trios, which Wenzl, accompanied by M. Schachtner, had chanced to bring for a trial to the house of Mozart perc.

HANDEL, whose loity, but less tender and persuasive powers, have gained him many votes for the first place in the musical scale, and who certainly can yield only to Mozart, if to any competitor, was likewise a votary of the Violin, on which he used to play before he was twenty years old; and was content, according to the testimony of his friend Mattheson, to exercise himself as a *ripicno* in the opera at Hamburgh.

HAYDN, the prime mover of the grand revolution in instrumental music, and himself the third great marvel of the musical sphere, was an early cultivator of that instrument, whose province and domin. ion he afterwards so gloriously extended.

PERGOLESI's first and principal instrument (observed Dr. Burney) was the violin, which was urged against him by envious rivals, as a proof that he was unable to compose for voices. If this objection was ever in force, with reasonable and candid judges, it must have been much enfeebled, not only by the success of Pergolesi in vocal compositions, but by that of SACCHINI, whose principal study and practice, during youth, were likewise bestowed on the Violin.

STRADILLA, a name dear to romantic memorics, had, for one of his accomplishments, au eminence on this instrument.

NAUMANN, whose genius, struggling with adversity, has been so touchingly described by the pen of Gerber, was helped forward by his love of this instrument, and by the generous aid of the gentlehearted Tartini, towards that career in which he afterwards shone. WINTER, the great German composer, fledged the wings of his seraphic soul on the Violin, and was admitted into the orchestra at Manheim at the age of ten, having been previously instructed by William Cramer.

JOHN CRAMER, the son of this last professor, and the glory of pianists, hegan the Violin at four. In this instance, however, it must be admitted that paternal prescription, rather than individual preference, was the apparent motive; yet he did, at that tender age, make his essays on the instrument —and that too, by the bye, where all beginners should—in the attic.

HUMMEL affords another four-ycar-old example. He took it up under his father's tuition, although, as his biographer in the *Harmonicon* has observed, rather simply, (considering the time of trial) "without much success."

MORLACCHI, the composer, commenced his vcrsatile career of music with the same instrument, at the age of seven.

FERDINAND REIS handled the fiddle when about thirteen.

Our own DR. ARNE was an early student of it clam patre, under the advantage of instruction from Michael Festing; and the future writer of Artaxerxes moved the astonished indignation, and then the convinced compliance, of his parent, who chanced to find him playing first fiddle at a musical soirea. The fiddle it was that rescued him from the thraldom of the law, his previous destination; and he was some years afterwards leader of the orchestra at Drury Lane Theatre.

WILLIAM SHIELD, the English composer, began When to practise the Violin at six years of age. for the future means of his subsistence he had the choice proposed to his boyish judgment, of becoming a barber, a sailor, or a boat-builder, and fixed on the latter, he did not forget, while packing up his clothes to enter on that career, his Violin, and the little stock of music left him by his father. His master, however, kindly allowed to his talent its natural bent, and his boat-building ceased with his apprenticeship. He was soon enabled to lead the Newcastle Subscription Concerts, where he played the solo parts in Geminiani's and Giardini's concertos. Coming to London afterwards, and being encouraged by Giardini, he took his station among the second violins at the King's Theatre; and in the next season, under Cramer, the new leader was promoted to be principal viola, which post he held for more than eighteeen ycars. As a composer his genius was for melody-no wonder that he cultivated the violin.

STORACE, whose spirit, in like manner, was steeped in melody, showed a similar predilection, and found delight in playing the solos of Tartini and Giardini, hefore he had completed eleven years of his life.— Dubaurg on the Violin.

#### QUADRILLE ACCOMPANIMENTS.

ALTHOUGH in their orchestral accompaniments the French are acknowledged to be the most distinguished, every one who has heard their instrumentalists in the French and Italian operas at Paris, speak in the highest terms of praise of the polished style and subdued manner with which they wait upon the voices in accompaniment; yet this is the result of modern education and refinement, and not of natural predisposition. The French really love *noise*—and for its own sake. Their music is usually

loud-their conversation is loud. Eclat is their term (and an expressive one it is) for any boisterous impression produced. In praising a singer we have heard them make the distinguishing excellence consist in power:-"Mais, en effet, mon Dieu! elle a une voix à casser les fenêtres." "Monsicur, il chante comme un ange; il fait un bruit à élever le toit.' ["But, in effect, she has a voice that will break the windows." "Sir, he sings like an angel; he makes noise sufficient to lift the roof."] Even in their quadrille parties the dancing is not a sufficient excitementthey must have some ungenial and extravagant noise. The following notice of the dancing at the Jardin-Turc appears to us an amusing picture of their love of *eclat*:--"Hitherto Mons. Musard has had a competitor; he now possesses a rival, in the person of Mons. Julien, chief of the orchestra at the Whereas the former contrived to Jardin-Turc. smash the chairs, to fire off pistols, &c., for the purpose of giving eclat to his quadrilles, his praiseworthy ingenuity has been overwhelmed by his antagonist. Mons. Julien conceived the happy idea of setting fire to the four quarters of the garden, in the midst of which is heard the discharge of musquetry and the clanging of alarm bells, all which is ground-ed noon the motivi of the Huguenots! We are ed npon the motivi of the Huguenots! We are curious to know how, during the winter season, they will be able to perform the finale to this new quadrille of Mons. Julien in the salons." Why, they must have gongs, coppersmiths, and howitzers, and set fire to the house, or their dance will be as dead as ditch-water. Another quadrille, entitled, "St. Hubert" (who was the patron saint of hunters), is accompanied by a chorns of fellows barking like hounds, to the scandal of the canine neighbourhood. The Fête de l'àne quadrille would form a pleasing variety in these beastly imitations. The people are at their wit's end for some outrageous excitement. They rush on from novelty to novelty. Whatever is a month old is voted "deja vieux" [already morn out], and to be kicked on one side. They are a many-headed Sardanapalus."-Musical World.

#### CONSCIENCE.

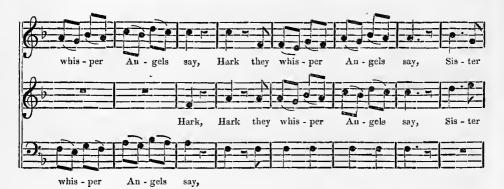
#### BY THE REV. GEORGE CROLY.

WHERE is the king, with all his purple pomp--Where is the warrior plumed--the ermined judge, With all his insolent pleaders--where the sage--Where all the wise, powerful, fearful, frowning things, That can, for all their frowning, send an eye An inch within my bosom?

There's my rock, My castle, my sealed fountain, sacred court, That shuts man out. There holy Conscience sits, Judging more keenly than the ermined judge, Smiting more deeply than the warrior's sword— More mighty than the sceptre. There my deeds, My hopes, fears, vanities, wild follies, shames, Are all arraigned. So, Heaven, be merciful!

The man acquitted at the fearful bar Holds the first prize the round world has to give: 'Tis like heaven's sunshine—priceless. For all else The praise of others is as virgin gold, Earth's richest offering; to be sought with pain, Yet not be pined for; worthy of all search, But not of sorrow—as th'inferior prize; Not as our breath of breath, our life of life, The flowing river of our inward peace, The noble confidence, that bids man look His fellow-man i'the face, and be the thing— Fearless and upward-eyed—that God has made hlm. THE DYING CHRISTIAN. ARRANGED FOR THREE VOICES.











MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.





'TWAS MERRY IN THE HALL.



The beards wagg'd all-

May we all see the like again.

The beards wagg'd all-

We shall ne'er see the like again.

No. 26.

.

## THE ST. GEORGE.

It stood in the artist's studio; all Florence came to look at it; all examined it with curiosity; all admired it with eagerness; all pronounced it the capo d' opera of DONATELLO. The whole town were in raptures, and lovely ladies, as they bent from their carriages to answer the salutes of the Princes and Dukes, instead of the common-place frivolities of fashion, said, " Have you seen the new statue by DONATELLO?'

Is there an art like that of sculpture? Painting is a brilliant illusion-a lovely cheat. Sculpture, while it represents a reality, is itself a reality. The pencil pours its fervid hues upon perishable canvass, and they fade with the passing air; but the chisel works in eternal marble-strikes out a creation im. mortal as the globe, and beautiful as the soul.

"I told thee, DONATELLO," said Lorenzo, "thou would'st excel all thy rivals!"

"Fling by thy chisel now," cried another, "thou caust add nothing to that."

"I shall cease, hereafter, my devotion to the antique," cried a third.

"The power of PHIDIAS," exclaimed one. "The execution of PRAXITELES !" said another.

"You will draw votaries from VENUS," whispered a soft Italian girl, as she turned her melting eyes on the old man.

"The Apollo will hereafter draw his how unheeded," cried an artist, whom many thought the best of his day.

Among the crowds who flocked to the studio of DONATELLO, there was a youth who had given some promise of excellence. Many said that, with intense study, he might one day make his name heard peyond the Alps; and some went so far as to hint that in time he might tread close on the heels even of DONATELLO himself, but these were sanguine men, and great friends of the young man; besides, they spoke at random. They called this student MICHAEL ANGELO.

He had stood a long time regarding it with fixed eyes and folded arms. He walked from one position to another, measured it with his keen glances from head to foot, regarded it before, behind, and studied its proliles from various points. The venerable DONATELLO saw him, and awaited his long and absorbed examination with the flattered pride of an artist and the affectionate indulgence of a father. At length MICHAEL ANGELO stopped once more before it, inhaled a long breath, and broke the profound silence. "It wants only one thing," muttered

the gifted boy. "Tell me," cried the successful artist, "what it This is the first censure which my St. wants. George has elicited. Can I improve? Can I alter? Is it in the clay or the marble? 'Tell me!"

But the critic had disappeared.

DONATELLO knew the mighty genius of MICHAEL ANGELO. He had beheld the flashes of the sacred fire, and watched the development of the "God within him."

"Diablo!" cried the old man, "MICHAEL ANGELO gone to Rome, and not a word of advice about my statue! The scape grace! but I shall see him again, or, by the mass, I will follow him to the eternal city. His opinion is worth that of all the

world! But one thing!" He looked at it againhe listened to the murmurs of applause which it drew from all who beheld it—a placid smile settled on his face. "But one thing!—what can it be?"

Years rolled by. MICHAEL ANGELO remained at Rome, or made excursions to other places, but had not vet returned to Florence. Wherever he had been, men regarded him as a comet-something fiery, terrible, tremendous, sublime. His fame spread over the globe; what his chisel touched it hallowed. He spurned the dull clay, and struck his vast and intensely brilliant conceptions at once from the marble. MICHAEL ANGELO was a name to worship-a spell in the arts-an honour to Italy -to the world. What he praised, lived; what he condemned, perished.

As DONATELLO grew old, his anxiety grew more powerful to know what the inspired eyes of the wonderful artist had detected in his great statue.

At length the immortal Florentine turned his eves to his native republic, and, as he reached the summit of the hill which rises on the side of Porta Romana, he beheld the magnificent and glorious dome, and Campanile, shining in the soft golden radiance of the setting sun, with the broad topped tower of the Palazzo Vecchio lifted in the yellow light, even as this day it stands.

Ah, death! can no worth ward thee? Must the inspired artist's eyes be dark, his hand motionless, his heart still, and his inventive brain as dull as the clay he models? Yes! DONATELLO lies stretched on his last couch, and the light of life passing from his eyes; yet even in that awful hour his thoughts ran on the wishes of his past years, and he sent for the Florentine artist.

His friend came instantly.

"I am going, MICHAEL, my chisel is idle, my vision is dim, but I feel thy hand, my noble boy, and I hear thy kind breast sob. I glory in thy renown; I predicted it, and I bless my Creator that I have lived to see it; but before I sink into the tomb, I charge thee, on thy friendship, on thy religion, answer my question truly.

"As I am a man, I will."

"Then tell me, without equivocation, what it is that my St. George wants?

"THE GIFT OF SPEECH!" was the reply.

A gleam of sunshine fell across the old man's ce. The smile lingered on his lips long alter he face. lay cold as the marble upon which he had so often stamped the conceptions of his genius.

The statue remains the admiration of posterity, and adorns the exterior of the Chiesa d'or San Micheles—Scottish Annual.

# ALEXANDER AT PARADISE.

'Twas a soft and sunny land

To which the conqueror came,

Though now the place of that radiant strand Is a blank in the chart of Fame.

"Twas far in the Indian regions, lone, The delicious land he found;

O, when shall there be, of its brightness thrown A glimpse upon earthly ground.

It passed Alexander's eyes before,

Like a beautiful dream, it is now no more.

He came to an unknown stream, And he traced its banks along; It roll'd with an all uncarthly gleam, And a murmur more sweet than song. The flowers of this world were round, But in more than earthly bloom; The bird's lay mix'd with the river's sound, But they waved a brighter plume And they sung in a voice more melting there Than ever was heard but in that sweet air. "Twas seldom peace came o'er A breast to the war field given; He fled to muse o'er the battle's roar, And the steed o'er the dying driven ; Yet the lone and lovely scene Flung over his heart its calm; His eye was mild and his brow serene, As if some mysterious balm Had been sprinkled over his stormy soul, And bidden its war wave cease to roll. A moment there he stood No more ambition's slave ; Entrane'd by the sound of the warbling flood, And the light of its shining wave. At length, by his wondering train. The voice of the King was heard, But so chang'd its tone that they wished again To dwell on each silver word "We will trace this mystic stream to its birth, If it be indeed a river of earth !" Against its course they stray'd Through meads of fairest bloom, While the breeze o'er the fairy stream that play'd Drew from it a strange perfume. Swans whiter than ever were seen, Their wings to the wave unfurled, Or sung, from their bowers on the islets green, Songs meet for a fairer world ; The Lotus in unknown lustre blew, And the rose seem'd starr'd with Elysian dew. The scene, at each step they took, Still became more wond'rous fair ; Oh! at that bright stream, a single look Were enough to heal despair. At length they saw where a river div'd 'Neath (of gems) a lustrous wall, And the King at a gate arrived, Wrought of a burning diamond all; Trees within, unnamed in mortal bowers, Droop'd under the weight of their splendid flowers. The eager King struck long At the radiant gate, in vain; But at length, from within, a voice of song Replied to his call again. "Who has traced the sacred spring, Who knocks at the blissful gates?" "Alexander, the King of the wide world's Kings, Too long for an entrance waits! "Too long-proud Spoiler, return thee home, No blood-stain'd feet in these pure bowers roam." "And who will dare refuse What the Victor of earth demands?" "He is ONE, thou man of blood, whose dues Must be paid by holier hands; In whose eye thou art a worm; In whose scale thou art but dust; Who gave thee that mind, and power, and form, Which have been too much thy trust;

Retire from these walls with thy guilty swords, This Paradise is THE ALMIGHTY LORD'S!"

- To press for an entrance more,
- Yet it was with grief and pain
- That he left the diamond door; But scarce had his steps been turned,
- When open the bright gate flew,
- And a form in whose eye the immortal beamed, Before him a veiled gift threw;
- "Let this," said he, "a token be,
- Thou hast stood so near the Paradise Tree!"
- The conqueror reach'd the camp, Of the strange adventure full;
- But how did the gift his warm hopes damp-'Twas the fragment of a skull.
- "Is this my prize, was it but for this
- That I stood at the rainbow wall, That I heard upon the winds of bliss
- The musical life-streams fall?
- What this may mean it were vain to try,
- Unless the giver himself were nigh."
- Just as the word he spoke
- An old man enter'd there, His strength by the weight of years was broke,
- And in silver flow'd his hair. Yet his brow, though pale, was high;
- His form, though frail, was grand; And the light of youth yet flash'd in his eye,
- Though the staff was in his hand. He passed through the midst of the courtly ring, And in calm sweet words addressed the King.
- " Lord King, the Almighty's gift
- Has that which passeth show, Though light enough for a babe to lift,
- It out weighs all the gold below. Let the balance straight be brought.
- And the gold of thy rich stores laid Against it; all will be as nought
- With that light fragment weigh'd."
- The treasures were brought, and in heaps uproll'd, But the bone weighed down the conqueror's gold.
- "I see thee, Prince, amazed
  - At the marvel I have shown,
- But know, that the more the pile is raised The more will the gift sink down.
- Dost thou ask me how or why?
- I am come to answer all:
- That bone is the cell of a human eyc, And it once contained a ball
- Whose thirst of gold nought ever could slake
- Though the seahad been changed to a golden lake."
- "Can there nought," said the musing King, "To sink the rich scale be found?"
- The old man stepped from the tent to bring A turf from the broken ground.
- He crumbled the carth on the bone,
- Down sunk the golden scale: "Behold, Proud Prince, the moral shown
- Of thine and of every tale.
- When the dust of the grave shall seal it o'er
- The insatiate eye can desire no more!"
- "My guards," Alexander cried,
- "Dare the dotard brave me here." With an eye of death the seer he eyed,
- But it soon was sunk in fear.
- The snows of earthly age Became locks of starry prime;
- The form and face of the stranger sage Wore a glory unknown to time:
- And they who had seen the bright gates expand
- Remember'd the guard of the Paradise land.

Alexander felt it vain

# THE BRITISH MINSTREL; AND

"FAREWELL, PROUD PRINCE," he said, And his voice like music rung. [REPAID "FAREWELL, PROUD PRINCE, THOU HAST ILL THE LORE OF A SERAPH'S TONGUE. FAREWELL, FOREVER!" And bright His rainbow wings unfold, And the radiant form is lost to sight In a cloud of purple and gold. Ere a pulse could beat was the bright one gone,

And behind was left but the gift alone. CREDITON

Monthly Repository.

#### AUTUMN.

There is a fearful spirit busy now. Already have the elements unfurled Their banners: the great sea-wave is upeurled: The cloud comes: the fierce winds begin to blow About, and blindly on their errands go: And quickly will the pale red leaves be hurled From their dry boughs, and all the forest world Stripped of its pride, be like a desert show.

I love that moaning music which I hear In the bleak gusts of autumn, for the soul

Seems gathering tidings from another sphere, And, in sublime mysterious sympathy,

Man's bounding spirit ebbs and swells more high, Accordant to the billow's loftier roll.

-Literary Pocket Book.

Power of Music.—Claude Le Jeune, when at a wedding of the Due de Joyeuse, in 1581, caused a spirited air to be sung, which so animated a gentleman present that he clapped his hand upon his sword and said it was impossible for him to refrain from fighting with the first person he met. Upon this, Le Jeune caused another air to be performed, of a more southing kind, which soon restored him to his natural good humor.

# WHEN SABLE NIGHT.



MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.





MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.



# DEIL TAK THE WARS.

I am out of temper that you should set so sweet, so tender an air, as "Deil tak the Wars," to the foolish old verses [Fy on the Wars]. You talk of the silliness of "Saw ye my Father:" by heavens, the olds is, gold to brass! Besides, the old song, though now pretty well modernized into the Scottish hunguage, is originally, and in the early editions, a bungling low initation of the Scottish manner, by that genius Tom D'Urfey; so has no pretensions to be a Scottish production. There is a pretty English song by Sheridan, in the "Duenna," to this air, which is out of sight superior to D'Urfey's. It begins—

"When sable night each drooping plant restoring." The air, if I understand the expression of it properly,

is the very native language of simplicity, tenderness, and love. I have again gone over my song to the tune, as follows:—

#### THE LOVER'S MORNING SALUTE TO HIS MISTRESS.

Sleep'st thou, or wak'st thou, fairest creature! Rosy morn now lifts his eye, Numbering ilka bud which nature Waters wi' the tears o' joy : Now through the leafy woods, And by the reeking floods, Wild nature's tenants freely, gladly stray ; The lintwhite in his bower Chants o'er the breathing flower: The lav'rock to the sky Ascends wi' sangs o' joy, While the sun and thou arise to bless the day. Pheebus gilding the brow o' morning, Banishes ilk darksome shade, Nature gladdening and adorning; Such to me my lovely maid. When absent frac my fair, The murky shades o' care With starless gloom o'creast my sullen sky; But when, in beauty's light, She meets my ravish'd sight, When thro' my very heart Her beaming glories dart-"Tis then I wake to life, to light, and joy. -Burns's Letters to Thomson.

# HOW A CORRECT TASTE IN MUSIC MAY BE ACQUIRED.

PEANAPS the process by which taste is originally formed may be rendered more intelligible by considering how any one acquires what is called a perfeet musical car. Suppose a concerto of Mozart or of Corelli to be performed, some natural sensibility to the beauty of innsical sounds being supposed (as it is found in fact to exist in a great majority of instances), the general impression which is made upon the hearer will be gratifying. But upon a single experiment probably no person, entirely unpractised in music, could say more than that he had received on the whole considerable pleasure. Suppose the same piece to be frequently repeated, he will perceive that he receives different degrees of pleasure, and pleasures also of different kinds, from distinct parts of the piece. Let the same person hear a great variety of other musical compositions, and if he is vigilant in observing his impressions, and compares the parts of the several pieces which afford him the greatest or the least gratification, he will gradually acquire considerable correctness and delicacy in perceiving the excellencies and the blemishes of the various passages to which he listens. Then comes the musical philosopher (RAMEAU would doubtless elaim this dignity for his favourite science), and explains many of the causes of these perceptions which the amateur has experienced. He tells him that in such a part his car was offended by the introduction of too many discords into the harmony; that in another it was wearied by too monotonous a system of concords; that here the cadences are finely managed, explaining the principles; there the transition into a different key is too sudden, and he talks to him about sharp sevenths and fundamental basses. If the amateur has the fortune to have a tolerable head as well as ear, he understands a good deal of what is taught him, and finds that by the help of his new knowledge the experiments which he makes are much more profitable than they had been; that is, he observes many slight impressions which had before escaped him, and has a more perfect knowledge of those which he had already noticed. His judgment also receives great assist-

ance from the opinions which he hears from others who have made a progress in his art, and from the rules adopted or favoured by the most celebrated masters; and by degrees, with nothing hut an ordinarily good ear and plain understanding to begin with, may any person become a very skilful connoisseur in every species of composition, and acquire so critical a nicety in his perception of sounds as to be able to detect a single false note in the midst of the process by which taste is acquired in any of the sister arts certainly is not very different. If the account which has been given of the manner in which our taste is formed, be tolerably correct, it follows that justness and comprehension of understanding are more indispensably requisite for the enjoyment of that power in great perfection, than a superior delicacy in our original perceptions.

J. BOWDLER, Jun.

# DAUGHTER OF COLLEY CIBBER.

It is well known that Colley Cibber had a daughter named Charlotte, who, like him, took to the stage; her subsequent life was one continued series of misfortune, alliction, and distress, which she sometimes contrived a little to alleviate by the productions of her pen. About the year 1755 she had worked up a novel for the press, which the writer of this anecdote accompanied his friend, the bookseller, to hear read; she was at this time a widow, having been married to one Clarke, a musician, long since dead. Her habitation was a wretched thatched hovel, situated on the way to Islington, in the purlieus of Clerkenwell Bridewell, not very distant from the New River Head, where, at that time, it was usual for the scavengers to leave the cleanings of the streets, and the priests of Cloucina to deposit the offerings from the temples of that all-worshipped power. The night preceding, a heavy rain had fallen, which rendered this extraordinary seat of the muses almost inaccessible, so that in our approach we got our white stockings enveloped with mud up to the very calves, which furnished an appearance much in the present fashionable style of We knocked at the door (not attempt. half-boots, ing to pull the latch-string), which was opened by a tall, meagre, ragged figure, with a blue apron, indicating, what else we might have doubted, the feminine gender; a perfect model for the copper captain's tattered laudlady, that deplorable exhibition of the fair sex, in the comedy of "Rule a wife." She, with a torpid voice and bungry smile, desired us to walk in. The first object that presented itself was a dresser, clean, it must be confessed, and furnished with three or four coarse delf plates, two brown platters, and underneath an earthen pipkin, and a black pitcher with a snip out of it. To the right we perceived and bowed to the mistress of the mansion, sitting on a maimed chair under the mantle-piece by a fire merely sufficient to put us in mind of starving. On one hob sat a monkey, which, by way of welcome, chattered at our going in; on the other a tabby cat of melancholy aspect; and, at our author's feet, on the flounce of her dingy petticoat, reclined a dog, almost a skeleton ; he raised his shaggy head, and eagerly staring with his hleared eyes, saluted us with a snarl. "Have done, Fidele! these are friends." The tone of her voice was not harsh; it had something in it humbled and disconsolate; a mingled effort of authority and pleasure. Poor |

soul! few were her visitors of that description-no wonder the creature barked! A magpie perched on the top ring of her chair, not an uncomely ornament; and on her lap was placed a mutilated pair of bellows-the pipe was gone-an advantage in their present office; they served as a succedaneum for a writing desk, on which lay displayed her hopes and treasure, the manuscript of her novel. Her inkstand was a broken tea-cup, the pen worn to a stump, she had but one! A rough deal board with three hobbling supporters was brought for our convenience, on which, without farther ceremony, we contrived to sit down and enter upon business. The work was read, remarks made, alterations agreed to, and thirty guineas demanded for the copy. The squalid handmaiden, who had been an attentive listener, stretched forward her tawny length of neck with an eye of anxious expectation. The bookseller offered five! Our authoress did not appear hurt, disappointment had rendered her mind callous; however, some altercation ensued. This was the writer's first initiation into the mysteries of bibliopolism and the state of authorcraft. He, seeing both sides pertinacious, at length interposed, and at his instance the wary haberdasher of literature doubled his first proposal, with this saving proviso, that his friend present would pay a moiety and run one-half the risk, which was agreed to. Thus matters were ac-commodated, seemingly to the satisfaction of all parties; the lady's original stipulation of fifty copies for herself being previously acceded to. Such is the story of the once admired daughter of Colley Cibber, poet laureate and patentee of Drury-lane, who was born in affluence and educated with care and tenderness; her servants in livery, and a splendid equipage at her command, with swarms of timeserving sycophants officiously buzzing in her train; yet unmindful of her advantages, and improvident in her pursuits, she finished the career of her miserable existence on a dunghill.

The account given of this unfortunate woman is literally correct in every particular, of which, except the circumstances of her death, the writer of this anecdote was an eye-witness.

## SONNET TO THE MOON.

With how sad steps, O Moone, thou climb'st the skies! How silently, and with how wan a face!

- What! may it be, that ev'n in heavenly place That busic archer his sharpe arrow tries? Sure, if that long-with love-acquainted eyes
- Can judge of love, thou feel'st a lover's case;
- I reade it in thy lookes, thy languish't grace To me, that feel the like, thy state descries.
- Then, even of fellowship, O Moone, tell me, Is constant love deemed there but want of wit?
- Are beauties there as proud as here they be? Do they above love to be loved, and yet
- Those lovers scorne, whom that love did possess? Do they call virtue there ungratefulness?

-Sir Philip Sidney, nat. 29th Nov., 1554, at Penhurst, in Kent, ob. at Zutphen, 22d Sept., 1586.

HESSE CASSEL v. BABVLON.—The Elector of Hesse Cassel—magnanimous potentate!—would not suffer SPOUR to visit Norwich to preside at the performance of his Fall of Babylon. The Elector has, with proper spirit, followed up this measure with a decree that, upon pain of death, no nightingale is to listen to its own music within his vast dominions.— Punch.

# MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.

THE WIDOW'S WAIL.



The owlet hooted sair yestreen, And thrice the soot it fell, dear Willy; The tyke cam late, and howl'd alond, It seem'd the dying knell o' Willy. Deep were the snaws, keen were my waes, The bairns oft cried for thee, their Willy, I trembling said, he'll soon be here, The wee things ne'er clos'd e'e, for Willy.

And when I saw the thick sleet fa', A hleezing fire I made for Willy; Then watch'd and watch'd, as it grew dark, And I grew mair afraid for Willy. I thought I heard the pony's foot, And ran thy voice to hear, ah Willy; The wind blew hollow, but nae sound My sinking heart did cheer, O Willy. No. 27. The clock struck ane, the clock struck twa, The clock struck three and four, no Willy; I thought I heard the pony's foot, And flew to ope the door to Willy. The pony neigh'd, but thou wert lost I I sank upon the snaw, for Willy; Thy wraith appear'd e'en where I lay, Aod whisper'd thou wert drown'd, O Willy I

The moon was up, in vain I sought, The stiffen'd corse o' thine, lost Willy, 'Twill soon, soon mingle wi' the dust, And near it sae will mine, O Willy. Gae dry your tears, my bairnies five, Gae dry your tears o' sorrow, dearies, Your father's cares are at an end, And sae will mine ere morrow, dearies.

## LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN.

# (Abridged from Tait's Magazine.)

More than thirteen years have now passed since the death of the great composer Beethoven; and until lately, beyond a few scanty notices, no attempt had been made to preserve a record of his remark-able existence. The memorials of men of genius are among the most precious of their legacies to the world: they give an additional value to the works by which they have become known; and in some cases furnish an interpretation, without which portions of these must ever remain enigmatical and obscure. This appears to have been, in no small degree, the case with Beethoven; in whom many other circumstances were united to attach a strong interest to the personal history of his career. He was the immediate successor and rival of the two great composers who had raised instrumental music in Germany to a point which it was thought could not be overstepped. While their fame was yet in its zenith, he had compelled their admirers to acknowledge in him the presence of another, and some thought a greater, power than theirs. Whether his boldness was admired or condemned, it was impossible to regard it with indifference; and as he con-tinued to pour forth work after work, each surpassing its predecessor in grandeur and originality, those who had disputed his pretensions became silent, or were no longer heard amidst the general acclamation. Before his career was closed, Vienna had learned to hoast of him as the third glory of an era already illustrated by the names of Haydn and Mozart.

Ludwig van Beethoven (whose family, as the name implies, came originally from Holland, although for three generations settled on the Rhine) was born at Bonn, on the 17th December, 1770. His father and grandfather were both musicians, and in the service of the Electors of Cologne: the latter as a bass singer and conductor, and the father, Johann van Beethoven, tenorist in the Prince's chapel. His mother is described as "a pious and gentle being;" His and he was wont to speak affectionately of "the patience with which she treated his stubbornness." The grandfather was a composer of some skill, and highly reputable in conduct : "a little vigorous man, with amazingly bright eyes;" and although he died three years alter Ludwig's birth, he was always remembered kindly by Beethoven. Not so the father, Johann van Beethoven, who was dissolute in his habits, and treated his son with great harshness, compelling him to labour unremittingly at the piano forte; not, as it appears, from any regard for the child's talent, but in order that he might soon become able, by his earnings, to contribute to the support of the household, impoverished by the father's loose and idle life. Ludwig had two brothers, both younger than himself-Carl and Johann, of whom mention will be made hereafter.

Such education as a free school in those days afforded, "reading, writing, and some little Latin," was granted to the child for a short time only—for his cares were destined to begin early; and, as music offered the only prospect of a maintenance, he was allowed to study little else. We find him, at a very early age, already giving musical lessons in the house of the Von Brenning's—a circumstance to which all the happiness he enjoyed, while he resided at home, was owing. Hither he fled from the miseries and severity of his own dwelling; the family, which was cultivated and highly respectable, hecame attached to the boy; his pupils grew into companions, and the mother, a widow, treated him like a parent, and alternately encouraged and controlled him, as the waywardness of his temper exhibited itself in despondency or recklessness.

We find many traces of this motherly kindness, which must have been invaluable to the neglected boy. Wegeler tells us that he had, from his earliest years, an excessive repugnance to giving lessons in music. Madame von Breuning would sometimes urge him to go to the house of the Austrian Emissary, Count von Westphal, and continue his lessons there. Thus counselled and observed, he would set out "ut *ixiguæ mentis asellus*," but many a time turnedaway at the very door, and running back to her, would promise to give a double lesson on the following day, protesting that now he could not bring himself to it. Nothing but care for his mother would have induced him to go on teaching—certainly not his own indigent condition.

The notices of his boyhood are scanty; but traits like the preceding, and others scattcred here and there, indicate an early development of the character which belonged to him through life. The interest he excited in others, and the control exercised by his few friends, prove how soon he began to display a genius which attracted, and a waywardness which required their care. It is hard to say how much of the latter was due to the wretchedness of his home: we are inclined to believe that the inequalities of disposition which beget, in after life, a resistance to social constraint, and provoke the hostility of the orderly and commonplace, are, in most cases, the fruit of some misfortune in the early history of the subject, and spring from a source of bitterness in childhood.

In music, at all events, Ludwig made rapid progress. His first instructor, indeed the only one from whom he can be said to have learned anything on the piano forte, was an ingenious man of the name of Pfeiffer. The organ he was taught to manage by Van der Eder, the court organist; and the elder Ries, a musician of great excellence, the father of Ferdinand Ries, who became afterwards Beethoven's most distinguished pupil, gave him instruction on the violin, an instrument on which, however, he never was very proficient. At a later period of his career, at Vienna, he learned composition under the celebrated Albrechtsherger, after having frequented, without any benefit, the tuition of Haydn. Whatever else he may have acquired by observation and self-discipline, the above appear to be the only names which can be properly cited as his teachers; and with none of these were his studies of long duration.

Through the influence of his excellent friends, the Von Breunings (to whom, indeed, he owed the most of his early culture in every respect), he obobtained the assistance of Count von Waldstein, a liberal patron of the arts; by whose means we find him in 1785-when barely fifteen years of agenominated by the Elector Max Franz, brother of the Emperor Joseph II., as supernumerary organ-ist in his chapel—an office honourable for so young a musician, but affording only a scanty emolument. The Count von Waldstein was indeed his kindest, as well as his earliest, patron. To him he owed the means of support while advancing in his profession, and subsequently his removal, from the narrow cares of his father's house, to Vienna. Perhaps, without this early and appreciating help, the genius of the youth, deprived of access to higher models of his art, and bowed down by ignorant

drudgery, might have wasted itself in the obscurity of his native town, and given no audible sign.

In this new situation, the youth took early occa-sion to display his talent, although in a manner sufficiently whimsical and characteristic. It is usual, in Catholic choirs, to sing during Passion-week, the Lamentations of Jeremiah. These consist, as every one knows, of short passages of four to six lines, which it was customary to ehant in a kind of plain song, yet with a certain observance of rhythm. The chant consisted of four successive notes, on one of which the singer was to pause, while the accom-panist (the organ being disused during Passionweek) executed a passage or voluntary on the harpsiehord. This service falling one day to Beethoven, he asked the singer Heller, who prided himself greatly on his science, if he might try to put him out? which he undertook so to do, that the singer should neither be able to detect him, nor to recover himself when once led astray. The challenge was accepted; and at a suitable place, by a cunning deviation from the proper key, still continuing to strike the true key-note, he completely puzzled the singer; who, after in vain trying to recover the key, was forced at last to come to a full stop, amidst the mirth of the bystanders in the choir. Heller was greatly incensed, and made a formal complaint to the elector; who reproved his young organist with good humour, and forbade him to execute any more strokes of genius of this kind.

We see that already, in this wilful eccentric fashion, the *genius* was beginning to make itself apparent.

He also began to compose; but his notions both of the theory and practice of the art were naturally confined. Some variations, which he had written on a theme of Righini's, gave rise to a remarkable instance of his rapid apprehension. He had as yet heard no eminent piano-forte player; he had no idea of refined expression in the use of his instrument-his style was rough and harsh. An exeursion with the orehestra of the elector to Archaffenberg, gave him an opportunity of hearing Sterkel, a celebrated performer of the time. His style was very fluent and delicate, and, as Father Ries dcscribed it, a little womanish. Beethoven stood at his side, listening with the keenest attention. Beethoven was then asked to play, which he deelined, until Sterkel intimated some doubt whether the composer of the variations above-named could himself execute them readily. Hereupon Beethoven sate down, and played not only these (as far as he could remember them, Sterkel having mislaid his copy) but added a number of others, fully as difficult; and, what amazed the bystanders, exactly in the same agreeable manner which he had just heard from Sterkel for the first time. This was a remarkable proof of his facility in acquiring new impressions.

He was still residing at Bonn when his mother died, in 1787; thus breaking the only tie which made home dear to him. At this period the pressure of extreme poverty was added to his distress; and he was thankful to receive, and never afterwards forgot, the kind assistance of Father Ries, who helped him to bear the expenses of his mother's burial. When Ferdinand Ries was sent to him at Vienna, thirtcen years afterwards, he was much busied with the completion of his Oratorio, *The Mount of Olives*, which was on the point of being brought out for his benefit in a grand concert. He read the letter of introduction, and said, "At this

moment I cannot answer your father, but write you to him, and say that I have not forgotten how it was when my mother died : that will content him."

The care he bestowed on his friend's son, hateful as the task of instruction was to him, proved how warmly this service was remembered. He was wont to revert to his years at Bonn as the happiest period of his existence, poor and laborious as they were, and troubled by the dissipation and rough nsage of his father. A melancholy life, truly, in which these were the most tranquil moments!

If not for his own happiness, however, it was at least fortunate for the world, that he was enabled, in 1786 and 1787, to visit Vienna, then the focus of all that was most excellent in German art; and, afterwards, in 1792, obtained from the elector leave of absence, and a small pension, for a permanent study of some years there, under Haydn. Mozart had died the year previously, hut in 1786 he had already prophesied, on hearing Beethoven improvise on a theme before him, "This is a youth who will make the world hear of him before long."

At no time was the general tone of musical eultivation, in Vienna, higher or more enthusiastic; and the youth had barely cast an eye on the manifold riches of art which it offered on all hands, when he vowed to himself, "Here will I abide, nor again return to Bonn, even were the elector to withdraw his support, and leave me penniless!"

From this period the progress of the young musician, from the condition of a student to the full development of his powers, and to entire self-dependence as a great and original artist, was rapid and decided. The immediate object of his removal to Vienna, which was to benefit by the instructions of Haydn, appears, however, to have failed, according to Schindler's account—

"Beethoven eame to Vienna wholly ignorant of the science of counterpoint, and knowing but little even of thorough-bass. With an active imagination, a quick ear, and a Pegasus ever willing, he wrote on courageously, caring little for grammatical rules. In this state he began to study with Haydn; the old master seemed to be always satisfied with his pupil, and let him do just as he liked, but the seholar was far from being equally well satisfied with his teacher; and thus it fell out. There was an old composer named Schenek, a friend of Beethoven's, a modest man and a profound musician. One day meeting Beethoven as he came with his bundle of musie from Haydn's lessons, he cast his eye over the exercises, and detected many faults which Haydn had suffered to pass unnoticed, although he had professed to correct the composition. This led to more examination, and to the discovery of similar oversights in all his former exercises; which aroused the suspicion of the pupil. In fact, it is difficult to account, in a satisfactory manner, for this neglect on Haydn's part. The lessons were soon after interrupted by Haydn's journey to England; nor were they resumed on his return. Beethoven was wont to say that he had learned nothing from him."

After this he studied composition under the celebrated Albrechtsberger, and soon acquired enough of the science to ueed no further assistance. It was, perhaps, a fortunate circumstance that he was not early subjected to rigorous scientific training; and he appears to have at all times maintained a certain independence of striet technical rules, which, in one of less original genius, might have been fatal, but was with him only a means to the production of new and daring beautics, and graces "beyond the reach of art." It is amusing to note the grand Titanic fashion in which, at a later period, he asserted this royal privilege over the elements of harmony. Ferdinand Ries, when walking with him one day, spoke of two consecutive fifths, in his violin quartett in C minor, which have a striking and heautiful effect. Beethoven did not seem to have been aware of these, and maintained that they were not in the score. As he always had music paper with him, I asked for a sheet, and wrote out the passage with all the four parts. As soon as he saw that I was right, he said, "Well! and who then has forbidden the use of them? As I hardly knew in what manner to answer such a question, he repeated it once or twice; until at last I replied, in great astanishment, "Why they are prohibited by one of the first elementary rules!" Again he repeated the question—and when I cited "Marpurg, Kirnberger, Furchs, all the theorists!" — his answer was "Then I allow them!" Yo el Rey!

In Vienna the young artist found himself transported, as it were, into a new world. On every side his attention was engaged, and his ambition excited, by the masterpieces of great composers; and the society to which his distinguished talent soon introduced him, encouraged him to exercise, in every way, the powers of which he was now fully conscious. Amongst those whose notice urged him onwards, the most distinguished of his patrons was the celebrated Prince Lichnowsky, Mozart's pupil; in whose house he became domesticated, and who fully appreciated, and fostered with a truly noble liberali-ty, his opening talents. From him Beethoven received a pension sufficient for his support, which was to be continued until he should obtain some settled appointment. And this opportune assistance, and the social advantages afforded him by the kindness of the prince and his consort, could not fail to produce the happiest effects in the develop. ment of his character and genius. During the first ten or twelve years of his residence in Vienna, it was in this house that all Beethoven's compositions were first performed; the celebrated quartett party, for which most of his inimitable works of this class were written (which was afterwards known by the name of the Rasumowsky quartett, and, under his direction, established a new era in the school of instrumental performance. The performers were-Schuppanzigh, 1st violin; Sina, 2d do.; Weiss, viola; and Kraft, alternately with Linke, violoncello. The perfection attained by this party was such as will probably be never equalled, and will never be forgotten, in the history of the art in Germany), was, during this period, in the service of the prince; and his associates were such as combined with thorough practical knowledge of the art, that refined feeling of its highest beauties which alone can raise it from a mere mechanical display, to the sphere of an intellectual pursuit. The influence of such advantages on a mind like Becthoven's, ardent, imaginative, and full of the purest spirit of poetry, may be conceived; and their fruits appeared in the compositions which he produced in almost breathless succession, each surpassing the other in novelty and original beau-tics. His name soon became known as a composer throughout Germany; and, although the boldness of his invention, and the striking flights of imagination which distinguished his works were, at first, to many a theme of wonder and reproach, the lovers of the art (even those who worshipped most tenaciously the established models) began to disco ver that another genius had appeared, which pro-

mised to equal, if not to eclipse, its greatest predecessors.

Still, amidst the elegance and refinement of the circles in which he now moved, with the applause and admiration that were willingly paid to his admitted talents, he was unable to subdue the robust independence of his nature, or to adapt himself to the graceful conventions which regulate polished society. An impatience of restraint, and the preoccupation of a mind wholly absorbed in his art, disqualified him for the study of its observances; and the vehemence that characterised his genius, was displayed no less in his speech and temper, than in the haughty assertion of a rank which he claimed in right of his spiritual nobility. A temperament of this force and ruggedness could not fail to jar with the elements of courtly life; and there were not wanting many, envious of his rapid distinction, who were ready to aggravate the confusion thus created. The appearance of a being like Beethoven in such scenes, suggests the image of a sinewy Hercules surrounded by the silken inmates of Omphale's palace; disturbing, by his abrupt motions, the harmony of the train, and half in impatience, and half carelessly, hurting the hands that cover his unconthness with the decorations of the court. The contrast of elements so dissimilar naturally became more prominent, as increasing strength increased his self reliance; and it gave rise to social embarrassments, which tended to estrange him from many of his admirers, and increased his natural longing for solitude, and impatience of the control of a crowd. That, under such circumstances, the gainful exercise of his profession by no means kept pace with his reputation, will readily be imagined: he remained poor, with little prospect beyond a precarious subsistence, in a position which, to others more worldly wise, would have produced a settled competence.

To these causes of restlessness and discontent were added others, the source of which lay far deeper. With a heart gushing with tenderness underneath its rugged covering, and all its sensibilities preserved by an exceeding purity of life, Beet-hoven, the object of attention in many brilliant circles, could not fail to be continually in love, and "mostly with noble and otherwise distinguished ladies." That such attachments could not be happy, we need hardly say; and, although they tended, by estranging him still more thoroughly from anything low or worthless, to foster the natural aspirations of his mind for the ideally elevated and beautiful, still they perpetually troubled his repose by tempting visions and longings for happiness, which could never be reached. Many of these fair tormentors have been named in the original editions of his works: not a few of the dedications record his devotion to the idol of the day. The Countess Maria von Erdödy is known to have been far from insensible to the passion she excited; and a still deeper and longer attachment existed between the composer and a Countess Giulietta di Guicciardi, the person to whom, apparently, some very fond and melan-choly letters, preserved by Schindler, were address-ed. At a later period, it appears that, for once, he was enamoured of a young lady in his own rank : the dislike with which he was known to have long regarded the composer Hummel, being, in part, ascribed to the fact, "that both, at one time, were in love with the same maiden; but Hummel was, and continued to be, the favoured one, as he had an appointment, and had not, moreover, the misfortune of being hard of hearing." We cannot imagine that the greater composer lost much by the neglect of one who could thus be decided; but it is to be deeply regretted that, from one cause or another, he was condemned to be for ever a stranger to the household love and care of a wife. To the want of such a kind and watchful influence, many of his later eccentricities, and all the blank desolation of the concluding portion of his life, may certainly be aseribed.

But there was yet another and more fatal enemy to his peace and success as an artist, which was not slow in making its appearance. So early as 1800, at the age of thirty, we find him confiding to his friend Wegeler the approach of a calamity, which he carefully concealed from others, and would fain lave hidden from himself. After describing the prospects of employment and distinction in his profession, which then seemed to be opening before him, he writes:—"Yet that envious demon, ill health, has thrown a terrible check in my way: my hearing, to-wit, for the *last three years*, has been continually growing worse;"—and he goes on to describe the means he had already taken in the hopes of relief, but in vain. It was even then so bad, that

In the theatre I am forced to lean over the orchestra, in order to hear the actors speak. The higher notes of instruments and voices escape mc at a short distance: in conversation it is marvellous that no one has yet observed it: perhaps as I am apt to be absent, they account for it in this way. Often I can only distinguish the general sound, but not the words, of one who speaks low; and yet when people shout I cannot en-What is now to become of me, Heaven only dure it. What is now to become of me, Heaven only knows! I have already been often tempted to curse the day when I was born; but have learned from Plu-tarch to practise resignation. If no better may be, I will defy my ill fortune ; and yet many moments will come, in which I shall be the most miserable of God's creatures. I pray you not to breathe a syllable of this affliction of mine to any one, not even to your wife! Resignation! a wretched resource, but the only one that is left me!

It will readily be considered why he thus jealonsly attempted to conceal an infirmity, of all others the most calamitous to a musician. This was one of the main reasons which made him withdraw from general society; and explains much that, at the time, was supposed to proceed from caprice and illhumour only. In a paper written by him in 1802, during a serious illness, when he believed himself to be dying, and addressed to his two brothers, this is dwelt upon in a manner profoundly tonching :--

My heart and soul were, from infancy, prone to kindly feelings; and my ambition was ever to accomplish what was great and good. But reflect that, for the last six years, an unfortunate ailment has fallen upon me; and, after hopes have been successively raised and defeated, I have been forced to contemplate the certainty of an abiding infimity. Born with an ardent, lively disposition—susceptible of social enjoyments, I was condemned, thus early, to part from them, and wear out my life in solitude. If, now and then, I attempted to break through the prohibition, how bitterly was I then repulsed by the doubly painful evidence of my dull hearing; and yet I could not bring myself to say to others—"Speak louder; shout, for I am deaf!" Alas! how could I declare the feebleness of a sense which I ought to possess even in greater perfection than other men? I could not do it. Forgive me, then, if you see me often retire, when I would fain be amongst you. My calamity is doubly severe, because it condemns me to be misjudged. The delight of society, cultivated conversation, reciprocal confidences, are for-

bidden to me. I must appear in society almost abso-Intely insulated, and only when it is quite indispensable. I must live an exile. When I approach a circle, a burning anxiety comes over me, lest I should run the risk of discovering my condition. It was thus during the past half-year which I passed in the country. What was my humiliation when the person at my side listened to a flute in the distance, or to the song of a peasant, and I could hear neither! Such occurrences brought me nearly to desperation: a little more, and I had ended my life by my own hand. This only-this art which I love-restrained me. It seemed as though I could not leave the world before I produced all that I felt I was able to bring forth. Almighty Power! thou lookest into my inmost heart; thou knowest that love of my fellows, and the desire to do good, dwell there! You, my brother men, who shall one day read this, know that you have thought wrongly of me; and that, wretched as I am, it comforts me to feel that I have yielded to none in doing-in spite of every natural im. pediment—all that lay in my power to place myself in the list of worthy artists and good men!

To a picture so graphic and affecting, nothing can be added by the biographer. We learn from Ries that this care was so far successful that he was not aware of the infirmity until after he had been for some months under Beethoven's tuition.

It was in one of our walks in the country that he gave me the first striking proof of his want of hearing --which had previously been named to me by Stephen von Breuning. I called his attention to a shepherd, who was playing in the wood, in a very graceful manner, on a rude flute made of the elder tree. Beethoven could not hear a note for more than half an hour; and although, at last, I assured him repeatedly that I had ceased to distinguish the sound (which was the fact), he became extraordinarily silent and gloomy.

From this period, 1800, the clouds began to gather on all sides more darkly around him. The pulses of that earthquake which convulsed Europe, had already begun to vibrate throughout Germany; and the arts, like scared birds, were about to fly from the approaching storm. Beethoven was a declared republican. "Plato's commonwealth was incorporated with his very being," and at such a time, as indeed throughout his after life-this peculiarity was another impediment to his worldly success in the Anstrian capital. He pursued the opening career of Napoleon with the eagerest hope; and had composed his majestic Sinfonia Eroica, as a tribute to the First Consul, when the news of his proclamation as emperor reached Vienna; and the in-tended dedication was thrown with disgust and disappointment into the fire. Nor was he reconciled to his former idol, until after his tragic end in St. Helena had explated, as he thought, the crime of rising on the ruins of the republic. From the period of the empire, he appears to have cared little for the politics of the day-preserving, to the last, the sturdy independence of his own opinions, which were, perhaps, founded on little knowledge of real life, but cannot be noticed without respect, as they deprived him of all chance of advancement, or advantage, from the court-which, in Germany, is the chief hope of the musical artist.

Without intending to attempt any catalogue of his many works, we may here mention that his grandest compositions begin to date from the commencement of the new century: in 1800, we find him busy with "The Mount of Olives," the Symphonics began to appear in 1803; in the following year, also, he commenced "Fidelio," which was unfortunately represented, for the first time, during the occupation of Vienna by the French in 1805; and owing to this circumstance chiefly, was wholly unsuccessful; the disgust which he conceived from this failure, as it deterred him from resuming the composition of opera (although in after years he was repeatedly urged to undertake it, when "Fidelio," revised and reproduced in better times, had had its deserved triumph on the stage), is one of the greatest misfortunes that has ever befallen this branch of the art. Later, he composed his great masses: and the series of his great instrumental works, with solo, piano-forte, and chamber-music, continued in unbroken succession to the close of his life; these, with an exception to be mentioned hereafter, having, to the last, furnished his principal means of subsistence.

His fame, which was now spread throughout Germany, had already brought to Vienna, in an evil hour for his happiness, his two brothers, Carl and Johann, in the hope of bettering their fortunes through his influence and aid. To these unworthy relatives—who appear to have both been mean, selfish, and grasping, in no common degree—the great composer was generously attached; and most of his carnings were allowed, without any reserve, to fall into their hands. But this was not the worst. As his infirmities began to estrange him from so-

ciety, the elder brother but too successfully attempted to rule him for his own selfish purposes, and to secure this influence by turning him away from his real friends and patrons. This was, in some degree, controlled by the authority of the Prince Lichnowsky, as long as he lived, but, after his death, the mis-chievous tyranny of the brothers was almost wholly unopposed. A complete stranger to the practical business of life, rendered suspicious by his growing deafness, and leaning for advice and support on these selfish relatives-who sought only to extort from his labours some profit for themselves-Beethoven was rendered an object of pity to his better friends, and of dislike to many; while his scanty earnings were plundered, and every unworthy contrivance that meanness could suggest was employed to prevent bis escape from this miserable boudage. We are his escape from this miserable bondage. told by Ries that "His brothers took especial pains to alienate him from all his nearest friends; and yet, whatever wrongs they committed, although convicted of them, it needed only a few tears to make him forgive all. He would then say, 'He is, after all, my brother;' and the friend was then liable to reproach for his good-nature and frankness."-Continued at page 217.

# LET US THE FLEETING HOURS ENJOY.



GLEE FOR THREE VOICES.

MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.





WAEFU' ТНЕ HEART.



# LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN.

Sair wend'ring at my stay.

# (Continued from page 214.)

Of the utter selfishness, meanness, and dirty cupi-dity of the two brothers of Beethoven, a characteristic instance or two may suffice. Ries relates that "Beethoven had promised his three sonatas (Op. 31) to Nageli of Zurich; his brother, Carl, in the meanwhile, who unfortunately never ceased forward immediately to Zurich, with a letter to his No. 28.

meddling with his affairs, having attempted to sell the work to a Leipzig publisher. This gave rise to several disputes between the brothers, as Beethoven resolved to keep the promise once given. When the sonatas were completed and ready to he despatched, the dissension between the brothers was renewed, and even proceeded farther than words. On the following day, he gave me the sonatas to

Her sorrows sunk to rest.

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brother, enclosed in one to Von Breuning for the pernsal of the latter. Nothing can be imagined more elevated in its moral tone, or more affecting for its feeling, than this lecture on his brother's conduct of the preceding day. He first displayed it in all its true contemptible aspect, and then con-cluded by forgiving him thoroughly, but with a serious warning to change his ill course."

Schindler tells ns :-

"At this time (1806-7) Beethoven was in the habit of receiving not a few presents-all of which, how. ever, vanished uterly; and bis friends asserted that the "evil genius" (his brother) was active in remov-ing from his reach, not only his well-wishers, but his valuables also. When Beethoven was asked, "Where is that ring, or this watch?" be used, after a moment's pause, to reply, "I know not;" although he knew right well how they had been abstracted, but was unwilling to accuse his brothers of such dishonesty."

This is a topic on which it is hateful to dwell; we hasten therefore to say that Carl, the elder brother, died in 1815, commending to his charge a son, of whom we shall have to speak hereafter-a legacy of trouble and bitterness; whereby he doubled after his death the mischief inflicted while be lived. The younger brother Johann was an apothecary, and became prosperous by the composer's aid; yet to the end of Beethoven's life, when sickness and want were gathering around him, the brother's selfishness was never for a moment relaxed, and far from giving, he still attempted to prey upon the failing sufferer, at the very time when he was insulting him with a vulgar parade of his newly acquired wealth.

An instance, related by Schindler, must be prcserved, for the sake of the contrast between the characters of the brothers which it exhibits :-- "On New Year's Day 1823, as we were seated at table, there was handed to the Master a card-(It is customary in Germany to send cards to acquaintances and friends at this season. Johann had thriven so well in his trade, that he had given up the shop and bought an estate, of which this was the announcement)-from his brother, who lived in the next honse, inscribed, "Johann van Becthoven, Landed Proprietor (Gutbesitzer)." Beethoven immediately wrote on the reverse, "Ludwig van Beethoven, In-telleetual Proprietor (Hirn-besitzer)," and sent it back to the landed gentleman. It had happened a few days before this ludicrous incident, that this brother, speaking of the Master, had boasted, 'that he would never advance so far as he (Johann) had done.' As may be imagined, Beethoven was infinitely diverted by this piece of ostentation.'

It only remains to add, that this sordid "landedproprietor" survived the great composer, of whose name he was so utterly unworthy.

In 1809, an offer was made to Beethoven of the post of Kapell-meister to the King of Westphalia, which, having still no certain maintenance at Vienna, he was inclined to accept: it was indeed "the first and last opening ever presented to him of a secure subsistence"-the last, because soon he became, by the increase of his deafness, wholly disqualified for the direction of an orchestra. On this occasion, however, three Anstrian princes, the Archduke Rudolph, and the princes Kiasky and Lobkowitz, "thinking it disgraceful for Austria to allow the great artist, who was the pride of the nation, to withdraw to a foreign land," offered to secure to him an annual pension of 4000 gulden, to be paid so long as he should possess no other fixed appointment, on the condition | raised the veil that covers me.

of his remaining in Vienna. He accepted the proposal and remained. The moderate income thus secured, was, however, in the course of two years, reduced by a fifth, by the financial edict published in 1811, whereby the value of all money was diminished to this extent. Some years later, on the death of Prince Lobkowitz, his portion of the allowance was withdrawn by the next beir. A part only of Prince Kiasky's share was preserved on the death of that prince in 1817; so that, before Beethoven' decease, the pension had dwindled down to abou 600 thaler, some £30 sterling. We have dwelt thus minutely on the transaction, as it comprises the whole sum of public acknowledgment that Austria could afford to the composer "who was the pride of the nation!"-about the pay of a lieutenant of cavalry, or a custom-house officer of the second class!

By Seyfried, who saw him about this period, Beethoven is described as not exceeding the middle height, thickset, and with large hones; full of bodily vigour, the very image of strength.

Schindler adds to this-"His head was nousually large, overgrown with long matted, grizzled bair, which was rarely smoothed, and gave him rather a wild look, especially (which was not seldom the case) when his beard also had grown very long. His brow was lofty and expanded, his eyes brown and small, and when he laughed, quite buried in his head; on the other hand, they started out to an unusual size, and either rolled darting around, the pupil generally turned upwards, or were immovably fixed, whenever an idea had seized upon him. At such moments, his exterior at once underwent a striking alteration, and assumed a visibly inspired and commanding aspect, which, to the bystander, made his short figure appear as gigantic as his mind. Such moments of sudden inspiration often surprised him in the midst of society, or while passing through the streets; and generally attracted the eager notice of all near him."

From Ries we learn-"That he was awkward and ungraceful in his gestures; seldom took anything brittle in his hands that he did not hreak; would frequently upset his inkstand into the piano-fortetumbled, soiled, and damaged his furniture. And, in short, did everything that a tidy person ought not to do. How he accomplished the task of shaving himself was always a mystery; but his wounded chin bore frequent witness to the risk he ran in the process."

The anxiety and distress which he had endured had not yet bowed his frame; but the various ec. centricities of manner and habit which characterised him, were, to some extent, displayed; and before proceeding to the next and darker epoch of his history, we may as well panse in this interval (between 1809 and 1815)—which was not marked by any special event beyond the successive production of many beautiful works-to describe some of these peculiarities, and look into the daily life of this remarkable being.

He was educated a Catholic, but was not punctual in devout observances, although of the truly religious temper of his mind there can be no doubt. One of the most valued ornaments of his chamber was the framed copy of an inscription from a temple of Isis, which he said contained the substance of all high and pure religion:-

" I am that which is.

" I am all that is, was, and shall be: no mortal hath

things one their being."

His love of reading, and the masculine and pure judgment that attracted him to the best writers, have been already described :- His favourite author was our own Shakspeare, a spirit akin to his own. His diligence was untiring; but he was incapable of system or order : "to address himself to a certain thing at a given time was impossible." Hence his dislike of giving lessons; even his dames de prédéliction were made to feel how he hated the task; and scolded him for his impatience, but in vain. The same aversion to constraint made him reluctant to play in society, and his refusals, when pressed, were a frequent cause of offence to his admirers: many of whom, after a journey undertaken for the sole object of hearing him, were compelled to return unsatisfied. As his deafness increased, he would allow no one to be present while he played, if he could avoid it.

His nature combined a singular frankness, with a tendency to mistrust of others, which amounted at last to a positive disease. In his cheerful moments, his spirits were high, not to say boisterous, and his conversation when he unbent himself, while yet able to take a part in society, was animated, forcible, and abounding in pleasantry and sarcasm. He has been accused of haughtiness towards his brother professors; but this appears to have been often sur-mised when, in reality his reserve arose from the consciousness of the infirmity which he tried to eon. ceal. Of his generous dealings with many artists, we have sufficient instances, and some of a characteristic plainness, which thoroughly bespeak the nature of the man. When Moscheles wrote, at the close of a work undertaken at Beethoven's request, and apparently in some anxiety as to its recep-tion—"Finis, with God's help!"—the master added the energetic comment, "Man, help thyself!"

He rose early, and began to compose as soon as he was dressed. During the morning, he would twice or thrice leave his writing for half an hour at a time, run into the open air, whatever the weather might be, and return with new ideas, which were immediately transcribed. In eating he was moderate and frugal, but most irregular as to the hours of his meals: his favourite drink was pure water, and his habit in latter years, of frequenting coffee-houses, which he generally chose where he was least likely to be disturbed or stared at, was pursued for the sake of reading the newspapers only-in which he greatly delighted. Although a thorough sloven in his dress-(Frau Streicher found him at one time "without either a coat or a shirt that were fit to wear," and compelled him, greatly to his advantage, to reform his wardrobe)-he was a perfect Mussulman in the frequency of his ablutions: and was continually dabbling in water, in the midst of which process he often became absorbed by some sudden imagination, and stood, "in the barest neglige," dripping like a river god, and utterly unconscions of his uncomfortable position-"murmuring to him. self, and howling, for singing it could not be called," as the ideas occurred to him.

In worldly matters he was as helpless as a child; of the use of money he had no notion; and was thus not only at the mercy of those around him, but wasted in a thriftless manner the sums he obtained. This kept him in constant embarrassments. Although never rewarded for his compositions to half the extent they deserved, he would have been maintained by them in comfort but for the little care he

"He is self-sustained and alone: to him alone all | bestowed on economy, his liberality to his worthless relatives, and the robbery which they practised upon him, uncontrolled, but not unsuspected. In later years, as his means became more scanty, and sickaess pressed upon him, he grew so suspicious (not surely without some reason) that he would not trust any one, so far as even to pay the most trifling account for him.

He was fanciful and restless beyond all measure as to his choice of a dwelling; perpetually changing his quarters, and for the most whimsical reasons. He had often to pay for three or four at a time-one had too much sun, another too little; in another the water was bad; and we read of his giving up a country lodging that pleased him "because the baron, his landlord, annoved him by bowing too obsequiously whenever they met." His summer was always spent somewhere out of town; the fresh air seems to have been indispensable to his existence; and most of his great compositions were designed and fashioned during his rambles abroad, either alone or in company. Need we remind the musical reader of the Pastoral Symphony; in which the fresh spirit of nature, and the life that breathes in woods, and breezes, and running waters, are embodied with an animation and beauty borrowed from their immediate presence? Towards the close of his life his household arrangements became more and more uncomfortable and disordered, and in the sickness and mental distress of his latter years, he suffered all that can be imagined of trouble and neglect, in the solitary condition of a bachelor, infirm, deaf, untended save by hirelings, and utterly ignorant of the simplest economy of household comfort. The picture which is given of his domestic cares and confusions would be almost farcical, were it not darkened by regret that such miserable vexations should have harrassed a mind deserving of tranquillity and freedom, at the close of its marvellous and toilsome career.

If we add that, however vehement in his dislikes, and almost capriciously irascible, he was equally quick to forgive, and to recall and atone for the utterances of his passionate moments; that, in a scene where sycophancy was the prevailing and prontable vice, he carried even to extremity the assertion of his rugged independence; that the main spring of his exertions was a fervent desire to dignify and advance his beloved art; and to render himself worthy of its highest inspirations; and that throughout his career, amidst all the temptations that beset him, he kept his purity unsullied, and was never accused of a base or mean actionwe shall in some measure have traced the ontline of a character in which the elements of goodness and nobility, and the gifts of an exquisite genins, were mingled with many flaws and infirmities that may be lamented, but cannot deprive him of the strong. est claims to love and admiration. And how few of those who have been endowed and afflicted like him, have left us so much to record with reverence, We must and so little to conceal or extenuate! now hasten to the concluding period of his history.

In the autumn of 1815, as we have already said, his brother Carl died, bequeathing to his care and guardianship a son about eight years old. Writing to Ries of this event, he says-"that he had expended on his deceased brother, while alive, more than 10,000 gulden to relieve his wants and make his existence easier;" that his widow (which was ton true) was "a bad woman;" "the son from that time he looked upon as his own."

As the boy was clever and promising, he took steps to adopt him regularly, that he might be removed from the example of his mother, who resisted, and a harassing contest at law ensued, which in 1820 ended recognising the full powers of Beethoven. His nephew, far from repaying him for his unceasing kindness, fatherly care, indulgence, and counsel, with the affection which such conduct should have elicited, became a deep source of anxiety, expense, and misery to Beethoven. In 1824 he was entered in the University, where, although he displayed extraordinary capacities, his irregularities, lying, and misconduct, increased to such an extent as at length to procure his expulsion. But the generous and blinded Beethoven forgave, and placed him in an institution for mercantile studies. Still all his kindness and his admonitions were in vain and met with disappointment. A repetition of the same evil courses was like to have the same termination, to avoid which the wretched youth made an unsuccessful attempt on his own life, and in pursuance of the Austrian laws he was imprisoned as a criminal; Beethoven only saw him for one day before the fulfilment of the sentence of banishment from Vienna. By great exertions Beethoven succeeded in obtaining a commutation of this sentence, through Marshal Stutterheim, who consented to receive the youth into his corps as a cadet; and, before joining his regiment, he remained for a short time at Vienna, whither Beethoven, sick and worn down with affliction, had hastened from the country to receive him. This was in December 1826; and from this moment the mortal illness which soon hurried him to the grave, and during which the most heartless neglect was exhibited by his nephew, seized upon him with painful and alarming symptoms. The circumstances, as related by Schindler, are too melancholy and remarkable to be passed over.

"It was not until after some days that I learned his arrival, and the state of his health. I hastened to him; and, amongst other circumstances of the most afflictiog nature, was informed that he had repeatedly, but in vain, sent to entreat the attendance of his two former physicians, Braunhofer and Staudenheim; the first excused himself on the ground of the distance being too great; and the other had often promised to come, but never appeared; and that, in consequence, a doctor had been seut to attend him, how or by whom he knew not, who, of course, was quite a stranger to him, and to his constitution. 1 afterwards heard, however, from the lips of the worthy doctor himself (Professor Wawruch) in what manner he had been directed to the sick bed of Beethoven. It is too remarkable, and affords a striking proof how utterly this man, so dear to his age and to posterity, was neglected, or rather betrayed and destroyed, by his nearest relatives, who owed so much to him. The Professor informed me that he had learned from the marker in one of the hotels, who had been brought to the hospital sick, that Beethoven's nephew, while play-ing at billiards in the café some days before, had requested him to go and seek a physician to attend his uncle, who was ill; and having been prevented by his own ill health from fulfilling the commission, the man begged Dr. Wawruch to visit him, which was immediately done. He found Beethoven lying without any medical attendance. So that a marker in a billiard room must fall sick, and be sent to an hospital, to give the great Beethoven the chance of obtaining medical help in his utmost need! . . .

The nephew set out to join his regiment before the end of December; and, from that moment, it seemed as if Beethoven was delivered from an evil genius, for he became again cheerful, and quite resigned to his misfortune, hoping and expecting a speedy recovery from the care of his physician. His attachment for his nephew was now changed into bitter animosity; and yet, as the moment of his departure from this world drew near, his former feelings returned, and he left this nephew his sole legatee."

Before we pass to the closing scene thus distressingly introduced, it will be necessary to resume hastily the outline of Beethoven's general history from the year 1815, which has been suspended in order that the tale of his domestic troubles might not be interrupted.

His true friend and patron, the Prince Lichnowsky had died in 1814. The musical society which he had assembled around him was transferred, in a great measure, to the palace of the Russian ambassador Rasumowsky-to whom Beethoven dedicated some of his latest and most beautiful chamber com-positions. The Congress of Vienna brought hither many distinguished admirers of the artist; and he received, on this occasion, not only flattering testimonials of regard, but also considerable pecuniary gains. This was the last epoch of his appearance in general society: a few years later, and he hud fallen, as it were, out of the knowledge of his townsmen, and was brooding over his many troubles in gloomy solitude. His reputation was, however, daily becoming greater abroad; and he was be-sieged with commissions for musical works : but his chief attention was devoted to the composition of his great symphonies and masses, which were successively performed at concerts-of which the risk was undertaken by himself, in default of the patronage which the court refused him. The gain from these was uncertain and scanty-except in reputa-tion; and the expense of his nephew's education and of the long lawsnit, and repeated attacks of illness, kept him for ever in straitened circumstauces, and compelled him to toil unremittingly. He had, in better days, invested a small fund, it is true; but this he was loath to touch-regarding it as his last resource, in case of absolute helplessness-aud as a deposit for his nephew. Offers were made to him to compose another opera; but he seemed unable to overcome the disgust caused by the first failure of Fidelio-although, on a revival of this work, it had met with the applause it deserved. On one occasion of its representation in 1823, Beethoven, for the last time, was invited to conduct it in public. During the rehearsal, however, it became evident that his utter deafness rendered it impossible; and the directors of the theatre were compelled to convey to him, with the utmost tenderness, this painful intimation. "He instantly left the orchestra. The melancholy which this mortification produced did not pass away for the whole of that day; and at table he remained gloomily silent." His deafness was now become so confirmed that his friends were reduced to writing what they wished to convey to him.

His grand mass, completed in 1823, was honoured by Louis XVIII., from Paris, with a gold medal, specially inscribed as the king's present. In 1822 he had been created an honorary member of the Society of Arts and Sciences in Stockholm: invitations to visit England, as we have already mentioned, reached him about this period; while, at home, his consideration began to give place to the new passion for Rossini, who had taken Vienna, as it were, by storm. Beethoven felt this severely, but made no complaint; and continued to pursue his high designs with as much zeal as if they had been received at home with the applause that greeted them elsewhere.

One more event of his professional history must be recorded, for the purpose of displaying what meanness can exist ni titled patrons. In 1824, a commission to compose a set of violin quartetts, was sent him by Prince Nicholas Galitzin, from Russia, couched in the most flattering terms. The work was undertaken, and pursued with the utmost care. To fulfil the commission, Beethoven laid aside some projected works of the highest class-amongst which was the composition of Goethe's Faust; and the quartetts were, at last, completed and despatched. The prince admired them-wrote for explanations of various passages, and at length declared himself perfectly informed and satisfied. But the stipulated reward was in vain applied for; and the composer remained a loser of his precious time and of the cost of the copyist's labours, and of the expensive correspondence with this pattern of Russian ostentation and meanness. It is proper that such acts should be recorded, for the abiding disgrace of the offender; and the lovers of art will never forgive the anthor of a deceit which deprived the world of compositions that no one after Beethoven might dare to undertake. This was almost the last mortification which he was destined to experience; for the last fruitless application to the prince was in December 1826, when sickness had rendered him necessitous and unable to continue his labours, never afterwards resumed.

He languished throughout the winter months with no improvement; all his resources were ex. hausted, excepting the small investment already named; he was too proud to ask for aid at the hands of his neighbours, who had neglected him; and yet his want of money was pressing. In this strait, he bethought him of the former offers of the London Philharmonic Society; and addressed to them, through Moscheles, a request that they would fulfil the design of a concert for his benefit, promising to write a new symphony, in return for this favour, as soon as his state permitted it. The conduct of the English musicians, on this occasion, was both liheral and delicate. They at once requested his acceptance of £100, offering to send more, if required; with expressions which bespoke their respect and sympathy for the great composer. (Some German writers have complained of the version current respecting this gift; the facts, however, are as above stated. They say that Beethoven did not want alms, or, had he needed them, his own countrymen would have been proud to afford them. It is, nevertheless, true, that although not pennilcss, he was in immediate difficulties; and, with the fear of long sickness before him, rather turned for help to foreigners, who had already evinced their respect for him, than to those by whom he felt himself unduly neglected. They cannot deprive England of the just credit of this becoming act, which Beethoven fully appreciated.) The reply arrived in time only to soothe the last moments of Beethoven, who was now rapidly sinking. On the 18th of March, 1827, he dictated an acknowledgment, literally from his deathbed. The dropsical symptoms resisted all attempts to relieve him; and he encountered the approach of death with cheerful and religious composure. After deliherately making his will, he

received the sacraments of the Church on the 24th. On the same day the last struggle, which was terrible and obstinate, began ; nor was he finally released until the 26th of March, when he expired amidst the tumult of an unusnally fierce storm, which was rolling over the town as his troubled spirit departed -a close not inaptly resembling his destiny in life. A stranger, or at least a mere acquaintance from Gratz, who had hastened to visit Beethoven before he died, was the only person present in his last mo-ments; his friends Von Breuning and Schindler, who had been in attendance during his sickness, having left the house on some mission concerning the arrangements for his funeral. When they rcturned, his troubles were at an end! Surely it is no exaggeration to say, that there is a deep tragedy exhibited in this solitary death scene: untended by kindred, unwept by household love, and darkened by ingratitude and neglect: the miserable farcwell which the world afforded to one of its noblest ornaments, more cold and blank than it gives to many whose career has only been marked by mischief and disgrace!

Beethoven died at the age of fifty-six years and three months; and now rests in the burial ground of the village of Wahring; at a short distance from Vienna, in the Alster district of the suburbs. The funeral ceremony was attended by more than twenty thousand persons; and in the respect paid to his remains, the citizens of Vienna testified a regret that was general throughout Europe. With him the list of great German composers was closed, nor is it likely that any successor to his place will appear in our day.

#### MARTINI IN FRANCE.

WHEN Martini, after removing from Freistadt, his native place, to Neuborg, where he became organist of the seminary, and thence travelling to Frebourg, resolved to seek a wider sphere for the exercise of his genius, he could not readily determine whether he had better go to France or Italy. In this dilemina he repaired to the top of the highest tower in the town, and, throwing a feather to the wind, made up his mind to prefer the route that should be pointed out to him by the direction it took. The feather floated towards the port of France; he took the same course, and arrived at Nancy, totally ignorant of the French language, without a single acquaintance in the place, or any money in his pocket. In this embarrassment he accidentally fell in with an organist of the name of Dupent, who, delighted with his knowledge of music and of the construction of organs, received him most cordially into his house, and made him one of his family. He re-mained in that town some time, and published there some Sonatas, which were warmly received, and still continue great favourites at Nancy.

MADAME CATALANI.—No musical performer ever had a higher idea of her tilents than that wonder of her age, Madame Catalani; and she was apt to express it with a *naivete*. sufficiently amusing. When she visited Hamburgh for the first time, M. Schevenke, the chief musician of that city, criticised her vocal perfor mances with great severity. Madame, on being told of his dissent from the general opinion, broke out into a great passion, calling him, among many other hard names, an *impious* man "Sir," added she, "when God has given to a mortal so extraordinary a talent as a possess, people ought to applaud and honour it as a miracle, and it is profane to depreciate the gifts of Heaven."

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# STRADELLA AND HORTENSIA.

ALESSANDRO STRADELLA, who flourished about the middle of the seventeenth century, and was composer to the opera, at Venice, having under his tuition a young lady of rank, of the name of Hortensia, who lived with a Venetian nobleman, a mutual affection took place between Alessandro and his fair pupil, and they eloped together to Rome. Ou discovering their flight, the Venetian, fired with revenge, despatched two assassins with instructions to murder the lovers wherever they should be found. Arrived at Naples, and learning that the objects of their sanguinary pursuit were at home, living together as man and wife, they sent the intelligence to their employer requesting letters of recommendation to the Venetian ambassador at Rome, in order that they might be sure of an asylum to which they could fly when the intended work of death should have been accomplished. The letters arrived, with which in their possession they hastened to Rome, and en-

tered the Eternal City on the day preceding the evening on which Stradella was to give an oratorio of his own composition, in the Church of Saint John Lateran. The murderers attended this performance, with the design of giving the fatal blow as the composer and Hortensia left the church; but the pathos of the music had such a thrilling and fascinating power as to work upon their feelings to a degree that awakened their remorse, and diverted them from their purpose. Nor did they stop there, but resolved to apprize the lovers of their bloody commission; and, accordingly, at the conclusion of the oratorio, waited their coming out of the church, informed them of their intended destruction, and advised their immediate departure from Rome, promising to tell their employer that they had quitted that city before their arrival there.

Stradella and Hortensia fled to Turin, where, except in the houses of ambassadors, the laws furnished no protection for murderers. The retreat of the lovers being again discovered, their enemy,

not satisfied with prevailing on two other ruffians to engage to perform the work of murder, contrived to work upon the father of Hortensia, so as to succeed in bringing him into fellowship with himself in the execution of his fell purpose. Furnished with let-ters from the Abbe d'Estrade, then French ambassador at Venice, to the Marquis de Villars, the French amhassador at the conrt of Turin, recom. mending them to his protection as merchants, they all three (the bravoes and the father of Hortensia) set out with the resolution of stabbing Stradella and his fair companion wherever they might find them. The Duchess of Savoy was at that time Regent. Informed of the arrival of the musician and his mistress, and of the renson of their precipitate flight from Rome, for their greater security she placed the lady in a convent and retained Stradella in her palace, giving him the office of principal musician. Thus secured, Stradella began to forget his danger. When one evening, taking the air upon the ramparts of the city, he was attacked hy the three, each of whom plunged a dagger into his body, and immediately found sanctuary in the house of the ambassador.

The report of this cruel assault no sooner reached the ears of the Duchess than she ordered the gates of the city to be closed, so that no person might escape, and caused the most diligent search to be made for the perpetrators of the foul deed. On being told that they had found shelter in the house of the French ambassador, she went in person to demand that they be given up; but the Marquis insisted on his privilege, and refused compliance. He, however, wrote to the Abbe who had given them the letters of recommendation desiring an explanation of such an outrage; and received for answer that he had been led to give them letters from the artful representation of one of the proud and powerful aristocracy of Venice.

The wounds inflicted upon Stradella though dangerons did not prove mortal, and the assassins were suffered to escape.

A year elapsed before his perfect recovery from his wounds, and Stradella forgot, or thought himself secure from any future attempts on his life being made by his vindictive and malignant enemy. The Duchess, interested for the happiness of the two persons who had suffered so much in consequence of their inauspicious loves, united them in marriage. The fame of Stradella continued to increase and to spread. He was invited to compose an opera for Genoa, whither he went to superintend its performance, but the merciless and bloodthirsty wretches were on his trail. The lovers arrived in Genoa, and early in the morning, a very few days after, their pursuers rushed into the chamber, and executed their nefarious com. mission with which they were charged, by stabbing them both to the heart. This time they did not stay to be interrogated by the emissaries of offended law, but retreated to a vessel which was awaiting them in the harbour, and were never again heard of. This tragic episode in the history of the world happened about the year 1678.

#### FASHIONABLE INSTRUMENTS SINCE THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY.

In the sixteenth century the Lnte and Virgical were the only instruments for which any tolerable music had heen written. Queen Elizabeth was a performer on the Virginal; and if she was able to make use of any of the pieces con tained in the MS. collection called "Queen Eli-zabeth's Virginal Book," which were written ex-pressly for her by Bird, Bull, Farnaby, and other great masters of the day, her proficiency must have been truly wonderful; for we are told by Dr. Bur-ney that the pieces of Bull, contained in this collection, "surpass every idea of difficulty that can be formed from the lessons of Handel, Scarlatti, Sebastian Bach, or, in modern times, Emanuel Bach, Muthel, and Clementi." "In everything relating to the execution of instrumental music," says the late M. Charon, "it is of the utmost importance to dispel a very common error, which consists in believing that music was formerly very simple and easily performed. This error arises from the circumstance of the old writers having used notes of very great value, and from its not being remembered that these notes were executed with great rapidity, so that they had, in fact, no greater value than those in use with us at the present time. Besides, if we cast our eyes upon the collections of pieces remaining to us from former ages-upon the Virginal Book of Queen Elizabeth, for instance-difficulties will be found which would puzzle the most able of our modern performers." Mary (Queen) of Scotland was also a performer on the Virginal; and it appears from the curious account which Sir James Melvil, in his memoirs, gives of his embassy to the English Court, that Elizabeth was no less jealous of her unhappy rival's musical powers, than of her personal beauty. The Virginal afterwards acquired the name of the Spinet, and was generally used by the ladies in England, till it was superseded by the harpsichord. In the time of James I. and Charles I., Haywood was a celebrated maker of spinets; and Kean and Stade were the fashionable makers in Queen Anne's The harpsichord, in its turn, has been supertime. seded by the piano-forte, and has disappeared almost as completely as its precursor the spinet. Within our memory an old harpsichord might occasionally be met with in an old house in the country, played npon by an old maiden aunt, who performed the pieces of Handel and Scarlatti, accompanied vocal music from the thorough bass figures, and lamented the decay of musical knowledge among the rising generation.-Mr. Hogarth in the Musical World.

#### JACOMO MAYERBEER

WAS born in 1794 at Berlin, of highly respectable parents, who spared no expense on his education. At the age of seven years young Jacomo surprised the intellectual and artistic visitors at his paternal home by his wonderful performances on the piano forte. It was not, however, until his fifteenth year that he made music his especial study, which he did under the Abbe Vogler, who had opened an establishment for instruction in all branches of music. Many eminent critics and accomplished musicians have emanated from this school, among whom may be mentioned Knecht, Ritter, and Winter. The following no less celebrated were fellow-students with Mayerbecr, namely, C. M. Weber and Gottfried Weber. A warm and brotherly affection here sprung np between Mayerbeer and the composer of Fries. chütz, which was only broken off by the death of Weber in 1826.

Mayerbeer had not been more than two years with Vogler, when the institution was broken up, and both master and pupils made a tour of Germany. Under the auspices of the Abbe, the young Jacomo, at only eighteen years of age produced a grand opera in three acts, entitled the "Daughter of Jeptha," which was performed at Munich, and met with but moderate success. He concluded his pupillage with Vogler, and his master, with his usual hon hommie, conferred upon his scholar the brevet de maestro, to which, with a flourish of his pen, he affixed his seal, then teacher and pupil bade each other farewell.

In Vienna, where the young Mayerbeer took up his abode, he was first noticed as a piano-forte player, and was commissioned to compose for the Imperial Court an opera entitled the Two Caliphs, which was composed in a similar style to his former work, and was a complete failure, which may be accounted for from the circumstance that the taste prevailing in Vienna then, as at present, was in favour of the Italian school of art, and these were constructed according to the rigid forms of scholastic theory. He was advised by Salieri, the composer of Axur, who was extremely partial to Mayerbeer, to visit Italy, and there prosecute his musical studies. Mayerbeer was led, by his antipathy to the Italian music, to prefer visiting Paris. But unknown as he was, he could not obtain in Paris any fitting subject for composition for the academy, so he at length betook himself to Italy.

The Italian style, which he so strenuously opposed while in Germany, became the chief object of his admiration. He was enchanted with Tancredi, the first opera of Rossini's which he heard. From this moment he composed in rapid succession seven works, all of which were crowned with complete success. The first he produced at Padua in 1818 was the semi-serious opera "Romilda à Constanza," written for Mme. Pisaroni. In the year 1819 he produced at the Theatre-Royal, Turin, his " Semiramide Ricognoscinta," by Metastasio, the principal character of which was written for Mine. Carolina Bassi, afterwards performed by Madame Pasta. In 1820 he brought out his "Emina di Res-" the same subject which Mehul has composed burgo. under the title of "Heleni." This opera appeared at the same time with Rossini's "Edoardo e Christina," and both works found equal favour with the public.

In the year 1821 he composed for the theatre of Berlin an opera in the Italian style, "Das Brandenburgher Thor" (The Brandenburgh Gate), which was not performed. In the meanwhile his fame had reached the Theatre La Scala at Milan, and here, notwithstanding their shyness with regard to the works of new composers, he produced in 1822 his opera "Margarita d'Anjou." His operas "Emma" and "Margarita" were soon after this translated into German, and produced at several of the theatres of Germany.

Notwithstanding the success of the works of Mayerbeer, they met with violent opposition from the critics of that time. Carl Maria Von Weber, then Director of the German Opera at Dresden, concurred with the opinions of the critics, and even wrote several papers, in which he proved that Mayerheer's partiality for the Italian school was an error, and expressed a hope that he would specdily resume the style in which he had been educated. This, however, did not take place; and, to the honour of the immortal Weber, be it added, that in spite of the view which he took and advocated upon tenable grounds, as to the path which his friend had drawn out for himself, he brought forward his works at Dresden, where they were performed with the greatest care and attention.

In the year 1823, at Milan, "Margarita" was followed by "L'Esule di Granata," the principal parts of which were written for the colossus Lablache and Madame Pisaroni. In consequence of some cabal this opera was nearly thrown overboard. In fact the first act was a failure, the second would have had no greater success had it not been for a duet by Lablache and Madame Pisaroni, sung in their best style, which drew down the "most sweet voices" of the audience. In the following representations the triumph of the composer was perfect. In this same year he composed the opera "Almanzor" for a theatre at Rome, the principal part for Madame Carolina Bassi: she was taken ill before the grand rehearsal, and the opera has never been performed since. At the close of the year 1825 "Il Crociato" came out at Venice. During its perform. ance, the composer was called for, and crowned upon the stage. In the year 1826, at the request of Comte La Rochefoucauld, at that time Ministre des Beaux Arts, he visited Paris, where his "Crociato" was received with genuine French cnthusiasm. From this time Meyerbeer rested awhile from composition, and ailliction for the loss of his two children interrupted his labours for nearly two years. In 1828 he resumed his activity, in order to bring forward his opera "Robert le Diahle," the score of which was laid aside at the Academie Royale for nearly eighteen months. On the 18th November, 1831, this master piece was brought upon the stage, to the perfect delight of the whole Parisian public.

At the theatre at Paris this opera was performed with increasing applause for nearly one hundred nights, and since then it has been received as enthusiastically upon nearly every stage in France, England, and Germany. With this work commenced a new era in the artistical career of this composer, which will secure him a distinguished place among the celebrated musicians of his time.

His last work, the Huguenots, has met the same success which has crowned his other works, although there have been not a few who have endeavoured to exhibit their acumen by designating it as a tissue of noise and tire-works.

Although Mayerbeer is richly endowed with the good things of this world, his life is devoted to his art. It is to him his business, and likewise his recreation. Of his unwearied activity, the number of works which he has produced during the last 16 years, allords ample proof; and the great improvement manifest in his last works gives the clearest evidence of his unceasing endeavours to attain perfection. For this he is to be admired as an artist. He is, however, more to be prized as a man. The natural benevolence and mildness of his character; his agreeable and amiable behaviour to everybody; his modest and reasonable estimation of his powers, which knows no pride nor professional eminenceno jealousy of others; and which neither his celebrity, spread over the whole of Europe, nor the honours\* which have been bestowed upon him by the great once of the earth, have been able to overthrow; his disinterestedness of mind, his scrupulous

\* Mayerbeer is Membre Etranger de l'Institute de France; Member of the Committee of Instruction at the Conservatoire at Paris; Honorary Member of the Society of Grétry at Liege; Member of several Musical Institutions in England, Italy, and Germany; Knight of the Imperial Brazilian Order of the South Star; of the French Legion of Honour; and Hor-Kapell-Meister to the King of Prussia. honesty, have long procured for him the esteem and affection of all who know him. And the personal virtues of this artist, as amiable as he is distinguished, must charm even those who envy him his fortune, and his fame. In short, he is fully deserving the estimation in which he is held as a great composer—and of the esteem which, as a man, is so universally felt for him.—Abridged from a Sketch of the Life of Mayerbeer in the Musical World.

# NEW PIANO FORTE.

A PIANO-FORTE, on a new principle, has lately been introduced by Messrs. Beale & Co., Regent Street, London, which possesses so many advantages over the old methods of construction, and is so striking a piece of decorative furoiture, that it will in all probability find, as it ought to do, a very general domestic adoption. It has been christened the *Euphonicon*, to distinguish it from the ordinary piano-fortes; and it has excited more attention in the musical world than any application of ingenuity which has recently been applied to like purposes.

The appearance of this instrument when the eye first rests upon it is puzzling and imposing. It seems like a huge mechanical vignette-a combination of musical symbols accidentally thrown together, forming a picturesque and harmonious whole. Upon examining the details further, the spectator perceives an ingenious purpose in every part. He finds the original principle of the piano forte action to be the same, but applied in novel forms, which contribute to the improved present value of the instrument as a musical vehicle, giving to its tone a certain amount of durable quality, and the presumed likelihood of its progressive improvement -- two points hitherto desiderata in this class of mechanism. The clavier is situated as in ordinary instruments, and therein the similarity to the piano forte ends. On the left of the player the bass strings rise in a sort of harp frame open to the air, permitting the free and undisguised vibration of the sound. Below the clavier is placed a chest which contains the wire pegs and the hammers. In this latter respect a vast improvement is accomplished-an improvement frequently attempted but never hefore brought to a satisfactory bearing. By means of this the tone diffused is round and equable, without the local blows which occasion it disturbing the ears of the player, or of an auditor, in his vicinity, by being, as is usually the case, level with the ear, or immediately over it. Behind the instrument are three boards resembling violoncello cases, placed perpendicularly, over which the strings are stretched, and which have an increasing extent of surface properly relative to the various registers of sound, the whole of the frame work is of metal, and in the subordinate means used for the tension of the strings-the pegs being screwed into iron instead of wood-a security of tone is ensured which nothing but the occasional abrasion or stretching of the wire itself oan shake.

As a piece of furniture, susceptible of inexhaustible decorative fancies, there has been nothing produced like the *Euphonicon*. Messrs. Beale & Co. have three or four instruments on view, and they each present distinctive features—each remarkable for separate ornamental elegances. The frame work of the bass-strings, in one instance, is of a beautiful cobalt blue tint, exquisitely relieved with arabesques in gold. Pendant from the apex and the right shoulder are serolls gracefully devised and beautifully moulded in ormolu, giving a richness to the coup d'ail hardly to be suspected. The table of the instrument is furnished with raised carvings, and the desk is an elaboration of ornament extremely well and artistically composed. For the boudoir or drawing-room, then, the Euphonicon presents a piece of cabinet-work which may be embellished to an infinite extent, and an object that may be made to combine with any description of furniture, however oriental in its gaudiness and splendour. But its higher claims consist in its improved qualities as a musical instrument. In it the piano forte is brought to a degree of perfection which is not likely to be exceeded.—Newspaper Paragraph, 1842.

#### SERENADE.

A wake !---the starry midnight hour Hangs charmed, and pauseth in its flight; In its own sweetness sleeps the flower, And the doves lie hushed in deep delight! Awake ! awake ! Look forth my love, for love's sweet sake ! A wake !---soft dews will soon arise From daisied mead, and thorny brake !

Then, sweet, uncloud those eastern eyes, And like the tender morning break ! Awake ! awake !

Dawn forth, my love, for love's sweet sake !

Awake !--within the musk-rose bower I watch, pale flower of love, for thee !

Ah, come and shew the starry hour What wealth of love thou hid'st from me! Awake! awake! Shew all thy love, for love's sweet sake!

Awake !- ne'er heed though listening night

Steal music from thy silver voice;

Uncloud thy beauty, rare and bright, And bid the world and me rejoice! Awake! awake!

She comes at last, for love's sweet sake !

BARRY CORNWALL.

#### MUSIC AND LITERATURE.

ALFIERI, the Italian poet, often before he wrote. prepared his mind by listening to music. "Almost," he says, "all my tragedies were sketched in my mind either in the act of hearing music, or a few hours after,"-a circumstance which has been recorded of many others. Lord Bacon had music often played in the room adjoining his study. Milton listened to his organ for his solemn inspiration, and music was even necessary to Warburton. The symphonies which awoke in the poet sublime emotions, might have composed the inventive mind of the great critic in the vision of his theoretical mysteries. A celebrated French preacher, Bourdaloue, or Massillon, was once found playing on a violin, to screw his mind up to the pitch, preparatory for his sermon, which within a short interval he was to preach before the court. Curran's favourite mode of meditation was with the violin in his hand; for hours together would he forget himself, running voluntaries over the strings, while his imagination in collecting its tones was opening all his faculties for the coming emergency at the bar.-Gray's Supplement .-- [To these might be added a very long list of names of men of letters and men of science; besides numerous theologians, who, in hours of relaxation from severer studies, beguiled time, and braced their minds for further exertion by the practice of, or in listening to, the witching voice of music .- Éd. B. M.]

HANDEL AND GREENE .- When Handel arrived in London, Greene (afterwards Dr. Greene), then a young man, was anxious to become personally known to him, and succeeded in his wish. As the acquaint-ance improved, so did their mutual familiarities; till, at length, Handel contracted the habit of frequently taking his juvenile friend with him to St. Paul's, to

officiate for him as his blower while he amused himself at the organ. On these occasions, after shutting the church doors, they both took off their coats, and setting to, each in his province, they would often remain at the instrument till eight or nine at night. To the repeated opportunities these occasions gave the young musician of hearing the performance, and watching the manner, of so great a master, he, in a great measure, was indebted for the distinguished figure he afterwards made, both as an organist and a composer.

#### YOUTH OF THE GLOOMY BROW. GLEE FOR THREE VOICES.



No more shalt thou feast in my halls,



MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.





MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.





LIFE LET US CHERISH.



Life let us cherish, While yet the taper glows; And the fresh flow'ret Pluck ere it close.

Why are we fond of toil and care, Why choose the rankling thorn to wear, And heedless by the lily stray, Which blossoms in our way. Life let us cherish, &c.

When clouds obscure the atmosphere, And forked lightnings rend the air, The sun resumes his silver crest, And smiles adorn the west. Life let us cherish, &c.

The genial seasons soon are o'er, Then let us ere we quit this shore, Contentment seek; it is Life's zest, The sunshine of the breast. Life let us cherish, &c.

Away with ev'ry toil and care, And cease the rankling thorn to wear, With manful hearts life's conflict meet, Till death sounds the retreat. Life let us cherish, &c.

TASTE LIFE'S GLAD MOMENTS. Taste life's glad moments, Whilst the wasting taper glows; Pluck, ere it withers, The quickly fading rose. Man hlindly follows grief and care, He seeks for thorns and finds his share, Whilst violets to the passing air Unheeded shed their hlossom, Taste life's, &c.

When tim'rons nature veils her form, And rolling thunder spreads alarm, Then ah 1 how sweet, when lull'd the storm, The sun smiles forth at even. Taste life's, &c.

And when life's path grows dark and strait, And pressing ills on ills await, Then friendship, sorrow to ahate, The helping hand will offer. Taste life's, &c.

She dries his tears, she strews his way, E'en to the grave, with flow'rets gay, Turns night to morn, and morn to day, And pleasure still increases. Taste life's &c.

Of life she is the fairest hand, Joins brothers truly hand in hand; Thus onward to a better land, Man journeys light and cheerly. Taste life's &c.

THE foregoing verses, by Sir Alex. Boswell, author of "Jenny dang the weaver," and other popular Scotch songs, were, he tells us, translated by him at Leipzic, in 1795, from the German song, "Fren't euch des Lebens," (of which "Life let us cherish," is another version.)

2.34

They first appeared in "Songs, chiefly in the Scottish Dialect," a small volume published by him in 1803. In adapting "Taste life's glad moments," to the above music, the dotted crotchet in the third bar must be sung as a crotchet and quaver, and the end of the first strain thus-



### JOHN SEBASTIAN BACH.

#### (From a Lecture on Music, delivered in 1836, at the Islington Literary and Scientific Institution, by Mr. Gauntlet.)

IN a small town (Eisenach) in Germany, contemporary with Handel, Hasse, Porpora, Vinci, and Pergolesi, was living one who, by the splendour of his genius, was laying the corner stone of that school of imagination and learning, from which has arisen the noble superstructure of the German Musical Drama. His great intellectual powers enabled him to penetrate into the inmost recesses of the art. Harmony opened to him a new and extended field. He used it, not only to increase mere musical expressions, but as a means for the invention of melody.

Few persons can be found incapable of understanding and appreciating a melody in its simplest form, that is, without the accompaniments of har-mony; while those who enter into the spirit and intentions of the union of several parts, each carrying on a distinct and different melody, form a small minority. To the well-informed amateur, the works of Bach present ideas of beauty, symmetry, design, expression—the elements of all that is grand and magnificent-and excite emotions of the most lively, varied, and exalted character. Even to those ignorant of music, as a science, the compositions of this great master appear highly interesting and attractive. The general effect of their performance, to persons of this description, may be a confused labyrinth of sounds, through which their experience is unable to furnish a clue; except that here and there may be a melody or sequence, in so plain and intel-ligible a form as may readily be appreciated. Nevertheless the attention is arrested, the imagination excited, the feelings interested, and an impression left on the mind that the music is like nothing that the audience has ever heard before. Ideas of solemnity, splendour, and magnificence, naturally arise from the richness, breadth, and complexity of the har-mony; the surpassing flow and beauty of the melody; and the life and spirit by which the whole is characterised.

I have been often amused at the acuteness hy which a mechanic, who was accustomed to blow the organ at one of the metropolitan churches, distinguished the compositions of this master. Although perfectly unacquainted with music, the man would decide without hesitation, on the identity of this writer; and be seriously offended if any attempt were made to palm off the fugue of another com-poser as the work of Bach. Of this author's writings the most distinguished are his Cantatas, Masses, Passione, Sanctus, and Motetts; to which I must add his organ fugues, with obligato-pedal accompaniments, of which there are more than twelve; two sets of exercises, each consisting of six books; six sonatas for the clairchord, for two sets of keys, and

| pedal obligato; six sonatos for the violin and clair. chord; twelve solos for the violin and violoncello; several concertos, one of which is for two clairchords, with a quartett accompaniment, and another for four clairchords, and also a quartett accompaniment; forty-eight studies for the clairchord; and an elaborate series of fugues, intended to exemplify this branch of the art, upon a fine old ecclesiastical subject. In addition to these splendid memorials of his genius, I must not omit to mention nearly five hundred corales, or psalm tunes. Bach's productions are now exciting great and increasing interest on the continent. His masses are publishing in numbers, one edition of which is in full score, another with an arrangement for the organ or pianoforte. Bernhard Marx is also editing a work, entitled "Johann Sebastian Bach's noch wenig bekannte argel-compositionen," which contains some singu-larly beautiful fugues, with pedal-obligato. Many of these compositions have been reprinted by Messrs. Coventry and Holier, Dean Street. The Passione has also been published in full score, and arranged by Mendelsohn. A new edition of the Corales has also lately appeared, arranged in a very delightful manner for the organ or piano forte. Of his Masses the Magnificat in Eb, and the complete Mass in D (remarkable for its Crucifixus), are the most known in this country. The Mass for a double choir, and two orchestras, the one a stringed and the other a wind band, is a work of prodigious learning, and must have cost the writer the most intense thought. Dr. Forkel observes, that it is preceded by an intro-duction, written by Kirnberger (who was one of Bach's pupils), explanatory of the great skill displayed in its composition.

As a Motett writer Bach stands again pre-eminent. His six Motetts, composed for a double choir, are master-pieces of learning and genius. Forkel says of them, "He who does not know them cannot possibly have an opinion of their merits, or the genius of the author; and he who does know them sufficiently well to appreciate them, should bear in mind that works of art, in proportion as they are great and perfect, require to be the more diligently studied to discover their real value and extent. That butterfly spirit, which flutters incessantly from flower to flower, without resting upon any, can do nothing here." Latrobe has well observed that "the genuine corale, instead of being wrapt up in monotony and dullness, offers scope within the bounds of its enchanted circle for the exercise of the richest musical imagination. It claims attention from the most fastidious, by the richness and weight of its materials. Instead of the few meagre chords upon which the lighter tunes raise their fanciful superstructure, it grasps in its ample comprehension the most magnificent combi. nations, the boldest transitions, the simplest modu lations, and the sweetest melody, clothed in a chastity that alike attracts the untutored and approves itself in the mind of the learned." To those acquainted with the corales of Sebastian Bach, this is the language of just and sound criticism. It is to be regretted that no one has undertaken the task of publishing an English edition of these extraordinary and beautiful psalm tunes.

But it is in the adagios of his sonatos for two rows of keys and obligato pedals, and in the preludes to his organ fugues that the genius of Bach is most fully developed. However ethereally and ideally heautiful, however wildly romantic, however deeply mysterions, he manifests himself, his ideus appca

to flow naturally from the inspiration of the moment. No composer more readily individualises himself with his subject. The expression of nature is the distinct passion of his mind, and his adagios are embued with that warm spirit of life which it is the province of nature alone to breathe into the heart of man.

The following particulars are gathered from the Biographie Universelle :- The above eminent musician was born in 1685, and made such proficiency in his art that at the age of eighteen he was appointed organist of the new church of Arnstadt. In 1708 he settled at Weimar, where he was appointed court musician and director of the duke's concert, and in a trial of skill at Dresden, he obtained a victory over the celebrated French organist, Marchand, who had previously challenged and conquered all the organists of France and Italy. He afterwards be-came master of the chapel to the Prince of Anhalt Cohen, and to the Duke of Weissenfels. As a performer and composer for the organ, he long stood unrivalled. He died at Leipsic, in 1754, leaving eleven sons, of whom the following were very eminent musicians -- Wilhelm Friedmann, born in 1710, at Weimar, died master of the chapel of Hesse Darmstadt, at Berlin, in 1784.—Charles Philip Emanuel, born in 1714, at Weimar, died at Hamhurg, in 1788. After having studied law at Leipsic, he went to Berlin, as a musiciau in the Prussian service, and was, finally, director of the orchestra at Hamburg. He has composed mostly for the piano, and has published melodies for Gellert's hymns. His vocal compositions are excellent, and his essay on the true manner of playing on the harpsichord, is even now a classical work in its kind.-John Christopher Frederick, born at Weimar, 1732, died in 1795, master of the chapel at Buckeburg, a great organist, is also favourably known by the music he has published .- John Christian, born in 1735, at Leipsic, died in London 1782, was, on account of the graceful and agreeable style in which he wrote, a favourite composer with the public.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### To the Editor of the British Minstrel.

SIR,-I have lately had transmitted to me by a friend, a copy of your Minstrel, as far as published. Allow me, Sir, to compliment you on the very superior manner in which you have conducted it. It is a pity it is not hetter known in Ireland, where such a work has long been a desideratum. \* \* \* Your selections for three and four voices, will assist in filling up a vacuity which has long stood agape. But in your songs, in my opinion, you are rather too partial to those of Scottish growth; probably you are a Scotsman, and if so, then yours is an amiable and pardonable partiality, and certainly the sougs of Scotland are very beautiful, whether we look upon them as poetical or musical compositions; but we Irishmen have a foolish, it may be sinful, liking for the inspired strains of the poets of our own dear island, and we would cheerfully applaud him who would endeavour to procure a more extended circulation for the wild, simple, and pathetic wailings which our Carolan's, O'Connellan's, and O'Daly's drew from the chords of their almost vital harps.

The accompanying song is a translation of "Mairé Chuislé," and sings to the air of "Gramachree." I have transcribed it from "Hardiman's Irish Minstrelsy," a work of which every Irishman ought to be proud. Perhaps you may think it worth a place in your Miscellany; and even though you do not, I am sure that you will agree with me in thinking that it would be a pity if such sweet things should fade and pass away for ever.

Yours, &c.,

#### AN AMATEUR.

### Drogheda, 10th Oct., 1842.

[Will our Correspondent take the trouble of sending us a few of the best of the popular, purely national, and old songs, with their airs, and we will prove to him that, although Scottish, we are British, nay more, Cosmopolitan, and will always give the first place to the most worthy. -Ed. B. M.]

The Song referred to will be found at page 225.

# THE WOMEN OF KAMTSCHATKA.

THEY are fond of singing, and the sound of their voice is soft, and far from being displeasing; it is only to be wished that their music had not so great a resemblance to the climate, or that it approached nearer to ours. They speak both the Russian and Kamtschadale languages; but they all preserve the accent of the latter. I did not expect to see Polish dances here, and still less, country dances in the English taste. Who would believe that the ladies here had any idea of the *minuet*? Whether it was my being at sea for twenty-six months, which had rendered me less difficult to be pleased, or that the remembrance of former scenes, which this spectacle revived, had fascinated my cyes, I know not, but I thought these dances executed with more precision and grace than I could have imagined. The dancers of whom I speak, carry their vanity so far as to disdain the songs and dances of the Kamtschadales .-Extracted from the Journal of M. D. LESSEPS, who sailed as interpreter with the COUNT DE LA PEROUSE.

#### MADAME CATALANI.

[THE following extracts are taken from an article in the Musical Quarterly Review, No. IX., June, 1821, referring to the concert which Madame Catalani gave in the Argyle Rooms, being her first concert on her second visit to Britain.]

They who would rightly and completely appreciate this prodigious singer, must be acquainted with Italian expression—must surrender themsclves to their feelings—must look solely to effects, and remember that effects will often bear down rules.

"To snatch a grace beyond the reach of art" is the very privilege and prerogative of genius, and it is one which CATALANI uses to its extremest extent. It is not perhaps that she imagines what other singers are incapable of inventing, or that she does what they are anable to excente. Her superiority lies in the manner. And there is no one that can rise to the smallest chance of comparison with her, in animation, in force, in volume, in grandeur, in rap'dity, or in transition. In all these attributes she is matchless.

MADAME CATALANI'S style is still purely dramatic. By this epithet we mean to convey the vivid conception that exalts passion to the utmost pitch of ex. pressiveness-the brilliancy of colouring that invests every object npon which the imagination falls, with the richest clothing—that gives the broadest lights and the deepest shadows. Hence there is a particular point in the perspective from which alone she can be viewed to advantage. Distance is indispensable, for her efforts are calculated to operate through amplitude of space and upon the largest assemblies. Approach her and she is absolutely terrific; the spectator trembles for the lovely frame that he perceives to he so tremendously agitated. They who have never witnessed the enthusiasm that illuminates that finest of all created countenances, have never seen-no, not in MRS SIDDONS herself, the perfection of majesty, nor in MISS O'NEIL, the softest triumphs of the tender affections. Her thoughts literally cornscate through the bright radiance of her eyes and the ever changing varieties of her countenance. Her's is the noblest order of forms, and every vein and every fibre seems instinct with feeling, the moment she begins to sing. Never do we recollect to have observed such powerful, such instantaneous illuminations of her figure and her features as CATALANI displays. Thus the whole person is aiding the effects of the most extraordinary energy and the most extraordinary facility the world has ever known, and the combined results are irresistible. The mind is now allured and now impelled, now awed by dignity surpassing all that can be conceived, now transported by smiles of tender-

ness more exquisite than poetry has ever fancied. The change that we principally perceive is an increase of the quantity (not an amelioration of the quality) of the tone, an augmentation of the general force, and a more decided application of various transition. These mutations add both to the majesty and the tenderness of her style, which is certainly her own altogether. She takes the hearer by storm. She convulses and she melts her audience by turns. She affects by vehemence not less than by There is, however, nothing more curious rapidity. than the gradations perceptible by varying the degrees of contiguity; for the auditor would unquestionably form a different judgment according as he recedes or approaches the singer through all shades, from absolute terror to mere brilliancy of execution, and expression superior for its strength. But at any distance he would not fail to acknowledge CATA-LANI'S supremacy. The absolute force can only be measured by observation at the nearest remove from the orchestra. There alone can the infinite and rapid workings of her sensibility be accurately discerned and understood. Her intonation appears to us more certain than it was. Her invention is probably little if at all extended.

Madame CATALANI returns to this country greater than when she left it greatest. Her very highest notes may perhaps be somewhat impaired, but this we have no means of determining. In every other part and attribute of her voice and style, she is decidedly matured and mellowed. She must be jndged alone, for she bas nothing in common with any other singer. It is, we repeat, by the effect only, that we estimate her ability. Measuring then by this simple standard, we say that she surprises,

agitates, convulses, and enchants us by turns—that her dignity, her tenderness, and her enthnsiasm defy description—and that the majesty of her voice is equalled only by the heauty and command of her form and countenance.

#### AN EVENING WITH MADAME CATALANI.

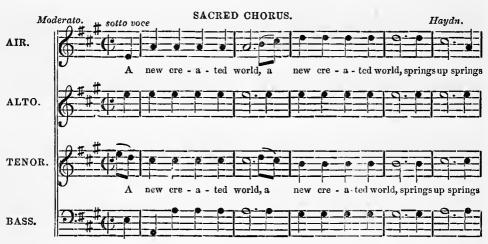
INSTEAD of going as usual to the Cascina after dinner yesterday, I was taken a mile or two out of Florence to pay a visit from which I promised mysclf much pleasure, and received more. I went to see Europe's umqwhile wonder and delight, Madame Catalani Valabrique. She is residing in a very beautiful villa, which stands in the midst of an extensive podere of which she is the owner. Nothing could be more amiable than the reception she gave us. I think, of all the nations who joined in the universal chorus in praise of her high character, her charming quali-ties, and her unequalled talent, she loves the English best-perhaps they best understood her worth, and the rare superiority of a mind that, in the midst of flattery and adulation that really seem to have known no limits, preserved all its simplicity and goodness unscathed. I was equally surprised and pleased to see to what an extraordinary degree she had preserved her beauty. Her eyes and teeth are still magnificent, and I am told that when seen in evening full dress by candle light, no stranger can see her for the first time without inquiring who that charm. ing-looking woman is. A multitude of well-behaved reasons would have prevented me, especially at this my first introduction, from naming the very vehement desire I felt once more to hear the notes of a voice that had so often enchanted me. Perhaps, if I had not seen her looking so marvellously young and handsome, the idea might neither have seized upon, nor tormented me so strongly as it did; but as it was, I never longed more, perhaps never so much, to hear her sing as I now did. Her charming daughter, Madame de V-----, was sitting near me, and I think I ventured to ask her if her mother ever sang now, to which she most gaily answered in the affirmative....and then....what happened next I hardly know .... I am afraid I must have said something about my secret longings.... for the daughter whispered a few words to the mother, and in a moment Madame Catalani was at the piano....No, in her very best days, she never smiled a sweeter smile than she did then, as she prepared to comply with the half expressed wishes of a stranger, who had no claim upon her kindness but that of being an Englishwoman. I know not what it was she sang; but scarcely had she permitted her voice to swell into one of those bravura passages, of which her execution was so very peculiar, and so perfectly un equalled, than I felt as if some magical process was being performed upon me, which took me back again to something ..... I know not what to call it .... which I had neither heard nor felt for nearly twenty years. Involuntarily, unconsciously, my eyes filfed with tears, and I felt as much embarrassed as a young lady of fiftcen might do, who suddenly found herself in the act of betraying emotions which she was far, indeed, from wishing to display ..... It was not the feeling often produced by hearing, after a long interval, some strain with which our youth was familiar, for I doubt if ever I heard the notes before, but it was the sort of peenliar unique Catalani thrill, which I do not believe any body ever can forget who has heard it once, and of which no one can form a very adequate idea who has never heard it at all.

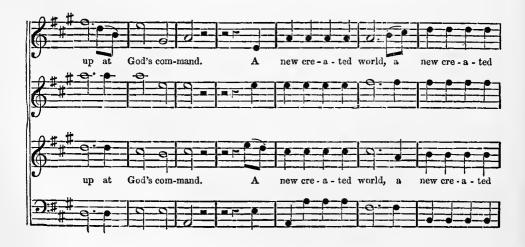
Were I to tell you that the magnificent compass of | Madame Catalani's voice was the same as heretofore, and all the clear violin notes of it quite unchanged, you would probably not believe me; but you may venture to do so, I do assure you, without scruple, when I declare that she still executes passages of the extremest difficulty, with a degree of skill that might cause very nearly all her successors in the science to pine with envy, and, moreover, give up the competition in despair. Madame Catalani's eldest son, who scems to love her as such a mother deserves to be loved, is living with her; Madame de -, likewisc appeared domiciled with her excellent mother; the youngest son, also spoken of as highly estimable, is in the army with his regiment. The dwelling of Madame Catalani is extremely beautiful, being a large mansion, containing some very splendid rooms, and situated, like all other | and saw as well as ever .- Dr. Busby's Anecdotes.

Florentine villas, in a spot of great beauty, commanding very extensive views among the picturesque hollows of the neighbouring Appenines, with the ever-bright looking villas scattered among them. -A Visit to Italy, by Mrs. Trollope.

BACH'S RECOVERY OF SIGHT .- The indefatigable diligence with which John Sebastian Bach passed his nights and days in the study of his art, at length brought on a disorder in his eyes; which, notwithstanding the efforts of an eminent English oculist, entirely deprived him of sight. Soon after this misfortune, in the year 1740, his constitution, which before had been remarkably vigorous, began to fail ; and, after suffering under a decline for about a year and a half he expired. The extraordinary fact that gives interest and particularity to this narrative is, that on the morning of the tenth day before his death, he suddenly recovered his sight,

#### Α NEW CREATED WORLD.





MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.





#### "MUSIC HATH CHARMS."

# (From Bizarre Fables.)

Four months had flown swiftly away since Edward Somerton had married Rose Bland. One summer evening towards sunset, as they sat together at a window opening on to a garden, enjoying the welcome coolness, and talking over various matters with that interest in each other which people generally evice four months after marriage, Rose, for the first time, began to pout. Edward had, she said, firted desperately with Mrs. Harding on the preceding evening. He had spoken to her in a low tone several times, and had been heard publicly to declare that Harding was a fortunate fellow. If this were the way be meant to go on, she should be wretched, and no longer place any confidence in his affection.

"My pretty dear," said Edward, placing his arm around the waist of his wife, and accompanying this action by another triffing performance, "don't be jealous. Believe me there is no cause. On one of the occasions when I addressed Mrs. Harding in so low a tone, I remarked the room was very warm; and on another, if I remember rightly, I observed that the last novel was very dull; so you will perceive our conversation was really of a most innocent description. And Rose, because I said Harding was a fortunate fellow, it is not to be inferred that I must endeavour to render him an unfortunate fellow."

The mild answer failed to turn away the wrath of Rose. She coquettishly refused to be convinced, became more violent and unreasonable, and finally retired precipitately from the room, with her handkerchief applied to her eyes.

Edward quietly put ap his feet on the chair she had left vacant, and leaned back in meditation.

Here was the decisive moment which would most likely determine whether they were to dwell together for the future happily or miserably. Rose was a dear girl—a sweet girl; but she had large black eves, and they are very dangerous. She had been an only daughter, too, and perhaps a little spoiled; but with fewer faults might she not have been less charming? It is worth studying how to live loringly with such a creature, especially when you know that she mars, by her capriciousness, her own happiness as much as yours.

Edward felt that the charge of his wife was totally unfounded, and he half suspected that she believed so herself, but had resolved to be, or seem, out of humour without any very particular cause. One thing was evident—that she would not hear reason. Something else must therefore be tried, in order to allay any futare storm—for this was probably the very first of a series. Edward resolved to try music.

He was an amateur of some pretensions, and he set himself immediately to call over in his memory the melodies most likely to calm the passions and exert a seothing effect on the temper. He made choice of three, which he arranged in a graduated scale, to be used according to the urgency of the occasion; gentle, more gentle, and most gentle, as the ontbreak was or became violent, more violent, or most violent. The scale contained only three degrees. As the heat rose, this conjugal thermometer fell; but below the third and lowest all was zero and undefined mystery. Patience therefore acted the part of mercury reversed.

The melodies were the following, and were ar-

No. 31.

ranged in the following order:—"In my cottage near a wood," "Sul margine d'un rio," and "Home, sweet home." They were all of a pleasing, touch ing character; the last purely domestic, and under the circumstances, conveying a delicate satire likely to do good. He had hitherto played these popalar airs on the German flute; but he proposed now to execute them in a graceful, apparently unpremeditated, whistle. His plan thus settled, Edward felt his mind quite easy, and he awaited the appearance of Mrs. Somerton with a gratifying consciousness of being ready for whatever might occur.

In due time came coffee. The injured lady came too, and with a placid countenance, betraying no lingering evidence of its late unamiable expression Neither husband nor wife made any allusion to their misunderstanding, and they passed a pleasant evening, made np of conversatioo, the piano-ferte, and chess.

But the next morning—the very next morning, Rose favoured her dear Edward with a number of the series. She wanted him to walk out with her, and he declared that unfortunately he should be too busy to go with her all day. This was quite safficient raw material for a girl of spirit to work upor.

"I'm sure you don't want to go, Edward," said she, pouting in exact imitation of fit number one. "At least you don't want to go with ME."

Edward plunged both his hands into the pockete of his dressing gown—threw himself indolently on a sofa—gazed abstractedly at a bronze bust of Shakspeare on the mantelpiece—and began whistling in a low tone a plaintive melody, it was "In my cottage near a wood."

"If it were any one but your wife," continued Mrs. Somerton, with pointed emphasis, "You would be ready enough to come; but wives, you knew, are always neglected." Mr. Somerton continued whistling.

"I beg, Mr. Somerton," exclaimed Mrs. Somerton, with a withering look, "that you will not whistle in that very disagreeable manner whilst I am speaking to you. If I am not worthy of your love I trust I am worthy of common attention."

Edward plunged his hands deeper into his pockets, removed his eyes from the bust of Shakspeare, and fixed them in intense regard on a bust of Milton. He paused saddenly in the air which he was whistling and commenced another; it was "Sul margine d'un rio."

Mrs. Somerton retired hastily with her pretty face buried in a white cambric pocket-handkerchief.

For five whole days after this scene all was halcyon weather. Doves might have beheld and envied. Honey was still to be found in the moon, and no impolitic reference to either of the two foolish quarrels gave any the slightest dash of bitter.

But on the sixth day there appeared clouds. Edward had been into town, and had promised to bring a pair of new bracelets for Rose. He arrived home punctually at dinner-time, but without the bracelets—he had forgotten them. I put it to you whether this was not enough to try the temper of a saint? They were going the next evening to a large? party, and Rose had intended to inspect the important ornaments this evening, and take Edward's opiniou, so that there might be time to change them if not approved of. Now she could not do so—and all from his horrid forgetfulness. She must either go in a stupid old-fashioned thing, or put on new ones in a hurry, good or bad, just as they happened to be. It was most annoying—that indeed it was ! Edward made many apologies. He was sincerely sorry to have disappointed her, and even offered to return to town after dinner and repair his neglect. Oh no; she would not hear of his taking so much trouble for HER. What did he care whether SHE were disappointed or not? His forgetfulness showed how much he thought of her!

Edward again essayed the soothing system, for he loved her, and was conscious that he had given her cause for some slight chagrin. However, she became so persevering that but one course was left him to pursue—he left off talking, and toek to whistling.

I tremble for the future pcace of Rose while I relate that he considered himself justified in descending at once to the second degree of the scale. He commenced, Andante ma non troppo, "Sul margine d'un rie."

"To leave me in such a situation!" exclaimed the ill-used wife, in a voice interrupted by sobs, "when I had set my heart upon those bracelets. It is very, very unkind, Edward."

Edward appeared wrapt in meditation and music. He whistled with great taste and feeling, accenting the first note of each bar as it should be accented. But upon another more cutting observation from Mrs. Somerton, he stopped short, looked sternly at her, and began "Home, sweet home." What was to follow? He had reached the last

What was to follow? He had reached the last degree, and all else was at random. Should this fail, the case was indeed hopeless. Shadows of demons hovered around, holding forth temptingly

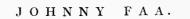
deeds of separation. The bright gold wedding-ring on the lady's finger grew dull and brassy.

Edward Somerton stood in the centre of the room, with his arms folded, gazing with a steady gaze into the very soul of his wife, who, under the strange fascination, could not turn away her head. With a clear and untremulous whistle he recited the whole of that beautiful Sicilian melody from the first note to the last. Then revolving slowly on his heel, without saying a word he left the room, shatting the door punctilioosly after him. Mrs. Somerton sunk overpowered on the sofa.

Rose, though pretty, was not silly; she saw clearly that she had made a mistake, and, like a sensible girl, she resolved not to go on with it merely because she had begun it. Bad temper, it seemed, would only serve to make her ridiculous instead of interesting—and that was not altogether the effect desired.

In half an hour the husband and wife met at the dinner table. Mrs. Somerton sat smiling at the head, and was very attentive in helping Mr. Somerton to the choicest morsels. He was in unusually high spirits, and a more happy small party could searcely be met with.

From that day (which was ten years ago) to the present time, Mrs. Somerton has never found fault without cause. Once or twice, iudeed, she has gone so far as to look serious about nothing; but the frown left her countenance at once when Edward began to whistle in a low tone, as if unconsciously, the first few bars of "In my cottage near a wood."







" O come wi' me," says Johnny Faa, "O come wi' me, my dearie For I vow and I swear by the staff of my spear,

- Your lord shall nae mair come near ye !'
- "Gae tak frae me my silk manteel, And bring to me a plaidie; For I will travel the warld owre,
- Alang wi' the gypsie laddie.
- "Yestreen I lay in a weel-made hed, And my gude lord beside me;
- This night I'll lie in a tenant's barn, Whatever shall betide me.
- Last night 1 lay in a weel-made bed Wi' silken hangings round me;
- But now I ll lie in a farmer's barn, Wi' the gypsies all around me.'
- Now when our lord cam' hame at e'en, He speir'd for his fair leddie;
- The ane she cried, the t'ither replied
- "She's awa wi' the gypsic laddic." Gae saddle me the gude black steed,
- The bay was ne'er sae ready; For I will neither eat nor sleep, 'Till I bring hame my leddie.
- Then he rode east and he rode west, And he rode near stra' bogie ;
- Aod there he found his ain dear wife,
- Along wi' gypsie Johnny. And what made you leave your houses and land, Or what made you leave your money;
- Or what made you leave your ain wedded lord,
- To follow the gypsie laddie.
- Then come thee hame my ain dear wife, Then come thee hame my dearie; And I do swear by the hilt of my sword,
- The gypsies nae mair shall come near thee. Oh, we were fifteen weel made men,
- Although we were nae bonnie ; And we were a' put down for ane, For the Earl o' Cassilis' leddie.''

# WAES ME FOR PRINCE CHARLIE.

A1R.—Same as foregoing. A wee hird came to our ha' door, He warbled sweet and clearlie, And aye the o'ercome o' his sang Was "waes me for Prince Charlie." Oh! when I heard the bonnie bonnie bird, The tears cam drappin' rarely; I took my bannet aff my head, For weel I lo'ed Prince Charlie.

Quo' I, "my bird, my bonnie bonnie bird, Solution of the second "I've flown sin' mornin' early ; But sic a day o' win' an' rain; Oh! waes me for Prince Charlie.

"On hills that are by right his ain He roams a lonely stranger; On ilka hand he's press'd by want, On ilka side by danger : Yestreen I met him in a glen, My heart near bursted fairly, For sadly chang'd indeed was he : Oh! waes me for Prince Charlie.

"Dark night came on, the tempest howl'd Out owre the hills and vallies, And whar was't that your Prince lay down, Wha's hame should been a palace? He row'd him in a highland plaid, Which cover'd him but sparely, And slept beneath a bush o' broom; Oh! waes me for Prince Charlie.'

But now the bird saw some red coats, And he shook his wings wi' anger : "Oh this is no a land for me, I'll tarry here nae langer :" A while he hover'd on the wing, Ere he departed fairly ; But weel I mind the farewell strain, 'Twas "waes me for Prince Charlie."

The above are the words of the beautiful song which her Majesty requested Mr. Wilson to sing at the late entertainment in Taymouth Castle. We are not aware whether it is generally known that "Waes me for Prince Charlie" is the production of the late Mr. Wil-liam Glue of the site who was also the subset liam Glen, of this city, who was also the author of many other poetical works of merit. Mr. Glen died about twenty years ago, at a comparatively early age ; but he lived long enough to obtain considerable reputation as a poet, and in his social circle few men were more highly esteemed. Unfortunately, however, for the spread of Mr. Glen's fame, his poems and songs were never collected in a permanent form, and many of them, we believe, exist only in the manuscript copies which were given to his friends. Those which have attracted the greatest degree of attention after that requested by her Majesty, are the song upon the "Bat-tle of Vittoria," the poems of "Cuidad Roderigo," and "Waterloo," and the humorous lines entitled "Death and Dr. Turnbull."—Glasgow Argus, Sept., 1940. 1842.

# JOHNNIE FAA, THE GYPSIE LADDIE.

THE ballad of Johnnie Faa was first printed in Allan Ramsay's Tca Table Miscellany in 1724. Several different versions have since appeared, particularly one in Finlay's Scottish Ballads, 1808; another under the title of "Gypsie Davie," in Mo-therwell's Minstrelsy, 1827, and a third from the recitation of Mr. John Martin, the celebrated painter, in the Songs of Scotland, 1835. The occurrence, in the family of the Earl of Cassilis, on which the ballad is said to have been founded, is thus related in "Chambers's Picture of Scotland :"-

"John, the sixth Earl of Cassilis, a stern Coven-anter, and of whom it is reported by Bishop Burnet

that he never would permit his language to be understood bat in its direct sense, obtained to wife lady Jean Hamilton, a daughter of Thomas, first Earl of Haddington, a man of singular genias, who had raised himself from the Scottish bar to a peerage and the best fortune of his time. The match, as is probable from the character of the parties, seems to have been one dictated by policy; for Lord Haddington was anxious to connect himself with the older peers, and Lord Cassilis might have some such anxiety to be allied to his father-in-law's good estates; the religion and politics of the parties, moreover, were the same. It is therefore not very likely that Lady Jean herself had much to say in the bargain. Ou the contrary, says report, her affections were shamefully violated. She had been previously beloved by a gallant young knight, a Sir John Faa of Dunbar, who had perhaps seen her at her father's seat of Tynningham, which is not more than three miles from that town. When several years were spent and gone, and Lady Cassilis had brought her husband three children, this passion led to a dreadful eatastrophe. Her youthful lover, seizing an opportunity when the Earl was attending the Assembly of Divines at Westminster, came to Cassilis Castle, a massive old tower on the banks of the Doon, four miles from Maybole, then the principal residence of the family, and which is still to be seen in its original state. He was disguised as a gypsy, and attended by a band of these desperate outcasts. In the words of the ballad,

The gypsies cam to the Yerl o' Cassilis' yett, And, oh, but they sang sweetly; They sang sae sweet and sae complete, That down cam our fair ladye.

She came tripping doun the stairs, Wi'a' her maids before her; And as sune as they saw her weel-faur'd face, They cuist the glaumourye owre her.

Alas! love has a glamourye for the eyes much more powerful than that supposed of old to be practised by wandering gypsies, and which must have been the only magic used on this oceasion. The Countess right soon condescended to elope with her lover. Most unfortunately, ere they had proceeded very far, the Earl came home, and, learning the faet, immediately set out in pursuit. Accompanied by a band which put resistance out of the question, he overtook them, and eaptured the whole party, at a ford over the Doon, still called the Gypsies' Steps, a few miles from the castle. He brought them back to Cassilis, and there hanged all the gypsies, including the hapless Sir John, upon "the Dule Tree," a splendid and most umbrageous plane, which yet flourishes upon a mound in front of the eastle gate, and which was his gallows-in-ordinary, as the name testifies. As for the Countess, whose indiscretion occasioned all this waste of human life, she was taken by her husband to a window in front of the castle, and there, by a refinement of cruelty, compelled to survey the dreadful scene---to see, one after another, fifteen gallant men put to death, and at last to witness the dying agonies of him who had first been dear to her, and who had perilled all that men esteem in her behalf. The particular room in the stately old house where the unhappy lady endured this horrible torture, is still called "the Countess's Room." After undergoing a short confinement in that apartment, the house belonging to the family at Maybole was fitted for her reception, by the addition of a fine projecting staircase, upon

which were carved heads representing those of her lover and his band; and she was removed thither and confined for the rest of her life .-- the Earl in the meantime marrying another wife. One of her daughters, Lady Margaret, was alterwards married to the eelebrated Gilbert Barnet. The family, fortunately, has not been continued by her progeny, but by that of her husband's second wife. White confined in Maybole Castle, she is said to have wrought a prodigious quantity of tapestry, so as to have completely covered the walls of her prison; but no vestige of it is now to be seen, the house having been repaired (otherwise rnined), a few years ago, when size paint had become a more fashionable thing in Maybole than tapestry. The effigies of the gypsies are very minute, being subservient to the decoration of a fine triple window at the top of the stair case, and stuck upon the tops and bottoms of a series of little pilasters, which adorn that part of the building. The head of Johnnie Faa himself is distinct from the rest, larger, and more lachry-mose in the expression of the features. Some windows in the upper flat of Cassilis Castle are similarly adorned; but regarding them tradition is silent."

#### PAGANINI.

PAGANINI has no rival—unless, indeed, you could get a whole woodfall of nightingales, and hear them in company with the person you loved best in the world. That would beat even him.—Leigh Hunt.

So play'd of late to every passing thought With finest change (might I but half as well So write!) the pale magician of the bow, Who brought from Italy the tales made true, Of Grecian lyres, and on his sphery hand, Loading the air with damb expectance, Suspended, ere it fell, a nation's breath.

He smote—and clinging to the serions chords With godlike ravishment, drew forth a breath, So deep, so strong, so fervid thick with love, Blissful, yet laden as with twenty prayers, That Juno yearn'd with no diviner soul To the first burthen of the lips of Jove.

The exceeding mystery of the loveliness Sadden'd delight; and with his mournful look, Dreary and gaunt, hanging his pallid face "Twixt his dark and flowing locks, he almost seem'd, To feeble or to melancholy eyes, One that had parted with his soul for pride, And in the sable secret liv'd forlorn.

But true and earnest, all too happily That skill dwelt in him, serious with its joy; For noble now he smote the exulting strings. And bade them march before his stately will; And now he lov'd them like a cheek, and laid Endearment on them, and took pity sweet; And now he was all mirth, or all for sense And reason, carving out his thoughts like prose After his poetry; or else he laid His own soul prostrate at the feet of love, And with a full and trembling fervour deep, In kneeling and close-creeping urgency, Implored some mistress with hot tears ; which past, And after patience had brought right of peace, He drew as if from thoughts finer than hope Comfort around him in ear-soothing strains And elegant composure; or he turn'd 'To heaven instead of earth, and rais'd a prayer

So earnest vehement, yet so lowly sad, Mighty with want and all poor human tears, That never saint, wrestling with earthly love, And in mid-age unable to get free, Tore down from heaven such pity.

#### Or behold

In his despair (for such, from what he spoke Of grief before it, or of love, 'twould seem), Jump would he into some strange wail, uncouth, Of witches' dance, ghastly with whinings thin, And palsied nods-mirth wicked, sad, and weak. And then with show of skill mechanical, Marvellous us witchcraft, he would overthrow That vision with a shower of notes like hail, Or sudden mixtures of all difficult things Never yet heard; flashing the sharp tones now, In downward leaps like swords; now rising fine Into an almost tip of minute sound, From which he stepp'd into a higher and a higher On viewless points, till laugh took leave of him; Or he would fly as if from all the world To be alone and happy, and you should hear His instrument become a tree far off, A nest of birds and sunbeams, sparkling both, A cottage bower; or he would condescend, In playful wisdom which knows no contempt, To bring to laughing memory, plain as sight, A farmyard with its inmates, ox and lamb, The whistle and the whip, with feeding hens In household fidget muttering evermore, And rising as in scorn, crown'd Chanticleer, Ordaining silence with his sovereign crow.

Then from one chord of his amazing shell Would he fetch out the voice of quires, and weight Of the built organ; or some two fold strain Moving before him in sweet-going yoke, Ride like an Eastern conqueror, round whose state Some light Morisco leaps with his guitar; And ever and anon o'er these he'd throw Jets of small notes like pearl, or like the pelt Of lover's sweetmeats on Italian lutes From windows on a feast day, or the leaps Of pebbled water, sparkling in the sun-One chord effecting all; and when the ear Felt there was nothing present but himself And silence, and the wonder drew deep sighs, Then would his bow lie down again in tears, And speak to some one in a prayer of love, Endless, and never from his heart to go; Or he would talk as of some secret bliss; And at the close of all the wonderment [come (Which himself had shar'd) near and more near would Into the inmost ear and whisper there Breathings so soft, so low, so full of life, 'Fouch'd beyond sense, and only to be borne By pauses which made each less bearable, That out of pure necessity for relief From that heap'd joy, and bliss that laugh'd for pain, The thunder of th'uprolling house came down, And bow'd the breathing sorcerer into smiles. -Leigh Hunt.

# MUSIC OF ANCIENT GREECE.

THAT the ancient Greek music was limited in many respects, is beyond all doubt, and also that it included little, if any, of what we deem elegance and taste. Some light is thrown upon this subject by the manifest fact that the poet was often his own musician; since, musicians know from experience what sorts of composers poets are. Carey, Dibdin, and

even Moore, have contributed to elucidate the question. Is it, then, asked why music had an effect in Greece that it never produced elsewhere? The answer is, that, simple and undebauched as were the minds of the Greeks, their music was equally so. Its attributes were principally confined to londness and softness, rapidity and slowness; and of melody it possessed little more than rythms and a variation of mode. Hence the inferior as well as the higher ranks were qualified to understand and take an interest in its tones and transitions, and to be susceptible of its intended impressions. To these causes, of the effects of which we read, the power of habit-the dignity then universally given to music-and the great and important occasions on which it was constantly deemed worthy of being employed-the public importance, the passionate urgency, the national interest connected with its performance-acted unceasingly on the minds as well as on the nerves of men, and the impress of its sounds became, as it were, vernacular. The peasant and the artisan, no less than the legislator and magistrate, were charmed with its appeals to their sensibility, and stocks and stones, as probably were the lower orders, compared with the refined classes, we cannot reasonably be surprised if poetry gratuitously magnified the effects of the Grecian lyre into a power to move rocks, and trees, and lead, at the pleasure of the musician, the wildest savage of the woods "when he would, and where."

At this distance of time, the only proper guide to a just conception of the Greek music is perhaps, after all that has been said and written on the subject by the moderns, the evidence of its effects, as deducible from the various accounts that have come down to us, through the media of the poets and historians. If this information be unsatisfactory, where shall we seek for better? In vain should we apply to the musicians of later times for an illustration of the subject. Their professional education constitutes their prejudices, and, in regard to this point, obscures rather than illumines their judgment. The inquiry involves too extended an intelligence, and demands too profound and distinct a study, to fall within the mental sphere of persons whose lives are devoted to the cultivation of a science, the exercise of which, unlike that of poetry and painting, is as independent of political economy, history, and the belles lettres, as it is even of its own element, the philosophy of sound. To whom, then, shall we resort for information on the question respecting the nature of the Greek music? For instruction respecting the ancient state of the science must we travel out of the science? Yes; to legislators and philo-sophers we must apply. From them we shall learn that music was the most dignified when she was the most simple-that, as nature is superior to art, so the plain uncomplex compositions of the Greeks, whether they were harmonical or purely melodial transcended in their effects the productions of the moderns, and that, so far as the consideration of effect is to be admitted into the discussion, their music was superior to that of the present day.

COMUS.—Dr. Arne composed the music of Milton's "Mask of Comus," in the back parlour of the house, No. 17, Craven Buildings, Drury Lane, in the year 1738. On its first production, the piece was so warmly received, that the melodies were sung all over the country; and its performance gave rise to vocal and convivial meetings, several of which were called "Comus Courts."



MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.





## A LIFE ON THE OCEAN WAVE.



### MISS STIRLING, THE YOUNG ORGANIST.

To trace the progress of a young musician who, from being unknown, plays for and obtains a high reputation, is as gratifying as the event itself is singular. Since the year 1837 all the principal journals have noticed with unanimous praise the performances of Miss Stirling; but none have fully stated the grounds upon which that young artist is withdrawn from the crowd of the obscure to engage the attention of the musical public. If Miss Stirling had followed a beaten track, and merely played what others play, there would be no reason for challenging particular observation towards her; but when we broadly and boldly affirm, that the first native of this country who has penctrated into the arcana of Bach with the ability to produce his most cluborate compositions, piece after piece, is a young girl under twenty, it is a fact not to be forgotten in an indolent emotion of surprise, but which concerns the future records of the progress of the English in music.

To no other native artist within our recollection has it occurred to give an organ performance nurelieved either by singers or by pieces played as duets; still less has any one manifested either the courage or the ability to grapple with an entire selection of the works of Sebastian Bach. This, then, is Miss Stirlhay's position: hardly emerged from the years of childhood, she has travelled through and mastered the whole round of the most difficult and scientific of *knowa* productions for the organ, and has at her command a great many compositions that in the present condition of English art cannot be heard but when she plays them.

New and surprising effects exhibited upon any instrument provoke a very natural curiosity to know something of the theory of the execution which produces them. In Bach's organ music, for example, they who have been accustomed to fingers alone as the agents of performance are amazed at the stately and independent nurch of the bass, which wanders at will in parts so remote from the hands as to rendor it searcely credible that what is heard is the production of one performer only. But a control over distances, and an increase of parts, are not the only advantages derived from the pedals. In instruments of modern construction they communicate with a separate organ, and command a far grander and more powerful bass than would be practicable by hands. It may easily be perceived, therefore, how an art which confers on one skilful player absolute power over an instrument whose varieties extend from the most deliente reed or solo stop to the most gigantic voice of an orchestra must be coveted by musicians. The organ, according to Sebastian Bach, has been well, though unconsciously, described in some of the lines of the "Ancient Mariner."

> "And now 'twns like all instruments, Now like a lonely flate; And now it is an angel's song, "That makes the heavens be mute."

To exhibit all the glorious varieties of this enchanted palace of sound is not, however, every one's business. For this it is necessary to perform fresh pieces in long succession, and to exercise qualities that rarely exist in combination. But we may safely say that whoever accomplishes such an andertaking—as, if at all, he must, by the force of an analytical mind, a steady foresight, and a high degree of courage and self-confidence—is entitled to be considered the pupil of his own enthusiastic and

happy nature. For as Bach's organ music is a legacy to the world, of pure delight, and has never been associated either in its production or performance with the ordinary motives to artistical distinction, vanity, or interest—so the true secret of its execution is only discovered at long intervals, and in rare instances, by those who bring to their task a simplicity of mind and faith in the music kiadred to that of its author.

What the illustrious Saxon wrote he in an especial manner wrote for artists—not for those who merely toneh the instrument. Well he knew that however sweet and appealing is the tone of the organ in itself—however majestic its chords heard in a building of suitable proportions, nothing degenerates sooner into a dreary and wearisome monotony than the sound of this instrument when the player is numble to execute. The sense of hearing, at first stimulated, siekens and dies. But the pervading principle of Bach's organ school is constant excitement to the car, the intellect, and the harey. More time can be spent without fatigue over his pages than those of any other author. This variety, which, next to the poetical conception of his works, attests the ever active invention of the composer, is nuquestionably derived from the pedals.

And herein we may discover the art of the organist. While the hands are employed in a succession of passages that require careful and distinct articulation, and are of themselves sufficient to engross attention, a steady and quiet seat is to be maintained, and the obligato bass rendered by the feet with smoothness and precision. To all those in whom habit has not rendered the execution of this music a second nature it is rendered highly embarrassing, and nearly impracticable, by distraction of the attention between the pedals and the keys. For this reason we find it rarely nequired in mature life, except by those who, like Bennett the piano forte player, commence with the advantage of a great manual excention. Nor is there anything ungainly or awkward to diminish the effect of a fine performance on the pedals; on the contrary, it may be seen that nature as much intended us to play with our feet as with our hands-if we can manage both well. The feet, however, being in great disproportion to the fingers, while in pedal fugnes they have always the same melody to perform, it becomes necessary that the method of taking the passage in the pedals should be preconcerted and invariable. The slight. est inaccuracy of memory-commencing, for instance, with a wrong foot-might throw irretrievable confusion into a passage. While the attention is thus absorbed, the body is poised at so nice an elevation, for the sake of withdrawing the feet from the pedals, as well as of pressing them down, that the performer is kept steady only by the tips of a few fingers resting upon the keys.

As the tyro on the violin sometimes discovers himself by letting the instrument slip ont of his hand in shifting, so a bungling organist, overmastered by difficulties, is in constant danger of falling forward or under his stool. In an especial manner this risk besets the trios or somatos for two claviers and pedde, in which both feet being often pensile for the necessary excention of certain passages, the body is only bahaneed by the contact of one tager of each hand with the keys, and this, too, in the midst of florid motion, and even in making trills or other ornaments. Such are some of the difficulties in the mechanism of the great school of organ-playing—difficulties which being understood in Germany, help to surround the organ-gallery of the Hof Lutheranische Kirche at Dresden, where Schneider plays, with admiring spectators. During several opportunities which we have enjoyed of hearing this confessedly the first artist of Europe on his instrument, we could not help noticing, besides the simplicity of the style and the precision of the time, which are direct traditions from Bach, in the heart of his own country of Saxony, that he never missed a note, though he did not accept the challenge to play everything that was pointed out to him.

All that Schneider performed on his own organ (except in the improvisation of fugne) we have heard Miss Stirling, at less than half his age, accomplish on strange instruments with a prodigious facility. Both perform the bravura fugues of Bach in the same gay and animated style, with the same accuracy, the same independence in the parts and entireness in the whole. After making a tour of organs, performing before large and small assemblies of connoisseurs, and playing each time different things, Miss Stirling gave her first public exhi-bition on the organ at St. Sepalehre's in the autumn of last year. Besides six pedal fugues and preludes, she now executed as many trios upon old Latheran tunes; which last, though many organists may have looked at, they have hitherto had the good тhe sense to confine to their solitary exercitations. variations in canon on the Christmas hymn Von Himmelhoch, the trio on the chorale Allein Gott in der Höh, and, indeed, the others having never been heard in public before, were, to most present, ao event in their musical experience. But this involved and intricate mosic, played on two rows of keys and pedals, written on three staves, und in various cleffs, in which the most extraordinary elaboration of funciful counterpoint, is grafted on the simplicity of the plain chant, cun no more be understood on a fugitive hearing than performed without previous study. All that can be felt under such eircamstances is a vague sentiment of beauty-a sense of sweetness too surprising and strange to be analysed or explained, yet which promises, on further acquaintance, an increasing and enduring pleasure. We wish we could give the reader some specimens of the notation of this music, that he might indolently contemplate a form of composition which, on an instrument so impatient of error as the organ, is in action so perilous. However, on this occasion the musicians present expressed ustonishment, and the most powerful and respectable critical authorities highly encouraging opinions.

But how do these affect the artist? If, like an actor, or a performer on any portable instrument, an organist could bring himself into public as often as he liked, the favourable opinions of independent papers would lead to fortune. There, however, in the church, stands the mussive, immovable organ: Mahomet must needs go to the mountain. To get, by great favour, into a church once a year-still in so great dread of bishops that no advertisement is permitted, and the audience must be collected surreptitiously-to chalfenge criticism by accomplish. ing a task of great difficulty, and after giving the cutertainment, paying all the expenses—to have honourable notices in the papers, which are forgot ten before there is an opportunity to renew the occasion of them; such is the voyage to famebeating up against wind and tide with a vengeance. This is, however, a true narration of what (as far as the organ is concerned) the present deplorable condition of the art renders imperative, if one would establish a position. But surely where singular skill and unheard music of the first quality combine to form a rare occasion, the services of the player are worthier of recompense than of a tax? An organ ought to be creeted in some great hall, to which any who had the courage to exhibit upon it might resort. This would soon settle all disputed pretensions, and, by affording constant facilities for the repetition of a beautiful and affecting style of music, enable the public to form their own opinion on a composer who is one day destined to be as popular as Handel or Beethoven. For this we wait. -Monthly Chronicle, 1838.

# THE TIVOLI AT PARIS.

WHAT fanny fellows those French ure! Not only do they treat the most serious things lightly, and make the most light things serious (a remark that has been made before, perhaps once or twice), but with what a singular solemnity do they invest their trivialities! The dress of an orchestral conductor forms as important a feature in his professional qualifications as if he were the hero of a melodrama. A French paper, describing the entertainments at the little Tivoli, proceeds to speak of the conductor of the orchestra in the following amusing strain :- "Monsieur Julien wears a Humann coat and fresh butter gloves! His attitude is picturesque. his gesture theatrical, and his buton strikes the urr with energy, mingled with grace. Woe to the musician who lets slip u false note! With one of his looks Mons. Julien strikes to the dust both mun and note." Humann, by the way, be it known to those who affect daintiness in hubiliments, is not Humann the Minister, but a man held in much higher estimation by all who know him, professionally or socially. He possesses the rare talent of converting (as regards the external character) a hogon his hind legs-even a French onc-into a decent human being. The Minister, at least his master and coadjutors, are doing their best to convert their fellow countrymen into — : but we ure not politicians. THE IInmann of the fashionuble circles is a higher order of Stultz .- Musical World, 1836.

#### LINES TO GRISI.

Thou seemest a spirit of music, pouring Her voice of sighs through the passing air,

And the hearts of ull are rapt—adoring A luy so pure from a spirit so fair—

And all is still as a maiden's lips,

When the light of the pale moon shows them, To one who, over the green sward trips,

And bids his own lips close them-

- For there lives no soul, whose bosom owns
- A sense of feeling, would lose those tones,

Those tones, which like flowers, are formed by theo into a wreath of melody.

Oh! 1 ne'er shall forget the moment when Thon cam'st as the lovely IMOGENE,

With maiden fear and with downcast eye,

- And a world of dear simplicity,
- As if of all ussembled there

Thou only knew'st not thou wert fair,

And never leaf from a rose's breast,

When the day was past, and the wind at rest

On the bosom of earth more mutely fell,

Than thy ceholess footstep-ARIEL!

Across the charmed breeze, thy sweetest notes are borne,

And carth with all its ravished ears is sad when thou art gone. Satorist.

# I LOVE ALL BEAUTEOUS THINGS.

DUET, (ORIGINAL.)



MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.



## ANCIENT BALLADS.

IF any portion of literature be more interesting than another, it is an ancient ballad founded on fact, with such embellishments, romantic, descriptive, and pa thetic, as the genius of the writer may have suggested. How many events, historical and domestic, do we owe the knowledge of to this source? The manners, customs, and superstitions of our forefathers have received from it some of their most curious illustrations; the most eminent scholars, critics, and antiquarians, have devoted their unwearied researches to hallad history; and seldom has more important service been rendered to literature than by their endeavours to snatch from oblivion these precions relics of the early ages of English poetry .... those rude memorials, which, in all probability, would have been lost to posterity, but for this unostentatious mode of transmission. The chief characteristics of an ancient ballad are simplicity and pathos; for the poets of old times knew nothing of polish or sentiment; the impulses of the heart were the inspirations of the muse. Yet, in this absence of refinement, thoughts of the most exquisite tenderness, felicity, and beauty of expression, surprise us at every turn, and make us, in admiring what we have rescued, regret (from the fragments that remain) what we have irretrievably lost. Innumerable ballads are quoted in the works of Shakspeare, historical, romantic, pathetic, and humorous, few of which extend beyond a single verse, while many (as if to tantalise antiquarian curiosity) are confined to a single line. Though the graver and more ponderous studies of some may leave them neither time nor inclination to explore the mines of ancient poetry, we should hold that man neither a scholar, a poet, nor a philosopher, who could undervalue the treasures when exposed to his view, or the labours to which he owes their recovery. It is well for ignorance to shelter itself under unaffected contempt for that study, which it has neither the industry to prosecute nor the judgment to appreciate.

Some of our finest dramatic pieces are derived from old ballads and traditionary tales that passed orally from one generation to another, until the art of printing gave perpetuity to the labours of the muse. It was such that stocked the pack of Autolycus; and their popularity and power of fascination may be gathered from the variet's own words, when he recounts how nimbly he eased the villagers of their purses while chaunting these merry trol-mydames .... Editor of Cumberland's British Theatre.

Clown .--- What hast here? Ballads?

Mopsa .--- Pray, now, buy some; I love a ballad in print, a'-life, for then we are sure they are true.

Autolycus.... Here's one to a very doleful tunc, how a nsurer's wife was brought to bed of twenty money hags at a burden, and how she longed to eat adders' heads and toads carbonadoed.

Mopsa---Is it true, think you?

Aut .--- Very true; and but a month old.

Dorcas....Bless me from marrying a usnrer !

Aut .... Here's the midwifc's name to't, one Mistress Taleporter, and five or six honest wives that were present; why should I carry lies abroad?

Mopsa. -- Pray you now, buy it.

Clown .--- Come on, lay it by, and let's first see more ballads; we'll buy the other things anon. Aut....Here's another ballad, of a fish that ap-

peared upon the coast, on Wednesday the fourscore of April, forty thousand fathom above water, and |

sung this ballad against the hard hearts of maids; it was thought she was a woman, and was turned into a cold fish, for she would not exchange flesh with one that loved her. The ballad is very pitiful and as true.

Dor.---Is it true too, think you? Aut.--Five justices' hands at it, and witnesses more than my pack will hold.

Clearn.... Lay it by too. Another. Aut.... This is a merry ballad, but a very proper one.

Mopsa .... Let's have some merry ones.

Aut .... Wby, this is a passing merry one, and gnes to the tune of Two maids wooing a man. There's scarce a maid westward but sings it; 'tis in request I can tell you.

Mopsa....We can both sing it; if thou'lt hear a part thou shalt hear; 'tis three parts.

Dor. -- We had the tune on't a month ago.

Aut .--- I can bear my part ; you must know 'tis my occupation; have at it with you.

Aut.-Get you hence, for I must go

Where it fits you not to know. Dor.—Whither? M.—O whither? Dor.—Whither? M — It becomes thy oath full well,

Thou to me thy secrets tell ; Dor .- Me, too ; let me go thither ;

M .- Or thou go'st to the grange or mill;

Dor.-If to either, thou dost ill. Aut.-Neither. D.-What! Neither? A.-Neither.

Dor.—Thou hast sworn my love to be: M.—Thou hast sworn it more to me;

Then whither go'st? Say, whither?

Clonn .--- We'll have this song out anon by ourselves; my father and the gentlemen are in sad talk, and we'll not trouble them; come, bring away thy pack after me .--- Winter's Tale.

### PIERRE BAILLOT,

A masterly and classical violinist, was a pupil of the celebrated Viotti, and a member of the Royal Conservatory of Music at Paris. He received his first lessons from his father at Passy, where he was born A.D. 1771; but, as early as his ninth year, he received instructions from Pollidori, Florentin, and Sainte Marie. In 1783, his father being appointed Procureur-general of the Conseil Superieur at Bastia, he went there with his family, hut died soon after his arrival, and left his wife and family in a very distressed situation. Touched with this unfortunate circumstance, M. de Bouchiforn, the governor of the island, took charge of the young Baillot as his adopted son, superintended his studies, and sent him to Rome, where he remained thirteen months, and at the age of fourteen placed him under Pollaris, of the school of Nardini. In 1791 he was presented to Viotti, who expressed himself much astonished at the force and firmness of his exe-That great master immediately offered ention. him a situation in the orchestra of Monsieur, over which he then presided, and Baillot remained there till he quitted it for an employment under the Ministre des Finances. In 1803 a new state of public affairs threw him again on the exercise of his professional talents. It was then that he applied to the Conservatory, which gladly received him, and after a time gave him the honourable station of Professor to the Institution. After holding that distinguished situation two years, during which he published a didactic work on the violin and violoncello, not less admired for the elegance of the language of its precepts than the beauty and propriety of the examples, he visited Russia and other northern countries, and everywhere justified the high reputation he enjoyed. In 1808 he resumed his duties at the Parisian Conservatory, and produced many pupils worthy of such a master. His published works and compositions are perhaps more remarkahle for their originality than their gracefulness, and are characterised by a mellifuous and pleasing melancholy, which readily recalls to memory the dolorous sweetness of Geminiani.—Dr. Busby.

Baillot died a few days ago at Paris, and was interred in the cemetery of Montmartre. His funeral was attended by most of the members of the Academic Royale de Musique, and by several distinguished literary and scientific men. While on his death bed he expressly ordered that there should be no pomp of flambeaux, music, &c., attending his obsequies, which were, in compliance with his wishes, conducted with simplicity and decorum. Is it asked, what suggested this request? Baillot had a young Egyptian, his pupil, whom at the funeral of Cherubini he had heard remark, with regard to the pomp ous ceremonies on that occasion, "I know not why there are so many lights, and so much music, for a man who can neither see nor hear.--Newspapers of September, 1842.

#### THE PEN AND THE PRESS.

Young genius walked out hy the mountains and streams,

Entrane'd by the power of his own pleasant dreams, Till the silent—the wayward—the wandering thing Found a plume that had fallen from a passing bird's wing;

Exulting and proud, like a boy at his play, He bore the new prize to his dwclling away; He gaz'd for a while on its heauties and then He cut it, and shaped it, and called it a Pen.

But its magical use he discovered not yet, Till he dipp'd its bright lips in a fountain of jet; And oh! what a glorious thing it hecame, For it spoke to the world in a language of flame; While its master wrote on like a heing inspired, Till the hearts of the millions were melted and fired:

It came as a boon and a blessing to men, The peaceful—the pure—the victorious pen.

Young genius went forth on his rambles once more, The vast sunless caverns of earth to explore! He search'd the rude rock, and with rapture he found A substance unknown, which he brought from the ground;

He fused it with fire, and rejoiced in the change, As he moulded the ore into characters strange,

Till his thoughts and his efforts were crown'd with success,

For an engine uprose, and he called it the Press.

The Pen and the Press-blest alliance !-combined To soften the heart and enlighten the mind; For that to the treasures of knowledge gave birth, And this sent them forth to the ends of the earth; Their battles for truth were triumphant indeed, And the rod of the tyrant was snapt like a reed; They were made to exalt us—to teach us to bless These invincible brothers—the Pen and the Press.

JOHN C. PRINCE. - Weekly Dispatch.

## JEAN LOUIS DUSSEK,

SON of Jean Dussek, an organist at Cyaslau, in Bohemia, was born in 1760. He received the elements of harmony from his father. At six years of age a wealthy friend of his family sent him to the first college in Prague, where he remained till he reached his thirteenth year. In addition to ancient and modern literature, he studied music, and acquired the art of counterpoint from a monk of the order of St. Benedict. At nineteen years of age he visited Brussels, and was, after some time, introduced, by a Lord of the Court, to the Stadtholder, at La Haye, who conferred many favours on him. He next went to Hamburgh, where he was much benefitted by the instructions of Emanuel Bach. After visiting Petersburg, and spending two years with the Prince Charles Radzivill, in Lithuania, he went to Berlin, and from thence to Paris, where he remained until the commencement of the revolution. He quitted France and passed over to England, and continued in London till the year 1800, when he returned to the continent to see once more his aged and revered father, whom he had not once beheld during a period of twenty-live years. Dussek's powers on the piano forte, as displayed at the London concerts and oratorios, were certainly very extraordinary; but his compositions, very highly wrought, and in many instances truly brilliant and florid, were, in general, of a crude and extravagant character. His most esteemed works are his operas, No. 9, 10, 14, 35; his Adieu to Clementi, called in London the Plus Ultra, in opposition to Woelff's Ne Plus Ultra, and his oratorio of The Resurrection, the words of which are altered from Klopstock.

A HINT TO MUSICAL LADIES ..... A Lady who plays well on the piano forte, and desires to make this accomplishment a source of pleasure and not of annoyance to her friends, should be careful to adapt the style of her performance to the circumstances in which it is called for, and should remember that a gay mixed company would he tired to death with one of those elaborate pieces which would delight the learned ears of a party of cognoscenti. It is from neglect of this consideration that many a really excellent performer makes her music a social grievance. Many a beautiful sonata or fantasia, to which at another time we could have listened with pleasure, has been thrown away upon a company who either drowned it by their conand wearied silence. We would never advise a performer to make any sacrifice to vulgarity or bad taste, but there is no want of pieces which comhine brevity with excellence-contain in a small compass many beauties of melody, harmony, and modulation, and afford room for the display of brilliancy, taste, and expression on the part of the performer. A piece of this kind will not weary by its length those who do not care for music, while it will give pleasure to the most cultivated taste; and with such things, therefore, every musical lady ought to be well provided.

MUSIC PLEASING FROM ASSOCIATION. The exquisite sensations which sweet sounds excite are generally said to be by reason of association. A strain which delighted us in early life, whenever it again meets the ear, will, in some measure, restore to the heart the sunshine and fresh breathing verdure of youth. A song which we first heard from the lips that we loved, will ever after thrill through the heart with joy or sadness, according as the passion has been fortunate or unsuccessful. The chain of association is struck, the electric touch is felt through the whole frame, and thoughts that had slumbered in the breast start at the magic sound into sudden and vivid existence. HEY HOE TO THE GREENWOOD.



### THE NIGHT PIECE. TO JULIA.

Iler eyes the glow worm lend thee, The shooting stars attend thee; And the elves also, Whose little eyes glow Like the sparks of fire, befriend thee!

No will-o-th'-wisp mislight thee, Nor snake nor slowworm hite thee; But on thy way, Not making a stay, Since ghost there's none to fright thee! Let not the dark thee cumber; What though the moon does slumber, The stars of the night Will lend thee their light, Like tapers clear witbout number! Then, Julia, let me woo thee,

Thus, but to come unto me, And, when 1 shall meet Thy silv'ry feet, My soul I'll pour into thee -Robert Herrick, born London, 1591; lived to an advanced age, but the year of his death unknown.

# WHITE SAND AND GRAY SAND.



When as I

No. 33.



MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.



TRUE-HEARTED WAS HE.



Oh! fresh is the rose in the gay dewy morning, And sweet is the lily at evening close, But in the fair presence o' lovely young Jossic, Unseen is the lily, unheeded the rose. Love sits in her smile, a wizard ensnaring, Enthroned in her e'en, he delivers his law, And still to her charms she alone is a stranger, Her modest demeanor 's the jewel of a'.

### THE BRAES O' GLENIFFER.

AIR-Same as foregoing.

Keen blaws the wind o'er the braes o' Gleniffer, The auld castle's turrets are cover'd wi' snaw; How changed frae the time when I met wi' ny lover, Amang the broom bushes by Stanley-green shaw. The wild flowers o' simmer were spread a' sae bonny, The mavis sang sweet frae the green birken tree; But far to the camp they hae march'd my dear Johnny, An' now it is winter wi' nature an' me.

Then ilk thing around us was blythsome an' cheery, Then ilk thing around us was bonny an' braw; Now naething is heard but the wind whistling dreary, An' naething is seen but the wide-spreading snaw: The trees are a' bare, an' the birds mute an' dowie, They shake the cauld drift frae their wings as they flee; An'chirp out their plaints, seeming was for my Johnny, 'Tis winter wi' them, an' 'tis winter wi' me.

Yon eauld sleety cloud skiffs along the bleak mountain, An' shakes the dark firs on the stey rocky brac; While down the deep glen bawls the snaw-flooded foun-That murmur'd sae sweet to my laddie an' me. [tain. 'Tis no' its loud roar, on the wintry wind swelling, 'Tis no' its loud roar, on the wintry wind swelling, 'Tis no' its loud roar, on the tears i' my e'e; For O ! gin I saw but my bonny Scotch callan, The dark days o' winter were simmer to me.

Songs possessing great poetical beauty do not always become favourites with the public. "Keen blaws the wind o'er the Braes o' Gleniffer," is perhaps Tannahill's best lyrical effusion, yet it does not appear to be much known, at least it is but seldom sung. It was written for the old Scottish melody, "Bonnie Dundee," but Burns had occupied the same ground before him. The language and imagery of this song appear to me beautiful and natural. There is an elegant simplicity in the couplet—

"The wild flow'rs o' simmer were spread a' sae bonnie, The mavis sang sweet frae the green birken tree;"

and the dreary appearance of the scenery in winter is strikingly portrayed in the second stanza---

"Now naething is heard but the wind whistling dreary, And naething is seen but the wide spreading snaw."

### Again,

"The trees are a' bare, and the birds mute and dowie, They shake the cauld drift frae their wings as they flee,

And chirp out their plaints, seeming wae for my Johnnie,

'Tis winter wi' them, and 'tis winter wi' me.''

The birds shaking the cauld drift frae their wings is an idea not unworthy of Burns.—R. A. Smith's Harp of Renfrenshire.

## ESSAY ON THE ANCIENT MINSTRELS OF ENGLAND.

THE Minstrels were an order of men in the middle ages, who subsisted by the arts of poetry and music, and sang to the harp verses composed by themsclves or others. They also appear to have accompanied their songs with mimicry and action; and to have practised such various means of diverting as were much admired in those rude times, and supplied the want of more refined entertainment. These arts rendered them extremely popular and acceptable in this and all the neighbouring countrics; where no high scene of festivity was esteemed complete, that was not sct off with the exercise of their talents; and where, so long as the spirit of chivalry subsisted, they were protected and caressed, because their songs tended to do honour to the ruling passion of the times, and to encourage and foment a martial spirit.

The Minstrels seem to have been the genuine successors of the ancient Bards, who under different names were admired and revered, from the earliest ages, among the people of Gaul, Britain, Ireland, and the North; and, indeed, by almost all the first inhabitants of Europe, whether of Celtic or Gothic race; but by none more than by our own Teutonic ancestors, particularly by all the Danish tribes. Among these, they were distinguished by the name of Scalds, a word which denotes "smooth-ers and polishers of language." The origin of their art was attributed to Odin or Woden, the father of their gods; and the professors of it were held in the highest estimation. Their skill was considered as something divine; their persons were deemed sacred; their attendance was solicited by kings; and they were everywhere loaded with honours and rewards. In short, poets and their art were held among them in that rude admiration which is ever shown by an ignorant people to such as excel them in intellectual accomplishments.

As these honours were paid to Poetry and Song, from the earliest times, in those countries which our Anglo-Saxon ancestors inhabited before their removal into Britain, we may reasonably conclude that they would not lay aside all their regard for men of this sort immediately on quitting their German forests. At least so long as they retained their ancient manners and opinions, they would still hold them in high estimation. But as the Saxons, soon after their establishment in this island, were converted to Christianity; in proportion as literature prevailed among them; this rude admiration would begin to abate; and Poetry would be no longer a peculiar profession. Thus the Poet and the Minstrel early with us became two persons. Poetry was cultivated by men of letters indiscriminately; and many of the most popular rhimes were composed amidst the leisure and retirement of monasteries. But the Minstrels continued a distinct order of men for many ages after the Norman conquest; and got their livelihood by singing verses to the harp at the houses of the great. There they were still hospitably and respectfully received, and retained many of the honours shown to their prede-cessors, the Bards and Scalds. And though, as their art declined, many of them only recited the compositions of others, some of them still composed songs themselves, and all of them could probably invent a few stanzas on occasion. I have no doubt but most of the old heroic ballads in this collection were composed by this order of men. For although some of the larger metrical romances might come from the pen of the monks or others, yet the smaller narratives were probably composed by the minstrels who sang them. From the amazing variations which occur in different copies of the old pieces, it is cvident they made no scruple to alter each others productions; and the reciter added or omitted whole stanzas, according to his own fancy or convenience. In the early ages, as was hinted above, the pro-

In the early ages, as was hinted above, the profession of oral itinerant Poet was held in the utmost reverence among all the Danish tribes; and, therefore, we might have concluded that it was not unknown or unrespected among their Saxon brethren in Britain, even if history had been altogether silent on this subject. The original country of our Anglo-Saxon ancestors is well known to have lien chiefly in the Cimbric Chersonese, in the tracts of land since distinguished by the name of Jutland, Angelen, and Holstein. The Jutes and Angles in particular, who composed two-thirds of the conquerors of Britain, were a Danish people, and their country at this day belongs to the crown of Denmark; so that when the Danes again infested England, three or four hundred years after, they made war on the descendants of their own ancestors. From this near affinity, we might expect to discover a strong resemblance between both nations in their customs, manners, and even language ; and, in fact, we find them to differ no more than would naturally happen between a parent country and its own colonies, that had been severed in a rude uncivilised state, and had dropt all intercourse for three or four centuries: especially if we reflect that the colony here settled had adopted a new religion, extremely opposite in all respects to the ancient Paganism of the mother country; and that even at first, along with the original Angli, had been incorporated a large mixture of Saxons from the neighbouring parts of Germany; and afterwards, among the Danish invaders, had come vast multitudes of adventurers from the more northern parts of Scandinavia. But all these were only different tribes of the same common Teutonic stock, and spoke only different dialects of the same Gothic language.

From this sameness of original and similarity of manners, we might justly have wondered if a character, so dignified and distinguished among the aucient Danes, as the Scald or Bard, had been totally unknown or unregarded in this sister nation. And, indeed this argument is so strong, and, at the same time, the early annals of the Anglo-Saxons are so scanty and defective, that no objections from their silence could be sufficient to overthrow it. For if these popular Bards were confessedly revered and admired in those very countries which the Anglo-Saxons inhabited before their removal into Britain, and if they were afterwards common and numerous among the other descendants of the same Tcutonic ancestors, can we do otherwise than conclude that men of this order accompanied such tribes as migrated hither; that they afterwards subsisted here, though perhaps with less splendour than in the North; and that there never was wanting a succession of them to hand down the art, though some particular conjunctures may have rendered it more respectable at one time than another? And this was evidently the case. For though much greater honours seem to have been heaped upon the northern Scalds, in whom the characters of historian, genealogist, poet, and musician were all united, than appear to have been paid to the Minstrels and Harpers of the Anglo-Saxons, whose talents were chiefly calculated to entertain and divert; while the Scalds professed to inform and instruct, and were at once the moralists and theologues of their Pagan countrymen; yet the Anglo-Saxon Minstrels continued to possess no small portion of public favour; and the arts they professed were so extremely acceptable to our ancestors, that the word GLEE, which peculiarly denoted their art, continues still in our own language to be of all others the most expressive of that popular mirth and jollity, that strong sensation of delight which is felt by unpolished and simple minds.

Having premised these general considerations, I shall now proceed to collect from history such particular incidents as occur on this subject; and, whether the facts themselves are true or not, they are related by authors who lived too near the Saxon times, and had before them too many recent monuments of the Anglo-Saxon nation, not to know what was conformable to the genius and manners of that people; and therefore we may presume that their relations prove at least the existence of the customs and habits they attribute to our forefathers before the conquest, whatever becomes of the particular incidents and events themselves. If this be admitted, we shall not want sufficient proofs to show that Minstrelsy and Song were not extinct among the Anglo-Saxons; and that the professor of them here, if not quite so respectable a personage as the Danish Scald, was yet highly favoured and protected, and continued still to enjoy considerable privileges.

and continued still to enjoy considerable privileges. Even so early as the first invasion of Britain by the Saxons, an incident is recorded to have happened which, if true, shows that the Minstrel or Bard was not unknown among this people; and that their princes themselves could, upon occasion, assume that character. Colgrin, son of that Ella who was elected king or leader of the Saxons in the room of Hengist, was shut up in York, and closely besieged by Arthur and his Britons. Baldulph, brother of Colgrin, wanted to gain access to him, and to apprise him of a reinforcement which was coming from Germany. He had no other way to accom-plish his design, but to assume the character of a Minstrel. He therefore shaved his head and beard, and, dressing himself in the habit of that profession, took his harp in his hand. In this disguise, he walked up and down the trenches without suspicion, playing all the while npon his instrument as a Harper. By little and little he advanced near to the walls of the city, and making himself known to the sentincls, was in the night drawn up by a rope.

Although the above fact comes only from the suspicious pen of Geoffry of Monmonth, the judicious reader will not too hastily reject it; because, if such a fact really happened, it could only be known to us through the medium of the British writers: for the first Saxons, a martial but unlettered people, had no historians of their own; and Geoffry, with all his fables, is allowed to have recorded many true events that have escaped other annalists.

We do not however want instances of a less fabulous æra, and more indubitable authority: for later history affords us two remarkable facts, which I think clearly show that the same arts of poetry and song, which were so much admired among the Danes, were by no means unknown or neglected in this sister nation: and that the privileges and honours which were so lavishly bestowed upon the Northern Scalds, were not wholly withheld from the Anglo-Saxon Minstrels.

Our great King Alfred, who is expressly said to have excelled in music, being desirous to learn the true situation of the Danish army, which had invaded his realm, assumed the dress and character of a Minstrel; when, taking his harp, and one or the most trusty of his friends disguised as a servant, (for in the early times it was not unusual for a minstrel to have a servant to carry his harp) he went with the utmost security into the Danish camp; and, though he could not but be known to be a Saxon by his dialect, the character he had assumed procured him a hospitable reception. He was admitted to entertain the King at table, and stayed among them long enough to contrive that assault which afterwards destroyed them. This was in the year 878.

About sixty years after, a Danish king made use of the same disguise to explore the camp of our king Athelstan. With his harp in his hand, and dressed like a Minstrel, Aulaff, king of the Danes, went among the Saxon tents; and, taking his stand near the king's pavilion, began to play, and was immediately admitted. There he entertained Athelstan and his lords with his singing and his music, and was at length dismissed with an honourable reward, though his songs must have discovered him to have been a Dane. Athelstan was saved from the consequences of this stratagem by a soldier, who had observed Aulaff bury the money which had been given him, either from some scruple of honour or motive of superstition. This occasioned a discovery.

Now if the Saxons had not been accustomed to have Minstrels of their own, Alfred's assuming so new and unusual a character would have excited suspicions among the Danes. On the other hand, if it had not heen customary with the Saxons to show favour and respect to the Danish Scalds, Aulaff would not have ventured himself among them, especially on the eve of a battle. From the uniform procedure then of both these kings, we may fairly conclude that the same mode of entertainment prevailed among both people, and that the Minstrel was a privileged character with each.

But, if these facts had never existed, it can be proved from undoubted records, that the Minstrel was a regular and stated officer in the conrt of our Anglo-Saxon kings: for in Doomesday book, *Joculator Regis*, the King's Minstrel is expressly mentioned in Gloucestershire, in which county it should seem that he had lands assigned him for his maintenance.

We have now brought the inquiry down to the Norman Conquest; and as the Normans had been a late colony from Norway and Denmark, where the Scalds had arrived to the highest pitch of credit before Rollo's expedition into France, we cannot doubt but this adventurer, like the other northern princes, had many of these men in his train, who settled with him in his new duchy of Normandy, and left behind them successors in their art; so that when his descendant, William the Bastard, invaded this kingdom in the following century, that mode of entertainment could not but be still familiar with the Normans. And that this is not mere conjecture will appear from a remarkable fact, which shows that the arts of poetry and song were still as reputable among the Normans in France as they had been among their ancestors in the North; and that the profession of Minstrel, like that of Scald, was still aspired to by the most galiant soldiers. In William's army was a valiant warrior, named Taillefer, who was distinguished no less for the Minstrel arts than for bis conrage and intrepidity. This man asked leave of his commander to begin the onset, and obtained it. Hc accordingly advanced before the army, and with a foud voice animated his countrymen with songs in praise of Charlemagne and Roland, and other heroes of France; then rushing among the thickest of the English, and valiantly fighting, lost his life.

Indeed the Normans were so early distinguished for their Minstrel talents, that an eminent French writer makes no scruple to refer to them the origin of all modern poetry, and shows that they were celebrated for their songs near a century before the Troubadours of Provence, who are supposed to have led the way to the Poets of Italy, France, and Spain.

We see then that the Norman conquest was rather likely to favour the establishment of the Minstrel profession iu this kingdom, than to suppress it; and

although the favour of the Norman conquerors would be probably confined to such of their own countrymen as excelled in the Minstrel arts; and in the first ages after the conquest no other songs would be listened to hy the great nohility, but such as were composed in their own Norman French, yet as the great mass of the original inhabitants were not extirpated, these could only understand their own native Gleemen or Minstrels, who must still be allowed to exist, unless it can be proved that they were all proscribed and massacred, as, it is said, the Welsh Bards were afterwards by the severe policy of King Edward I. But this we know was not the case; and even the cruel attempts of that monarch, as we shall see below, proved ineffectual.

The honours shown to the Norman or French Minstrels, by our princes and great barons, would naturally have been imitated by their English vassals and tenants, even if no favour or distinction had ever been shown here to the same order of men in the Anglo-Saxon and Danish reigns. So that we cannot doubt but the English harper and songster would, at least in a subordinate degree, enjoy the same kind of honours, and be received with similar respect among the inferior English gentry and populace. I must be allowed therefore to consider them as belonging to the same community, as subordinate members at least of the same college; and, therefore, in gleaning the scanty materials for this slight history, I shall collect whatever incidents I can find relating to Minstrels and their art, and arrange them as they occur in our own annals without distinction, as it will not always be easy to ascertain from the slight mention of them by our regular historians, whether the artists were Norman or English. For it need not be remarked that subjects of this trivial nature are but incidentally mentioned by our ancient annalists, and were fastidiously rejected by other grave and serious writers, so that, unless they were accidentally connected with such events as became recorded in history, they would pass unnoticed through the lapse of ages, and be as unknown to posterity as other topics relating to the private life and amusements of the greatest nations.

On this account it can hardly be expected that we should be able to produce regular and unbroken annals of the Minstrel art and its professors, or have sufficient information whether every Minstrel or Harper composed himself, or only repeated, the songs he chanted. Some probably did the one, and some the other; and it would have been wonderful indeed if men whose peculiar profession it was, and who devoted their time and talents to entertain their hearers with poetical compositions, were peculiarly deprived of all poetical genius themselves, and had been under a physical incapacity of composing those common popular rhimes which were the usual subjects of their recitations. Whoever examines any considerable quantity of these, finds them in style and colouring as different from the elaborate production of the sedentary composer at his desk or in his cell, as the rambling Harper or Minstrel was remote in his modes of life and habits of thinking from the retired scholar or the solitary monk.

It is well known that on the continent, whence our Norman nobles came, the Bard who composed, the Harper who played and sang, and even the Dancer and the Mimic, were all considered as of one community, and were even all included under the common name of Minstrels. I must therefore be allowed the same application of the term here, without being expected to prove that every singer composed, or every composer chanted, his own song. much less that every one excelled in all the arts which were occasionally exercised by some one or other of this fraternity.

After the Norman Conquest, the first occurrence which I have met with relating to this order of men is the founding of a priory and hospital by one of them; scil. the priory and hospital of St. Bartholomew, in Smithfield, London, by Royer or Raherus, the King's Minstrel, in the third year of King Henry I., A.D. 1102. He was the first prior of his own establishment, and presided over it to the time of his death.

In the reign of King Henry II. we have upon record the name of Galfrid or Jeffrey, a harper, who in 1180 received a corrody or annuity from the abbey of Hide near Winchester; and, as in the early times every harper was expected to sing, we cannot doubt but this reward was given to him for his music and his songs, which, if they were for the solace of the monks there, we may conclude would he in the English language.

Under his romantic son, King Richard I., the Minstrel profession seems to have acquired additional splendour. Richard, who was the great hero of chivalry, was also the distinguished patron of poets and Minstrels. He was himself of their number, and some of his poems are still extant. They were no less patronised by his favourites and chief officers. His chancellor, William Bishop of Ely, is expressly mentioned to have invited Singers and Minstrels from France, whom he loaded with rewards; and they in return celebrated him as the most accomplished person in the world. This high distinction and regard, although confined perhaps in the first instance to Poets and Songsters of the French nation, must have had a tendency to do honour to poetry and song among all his subjects, and to encourage the cultivation of these arts among the natives; as the indulgent favour shown by the monarch, or his great courtiers, to the Provençal Troubadour, or Norman Rymour, would naturally be imitated by their inferior vassals to the English Gleeman or Minstrel. At more than a century after the conquest, the national distinctions must have begun to decline, and both the Norman and English languages would be heard in the houses of the great; so that probably about this æra, or soon after, we are to date that remarkable intercommunity and exchange of each other's compositions, which we discover to have taken place at some early period between the French and English Minstrels; the same set of phrases, the same species of charac. ters, incidents, and adventures, and often the same identical stories, being found in the old metrical romances of both nations.

The distinguished service which Richard received from one of his own minstrels in rescuing him from his cruel and tedious captivity, is a remarkable fact, which ought to be recorded for the honour of poets and their art. This fact I shall relate in the following words of an ancient writer.

"The Englishmen were more than a whole yeare without hearing any tydings of their king, or in what place he was kept prisoner. He had trained up in his court a Rimer or Minstrill, called Blondell de Nesle ; who (so saith the manuscript of old Poesies, and an auncient manuscript French Chronicle) being so long without the sight of his lord, his life seemed wearisome to him, and he became confounded with melancholly. Knowne it was, that

he came backe from the Holy Land; but none Whereupon could tell in what countrey he arrived. this Blondel, resolving to make search for him in many countries, but he would heare some newes of him; after expence of divers dayes in travaile, he came to a towne (by good hap) neere to the castell where his maister King Richard was kept. Of his host he demanded to whom the castell appertained; and the host told him that it belonged to the Duke of Austria. Then he enquired whether there were any prisoners therein detained or no; for alwayes he made such secret questionings wheresoever he came. And the hoste gave answer, there was one onely prisoner, but he knew not what he was, and yet he had him detained there more than the space of a yeare. When Blondel heard this, he wrought such meanes that he became acquainted with them of the castell, as Minstrells doe easily win acquaintance anywhere; but see the king he could not, nei-ther understand that it was he. One day he sat directly before a window of the castell, where King Richard was kept prisoner, and began to sing a song in French, which King Richard and Blondel had some time composed together. When King Richard heard the song, he knew it was Blondel that snng it; and when Blondel pansed at halfe of the song, the king 'began the other half and com-pleted it.' Thus Blondel won knowledge of the king his maister, and returning home into England, made the barons of the countrie acquainted where the king was." This happened about the year 1193.

The following old Provencel lines are given as the very original song, which I shall accompany with an imitation offered by Dr. Burney, ii. 237.

		ст.,

Domna vostra beutas	Your beauty, lady fair,		
Elas bellas faissos	None views without de- light;		
Els bels oils amoros	But still so cold an air		
Els gens cors ben taillats	No passion can excite		
Don sieu empresenats	Yet this I patient see		
De vostra amo qui mi lia.	While all are shun'd like		
•	me.		
RICI	IARD.		
Si bel trop affansia	No nymph my heart can wound.		

share.

Ja de vos non portrai Que major honorai Sol en votra deman Que sautra des beisan Tot can de vos volria

If favour she divide And smiles on all around Unwilling to decide : I'd rather hatred bear Than love with others

The access which Blondel so readily obtained in the privileged character of a Minstrel, is not the only instance upon record of the same nature. In this very reign of King Richard I. the young heiress of D'Everenx, Earl of Salisbury, had been carried abroad and secreted by her French relations in Normandy. To discover the place of her concealment, a knight of the Talbot family spent two years in exploring that province, at first under the disguise of a pilgrim, till having found where she was confined, in order to gain admittance he assumed the dress and character of a harper, and being a jocose person, exceedingly skilled in the "gests of the ancients"—so they called the romances and stories which were the delight of that agc—he was gladly received into the family. Whence he took an opportunity to carry off the young lady, whom he presented to the king, and he bestowed her on his natural brother William Longespee (son of fair Rosamond), who became in her right Earl of Salisbury.

### MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.

# GIVE ME THE SWEET DELIGHTS OF LOVE.



#### ESSAY ON THE ANCIENT MINSTRELS | OF ENGLAND. . (Continued from last page.)

the great Earls of Chester, when besieged by the Welsh. This happened in the reign of King John, and is related to this effect :

The next memorable event which I find in history reflects credit on the English Minstrels; and had granted such a privilege to those who sheuld

"Hugh, the first Earl of Chester, in his charter of foundation of St. Warburg's Abbey in that city, this was their contributing to the rescue of one of come to Chester fair, that they should not be then

apprehended for theft or any other misdemeanour, except the crime were committed during the fair. This special protection occasioning a multitude of loose people to resort to that fair, was afterwards of signal benefit to one of his successors. For Ran-ulph the last Earl of Chester, marching into Wales with a slender attendance, was constrained to retire to his castle of Rothelan (or Rhuydland), to which the Welsh forthwith laid siege. In this distress he sent for help to the Lord de Lacy, constable of Chester, 'who, making use of the Minstrells of all sorts, then met at Chester fair, by the allurement of their musick, got together a vast number of such loose people as, by reason of the before specified privilege, were then in that city, whom he forthwith sent under the conduct of Dutton (his steward), a gallant youth, who was also his son in-law. The Welsh, alarmed at the approach of this rabble, supposing them to be a regular body of armed and disciplined veterans, instantly raised the siege and retired."

For this good service Ranalph is said to have granted to De Lacy, by charter, the patronage and authority over the Minstrels and the loose and inferior people; who, retaining to himself that of the lower artificers, conferred on Dutton the jurisdiction of the Minstrels and Harlots, and under the descendants of this family the Minstrels enjoyed certain privileges, and protection for many ages. For even so late as the reign of Elizabeth, when this profession had fallen into such discredit that it was considered in law as a nuisance, the Minstrels under the jurisdiction of the family of Dutton, are expressly excepted out of all acts of parliament made for their suppression; and have continued to be so excepted ever since.

The ceremonies attending the exercise of this jurisdiction are thus described by Dugdale, as handed down to his time, viz. "That at midsummer fair there, all the Minstrels of that country resorting to Chester do attend the heir of Dutton, from his lodging to St. John's Church, (he being then accompanied by many gentlemen of the countrey,) one of 'the Minstrels' walking before him in a surcoat of his arms depicted on taffata; the rest of his fellows proceeding (two and two) and playing on their several sorts of musical instruments. And after divine ser. vice ended, give the like attendance on him back to his lodging; where a court being kept by his [Mr. Dutton's] steward, and all the Minstrels formally called, certain orders and laws are usually made for the better government of that society, with penalties on those who transgress.'

In the same reign of King John we have a remarkable instance of a Minstrel, who to his other talents superadded the character of soothsayer, and by his skill in drugs and medicated potions was able to rescae a knight from imprisonment. This occurs in Leland's Narrative of the Gestes of Guarine (or Warren) and his sons, which he "excerpted owte of an old Englisch boke yn ryme," and is as follows:

Whitington Castle in Shropshire, which together with the co-heiress of the original proprietor had been won in a solemn tournament by the ancestor of the Gaarines, had in the reign of King John been seized by the Prince of Wales, and was afterwards possessed by Morice, a retainer of that Prince, to whom the king, out of hatred to the true heir, Fulco Guarine, (with whom he had formerly had a quarrel at chess,) not only confirmed the possession, but also made him governor of the marches, of which Fulco himself had the custody in the time of King Richard. The Guarines demanded justice of the king, but obtaining no gracious answer, rencunced their allegiance, and fled into Bretagne. Returning into England after various conflicts, "Falco resortid to one John of Raumpayne, a Sothsayer and Jocular and Minstrelle, and made hym his spy to Morice at Whitington." The privileges of this character we have already seen, and John so well availed himself of them, that in consequence of the intelligence which he doubtless procured, "Falco and his bre-threne laide waite for Morice, as he went toward Salesbyri, and Falco ther woundid hym: and Bracy" a knight who was their friend and assistant, "cut of Morice['s] hedde." This Sir Bracy being in a subsequent rencontre sore wounded, was taken and hrought to King John; from whose vengeance he was however rescued by this notable Miostrel; for "John Rampayne founde the meanes to cast them, that kepte Bracy, into a deadely slepe; and so he and Bracy cam to Fulco to Whitington," which on the death of Morice had been restored to him by the Prince of Wales. As no further men-tion occurs of the Minstrel, I might here conclude this narrative; but I shall just add that Fulco was obliged to flee into France, where, assuming the name of Sir Amice, he distinguished himself in justs and tournaments; and, after various romantic adventures by sea and land; having in the true style of chivalry rescued "certayne ladies owt of prison; he finally obtained the king's pardon, and the quiet possession of Whitington Castle.

In the reign of King Henry III. we have mention of Master Ricard, the King's Harper, to whom in his thirty-sixth year (1252) that monarch gave not only forty shillings and a pipe of wine, but also a pipe of wine to Beatrice his wife. The title of Magister or Master, given to this Minstrel, deserves ootice, and shows his respectable situation.

The Harper or Minstrel was so necessary an attendant on a royal personage that Prince Edward (afterwards King Edward I.) in his crusade to the Holy Land, in 1271, was not without his Harper; who must have been officially very near his person; as we are told by a contemporary historian, that, in the attempt to assassinate that heroic prince, when he had wrested the poisoned knife out of the Saracen's hand, and killed him with his own weapon; the attendants, who had stood apart while he was whispering to their master, hearing the straggle, ran to his assistance, and one of them, to wit his Harper, seizing a tripod, or trestle, struck the assassin on the head, and beat out his brains. And though the prince blamed him for striking the man after he was dead, yet his near access shows the respectable situation of this officer; and his affectionate zeal should have induced Edward to entreat his brethren the Welsh Bards alterwards with more lenity.

Whatever was the extent of this great monarch's severity towards the professors of music and of song in Wales; whether the executing by martial law such of them as fell into his hands was only during the heat of conflict, or was continued alterwards with more systematic rigour, yet in his own coart the Minstrels appear to have been highly favoured; for when, in 1306, he conferred the order of knighthood on his son and many others of the young nobility, a multitude of Minstrels were introduced to invite and induce the new knights to make some military vow. And

Under the succeeding reign of King Edward II., such extensive privileges were claimed by these men and by dissolute persons assuming their character, that it became a matter of public grievance, und was obliged to be reformed by an express regulation in A.D. 1315. Notwithstanding which, an incident is recorded in the ensuing year, which shows that Minstrels still retained the liberty of entering at will into the royal presence, and had something peculiarly splendid in their dress. It is thus related by Stow.

" In the year 1316, Edward the Second did solemnise his feast of Pentecost at Westminster, in the great hall; where sitting royally at the table with his peers about him, there entered a woman adorned like a Minstrel, sitting on a great horse trapped, as Minstrels then used; who rode round about the tables, shewing pastime; and at length came np to the king's table, and laid before him a letter, and forthwith turning her horse saluted every one and departed."—The subject of this letter was a remonstrance to the king on the favours heaped by him on his minions, to the neglect of his knights and faithful servants.

The privileged character of a Minstrel was employed on this occasion, as sure of gaining au easy admittance; and a female the rather deputed to assume it, that, in case of detection, her sex might disarm the king's resentment. This is offered on a supposition that she was not a real Minstrel; for there should seem to have been women of this profession as well as of the other sex; and no accomplishment is so constantly attributed to females, by our ancient bards, as their singing to, and playing on, the harp.

In the fourth year of King Richard II., John of Gaunt erected at Tutbury in Staffordshire, a court of Minstrels, similar to that annually kept at Chester, and which, like a conrt leet or court baron, had a legal jurisdiction, with full power to receive suit and service from the men of this profession within five neighbouring counties, to enact laws, and determine their controversies; and to apprehend and arrest such of them as should refuse to appear at the said court annually held on the 16th of August. For this they had a charter, by which they were empowered to appoint a King of the Minstrels with four officers to preside over them. These were every year elected with great ceremony; the whole form of which, as observed in 1680, is described by Dr. Plot, in whose time, however, they appear to have lost their singing talents, and to have confined all their skill to "wind and string music."

The Minstrels seem to have been in many respects upon the same footing as the heralds; and the King of the Minstrels, like the king at arms, was both here and on the Continent an usual officer in the coarts of princes. Thus we have in the reign of King Edward I. mention of a King Robert and others. And in 16 Edward II. is a grant to William de Morlee "the King's Minstrel, styled Roy de North," of houses which had helonged to another king, John le Boteler. Rymer bath also printed a licence granted by King Riehard II. in 1387, to John Caumz, the King of his Minstrels, to pass the seas, recommending him to the protection and kind treatment of all his subjects and allies.

In the subsequent reign of King Henry IV. we meet with no particulars relating to the Minstrels in England, but we find in the statute book a severe law passed against their brethren the Welsh Bards; whom our ancestors could not distinguish from their own *Rimours Ministrals*; for by these names they describe them. This act plainly shews, that far from being extirpated by the rigorous policy of King Edward I., this order of men were still able to alarm the English government, which attributed to them "many diseases and mischiefs in Wales," and prohibited their meetings and contributions.

When his heroic son King Henry V. was preparing his great voyage for France, in 1415, an express order was given for his Minstrels, fifteen in number, to attend him; and eighteen are afterwards mentioned, to each of whom he allowed xiid. a day, when that sum must have been of more than ten times the value it is at present. Yet when he entered London in triumph after the battle of Agincourt, he, from a principle of humility, slighted the pageants and verses which were prepared to hail his return: and, as we are told by Holingshed, would not suffer "any dities to be made and song by Minstrels, of his glorious victorie; for that he would whollie have the praise and thankes altoge-ther given to God." But this did not proceed from any disregard for the professors of music or of song; for at the feast of Pentecost, which he celebrated in 1416, having the Emperor and the Duke of Holland for his guests, he ordered rich gowns for sixteen of his Minstrels, of which the particulars are preserved by Rymer. And having before his death orally granted an annuity of one hundred shillings to each of his Minstrels, the grant was confirmed in the first year of his son King Henry VI. A.D. 1423, and payment ordered out of the Exchequer.

The unfortunate reign of King Henry VI. affords no occurrences respecting our subject; but in his 34th year A.D. 1456, we have in Rymer a commission for impressing boys or youths, to supply vacaneies by death among the King's Minstrels, in which it is expressly directed that they shall be elegant in their limbs, as well as instructed in the Minstrel art, wherever they can be found for the solace of his majesty.

In the following reign, King Edward IV. (in his 9th year, 1469), upon a complaint that certain rude husbandmen and artificers of various trades had assumed the title and livery of the King's Minstrels, and under that colour and pretence had collected money in divers parts of the kingdom, and committed other disorders, the King grants to Walter Haliday, Marshal, and to seven others his own Minstrels whom he names, a charter, by which he creates, or rather restores, a fraternity or perpetual gild (such as, he understands, the brothers and sisters of the fraternity of Minstrels had in times past) to be governed by a Marshal appointed for life, and by two Wardens to be chosen annually; who are impowered to admit brothers and sisters into the said gild, and are authorised to examine the pretensions of all such as affected to exercise the Minstrel profession; and to regulate, govern, and punish them throughout the realm (those of Chester excepted). This seems to have some resemblance to the Earl Marshal's court among the heralds, and is another proof of the great affinity and resemblance which the Minstrels bore to the members of the College of Arms.

It is remarkable that Walter Haliday, whose name occurs as marshal in the foregoing charter, had been retained in the service of the two preced ing monarchs King Henry V. and VI. Nor is this the first time he is mentioned as Marshal of the King's Minstrels, for in the third year of this reign, 1464, he had a grant from King Edward of 10 marks per annum during life, directed to him with that title.

But besides their Marshal we have also in this

reign mention of a Sergeant of the Minstrels, who upon a particular occasion was able to do his royal master a singular service, wherein his confidential situation and ready access to the king at all hours is very apparent; for "as he [King Edward IV.] was in the north countray in the monneth of Septembre, as he lay in his bedde, one namid Alexander Carlile, that was Sariannt of the Mynstrellis, cam to him in grete hast, and badde hym aryse for he hadde enemyes cummyng for to take him, the which were within vi. or vii. mylis, of the which tydinges the king gretely marveylid, &c." This happened in the same year, 1469, wherein the king granted or confirmed the charter for the fraternity or gild above mentioned; yet this Alexander Car. lile is not one of the eight Minstrels to whom that charter is directed.

The same charter was renewed by King Henry VIII. in 1520, to John Gilman, his then marshal, and to seven others his Minstrels; and on the death of Gilman, he granted in 1529 this office of Marshal of his Minstrels to Hugh Wodehouse, whom I take to have borne the office of his serjeant over them.

In all the establishments of royal and noble households, we find an ample provision made for the Minstrels, and their situation to have been both honourable and lucrative. In proof of this it is sufficient to refer to the household book of the Earl of Northumberland, A.D. 1512. And the rewards they received so frequently recur in ancient writters that it is unnecessary to crowd the page with them here.

In the time of King Henry VIII., we find it to have been a common entertainment to hear verses recited, or moral speeches learned for that purpose, by a set of men who got their livelihood by repeating them. This we learn from Erasmus, whose argument led him only to describe a species of these men who did not sing their compositions, but the others that did, enjoyed, without doubt, the same privileges.

For even long after, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, it was usual "in places of assembly" for the company to be "desirous to heare of old adventures and valiaunces of noble knights in times past, as those of King Arthur, and his knights of the round table, Sir Bevys of Sonthampton, Guy of Warwicke, and others like" in "short and long meetres, and by breaches or divisions [se. Fits] to be more com modiously sung to the harpe" as the reader may be informed by a courtly writer, in 1589, who himself had "written for pleasure a little hriefe romance or historical ditty....of the Isle of Great Britaine" in order to contribute to such entertainment. And he subjoins this caution : "Such as have not premonition hereof (viz., that his poem was written in short metre, &c., to be sung to the harp in such places of assembly) and consideration of the causes alledged, would peradventure reprove and disgrace every romance or short historicall ditty, for that they be not written in long meeters or verses Alexandrins," which constituted the prevailing versification among the poets of that age, and which no one now can endure to read.

And that the recital of such romances sung to the harp was at that time the delight of the common people, we are told by the same writer, who mentions that "common rimers" were fond of using rimes at short distances, "in small and popular musickes song by these Cantabanqui [the said common rimers] upon benches and barrels heads, &c. "or else by blind Harpers or such like 'Taverne Minstrels that give a fit of mirth for a groat; and their matter being for the most part stories of old time, as the tale of Sir Topas, the reportes of Bevis of Southampton, Guy of Warwicke, Adam Bell, and Clymme of the Clough, and such other old romances or bistoricall rimes," &c. "also they be used in carols and rounds, and such light and lascivious poems, which are commonly more commodiously attered by these buffons or vices in playes, then by any other person. Such were the rimes of Skelton (usurping the name of a Poet Laureat), being in deede but a rude railing rimer, and all his doings ridiculous."

But although we find here that the Minstrels had lost much of their dignity, and were sinking into contempt and neglect, yet that they still sustained a character far superior to anything we can conceive at present of the singers of old ballads, I think, may be inferred from the following representation.

When Queen Elizabeth was entertained at Killingworth Castle by the Earl of Leicester in 1575, among the many devices and pageants which were contrived for her entertainment, one of the personages introduced was to have been that of an ancient Minstrel, whose appearance and dress are so minutely described by a writer there present, and gives us so distinct an idea of the character, that I shall quote the passage at large.

"A person very meet seemed he for the purpose, of a xlv. years old, apparelled partly as he would himself. His cap off: his head seemly rounded toasterwise: fair kembed, that with a sponge daintily dipt in a little capon's greace, was finely smoothed, to make it shine like a mallard's wing. His beard smugly shaven; and yet his shirt after the new trink, with ruffs fair starched, sleeked and glistering like a pair of new shoes, marshalled in good order with a setting stick, and strut, that every ruff stood up like a wafer. A side [i. e. long] gown of Kendal green, after the freshness of the year now, gathered at the neck with a narrow gorget, fastened afore with a white clasp and a keeper close up to the chin, but easily, for heat, to undo when he list. Seemly begirt in a red caddis girdle: from that a pair of capped Sheffield knives hanging a two sides. Out of his bosom drawn forth a lappet of his napkin edged with a blue lace, and marked with a true love, a heart, and a D for Damian, for he was but a batchelor vet.

"His gown had side [i. e. long] sleeves down to mid-leg, slit from the shoulder to the hand, and lined with white cotton. His doublet-sleeves of black worsted, upon them a pair of poynets of tawny chamlet laced along the wrist with blue threaden points, a wealt towards the hand of fustian-a-napes. A pair of red neather stocks. A pair of pumps on his feet, with a cross cut at the toes for corns; not new, indeed, yet cleanly blackt with soot, and shiuing as a shoing horn.

"About his neck a red rihand suitable to his girdle. His harp in good grace dependent before him. His wrest tyed to a green lace and hanging by. Under the gorget of his gown a fuir flaggon chain (pewter, for) silver, as a Squire Minstrel of Middlesex, that travelled the country this summer season, unto fairs and worshipful men's houses. From his chain hung a sentcheon, with metal and colour, resplendent upon his breast, of the ancient arms of Islington."

This Minstrel, the anthor tells us a little below, "after three lowly courtsics, cleared his voice with a hem...and....wiped his lips with the hollow of his hand for 'filing his napkin, tempered a string or two with his wrest, and after a hitle warbling on his harp for a prelude, came forth with a solemn song, warranted for story out of King Arthur's acts," &c. Towards the end of the sixteenth century this class of men had lost all credit, and were sunk so low in the public opinion, that in the 39th year of Elizabeth, a statute was passed by which "Minstrels, wandering abroad," were included among "rogues, vagabonds, and stardy beggars," and were adjudged to be punished as such. This act seems to have put an end to the profession.

I cannot conclude this account of the ancient English Minstrels, without remarking that they are most of them represented to have been of the north of England. There is scarce an old historical song or ballad wherein a Minstrel or Harper appears, but he is characterised by way of eminence to have beeu "of the North Countryc;" and indeed the prevalence of the northern dialect in such compositions, shews that this representation is real. Ou the other hand the scene of the finest Scottish ballads is laid in the south of Scotland; which should seem to have been peculiarly the nursery of Scottish Minstrels. In the old song of Maggy Lawder, a piper is asked, by way of distinction, "come ze frac the Border?" The martial spirit constantly kept up and exercised near the frontier of the two kingdoms, as it furnished continual subjects for their songs, so it inspired the inhabitants of the adjacent counties on both sides with the powers of poetry. Besides, as our southern metropolis must have been ever the scene of novelty and retinement, the northern connties, as being most distant, would preserve their ancient manners longest, and of course the old poetry, in which those manners are peculiarly described.—Percy's Reliques of Ancient English Poetry.

## RISE MYJOY SWEET MIRTH ATTEND.



THE BRITISH MINSTREL; AND



TAM GLEN.

AIR .- Muckin' o' Geordie's Byre.



There's Lowrie, the Laird o' Drumeller, Gude day to you, brute, he comes ben; He brags and he blaws o' his siller, But when will he dance like Tam Glen?

Words by Burns.

My minnie does constantly deave me, And hids me beware o' young men; They flatter, she says, to deceive me— But wha can think sae o' Tam Glen?

My daddie says, gin I'll forsake him He'll gie me guid hunder merks ten ; But, if it's ordained I maun tak him, O, wha will I get but Tam Glen?

Yestreen, at the Valentines dealin', My heart to my mou' gied a sten; For thrice I drew ane without failin,' And thrice it was written-Tam Glen.

The last Hallowe'en I was waukin' My drookit sark-sleeve, as ye ken; His likeness cam up the house staukin,' And the very grey breeks o' Tam Glen.

Come, counsel, dear tittie, don't tarry; I'll gie you my bonnie black hen, Gif ye will advise me to marry The lad I loe dearly, Tam Glen.

Burns wrote this song for Johnston's Musical Museum, in which work it appeared united to the original air of "Tam Glen." Thomson afterwards, in his collection, adapted it to the "Muckin' o' Geordie's Byre," to which air it has been generally sugg ever since. The following is the original air :—



### GRASSL AND HIS FAMILY.

THE most surprising circumstance with regard to the music of Germany is to find the art pursued in places utterly destitute of every means of instruction. A man was mentioned to us, who, without possessing the slightest notion of music, had notwithstanding instructed himself in it, and seemed to have nurtured his children with it, at an age when their food is generally of a much more homely nature. We were extremely anxious to see him, and extended our journey from the Tyrol to Berchtisgaden, in the environs of Salzburg. \* \* \*

Every summer evening the peasantry assemble before his hut, where, seated round a table, the family perform their concerts, and hold their festivities; strangers flock thither from all parts, led by enriosity, to hear this extraordinary family. The Queen of Bavaria, who owns considerable property in these parts, was also very auxious to see these interesting musicians, and arrived with her suite at their abode one evening about five o'clock. The little family were still at their labours, some leading the cows to pasture, others digging potatoes. The Queen sent for them, and on their arrival, without sparing time to change their dress, or perform their ablutions, they all took their seats at their table, whilst the poor children, with their begrimmed hands and heated brows, began playing the "Ba-varian March," "Salzburg Waltz," "Chamois Hunter's Song," now on stringed, now on wind instruments, sometimes on brass instruments only; one lad, a child but five years old, was perched upon a chair, and played the double bass. It is needless to ndd that they excited the astonishment and admiration of their illustrious audience, and were invited by the Queen to the Court of Bavaria. \*

Little did I think I should see these worthy peasants, father, mother, and children, in the capital of France. Grassl one day resolved on leaving his native mountains with his wonderful family, in the hopes of earning bread for himself and them at a somewhat less precarious rate than that of hunting simples in the midst of precipices. He went to Vienna, was presented to the Emperor, and excited the admiration of the whole court. Encouraged by the success of his first efforts, he started for Italy, and was everywhere greeted with the same wonder and enthusiasm. At length he reached Paris, where we ourselves can speak to the astonishment of the puble, who overwhelmed the little musicians with upplanse.

It was at the *Gymnase Musicale* that we first saw the Grassl family, and watched the father surrounded

by Francis, Joseph, Madeline, and four other of his children, not much taller than a young chamois; and surely to see him thus was as gratifying a spectacle as the one her Majesty of Bavaria witnessed in the heart of the Tyrol. What a wonderful little fellow was that same Francis, who played the most difficult instruments, one after another, trombone, trumpet, cornet à piston, clarionet, as though he were a full grown man! and little Antony, too, with his chubby legs, who played the flageolet better than the piper of a regiment, and the trumpet than any of the band in the Guards. He was obliged to get on a chair to reach with his left hand to the top of the great double-bass, the very bow of which was as big as himself. Little Madeline, too, ubout the size of a boot, used to play her little cuckoo; her way of joining in, and her extreme accuracy, would have done credit to many a member of the theatrical orchestras. And at the conclusion of the performanees, when they were most enthusiastically applanded, they would make a very low bow, and waft kisses with their tiny hands to the public; in short, the simplicity of this family was as pleasing as their talent was wonderful.

It was a picturesque and diverting sight to behold these worthy people, denizens of a hut by the lake side, in the costume of their native home, with their shirt sleeves and red waistcoats, breeches, and white stockings.

Grassl and his children have returned to the Tyrol, where they live happily, and are always willing to guide the traveller across the winding mountain paths or dangerous fields of snow, or hoisting the sail of their little skiff, they will convey him along the clear blue lake, and share their humble meal with him; and when the shades of evening bid him cease his wanderings, they invite him across the threshold of their lonely abode to listen to their strains.

[We take the above extracts, (in continuation of an article already inserted at page 133,) from "Mainzer's Musical Times," an excellent and cheap periodical, devoted to musical sketches, and news connected with the progress of M. Mainzer's system of teaching, &c., which we heartily recommend to the notice of our readers.—E.D. B. M.]

PROFESSOR BISHOP.—At the levee on Wednesday, her Majesty was graciously pleased to confer the honour of knighthood on Henry Rowley Bishop, Mus. Bac. Oxon., Professor of Musie in the University of Edinburgh. The learned Professor had afterwards the honour to kiss the Queen's hand. This distinguished mark of the royal favour must be not a little gratifying to the Professors of our University, to whose sound judgment and sagacity we are indebted for the election of this eminent composer to the only Professorial Chair of Musie in Scotland. Professor Bishop is the first member of the musical profession who has been knighted by a sovereign of these realms. The others—Sir Wm. Parsons, Sir John Stevenson, and Sir George Smart—received the honour in Ireland, from different Lords-Lieutenant.—Scotsman, June 4th, 1842.

"CHARMANTE GAERIELLE."—This lovely melody, and the famons popular air, "Vive Henri IV," are attributed to Ducauroy, whom his contemporaries called the prince of musiciaus. He was director of music to Charles IX., Henry III., and Henry IV. He wrote also for the church. A requirem for four voices, from his pen, is still in existence. The old Christmas hymns used in France are generally believed to be the gavottes and minuets of a ballet which Ducauroy composed for Charles IX. BRAVE LEWIE ROY.



Brave Lewie Roy was the flow'r of our highlandmen, Tall as the eak on the lefty Benvoirluch,

Fleet as the light bounding tenants of Fillanglen,

Dearer than life to his lovely neen voluch. Lone was his hiding, the cave of his hiding, [lie, When forc'd to retire with our galant Prince Char-Tho' manly and fearless his bold heart was cheerless,

Away from the lady he aye loe'd sae dearly.

But woe on the bloed-thirsty mandates of Cumberland, Woe on the bloed-thirsty gang that fulfilled them, Poor Caledonia ! bleeding and plundered land,

Where shall thy children now shelter and shield them. Keen prowl the cravens, like merciless ravens, Their prey-the devoted adherents of Charlie;

Brave Lewie Roy is ta'en, cowardly hack'd and slain, Oh 1 his neen voluch\* will mourn for him sairly.

The first half of this song is a fragment of Tannahill's, the remainder an addition by Alexander Rodger. \* Nighean bhoidheach, (pronounced as above) beautiful maid.

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### THE SOLDIER'S BETROTHAL.

A SCENE OF NEW-YEAR'S EVE, TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN.

At Schweidnitz, on New-year's eve, the Fessel family were gathered together at supper, Fessel and his wife Katherine presided, their young children, laughing and happy, were grouped around, while Madame Rosen, the grandmother of the family, and her younger danghter, Faith, occupied opposite sides of the well-lighted and richly covered table. Dorn, a young soldier, had obtained a seat near the charming Faith; and, as among a swarm of bees, narrations and corrections, questions and answers, praise and astonishment, fear, anger, and langhter, so huzzed about the table, that the business of eating was scarcely thought of.

"Thank heaven we are finally here?" remarked Madam Rosen, reaching her goblet of Hungary No. 5, & Sup.

wine to the book-keeper for the purpose of tonching his glass. "My best thanks," said she with emotion; and at the same time gave an intimation to Faith to follow her example.

"Thank me not so much, dear madam," said the youth, with a pensive air, while touching glasses with the blnshing maiden; "else I shall have my whole reward in thanks."

"And in consequence lose the courage to ask for a dearer one," jested Katherine, who had noticed the glance he gave her sister.

"We are so merry to-night!" cried Fessel's youngest daughter, the little Hedwig: "cannot you let us have the play of the light boats now, dear mother? You promised it to us on Christmas-eve, which, by the bye, was passed sadly enough."

which, by the bye, was passed sadly enough." "Yes, yes, the light-boats!" shonted the other children, clapping their hands.

"Well, bring the large soup dish," said the mo-

ther, who could refuse nothing to her youngest daughter; " but be careful not to spill the water."

"Excellent!" cried the children in chorus. Hedwig flew out of the room; the other children produced wax-candles of various colours, and began euting them into innumerable small pieces; while Faith, Dorn, and young Engelmann, were instructed to divide the walnuts, of which the table furnished an abundant supply, in halves, and nearly to extricate the kernels, without injuring the shells.

"I know not if you are acquainted with this play of the Silesian children," said Fessel, laughing to Dorn. "It was omitted by us last year, in consequence of my wife's illness. It is a solemn oracle on matters of love, marriage, and death. The children, however, do not trouble themselves about the serious signification; they take pleasure in the movements of the boats and in splashing the water."

The door now opened, and little Hedwig stepped into the room, with the large dish full of water in her hands, and with a solemn and subsequential air, deposited her burden noon the centre of the table.

"Now put the lights in the boats," commanded Martin; "we have prepared enough of them." A small wax taper was placed in each shell, projecting like the mast of a boat.

"Who shall swim first?" asked Elizabeth, lighting the tapers in two of the boats.

"Mother and father!" cried the others; and the shells were placed in the platter, near each other, when they moved forth upon the clear, liquid surface, with a regular motion, and burning with a steady light, until they reached the opposite side, where they quietly remained. "We are already anchored in a safe haven," said

"We are already anchored in a safe haven," said Fessel, to his beloved wife; "and in the quiet enjoyment of domestic happiness, we can have no wish to be restlessly driving about on the open seas."

"Ah, may heaven grant that the troubles of the times reach us not in our safe haven, and rend our bark from its fast anchorage," cried the true hearted Katharine, with timid forboding.

At this moment the light in one of the boats began to hiss and sputter, and, after flashing for an instant, was extinguished, amid exclamations of sad surprise from the children.

"What does that forebode? to whom does that boat belong?" asked Katharine, smilingly.

"That is not decided," eagerly cried Ulrich; "and the whole oracle is invalid."

"Elizabeth filled the boat with water by her awkwardness, when she started it," announced Martin, who had been investigating the causes of the accident.

"Every event in life must have had its cause," said Fessel, with more earnestness than the trifling accident merited. "If this portends the extinguishment of the light of life in either of us, I pray heaven in mercy to grant that mine may be the first to expire."

"Say not so," tenderly replied Katharine. "Our children would lose, in you, their only stay. Their mother would be more lightly missed, and the strong man would better bear the sad bereavement, than a weak and helpless woman."

"Why this earnest and deep meaning conversation on New-year's evening?" said Madam Rosen, half-angry. "Come children; go on more briskly with your play, and give us something pleasanter to think about."

"Who comes next?" asked Elizabeth.

"Honour to whom honour is due," laughed Hedwig. "Cousin Faith must swim now."

"But she must herself decide with whom," said Fessel. I have not been at Sagan for some years, and know not who has made himself most agreeable to her."

"Indeed, I know not whom to name to you," said the maiden, with a low tone, and hesitating manner, blushing deeply for the untruth which thus escaped her lips.

"Then we will take master Dorn for the occasion," cried the obstreperous Martin," whose natural boldness was increased by the wine he had tasted; "he is constantly giving Faith such friendly glances!"

"It shall be so," shonted Ulrich; "and they shall have the handsomest tapers. Choose your own colours; here arc red, and green, and white, and variegated."

"Red for Faith and green for me," quickly replied Dorn, silencing the maiden by a gentle pressure of her hand under the table, as she was about to make some objections.

"They must not, however, start together from the shore," said Ulrich.

"Well, do you set the red ship on that side, and I will place the green one here," answered Martin, "and then they may seek each other if they wish to come together."

Brighdy burning, the little barks swam toward each other for a moment; then both floated to the edge of the platter and remained motionless, at some little distance apart.

"Master Dorn is too indolent!" cried Martin, throwing a nut kernel at the green skiff to urge it toward the red; but it only reeled to and fro, without removing from its place.

"Insufferable!" cried Dorn. At that moment the water became slightly agitated, and both skiffs left their stations at the side for the open sea.

"Faith has jostled the table," cried the falconeyed Hedwig.

"I-no-I wish to hinder their meeting," stammered the confused Faith.

"Did you really jostle the table, dearest maiden?" asked Dorn, his hand again secking hers.

"Ah, ah, my daughter!" reprovingly exclaimed Madam Rosen; amid the exclamations of the children, the two skiffs met in mid-ocean, while a gentle pressure from Faith's hand gave an affirmative answer to the bold question of the youth.

The joy of the children, which the grandmother's remonstrances only increased, was every moment becoming more bold and noisy. Without aim or object, a crowd of lights were now set afloat in the mimic ocean, and apple-cuttings and bread-bullets flew like bombs among them, causing immense damage and innumerable shipwrecks. "It is enough !" cried Fessel, the disturbance becoming excessive, and moved his chair from the table. A respectful silence succeeded the wild tumult. The children dutifully arose, folded their hands with a serious air, and Martin said grace with decent solemnity.

The mistress of the house now invited her beloved guests to retire to rest, that they might sleep away the fatigues of the day; but the children, who had ngain become as noisy as ever, and had not the least inclination to sleep, strongly opposed the movement.

"It would be fine, indeed," cried Martin, "if we should have no writing of notes!"

"Pray, pray, dear mother," entreated the flattering and constant petitioner, Hedwig, "you well know that you promised me, if I filled a writing book without blotting, that I should be indulged with writing notes on New-year's evening. My last writing book is without a spot, and you must now keep your word."

"Children are the most inexorable creditors," said Fessel, directing little Ulrich to bring the writing materials from the counting-room, while the table was being cleared.

"This is a strange remnant of the old heathen times," explained Fessel to the book-keeper, who looked inquiringly at him. "It is a form of Newyear's congratulation, and an oracle at the same time. You write three several wishes upon three slips of paper, which you fold, and give to the person These wishes may be who would try his fate. honours, offices, and success in business, to the men --- chains, bracelets, and new dresses, to the women -agreeable suitors to maidens. All place the notes they have received under their pillows, and the wish contained in the one which is first opened on New-year's morning, shall be fulfilled in the course of the year."

"I always take great pleasure in this sport," said Katharine to her mother; my husband is always so anxious to fulfil his oracle, and to present me what is wished me in the note I open."

"There comes Ulrich!" screamed the children, as he entered heavily laden, and deposited his burden upon the table. The notes were prepared, and the whole family were soon seated around the table, moving their pens as assiduously as if an instrument was to be drawn for securing religious liberty. Amid the scratching of the pens, which were very awkwardly handled by the younger children, and therefore made the more noise, arose the admonitions of the father to sit erect, and of the mother not to bespatter themselves with ink; which admonitions were obeyed just so long as they were heard. Meanwhile Dorn was sharply watching the paper upon which Faith was writing; who, as soon as she became aware of it, covered the writing with her little hand, and whispered to him—"If you watch me, you will get no packet from me to night." He discreetly drew back and began writing his notes.

Fessel now strewed sand upon his last note, enclosed it with the others, and gave the packet, with a kiss, to his Katharine. The children snapped their pens, to the infinite damage of the well-scoured white floor, for which their grandmother very properly scolded them. Dorn handed his packet to the beanteous Faith, who hid hers in her bosom, strenuously asserting that she could think of nothing to write.

The clock now struck the midnight hour, and a peal of bells from the tower of the city hall greeted the new year.

"A happy New-year! a happy New-year!" shouted the children, springing from their seats; and the impetaous Hedwig proposed to open the notes directly, as the New-year had already commenced; but Fessel interposed his decided negative, and commanded them to defer it until the actual rising of the New-year san.

Amid the noise and confusion of the thousand New-year congratulations, Dorn once more approached the lovely Faith.

"Must I enter upon the New-year without one kind wish from you?" he pensively asked. She looked at him with embarrassment and irresolution.

At that moment she was called by her mother, who was already standing in the door. The startling call helped her to come to a decision, and, suddenly drawing the packet from her bosom and smilingly placing it in Dorn's hand, she hastened after het mother.

Long did the youth hold the much-coveted packet pressed to his lips. "How much earthly happiness," said he to himself, with deep emotion, "have I destroyed in my military career. Do I, indeed, deserve that love should crown me with its freshest wreathes, in a land I have helped to lay waste."

Dorn, who had retired late and awoke hetimes, with the interesting little packet under his pillow, found himself, at an early hour, leaning against a window in the family parlour, and engaged in examining a delicate little note. While thus occupied, Faith, impelled by a similar restlessness, entered the room. As she perceived him whose image had embellished her dreams, an enchanting blush overspread her delicate face, and her beautiful eyes beamed with love and joy; but when Dorn, enraptured at the encounter, affectionately tendered her the congratulations appropriate to the New-year's morning, changing her mood, she turned away from him with feigned displeasure, and exclained, "Pshaw, captain! I am angry with you. You have wished me two horrible suitors."

"Before I undertake to exculpate myself," said Dorn, "only tell me which you drew from the packet."

"The Duke of Friedland!" stammered the emharrassed maiden, with downcast eyes.

"Look me directly in the eye!" cried Dorn, seizing the hand of the unpractised dissembler, "Did you really draw no other name?"

"Ah, let me go !" she murmured, her confusion and maidenly timidity rendering her still more charming.

"You do not once ask what wish I have drawn!", said Dorn, holding up his note.

"Who knows whether you would tell me the truth," answered Faith.

"Have a care," cried Dorn. "The suspicion can only spring from a consciousness that you have deceived me; and that is not fair. I will set you an example of ingeniousness. You wished a poor mortal to choose among three daughters of heaven. Love, Hope, and Faith, were inscribed upon your three notes. My good genius helped me to the best choice. Love I had already deep in my heart, from the moment I first saw you; Hope visited me last evening; and I only lacked Faith in the certainty of my good fortune. I drew it with this note."

"A gallant officer well knows how to convert trifles into matters of importance," said the maiden, repelling the persevering youth. "I wrote the three names for you, merely in jest—Faith, Hope, and Charity—because they follow each other in the calendar."

"Only for that reason?" asked Dorn, in a tender tone, throwing his arms around her slender waist. Endeavouring to push him gently back with her right hand, she dropped a note, which Dorn caught up and read before she could hinder him.

"Victoria!" shouted he. "You have drawn my name, as I have drawn yours. Who can doubt now that we are destined for each other? Obey the friendly oracle, dear maiden, and become mine, as I am yours, in life and death."

He embraced the lovely creature more ardently, while she, no longer able to withstand the solicitations of the youth and the pleadings of her own heart, sank on his bosom, and exclaimed, in low accents ---"Thine, for ever."-Sunbeam.

### THE THREE SEASONS OF LOVE.

With laughter swimming in thine eye, That told youth's heart felt revelry! And motion changeful as the wing Of swallow waken'd by the spring; With accents blythe as voice of May, Chaunting glad Nature's roundelay; Circled by joy, like planet bright, That smiles 'mid wreathes of dewy light,— Thy image such, in former time, When thou, jnst entering on thy prime, And woman's sense in thee combined Gently with childhood's simplest mind, First taught my sighing soul to move With hope towards the heaven of Love!

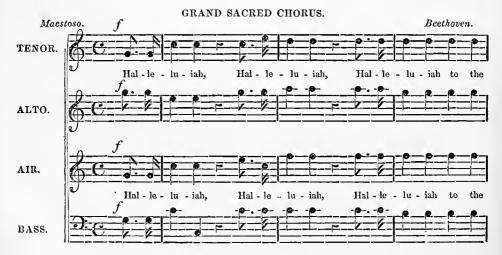
Now years have given to Mary's face A thoughtful and a quiet grace;— Though happy still—yet chance distress Hath left a pensive loveliness! Fancy hath tamed her fairy gleams, And thy heart broods o'er home-born dreams! Thy smiles, slow kindling now and mild, Shower blessings on a darling child; Thy motion slow, and soft thy tread, As if round thy hush'd infant's bed! And when thou speak'st, thy melting tone, That tells thy heart is all my own, Sounds sweeter, from the lapse of years, With the wife's love, the mother's fears!

By thy glad youth, and tranquil prime Assured, I smile at hoary time! For thou art doom'd in age to know The calm that wisdom steals from woe: The holy pride of high intent, The glory of a life well spent. When earth's affections nearly o'er With Peace behind, and Faith beforc, Thou render'st up again to God, Untarnish'd by its frail abode, Thy lustrous soul,—then harp and hymn, From bands of sister Seraphim, Asleep will lay thee, till thine eye Open in immortality.

#### Professor Wilson, born at Paisley, 1789.

THE CONSCIENTIOUS MIMIC .- Towards the beginning of the last century, an actor celebrated for mimicry was to have been employed by a comic author, to take off the person, manuer, and singularly awk ward delivery of the celebrated Dr. Woodward, who was intended to be introduced on the stage in a laughable character. The mimic dressed himself as a countryman, and waited on the Doctor with a long catalogue of nilments. which he said afflicted his wife. The phyof nilments, which he said afflicted his wife. The phy-sician heard with amazement diseases and pains of the most opposite nature, repeated and redoubled on the wretched patient; for since the actor's wish was to keep Dr. Woodward in his company as long as possible, that he might make the more observations on his gestures, he loaded his poor imaginary spouse with every infirmity which had any possible chance of pro-longing the interview. At length, having completely accomplished bis errand, he drew from his purse a guinea, and with a how and scrape, made an uncouth offer of it. "Put up thy money, poor fellow," cried the Doctor, "put up thy money; thou hast need of all thy cash, and all thy patience too, with such a bundle of diseases tied to thy back." The comedian returned to his employer, and related the whole conversation with such true feeling of the physician's character, that the author was convulsed with laughter. But his raptures were soon checked, when the minic told him, with emphatic sensibility, that he would sooner die than prostrate his talents to the rendering such genu-ine humanity a public object of ridicule.—*Thoughts on* Laughter.

## HALLELUIAH TO THE FATHER.



MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.



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## MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCLLEANY.





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MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.



## THE BRITISH MINSTREL; AND



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MUSICAL AND LITERARY MISCELLANY.



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# POOR MARY ANNE.

# GLEE FOR THREE VOICES.

[Harmonised for the " BRITIGH MINSTREL" by J. Seligmann.]



Pale her cheek, where health and pleasure, Poor Mary Anne, Once bestowed their choicest treasure, Poor Mary Anne. By that brook her lover seeking, Oft she wander'd without speaking, Ah! too sure her heart was breaking, Poor Mary Anne. No, 36. As the lily bent by showers, Poor Mary Anne. Droop'd the pride of nature's flowers, Poor Mary Anne. Now beneath the green turf laying, Oft from yonder village straying, We lament this maiden, saying, Poor Mary Anne.

# SIGNOR VELLUTI.

IN 1825, Signor Velluti arrived in London. Mr. Avrton had previously heard mnch of an opera, 'Il Crociato in Egitto,' which had been received with enthusiasm at Venice, and at Florence. Having obtained a sight of the score, he determined if possible to bring it out; and the arrival of Velluti, for whom it was written, and who had performed the principal character in both the above cities, enabled him to carry his design into execution.\* This celebrated singer was engaged for the latter half of the season, at a salary of six hundred pounds, and the curiosity excited by the announcement of a *Musico* was vivid in the extreme.

Thirty years had elapsed since a singer of this class had appeared at the King's Theatre. Very few were known to exist at the time, three of these, Mariano, Ferri, and Doholi, all of whom were resident at Rome, showed by their age the rarity of artists of the same description, none of them being less than fifty years old. A fourth, Reali, was much younger, his age being about twenty years. All these individuals were in actual practice, as singers, thongh less in the departments of the stage than at cathedrals, and other places for the exercise of sacred music. Another musico, Lorati, sang at Lisbon four or five years ago.

Velluti had commenced his career at the theatres about twenty years previously to his arrival in England, and had first appeared at Rome. At this city he soon grew into favour, and after performing under engagements at different places there, he accepted an engagement at Naples. After remaining at Naples some years, he went to Milan. Here he became acquainted with Rossini, and it was said that the manner in which he sang a cavatina in 'Aureliano in Palmyra,' operated in dctermining the composer's style. According to the report, Velluti added so many judicious ornaments to this cavatina, which was written with more simplicity than Rossini's subsequent compositions, that the latter, fearful that other singers, with less taste, might attempt similar liberties, resolved to fasten down the performer to the ideas of the composer, by expressing his music in so detailed a manner, as to leave no room for the introduction of graces by the singer. This anecdote is given on good authority, but seems hardly consistent with the dislike which Velluti is understood to entertain for the compositions of the Rossinian school.

At Milan, Velluti was the idol of the people; he was received *con furore*, and his fame spread on every side. A Milanese gentleman, who had a rich uncle, who was ill, met his friend in the street: "Where are you going?" "To the Scala, to be sure.?" "How! and your uncleat the point of death?" "Yes—but Velluti sings to-night.

At Vienna, the place of his next engagement, he was crowned, medallized, and recorded in immortal verse. From Vienna, his next remove was to Venice, where, I believe, he afterwards sang with Catalani. Velluti sang, at Verona, the cantata, 'Il vero Omaggio,' with wonderful success: everybody applauded, except an old Austrian officer, who thought

\* Signor Velluti, however, much wished to make his debut in Morlacehi's opera, 'Teobaldo e Isolina, from a persuasion that it was better calculated for this country, and endeavoured to bring over the director to his opinion: but Mr Ayrton's experience of the taste of the town led him to avery different conclusion, and the success of Meyerbeer's masterly and original work fully justified his devision.

nothing good out of Germany. "But is not this good?" they said to him: "Yes, it is good, but I know a man at Vienna that would sing it as loud again!" After going the tour of the principal Italian and German theatres, Velluti arrived at Paris, where the musical taste was not prepared for him. Rossini being at this time engaged at Paris, under his agreement to direct there, Velluti did not enter into his plans, and having made no engagement there, he came over to England, without any invitation, but strongly recommended by Lord Burghersh, and other people of distinction abroad. He brought letters to many persons of rank here, by all of whom he was noticed in the most handsome and flattering manner, and received most decided support from them on his *debut*.

support from them on his *debut*. The composer of 'Il Crociato in Egitto,' an amateur, was a native of Berlin, where his father, a Jew, who is since dead, was a banker of great riches. The father's name was Beer, Mcyer being merely a Jewish prefix, which the son thought proper to incorporate with his surname. He was the companion of Weber in his musical studies. He had produced other operas, which had been well received, but none of them was followed by, or merited the success that attended 'Il Crociatto.'

Considerable preparations were made, and no little expense incurred, to bring forward this opera, which at Paris took nine months to get up. It was here accomplished in one. As Veltuti had gone through all the labour of rehearsing, &c., at two theatres, and was, therefore, well acquainted with the composer's intentions, Mr. Ayrton left the getting up of the music almost wholly in his hands, and he exerted himself with the greatest zeal in pro-ducing it, in a manner worthy of the composer and of the country to which it was now to be first introduced. Mademoiselle Garcia, then a young singer, had a complete conrse of instructions from him on this occasion, to enable her to fill the part allotted to her, in a manner correspondent to his own. He also brought with him, from Florence, designs for the scenery, dresses, &c., not only of '11 Crociato,' but also of 'Teobaldo e Isolina,' the opera in which he very much wished to make his first public appearance here.

The friends of Velluti did not fail to attend his debut. The Duke of Wellington, with a party who had dined at Apsley House, attended the Opera, as did most of the people of distinction in town. The old amateurs came to compare the new singer with those of their early recollections; and those who were of more recent date than the days of Pacchicrotti and his contemporaries, came to hear so rare a novelty. Some came to oppose him, and some out of a feeling that he had heen harshly treated by the press and by a portion of the public. Various motives conspired to draw together an overflowing house. But the event was left uninfluenced by any artificial means of securing applause.

Velluti's demeanour on entering the stage was at once graceful and dignified; he was in look and action the son of chivalry he represented. His appearance was received with mingled applause and disapprobation; but the scanty symptoms of the latter were instantly overwhelmed. Every one of the many who were there must remember the effect produced on the audience by the first notes he uttered. There was something of a preternatural harshness about them, which jarred even more strongly on the imagination than on the ear. But, as he proceeded, the sweetness and flexibility of those of his tones which yet remained unimpaired by time, were fully perceived and felt.

The personal appearance of Velluti added much to the effect of his debut. He is tall and of a slender make, his countenance pale and suffused with a melancholy expression, which gives way, when the singer is excited, to one of vivid animation. Fraught by nature with excessive sensibility, his features speak every subtle shade of emotion by which the performer is supposed to be, and in Velluti's performances really is, actuated. With these expressive powers, there reigns, throughout all he does, a chaste and simple style, both in singing and acting, undestroyed by needless ornaments and misplaced efforts at display. Maintaining a true command over his powers, he rarely, if ever, lets them get the better of his discretion.

From what has been said, it may be concluded that Velluti's countenance is an interesting one; it is, indeed, so much so, that a late artist said, "that, without a single feature which one should select as beautiful, Velluti had the finest face he had ever seen."

The effect of Velluti's assistance in getting up the opera was fully manifest in the perfection of all the singers in their respective parts. Remorini, Curioni, Mademoiselle Garcia, excelled themselves, and Caradori exhibited a degree of excellence which even those who had best appreciated her powers had not anticipated. Her duet with Velluti, 'II tenero affetto,' is well remembered, and with delight.

It was at Velluti's suggestion that I sent for Crevelli, the tenor, who had sung here a few years before, to debut in 'Teobaldo e Isolina.' Velluti entertained a high opinion of that delightful singer, Miss Paton; he thought he had never heard a finer voice, and undertook that a two years' residence in Italy would qualify her to rank as prima soprana.

The favourable reception of Velluti on his first night completely put an end to any effective opposition; and the uneasiness he had sustained in consequence of the attacks made upon him, and to which his susceptible temperament rendered him peculiarly open, was compensated by the numerous testimonies he received, of support and regard. He received many handsome presents, not a few of which came anonymously, or under evidently assumed names. These marks of attention were encouraging to a man who had suffered no little from the exertions made to prevent his appearance.

It is agreeable to be able to say that, high as Vellati now stood with the public, his professional excellence fell short of the goodness of his private character. As a man of kind and benevolent disposition, and equally gentlemanly feeling and deportment, he is known to many who daly appreciate and respect him.

His private habits are of the most simple and inoffensive kind. In society he never fails to interest; and the apparent melancholy of his disposition is exchanged for a lively and almost playful exuberance of good humour—a feature of character not unusual with persons of much sensibility. Velluti is sparing in the pleasures of the table; a cup of coffee and a little dry toast form his breakfast, and his other meals are in proportion. His chief amusement is in billiard-playing, or whist, which, though no gamester, he is very fond of.—Eber's Seven Years of the King's Theatre.

# CHANTREY'S SLEEPING CHILDREN.

Look at those sleeping children !-- softly tread, Lest thou do mar their dream; and come not nigh Till their fond mother, with a kiss, shall ery, "'Tis morn, awake! awake!" Ah! they are dead ! Yet folded in each other's arms they lie-So still-oh, look ! so still and smilingly ; So breathing, and so beautiful they seem, As if to die in youth were but to dream Of springs and flowers !- of flowers? yet nearer stand -There is a lily in one little hand, Broken, but not faded yet, As if it's cup with tears was wet! So sleeps that child, -not faded, though in death; And seeming still to hear her sister's breath, As when she first did lay her head to rest Gently on that sister's breast, And kiss'd her ere she fell asleep! Th' archangel's trump alone shall wake that slumber deep. "Take up those flowers that fell From the dead hand, and sigh a long farewell! Your spirits rest in bliss !-Yet ere with parting prayers we say Farewell for ever! to the insensate elay, Poor maid, those pale lips we will kiss !" Ah! 'tis cold marble! Artist, who has wrought . This work of nature, feeling, and of thought? Thine, CHANTREY, be the fame That joins to immortality thy name. For these sweet children that so sculptured rest,-A sister's head upon a sister's breast,-Age after age shall pass away, Nor shall their beauty fade, their forms decay: For here is no corruption,-the cold worm Can never prey upon that beauteous form; This smile of death that fades not, shall engage The deep affections of each distant age! Mothers, till ruin the round world hath rent, Shall gaze with tears upon the monument! And fathers sigh, with half suspended breath, "How sweetly sleep the innocent in death !

-William Lisle Bowles, born in the Village of King's Sutton, Northamptonshire, 24th Sept., 1762.

#### ALBERT AUGUSTE ANDROT.

THIS composer was horn at Paris, in the year 1781, and was admitted into the Conservatory of Music at fifteen years of age. In 1799, he obtained the prize for his exercises in harmony; and four years afterwards, when only twenty two years old, he gained the prize offered for the best specimen of composition. He was sent to Rome soon after, at the expense of the government, that he might finish his studies. So astonished and satisfied was the famous Guglielmi with the extraordinary talents of young Androt, that during the first year of his studies in Rome, he imposed upon him the task of producing a requiem, and an ecclesiastical composition; the latter of which, performed during passion week, proved so fine, and excited such a degree of enthusiasm, that the composer was immediately engaged by the director of the hirst theatre at Rome. and by Guglielmi himself, to compose the music for the grand opera for autumn. To this arduous under. taking, he sat down with such intense earnestness and incessant application, that by the time he had completed the last scene, nature sunk under the labour, he took to his bed, and on the 19th of

August, 1804, he expired, in his twenty-third year. In the following October, a *de profundis*, which he composed during his illness, was performed in hon-our of his memory, at the church of *San Lorenzo in Lucinia*, at Rome. In like manner, the *Requiem* with their dying breath.

#### ТНЕ FOREST. FLOWERS 0' ТНЕ





I've seen the morning With gold the hills adorning, And loud tempests storming before the mid-day. I've seen Tweed's silver streams, Shining in the sunny beams, Grow drumly and dark as he row'd on his way.

Oh, fickle Fortune! Why this cruel sporting? Oh, why still perplex ns, poor sons of a day? Nae mair your smiles can cheer me, Nae mair your frowns can fear me; For the Flowers o' the Forest are a' wede away.

## THE FLOWERS OF THE FOREST.

1ST SET, BY MISS JANE ELLIOT. I've heard the lilting at our yowe-milking, Lasses a-lilting before the dawn of day; But now they are moaning on ilka green loaning-The Flowers of the Forest are a' wede away.

At buchts, in the morning, nae blythe lads are scorning, The lasses are lonely, and dowie, and wae; Nae daffin', nae gabbin', but sighing and sabbing, Ilk ane lifts her leglen and hies her away.

In hairst, at the shearing, nae yonths now are jeering, The bandsters are lyart, and runkled, and grey; It fair, or at preaching, nae wooing, nae fleeching-The Flowers of the Forest are a' wede away.

At e'en, in the gloaming, nae swankies are roaming, Bout stacks wi' the lasses at bogle to play But ilk ane sits dreary, lamenting her dearie-The Flowers of the Forest are a' wede away.

Dule and wae for the order, sent our lads to the Border! The English, for ance, by guile wan the day; The Flowers of the Forest, that foucht aye the foremost, The prime o' our land, are cauld in the clay.

We hear nae mair lilting at our yowe.milking, Women and bairns are heartless and wae; Sighing and moaning on ilka green loaning-The Flowers of the Forest are a' wede away.

#### THE FLOWERS OF THE FOREST.

Sir Walter Scott says, of the "Flowers of the Forest," 1st set-These well known and heautiful stanzas were composed many years ago, hy a lady of family in Roxburghshire. The manner of the ancient minstrels is so happily imitated, that it required the most positive cvidence to convince the editor that the song was of modern date. Such evidence, however, he has been able to procure, having heen favoured, through the kind intervention of Dr. Sommerville, (well known to the literary world as the historian of King William, &c.,) with Lord Ju an authentic copy of the Flowers of the Forest. Union.

From the same respectable authority, I am enabled to state, that the time of the ballad is ancient, as well as the first and last lines of the first stanza-

I've heard the lilting at our yewe milking. The Flowers of the Forest are a' wede away.

Some years after the song was composed, a lady who is now dead, repeated to the author another imperfect line of the original ballad, which presents a simple and affecting image to the mind, (as proceeding from the lips of a lady, who, according to the old Scottish fashion, had been accustomed to ride on the same horse with her husband)-

I ride single on my saddle, Since the Flowers of the Forest are a' wede away.

The first of these trifling fragments joined to the remembrance of the latal battle of Flodden, (in the calaruties accompanying which, the inhabitants of Ettric Forest suffered a distinguished share), and to the pi sent solitary and desolate appearance of the country, excited in the mind of the author, the ideas which she has expressed in a strain of elegiac simplicity and tenderness, which has seldom been equalled .- Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border.

"Miss Jane Elliot," authoress of the Flowers of the Forest, says Mr. Robert Chambers, "was the fourth child of Sir Gilbert Elliot of Minto, who died in the office of Lord Justice Clerk in the year 1766. She spent the latter part of her life chiefly in Edin burgh, where she mingled a good deal in the better sort of society. I have been told by one who was admitted in youth to the privileges of her conversation, that she was 'a remarkably agreeable old maiden lady, with a prodigious fund of Scottish anecdote, but did not appear to have ever been handsome.'

By 'The Forest,' in this song, and in ancient Scottish story, is not meant the forest, or the woods generally, but that district of Scotland, an ciently and sometimes still, called by the name of THE FOREST. This district comprehended the whole of Selkirkshire, with a considerable portion of Peebles-shire, and even of Clydesdale. It was a favourite resort of the Scottish kings and nobles for hunting. The Forest boasted the best archers, and perhaps the finest men in Scotland. At the battle of Falkirk, in 1298, the men of the Forest were distinguished, we are told, from the other slain. by their superior stature and beauty."-Scottish Songs, vol. 1.

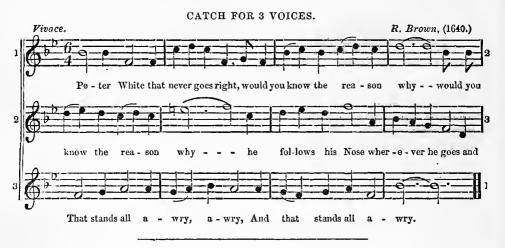
Regarding Mrs. Cockburn, authoress of the 2d set of the Flowers of the Forest, (the one which we have united to the music,) Mr. Chambers has the following note :-- "She was the daughter of Mr. Rutherford of Fairnielee, in Roxburghshire, and the wife of Mr. Cockburn of Ormiston, whose father was Lord Justice-Clerk of Scotland at the time of the She was a lady of the greatest private

worth, and much beloved by the numerous circle of acquaintance in which she spent the latter years of her life. I have been told of her, as a remarkable characteristic of her personal appearance, that, even when advanced to the age of eighty, she preserved to a hair the beautiful auburn or light-brown locks she had had in earry youth. There actually was not a single grey hair in her head! She in a similar manner preserved all her early spirits, wit, and intelligence; and she might, altogether, be described as a woman of ten thousand." The song nppeared in Herd's Collection 1776.—Scottish Songs. "even at an age advanced beyond the bounds of humanity, she retained a play of imagination, and an activity of intellect, which must have been attractive and delightful in youth, but was almost preternatural at her period of life. Her active benevolence keeping pace with her genius, rendered ber equally an object of love and admiration. The editor, who knew her well, takes this opportunity of doing justice to his own feelings, and they are in unison with those of all who knew his regretted friend.

The verses were written at an early period of life, and without peculiar relation to any event, unless it were the depopulation of Ettrick Forest."— Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border.

Sir Walter Scott says of Mrs. Cockburn, that,

# PETER WHITE.



#### ON THE POETICAL CHARACTER OF THE SCOTTISH PEASANTRY.

SCOTLAND has more reason to be proud of her peasant Poets than any other country in the world. She possesses a rich treasure of poetry, expressing the moral character of her population at very remote times; and in her national lyrics alone, so full of tenderness and truth, the heart of a simple, a wise, and thoughtful people is embalmed to us in imper-ishable beauty. If we knew nothing of the forefaishable heauty. If we knew nothing of the forefa-thers of our Scottish hamlets, but the pure and affectionate songs and ballads, the wild and pathetic airs of music which they loved, we should know enough to convince us that they were a race of men, strong, healthful, and happy, and dignified in the genial spirit of nature. The lower orders of the genial spirit of nature. Scotch seem always to have had deeper, calmer, purer, and more reflecting affections, than those of any other people-and, at the same time, they have possessed, and do still possess, an imagination that broods over these affections with a constant delight, and kindles them into a strength and power, which when bronght into action by domestic or national trouble, have often been in good truth sublime.

Whatever may have been the causes of this fine character, in more remote times, it seems certain that, since the Reformation, it is to be attributed chiefly to the spirit of their religion. That spirit is per-

vading and profound; it blends intimately with all the relations of life,—and gives a quiet and settled permanency to feelings, which, among a population uninspired by a habitual reverence for high and holy things, are little better than the uncertain, fluctuating, and transitory impulses of temperament. It is thus that there is something sacred and sublime in the tranquillity of a Scottish cottage. The Sabbathday seems to extend its influence over all the earth. The Bible lies from week's end to week's end visible before the eyes of all the inmates of the house; the language of Scripture is so familiar to the minds of the peasantry, that it is often adopted unconsciously in the conversation of common hours; in short, all the forms, modes, shews of life, in u great measure, are either moulded or coloured by religion.

All enlightened foreigners have been impressed with a sense of the grandeur of such national character, but they have failed in attributing it to the right cause. The blessings of education have indeed been widely diffused over Scotland, and her parish schools have conferred on her inestimable benefits. But there is such simplicity and depth of moral feeling and affection in her peasantry,—such power over their more agitating and tunultuous passions, which, without weakening their lawful energies, controls and subdues their rebellious excitement, there is an imagination so purely and loftily exer-

cised over the objects of their human love, that we must look for the origin of such a character to a far higher source than the mere culture of the mind by means of a national and widely extended system of education. It is the habitual faith of the peasantry of this happy and beautiful land, "that has made them whole." The undecaying sanctities of religion have, like an unseen household deity, kept watch by their hearth-sides from generation to generation; and their belief in the Bible is connected with all that is holiest and dearest in filial and parental love. A common piece of wood, the meanest article of household furniture, is prized, when it is a relic of one tenderly beloved; but the peasant of Scotland has a relic of departed affection, that lifts his nature up to heaven, when he takes into his reverential hands,

"The big ha' Bible, ance his father's pride."

None who have enjoyed the happiness and the benefit of an intimate knowledge of the peasantry of Scotland will think this picture of their character overdrawn or exaggerated. We are not speaking of defects, frailties, errors, and vices. But that the Scotch are a devont people, one day wisely passed in Scotland would carry conviction to a stranger's heart; and when it is considered how many noble and elevating feelings are included within the virtue of devotion-unfearing faith, submissive reverence, calm content, and unshaken love-we acknowledge, that a people, who, emphatically speaking, fear God, must possess within themselves the elements of all human virtue, happiness, and wisdom,-however much these may occasionally be weakened or pulluted by the mournful necessities of life,-grief, ignorance, hard labour, penury, and disease.

It is the heart of the people, not merely their external character, of which we speak, though that too is beyond all comparison the most interesting and impressive of any nation of the world. It would require a long line of thought to fathom the depth of a grey-haired Scottish peasant's heart, who may have buried in the church-yard of his native village the partner of a long life, and the children that she had brought to bless it. Time wears not from his heart any impression that love has once graven there; it would seem, that the strength of affections relying on heaven when earth has lost all it valued, preserved old age from dotage and decay. If religion is most heautiful and lovely in the young, the happy, and the innocent, we must yet look for the consummation of its sublimity in the old, the repentant, the resigned, and both may be seen,

"In some small Kirk upon its sunny brae, When Scotland lies asleep on the still Sabbath-day."

The Scottish peasantry are poetical, therefore, hecause they are religious. A heart that habitually cherishes religious feelings, cannot abide the thought of pure affections and pure delights passing utterly away, and would fain give a permanent existence to the fleeting shadows of earthly happiness. Its dreams are of heaven and eternity, and such dreams reflect back a hallowed light on earth and on time. We are ourselves willing, when our hour is come, to perish from the earth; but we wish our thoughts and feelings to live behind us; and we cannot endure the imagined sadness and silence of their extinction. Had a people no strong hope of the future, how could they deeply care for the past? Or rather, how could the past awaken any thoughts but those of despondency and despair? A religious people

tread constantly, as it were, on consecrated ground. It cannot be said that there is any death among them; for we cannot forget those whom we know we shall meet in heaven. But unless a people carry on their hopes and affections into an eternal future, there must be a deplorable oblivion of objects of affection vanished,-a still increasing

#### Dearth Of love upon a hopeless earth."

Religion, then, has made the people of Scotland thoughtful and poetical, therefore, in their intellects -simple and pure in their morals-tender and affectionate in their hearts. But when there is profound thought and awakened sensibility, imagination will not fail to reign; and if this be indeed the character of a whole people, and should they, moreover, be blessed with a beautiful country, and a free government, then those higher and purer feelings which, in less happy lands, are possessed only by the higher ranks of society, are brought into free play over all the bosom of society; and it may, without violence, be said, that a spirit of poetry breathes over all its valleys.

Of England, and of the character of her population, high and low, we think with exultation and with pride. Some virtues they, perhaps, possess in greater perfection than any other people. But we believe, that the most philosophical Englishmen acknowledge that there is a depth of moral and religious feeling in the peasantry of Scotland, not to he found among the best part of their own population. There cannot be said to be any poetry of the pea-santry of England. We do not feel any consciousness of national prejudice, when we say, that a great poet could not be born among the English peasantry -bred among them-and restricted in his poetry to subjects belonging to themselves and their life.

There doubtless are among the peasantry of every truly noble nation, much to kindle the imagination and the fancy; but we believe that in no country but Scotland, does there exist a system of social and domestic life among that order of men, which combines within it almost all the finer and higher emotions of cultivated minds, with a simplicity and artlessness of character peculiar to persons of low estate. The fireside of an English cottager is often a scene of happiness and virtue; but unquestionably in reading the "Cottar's Saturday Night" of Burns, we feel, that, we are reading the records of a purer, simpler, and more pious race; and there is in that immortal poem, a depth of domestic joy-an inten. sity of the feeling of home-a presiding spirit of love-and a lofty enthusiasm of religion, which are all peculiarly Scottish, and beyond the pitch of mind of any other people .- Blackwood's Magazine.

#### WILHEM AND MAINZER'S SYSTEMS.

WERE it asked what is the difference between the systems of Mainzer and Wilhem, as adopted by Hullah, we would say that the systems themselves are the same, but the manner and order of teaching are different.

t. Wilhem has introduced a new Manual Alphabet of Music, in which the lines of the stave are represented by the five fingers, while the notation is performed by very ingenious manual signs. In this manner the pupils are taught to read and speak music by means of certain gestures of the body .- Mainzer uses the ordinary notation.

2. Wilhem, who employs the hands of the profes-

sor with the manual exercises, forbids the use of an instrument.—Mainzer recommends its use in order to tune the voice, to educate the ear, and to correct the natural and constant tendency of the voice to fall, while it also relieves the lungs of the teacher from an unnecessary strain.

3. Wilhem's exercises are chiefly and purposely mechanical and unmusical for the sake of dexterity. --Mainzer has given to all his exercises a charm which is quite fascinating; every little exercise has some musical idea in order to cultivate the taste, and to encourage the pupil.

4. Wilhem teaches the grammar of music from the very beginning.—Mainzer begins with only one

letter of the alphabet, and does not teach the gram. mar until his pupils have learned to read.

5. Wilhem introduces expedients which must afterwards be laid aside.—Mainzer introduces nothing but what will always be required.

thing but what will always be required. 6. Wilhem's elementary course consists of sixty lessons.—Mainzer's consists of only sixteen.

7. Wilhem uses the old analytical plan of instruction, classifying and arranging, coming downwards from the great to the small, as we would define for an encyclopædia.—Mainzer uses the synthetical plan, building and adding bit by bit, going upwards from the small to the great, as we would explain for a child.—Edinburgh Observer.

# LET'S LIVE AND LET'S LOVE.



THE BANKS OF THE DEVON.



O spare the dear blossom, ye orient breezes, With chill hoary wing as ye usher the dawn ! And far be thou distant, thou reptile that seizes The verdure and pride of the garden and lawn ! No. 37. Let Bourbon exult in her gay gilded lilies, And England triumphant display her proud rose; A fairer than either adorns the green valleys, Where Devon, sweet Devon, meandering flows.

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# THE YOUNG WIFE.

#### A SCENE FROM A SWEDISH NOVEL.

Rosenvik, 1st June, 18—. Here I am now, my dear Maria, under my own roof, at my own writingtable, and sitting by my own Bear. And who is Bear? you ask: who should it be but my own hushand, whom I call Bear because the name suits him so well.

Here then I am, sitting by the window; the sun is setting; two swans swim in the lake and make furrows in its clear mirror; three cows, my eows, stand on the green shore, quite sleek and reflective, thinking certainly upon nothing. How handsome they are! Now eomes the maid with her milk-pail; how rich and good is country milk! but what, in fact, is not good in the country? air and rain, food and feeling, heaven and earth, all is fresh and animated.

But now I must conduct you into my dwellingno, I will begin yet further off. There, on that hill, in Smaland, several miles off, whence I first looked into the valley where Rosenvik lies, behold a dustcovered carriage, within which sits the Bear and his little wife. That little wife looks fortb with curiosity, for before her lies a valley beautiful in the light of evening. Green woods stretch out below, and surround crystal lakes; corn-fields in silken waves encircle grey mountains, and white buildings gleam ont with friendly aspects among the trees. Here and there, from the wood-covered heights, pillars of smoke ascend to the clear evening heaven; they might have been mistaken for volcanoes, but they were only peaceful svedjen.\* Truly it was beautiful, and I was charmed; I hent myself forward, and was thinking on a certain happy natural family in Paradise, one Adam and Eve, when suddenly the Bear laid his great paws upon me, and held me so tight that I was nearly giving up the ghost, while he kissed me and besought me to find pleasure in what was here. I was the least in the world angry; but, as I knew the heart impulse of this embrace, I made myself tolcrably contented. -Here, then, in this valley, lay my stationary home, here lived my new family, here lay Rosenvik, here should I and my husband live together. We de. scended the hill and the carriage rolled rapidly along the level road, while as we advanced he told whose property was this and whose was that, whether near or remote. All was to me like a dream, out of which I was suddenly awoke by his saying with a peculiar accent, " Here lives Ma chere mere," and at the same moment the carriage drove into a courtyard, and drew up at the door of a large handsome stone house.

"What, must we alight here?" I asked.

"Yes, my love," was his reply.

This was to me by no means an agreeable surprise; I would much rather have gone on to my own house; much rather have made some preparation for this first meeting with my husband's step-mother, of whom I stood in great awe from the anecdotes I had heard of her, and the respect her step-son had for her. This visit seemed to me quite mal-apropos, but my husband had his own ideas, and as I glauced at him I saw that it was no time for opposition.

It was Sunday, and as the carriage drew up I heard the sound of a violin.

"Aha," said Lars Anders, for such is my husband's

\* Svedjen, the burning of turf, &c., in the fields, used for dressing the land.

ehristian name, "so much the better!" leaped hear ly from the carriage, and helped me out also. There was no time to think about boxes or packages; he took my hand and led me up the steps, along the entrance-hall, and drew me towards the door, whence proceeded the sounds of music and dancing.

"Only see," thought I, "how is it possible for me to dance in this costume."

O if I could only have gone in somewhere, just to wipe the dust from my face and my bonnet, where at the very least I could just have seen myself in a looking.glass! . . . . . "Now," exclaimed I, in a kind of lively despair, "If you take me to a ball, you Bear, I'll make you dance with me."

"With a world of pleasure !" cried he, and in the same moment we two stood in the hall, when my terror was considerably abated by finding that the great room contained merely a number of cleanly dressed servants, men and women, who leapt about lustily with one another, and who were so occupied with their dancing as scarcely to perceive us. Lars Anders led me to the upper end of the room, where I saw sitting upon a high seat, a very tall and strong built gentlewoman, who was playing with remarkable fervour upon a violin, and beating time to her music with great power. Upon her head was a tall and extraordinary cap, which I may as well call a helmet, because this idea came into my head at the first glance; and after all I can find no better name for it. This was the Generalin (wife of the General) Mansfield, step-mother of my husband, Ma chere mere of whom I had heard so much.

She turned instantly her large dark brown eyes upon us, ceased playing, laid down her violin, and arose with a proud bearing, but with, at the same time, a happy and open countenance. I trembled a little, made a deep curtsey, and kissed her hand; in return she kissed my forehead, and for a moment looked on me so keenly as compelled me to cast down my eyes, whereupon she kissed me most cordially on mouth and forehead, and embraced me as warmly as her step-son. And now came his turn ; he kissed her hand most reverentially, but she presented her cheek; they regarded each other with the most friendly expression of countenance, she saying in a loud manly voice the moment afterwards: "You are welcome, my dear friends; it is very handsome of you to come here to me before you have been to your own house; I thank you for it. I might, it is true, have received you better, if I could have made preparations: but at all events, this I know, that 'a welcome is the best dish.' I hope, my friends, that you will remain over the evening with me."

My husband excused us, saying that we wished to reach home soon; that I was fatigued with the journey; but that we could not pass Carlsfors without paying our respects to Ma chere mere.

"Nay, good, good !" said she, apparently satisfied; "we will soon have more talk within, but first I must speak a few words with these people here. Listen, good friends!" and Ma chere mere struck the back of the violin with the bow till a general silence prevailed through the hall. "My children," continued she in a solemn tone, "I have something to say to you,—the hangman! wilt thou not be quiet there below,—I have to tell you that my beloved son Lars Anders Werner takes home his wife, this Franziska Buren whom you see standing by his side. Marriages are determined in heaven, my children, and we will now pray heaven to bless its work in the persons of this couple. This evening we will drink together a skal to their well-being. So now you can dance, my childreu! Olof, come here and play thy very best."

While a murnur of exultation and good wishes ran through the assembly, Ma chere mere took me by the hand and led me, together with my husband, into another room, into which she ordered punch and glasses to be brought; then placing both her elbows firmly upon the table and supporting her chin on her closed fists, she looked at me with a gaze which was rather dark than friendly. Lars Anders, who saw that this review was rather embarassing to me began to speak of the harvest, and other country aflairs; Ma chere mere, however, sighed several times so deeply, that her sighs rather resembled groans, and then, as it were constraining herself, answered to his observations.

The punch came, and then filling the glass, she said, with earnestness in tone and countenance, "Son and sen's wife, your health!"

After this she became more friendly, and said in a jesting tone, which by the bye suited her very well, "Lars Anders, I snppose we must not say 'you have bought the calf in the sack.' Your wife does not look amiss, and she 'has a pair of eyes fit to buy fish with.' She is little, very little, one must confess; but 'little and bold often pusb the great ones aside.'"

I laughed, Ma chere mere did the same, and I began to talk and act quite at my ease.

"Now fill your glasses, and come and drink with the people. Trouble man may keep to himself, but pleasure he must enjoy in company." We followed Ma chere mere, who had gone as herald into the dancing-room; they were all standing as we entered with filled glasses, and she spoke something after this manner: "One must never triumph before one is over the brook; but if people sail in the ship of matrimony with prudence and in the fear of God, there is a proverb which says 'well begun is half won,' and therefore, my friends, we will drink a skal to the new married couple whom yon see before you, and wish, net only for them, but for those who come after them, that they may for ever have place in the garden of the Lord!"

"Skal! skal!" resounded on all sides. Lars Anders and I drank, and then went round and shook hands with so many people that my head was quite dizzy.

All this over, we prepared for our departure, and then came Ma chere mere to me on the steps with . a packet, or rather a bundle in her hand, saying, in the most friendly manner, "Take these veal cutlets with you, children, for breakfast to-morrow morning. In a while you will fatten and eat your own veal; but daughter-in-law, don't forget one thing.—let me have my napkin back again! Nay, you shall not carry it, dear child, you have quite enough to do with your bag (pirat) and your cloak. Lars Anders must carry the yeal cutlets;" and then, as if he were a little boy still, she gave him the bundle and showed him how be must carry it, all which be did as she bade him, and still her last words were "Don't for-

I glanced full of amazement at my husband, hut he only smiled and helped me into the carriage. As to the veal cutlets, I could not but rejoice over them, for I could not tell in what state I might find the provision-room at Rosenvik. Right glad also was I to arrive "at home," and to see a maid-serwant and a ready prepared bed, for we had travelled

that day ten miles, (Swedish,) and I was greatly fatigued. I had slept a little on the quarter-of-amile way between Carlsfors and Rosenvik, and the twilight had come on so rapidly that, as about eleven o'clock at night we arrived at home, I was unable to see what my Eden resembled. The house seemed, however, to me, somewhat grey and small in comparison of the one we had just left; but that was of no consequence, Lars Anders was so cordially kind, and I was so cordially sleepy. But all at once I was wide awake, for as I entered it seemed to me like a fairy tale. I stepped into a handsome welllighted room, in the middle of which stood a nicely arranged tea table glittering with silver and china, whilst beside the tea-table stood the very neatest of maid-servants, in that pretty holiday dress which is peculiar to the peasant girls of this country.

I uttered an exclamation of delight, and all sleep at once was gone. In a quarter of an hour I was quite ready, and sat down as hostess at the tea-table, admiring the beautiful tablecloth, the teacups, the teapot, the teaspoons, upon which were engraved our joint initials, and served tea to my husband, who seemed happy to his heart's core.

And thus the morning and the evening were the first day.

The next morning when I opened my eyes, I saw that my Adam was directing his eyes with an expression of great devotion towards the window, where a ray of sunshine streamed in through a hole in the blue striped window curtains, whilst at the same time the mewing of a cat might be heard.

"My beloved husband!" began I solemnly, "I thank you for the beautiful music which you have prepared for my welcome. I conjecture you have a troop of country girls all dressed in white to scatter twigs of fir before my feet. 1 will soon be ready to receive them."

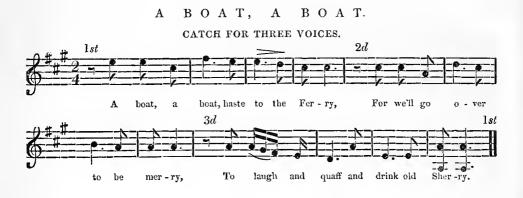
"I have arranged something much better than this old-fashioned pageantry," said he merrily. "In association with a great artist, I have prepared a panorama which will show you how it looks in Arabia Deserta. You need only to lift up these cartains."

You may imagine, Maria, that I was soon at the window,—with a sort of sacred awe drew aside the curtains. Ah, Maria! there lay before me, in the full glory of the morning, a crystal lake; green meadows, and groves lay around, and in the middle of the lake a small island, upon which grew a magnificent oak; over all the sun shone brightly, and all was so peaceful, so paradisiacal in its beauty, that I was enchanted, and for the first moment could not speak, I could only fold my hands whilst tears filled my eyes.

"May you be happy here!" whispered Lars Anders, and clasped me to his heart.—" I am happy, too happy!'s said I, deeply moved, "and grateful." —"Do you see the island, that little Svano?" asked he, "I will row you often there on a summer's evening; we will take our evening meal with us, and eat it there."—"Why not breakfast?" inquired I, suddenly fired with the idea, "why not to-day, in this beautiful morning, go and drink our coffee? I will immediately."—"No, not this morning," interrupted he, laughing at my earnestness, "I must go into the city and visit my patients."—"Ah!" exclaimed I, in a tone of vexation, "what a thing it is that people cannot remain in health!!—"What then should I do?" asked he, in a sort of comic terror. "Row me over to the Svano," was my reply.—"I shall be back," said he, "for dinner about three o'clock, and then we can-that cursed hole there above," said he; "I could not have believed that the curtains had been so tor..."

"That hole shall remain as long as I am here," exclaimed I with enthusiasm, interrupting him;

"never would I forget that through that hole I first saw sunshine at Rosenvik!"—The Neighbours, translated from the Swedish of Frederika Bremer, by Mrs. Howitt.



# THE TOMB OF NAPOLEON.

BY MRS. L. H. SIGOURNEY.

"The moon of St. Helena shone out, and there we saw the face of Napoleon's sepulchre, characterless, uninscribed,"

And who shall write thine epitaph?—thou man Of mystery and might!—shall orphan hands Inscribe it with their fathers' broken swords? Or the warm trickling of the widow's tear Channel it slowly in the sullen rock, As the keen torture of the water drop

Doth wear the sentenc'd brain? shall countless ghosts

Arise from Hades, and in lurid flame

With shadowy finger trace thine effigy,

Who sent them to their audit, unannealed,

And with but that brief space for shrift or prayer Given at the cannon's mouth!

Thou, who didst sit

Like eagle on the apex of the globe, And hear the murmur of its conquered tribes, As chirp the weak-voie'd nations of the grass, Why art thou sepulchred in yon far isle, Yon little speck, which searce the mariner Descries 'mid ocean's foam?

Thou, who didst hew Rongh pathway for thy host, above the eloud, Guiding their footsteps o'er the frost-work erown Of the thron'd Alps—why sleep'st thou thus unmark'd

Even by such slight memento as the hind Carves on his own coarse tombstone?

Bid the throng Breathing thy thunders on the battle field, Return, and deck thy monument. Those forms, O'er the wide valleys of red slaughter spread, From pole to tropic, and from zone to zone, Heed not thy clarion-call. Yet, should they rise, **As** in the vision that the prophet saw, And each dry bone its sever'd fellow find, Piling their pillar'd dust, as erst they gave Their souls for thee, might not the pale stars deem A second time the puny pride of man Did creep by stealth upon its Babel-stairs, To dwell with them? But, here unwept thou art, Like a dead lion in its thicket lair, With neither living man nor spectre lone To trace thine epitaph.

Invoke the climes That served as playthings in thy desperate game Of mad ambition, or their treasures strew'd To pay thy reckoning, till gaunt famine fed Upon their vitals.

France! who gave so free Thy life-stream to his cup of wine, and saw That purple vintage shed o'er half the earth-Write the first line, if thou hast blood to spare; Thou, too, whose pride adorn'd dead Ceasar's tomb And pour'd high requiem o'er the tyrant train That rul'd thee, to thy cost-lend us thine arts Of sculpture and of classic eloquence, To grace his obsequies-at whose dark frown Thine ancient spirit quail'd; and to the list Of mutilated kings, who gleaned their meat 'Neath Agag's table, add the name of Rome. -Turn, Austria! iron brow'd and hard of heart, And on his monument, to whom thou gavist In anger, hattle, and in craft, a bride, Grave Austerlitz, and fiercely turn away. -Rouse Prussia from her trance, with Jena's

name, As the reiu'd war-horse at the trumpet blast,

As the ferral war-horse at the fullinger max, And take her witness to that fame which soars O'er him of Macedon, and shames the vaunt Of Scandinavia's madman.

From the shades Of letter'd ease, oh Germany! come forth, With pen of fire, and from thy troubled scroll, Such as thou spread'st at Leipsic, gather tints Of deeper character than bold romance Hath ever imaged in her wildest dream, Or history trusted to her sibyl-leaves.

-----Hail, Lotus-crown'd! in thy green childhood fed

By stiff-necked Pharaoh and the shepherd-kings, Hast thou no trait of him who drenched thy sands At Jaffa and at Aboukir? when the flight Of rushing souls went up so strange and strong To the accusing Spirit?

Glorious Isle! Whose thrice-enwreathed chain, Promethean like, Did bind him to the fatal rock—we ask Thy deep memento for this marble tomb. —Ho! fur.clad Russia! with thy spear of frost, Or with the winter-mocking Cossack's lance, Stir the cold memories of thy vengeful hrain, And give the last line of our epitaph. But there was silence. Not a sceptered hand Moved at the challenge.

From the misty deep, Rise, island-spirits! like those sisters three Who spin and cut the trembling thread of life— Rise, on your coral pedestals, and write That eulogy which haughtier chimes deny. Come, for ye lulled him in your matron arms, And cheered his exile with the name of king, And spread that curtain'd couch which none disturb;

So, twine some bud of household tenderness, Some simple leaflet, damp with nature's dews, Around his urn.

But Corsica, who rock'd

His cradle at Ajaccio, turned away, And tiny Elba in the Tuscan Wave Plunged her slight annal, with the haste of fear; And lone Helena, sick at heart, and grey 'Neath Ocean's bitter smitings, bade the moon With silent finger point the traveller's gaze To an unhonoured tomb.

Then Earth arose, That hlind, old Empress, on her crumbling throne, And to the echoed question, "Who shall write Napoleon's cpitaph?" as one who broods O'er unforgiven injuries, answered—"NONE!"

Forget-me-not, 1841.

#### ON MUSICAL ACCENT.

UPON the divisions of Musical Accent proposed by J. J. ROUSSEAU, in his Dictionary, M. SOUARD has made the following observations:-ROUSSEAU speaks of a musical accent to which all others are subordinate, and which must be first consulted to give an agreeable melody to any air. It is singular that he does not at the same time give any definition of this accent which is so essential, nor any means of recognizing it and observing its rules. Let us try to supply this omission. We have asked several great composers, both national and foreign, what they understood by musical accent, and if the expression belonged to the language of the art. Some of them have answered that they could not attach any precise idea to it; others have explained it to us, but with very different acceptations. We have sought it in the best Italian works which have been written upon music; in those of ZARLINO, DONI, TARTINI, SACCHI, EXIMENO, &c., but have rarely found it employed except in opposite senses. We have,

therefore, concluded that it is not a technical expression, the sense of which may be determined and generally acknowledged by the learned and by Meanwhile, it appears necessary, in many artists. cases, to express very distinct and often essential effects. We will then endeavour to attach to this word a clear and precise idea, hy tracing up its analogy to its primitive and grammatical signification: this is the only mode of avoiding the confusion and inaccuracy which are but too often introduced by the employment of words transferred from one art to another. Accent being, in discourse, a more marked modification of the voice, to give to the syllable over which it is placed a particular energy, either by force or duration of sound, as in the Italian and English languages; or by a perceptible, grave, or acute intonation, as in the Greek and Latin tongnes; it needs only to apply to music the general ideas which this word presents in grammar. The musical accent then, will be a more marked energy attached to a particular note in the measure, the rythm, or the phrase of the music, whether

First, In articulating this note more strongly, or with a gradual force.

Second, In giving it a greater duration in time. Third, In detaching it from the others by a very

distinct, grave, or accute intonation.

These different sorts of musical accent belong to pure melody; others may be drawn from harmony. We will explain as clearly and as succintly as we can, the way in which we comprehend these different effects.

First. The first species is the essence of music, in all fixed and regular measures. Let us suppose four-and-twenty successive notes of equal value, following each other; if you sing them, or play them with an instrument, with an equal force of sound. as they have all an equal duration, you will only have a distinct succession of similar tones, but without any appearance of time: these will not make music. If you would wish to give them a fixed measure, you will be obliged to mark, by a more forcible articulation, the note which begins each bar: thus, if there be four-and-twenty crotchets, and you wish to give them a measure of four time, you will strike more strongly the first, the fifth, the ninth, &c. For the measure of three time, you will lean more forcibly upon the first, the fourth, the seventh. &c. For the measure of two, you will enforce every other note. This is what every singer and player would naturally do. The notes more forcibly pressed are the strong parts of the measure, and the others are the weak parts; in technical language, the perfect and imperfect times of the bar. In the measure of four time, there are two strong parts and two weak; for the third is marked less strongly than the first, but more so than the second and the fourth. Here is then a constant musical accent inherent in all pieces of measured music; for it ought to exist, although by the movement of the rythm, or the effects of expression, this accent is contradicted or almost effaced by an accent of another kind.

Second. If in each bar, or in the two or three following bars, &c., the same note, or a longer note than the others, returns regularly at the same part of the bar, this note would be considered as a musical accent giving a particular effect to the melody.

Third. If, in the same way, at certain parts of the measure or the musical phrase, the melody be regularly raised or lowered by a marked interval, this intonation would also form a very distinct accent. those which harmony furnishes.

If the different instruments regularly strike more forcibly a certain part of the same bar, or musical phrase, or if a larger number of instruments unite to strike this same part, there will be an accent on this note; there will be one also upon the note which, at regular intervals, is struck by a marked dissonance, or by an abrupt passage of modulation.

All syncopated notes also form an accent. That part of the note which is necessarily enforced to mark the strong part, has a melodious accent; this accent may be strengthened by the change of the chord which takes place upon the second part of the note. These different examples of accent arc susceptible of many gradations and combinations. It is sufficient for us to have indicated their principles. -Encyclopædie Methodique.

#### HUMMEL.

THE musical world has just lost a great genius ; one of the stars of its firmament has fallen. Hummel, the great harmonist and improvisatore on the piano, is dead. He was, perhaps, one of the finest extem pore performers in the world. When he sat down to the piano, he seemed to forget all that was around him, and passed into a new state of thoughts and things. He wandered away into a region of harmony, and ponred out a crowd of the noblest conceptions of music. While his fingers were ranging over the keys, apparently by chance, yet directed by the finest and most habitual skill of science, he created brilliant passages, intricate figures, and daring eccentricities of composition, with the rapidity, richness, and ease of something little short of musisieal inspiration. Generally taking some simple movement for his theme, he first touched it with delicate and exquisite taste, then dashed off with a bolder outline, and after having fixed this in the mind of his hearers, filled it up with all that was faneiful, and all that was forcible in the resources of science. All this may sound extravagant to those who have never heard Hummel; those who have, will acknowledge that language borrowed from the sister art of painting, is almost the only one appli-

To these methods, drawn from melody, let us join | cable to the luxuriant and glowing variety of his powers. It is remarkable that his written compositions were less effective; they are solid, clear, and powerful; but they want the rapid fire and glittering novelty of his extempore performances. If Handel's mighty productions have been compared to the Gothic Cathedral, vast, solemn, and grand, and Haydn's to a Grecian Temple, pure and polished, and at once the work of science and simplicity, Hummel's extempore productions, when he was left free to follow his own thoughts with the piano before him, might be compared to the fantastic beauty of some of those edifices that we see reared upon the stage, formed of the slightest materials, yet picturesque, and though passing away from the eye, yet impressing the me-mory with a sense of combined elegance and splendour.

Hummel, from his earliest days, was destined for music. It is superfluous to say that he was made master of all the finer secrets of his profession, when we say that he was the pupil of Mozart. He per-formed, when but nine years of age, at his great master's concerts at Dresden; and when Germany lost that most delicious of all composers, Hummel had the honour of being appointed to direct the music performed at his obsequies. After making the round of Germany, he came to England many years since, and was received with great applause. After remaining in this country for some time, he returned to Germany, and devoted himself to composition. Music for the concert-room, the chapel, and the opera, was the fruit of his study. Four or five years since, he once more came to England, and was received with the homage due to a veteran whose fame had been established. But at this time a new school had been formed in Germany, and become popular in England. Rapidity of execution had superseded delicaey of taste; difficulty was mistaken for science, and extravagance for originality. Hummel was still admired; but younger rivals naturally earry off the honours of the old, among the fluctuating tastes of a singularly fluctuating people. After a residence of one or two years in London, where he gave occasional concerts, he retired to Weimar, where he died at the age of fifty-nine .--Blackwood's Magazine, January, 1838.

#### THE NIGHTINGALE.



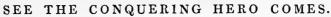
Sweet Bird that charm'st the hour



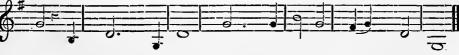
THE BRITISH MINSTREL; AND











THE BRITISH MINSTREL; AND





#### EARLY DEVELOPEMENT OF MUSICAL GENIUS.

MUSIC, in its highest degrees of endowment, produces effects in the human character, of which the least that can be said is, that they are as worthy of being studied as any other class of mental phenomena. One of the most remarkable circumstances attending the gift in its loftiest forms, is the absolute impossibility of repressing it. Even during childhood, it is quite in vain, in most instances, to attempt to impose upon it the least control. In spite of the injunctions, the vigilance, the tyranny of masters and parents, the "unprisoned soul" of the nusician seems always to find some means of escape; and even when debarred from the use of musical instruments, it is ten to one but in the end he is discovered ensconced in some quiet corner, tuning his horse shoes, or, should he be so fortunate as to secure so great a prize, like Enlenstein, eliciting new and unknown powers of harmony from the iron tongue of a Jew's harp. Some curious examples of the extent to which this ruling passion has been carried, occasionally occnr. Dr. Arne (except Purcell, perhaps our greatest English composer) was bred a lawyer, and as such articled to an attorney; but his musical propensities, which showed themselves at a very early age, soon engrossed his mind to the exclusion of everything else. He used not unfrequently to avail himself of the privilege of a servant, by borrowing a livery and going to the upper gallery of the Opera House, at that time appropriated to domestics. It is also said that he used to hide a spinet in his room, upon which, after mufiling the strings with a handkerchief, he practised during the night; for had his father known what was going forward, he probably would have thrown both him and it out of the window. The latter, however, never appears to have come to a knowledge of these proceedings, and his son, instead of studying law, was devoting himself entirely to the cultivation of the spinet, the violin, and musical composition, until one day, after he had served out his time, when he happened to call at the honse of a gentleman in the neighbourhood, who was engaged with a musical party, when being ushered into the room, to his atter surprise and horror he discovered his son in the act of playing the first fiddle; from which period the old gentleman began to think it most prudent to give up the contest, and soon after allowed him to receive regular instructions.

Handel, too, was similarly sitnated. His father, who was a physician at Halle, in Saxony, destined him for the profession of the law, and with this view was so determined to check his early inclination towards music, that he excluded from his house all mnsical society; nor would he permit music or ninsical instruments to be ever heard within its walls. The child, however, notwithstanding his parent's precantions, found means to hear somebody play on the harpsichord; and the delight which he felt having prompted him to endeavour to gain an opportunity of practising what be had heard, he contrived, through a servant, to procure a small clarichord or spinet, which he secreted in a garret, and to which he repaired every night after the family had gone to rest, and intuitively, without ex-traneous aid, learned to extract from it its powers of harmony as well as melody. Upon this subject Mr. Hogarth, in his highly popular History of Music, has the following sensible observation. "A childish love for music or painting, even when accompanied with an aptitude to learn something of these arts,

is not, in one case out of a hundred, or rather a thousand, conjoined with that degree of genins, without which it would be a vain and idle pursuit. In the general case, therefore, it is wise to check such propensities where they appear likely to divert or incapacitate the mind from graver pursuits. But, on the other hand, the judgment of a parent of a gifted child onght to be shown by his discerning the genuine talent as soon as it manifests itself, and then bestowing on it every care and culture."

A tale exactly similar is told of Handel's great contemporary John Sebastian Bach, a man of equally stupendous genins, and whose works at the present day are looked up to with the same veneration with which we regard those of the former. He was born at Eisenach in 1685, and when ten years old (his father being dcad) was left to the care of his elder brother, an organist, from whom he received his first instructions; but the talent of the pupil so completely outran the slow current of the master's ideas, that pieces of greater difficulty were perpetually in demand, and as often refused. Among other things, young Bach set his heart upon a book containing pieces for the clarichord, by the most celebrated composers of the day, but the use of it was pointedly refused. It was in vain, however, to repress the youthful ardour of the composer. The book lay in a cupboard, the door of which was of lattice work; and as the interstices were large enough to admit his little hand, he soon saw that, by rolling it up, he could withdraw and replace it at pleasure; and having found his way thither dur. ing the night, he set about copying it, and, having no candle, he could only work by moonlight! In six months, however, his task was completed; but just as he was on the point of reaping the harvest of his toils, his brother nulnckily found ont the circumstance, and by an act of the most contemptible cruelty, took the book from him; and it was not till after his brother's death, which took place some time afterwards, that he recovered it.

The extraordinary proficiency acquired in this art more than in any other, at an age before the intellectual powers are fully expanded, may be regarded as one of the most interesting results of this early and enthusiastic devotion to music. We can easily imagine a child acquiring considerable powers of execution upon a plano-forte-an instrument which demands no great effort of physical strength, and even pouring forth a rich vein of natural melody; but how excellence in composition, in the combination of the powers of harmony and instrumentation-a process which in adults is usually arrived at after much labonr, regular training, and long study of the best models and means of producing effecthow such knowledge and skill can ever exist in a child, is indeed extraordinary, still there can be no donbt of the fact. The genius of a Mozart appears and confounds all abstract speculations. When scarcely eight years of age, this incomparable artist, while in Paris on his way to Great Britain, had composed several sonatas for the harpsicord, with violin accompaniments, which were set in a masterly and finished style. Shortly afterwards, when in London, he wrote his first symphony and a set of sonatas, dedicated to the queen. Daincs Barrington, speaking of him at this time, says that he appeared to have a thorough knowledge of the fundamental rules of composition, as on giving him a melody, he immediately wrote an excellent bass to it. This he had been in the custom of doing several years previously · and the minuets and little move-

ment, which he composed from the age of four till ( seven, are said to have possessed a consistency of thought and a symmetry of design which were per-fectly surprising. Mr. Barrington observes that at the above period, namely, when Mozart was eight years old, his skill in extemporaneous modulation, making smooth and effective transitions from one key to another, was wonderful; that he executed these musical difficulties occasionally with a handkerchief over the keys, and that, with all these displays of genius, his general deportment was entirely that of a child. While he was playing to Mr Barrington, his favourite cat came into the room, upon which he immediately left the instrument to play with it, and could not be brought back for some time; after which he had hardly resumed his performance, when he started off again, and began running about the room with a stick between his legs for a horse! At twelve years of age he wrote his first opera, "La Finta Semplice," the score of which contained five hundred and fifty-eight pages; but though approved by Hasse and Metastasio, in consequence of a cabal among the performers it was never represented. He wrote also at the same age a mass, Offertorium, &c., the performance of which he conducted himself. The precocity of Handel, though not quite so striking, was nearly so. At nine years of age he composed some motets of such merit that they were adopted in the service of the church: and about the same age, Purcell, when a singing boy, produced several anthems so heautiful that they have been preserved, and are still snog in our cathedrals. "To beings like these," Mr. Hogarth observes, "music seems to have no rules. What others consider the most profound and learned combinations, are with them the dictates of imagination and feeling, as much as the simplest strains of melody."

Mozart's early passion for arithmetic is wellknown, and to the last, though extremely improvident in his affairs, he was very fond of figures, and singularly clever in making calculations. Storace, a contemporary and kindred genius, who died in his thirty third year, and whose English operas are among the few of the last century which still continue to hold their place on our stage, had the same extraordinary turn for calculation. We are not aware whether this can be shown to be a usual concomitant of musical genius, but, if it can, the coincidence might lead to much curious metaphysical inquiry. Certain it is that there exists a connection between that almost intuitive perception of the relation of numbers with which some individuals are gifted, and that faculty of the mind which applies itself to the intervals of the musical scale, the distribution of the chords, their effect separately and in combination, and the adjustment of the different parts of a score. It is by no means improbable, that, owing to some such subtlety of perception, Mozart was enabled to work off an infinitely greater variety and multitude of compositions, in every branch of the art, before he had reached his thirty sixth year, in which he was cut off, than has ever been produced by any compuser within the same space of time, and with a degree of minute scientific accuracy which has disarmed all criticism, and defied the most searching examination.

Nevertheless there is seldom any thing wonderful which is not exaggerated, and many absard stories have been circulated in regard to these efforts; among others, that the overture to Don Giovanni was composed during the night preceding its first performance. This piece was certainly written

down in one night, but it cannot be said to have been composed in that short space of time. The facts are as follow :- He had put off the writing till eleven o'clock of the night before the intended performance, after he had spent the day in the fatiguing business of the rehearsal. His wife sat by him to keep him awake. "He wrote," says Mr. Hogarth, "while she ransacked her memory for the fairy tales of her youth, and all the humorous and amusing stories she could think of. As long as she kept him laughing, till the tears ran down his cheeks, he got on rapidly; but if she was silent for a moment, he dropped asleep. Seeing at last that he could hold out no longer, she persuaded him to lie down for a couple of hours. At five in the morning she awoke him, and at seven when the copyists appeared, the score was completed. Mozart was not in the habit of composing with the pen in his hand: his practice was not merely to form in his mind a sketch or ontline of a piece of music, but to work it well and complete it in all its parts; and it was not till this was done that he committed it to paper, which he did with rapidity, even when surrounded by his friends, and joining in their conversation. There can be no doubt that the overture to Don Giovanni existed fully in his mind when he sat down to write it the night before its performance; and even then, his producing with such rapidity a score for so many instruments, so rich in harmony and contrivance, indicates a strength of conception and a power of memory altogether wonderful." In truth, Mozart's whole life would seem to have consisted of little more than a succession of musical reveries. He was very absent, and in answering questions appeared to be always thinking about something else. Even in the morning when he washed his hands, he never stood still, but used to walk up and down the room. At dinner, also, he was apparently lost in meditation, and not in the least aware of what he did. During all this time the mental process was constantly going on; and he himself, in a letter to a friend, gives the following interesting explanation of his habits of composition.

"When once I become possessed of an idea, and have begun to work upon it, it expands, hecomes methodised and defined, and the whole piece stands almost finished and complete in my mind, so that I can survey it, like a fine picture or a beantil'ul statue, at a glance. Nor do I hear in my imagination the parts successively, but I hear them, as it were, all at once; the delight which this gives me I cannot express. All this inventing, this producing, takes place in a pleasing lively dream, but the actual bearing of the whole is, alter all, the greatest enjoy-ment. What has been thus produced, I do not easily forget: and this is perhaps the most precious gift for which I have to be thankful. When I proceed to write down my ideas, I take out of the bag of my memory, if I may use the expression, what has previously been collected in the way I have mentioned. For this reason, the committing to paper is done quickly enough, for every thing, as I said before, is already finished, and rarely differs on paper from what it was in my imagination."

Apart from his musical triumphs, the personal character of Mozart is deeply interesting. From his earliest childhood, it seemed to be his perpetual endeavour to conciliate the affections of those around him; in trath, be could not bear to be otherwise than loved. The gentlest, the most docile and ohedient of children, even the fatigues of a whole day's performance would never prevent him from continuing to play or practise, if his father desired it. When scarcely more than an infant, we are told that every night, before going to hed, he used to sing a little air which he had composed on purpose, his father having placed him standing in a chair, and singing the second to him : he was then, but not till then, laid in hed perfectly contented and happy. Throughout the whole of his career, he seemed to live much more for the sake of others than for himself. His great object at the outset was to relieve the neccssities of his parents; afterwards his generosity towards his professional brethren, and the impositions practised by the designing on his open and unsuspicious nature, brought on difficulties. And, finally, those exertions so infinitely be-yond his strength, which in the ardour of his affection for his wife and children, and in order to save them from impending destitution, he was prompted to use, destroyed his health, and hurried him to an untimely grave.

Mozart was extremely pious. In a letter written in his youth from Augsburg, he says, "I pray every day that I may do honour to myself and to Germany—that I may earn money and be able to relieve you from your present distressed state. When shall we meet again and live happily together?" It is not difficult to identify these sentiments with the author of the sublimest and most expressive piece

of devotional music which the genius of man has ever consecrated to his Maker. Haydn also was remarkable for his deep sense of religion. "When I was engaged in composing the Creation," he used to say, "I felt myself so penetrated with religious feeling, that before I sat down to write I earnestly prayed to God that he would enable me to praise him worthily." It is related also of Handel, that he used to express the great delight which he felt in setting to music the most sublime passages of Holy Writ, and that the habitual study of the Scriptures had a strong influence upon his sentiments and conduct.—*Chambers's Journal*.

#### TO WINTER.

- Thon of the snowy vest and hoary hair, With icicles down-hanging, Winter hail ! Not mine at thy authority to rail: To call thee stern, bleak, comfortless, and hare, As though thou wert twin-brother of Despair: Rather shall praises in my song prevail; Praises of Him who gives us to inhale The freshness of the uninfected air. So long as I behold the clear blue sky, The carol of the robin red-breast hear, Along the frozen waters seem to fly
- Or, softly cushion'd while the fire burns clear Bask in the light of a beloved eye; So long shall Winter to my soul be dear.

# TELL HER I'LL LOVE HER.





# THE WAITS.

WE have seen "the latter end of a sea coal fire"-Dame Quickly's notion of the perfection of enjoyment. The snow lies hard upon the ground-icy. The noise of the streets is almost hushed, save that the cabman's whip is occasionally heard urging his jaded horse over the slippery causeway. We creep to bed, and, looking out into the cold, as if to give us a greater feeling of comfort in the warmth within, see the gas lights shining upon the bright pavement, and, perhaps, give one sigh for poor wretched humanity as some shivering wanderer creeps along to no home, or some one of the most wretched nestles in a sheltering doorway to be questioned or disturbed by the inflexible police watcher. It is long past midnight. We are soon in our first sleep ; and the dream comes which is to throw its veil over the realities of the day struggle through which we have passed. The dream gradually slides into a vague sense of delight. We lie in a pleasant sunshine, by some gushing spring; or the never ceasing murmur of leafy woods is around us; or there is a harmony of birds in the air, a chorus, and not a song; or some sound of instrumental melody is in the dis-.tance, some faintly remembered air of our childhood "tnat comes unbidden into the mind, more lovely in its indistinctness. Gradually the plash of dripping waters, and the whispering of the breeze among the leaves, and the song of birds, and the hum of many instruments, blend into one more definite harmony, and we recognise the tune, which is familiar to us,— for we are waking. And then we bear real music, soft and distant; and we listen, and the notes can be followed; and presently the sound is almost under our window; and we fancy we never heard sweeter strains; and we recollect, during these tender, and, perhaps, solemn chords, the honied words, themselves music,—

> "Soft stillness, and the night, Become the touches of sweet harmony."

But anon, interposes some discordant jig; and then we know that we have been awakened by the WAITS.

In the times when minstrelsy was not quite so much a matter of sixpences as in these days, there were enthusiastic people who made the watches of the night melodious, even though snow was upon the ground; and there were good prosaic people who abused them then as much as the poor Waits sometimes get abused now. These were the days of serenaders, and England, despite of its climate, was once a serenading country. Old Alexander Barclay, in his 'Ship of Fools', published in 1508, so great,

"That by nn means can they abide, ne dwell, Within their houses, but out they need must go; More wildly wanderiog than either buck or doe,-Some with their harps, another with their lute, Another with his bagpipe, or a foolish flute."

But he is especially wroth against the winter minstrels:-

" But yet moreover these fools are so unwise, That in cold winter they use the same madness ; When all the houses are lade with snow and ice, O, madmen amased, unstable, and witless ! What pleasure take you in this your foolishness? What joy have ye to wander thus by night, Save that ill doers alway hate the light ?"

The "fools" had the uncommon folly to do all this for nothing. But in a century the aspect of things was changed. The "madmen" divided themselves into sects--those who paid, and those who received pay; and the more sensible class came to be called Waits-literally, Watchers. If we may judge from the following passage in Beaumont and Fletcher ('The Captain,' Act ii., Sc. 2), the per-formances of the unpaid were not entirely welcome to delicate ears :-

- "Fab. The touch is excellent; let's be attentive. Jac. Hark! are the WAITS abroad?
  - Fab. Be softer, prithee;
  - 'Tis private music.

Jac. What a din it makes !

I'd rather hear a Jew's trump than these lutes; They cry like school boys.

The Waits, according to the same authority, had their dwellings in the land of play-houses and beargardens, and other nuisances of the sober citizens ; and they were not more remarkable than the "private music" for the charms of their serenadings :-

"Citizen. Ay, Ned, but this is scurvy music! I think he has got me the Waits of Southwark."

The Waits had, however, been long before a part of city pageantry. But as the age grew more literal and mechanical,-as music went out with poetry, when the cultivation of what was somewhat tho emphatically called the useful became the fashion, -the Waits lost their metropolitan honours and abiding-place; and came at last to be only heard at Christmas. They retired into the country. The last trace we can find of them, as folks for all wea-thers, is at Nottingham, in 1710. The 'Tatler,'

(Na. 222) thus writes: --"Whereas, by letters from Nottingham, we have advice that the young ladies of that place complain for want of sleep, by reason of certain riotous lovers, who for this last summer have very much infested the streets of that eminent city with violins and hass viols, between the hours of twelve and four in the morning." Isaac Bickerstaff adds, that the same evil has been complained of "in most of the polite towns of this island." The cause of the nuisance he ascribes to the influence of the tender passion. "For as the custom prevails at present, there is scarce a young man of any fashion in a corporation who does not make love with the Town Music. The Waits often help him through his courtship. The censor concludes, "that a man might as well serenade through Greenland as in our region." But he gives a more sensible reason for the actual decay of serenading, and its unsuitableness to England. "In Italy," he says, "nothing is more frequent than to hear a cobler working to an opera tune; but, on the contrary, our honest countrymen have so little

describes to us "the vagabonds" whose enormity is | an inclination to music, that they seldom begin to so great, | sing till they are drunk." It is strange that a century should have made such a difference in the manners of England. In Elizabeth's reign we were a musical people; in Anne's a drunken people. Moralists and legislators had chased away the lute, but they left the gin; and so madrigals were thrust out by tipsy derry-downs, and the serenader became a midnight bully.

The Waits are a relic of the old musical times of England; and let us cherish them, as the frosted bud of a beautiful flower than has yet life in it -Penny Magazine.

#### DR. ARNE.

It is a curious fact, that Dr. Arne, the father of a style in music, more natural and unaffected, more truly English, than that of any other master, should have been the first to desert the native simplicity of his country, and to aid in adulterating his native music by an admixture of foreign frippery and conceit.

It was the foreign style which he introduced on the British slage in the music of Artaxerxes, and its introduction of the talents of Signor Tenducei and Signor Peretti, that drew from the satiric muse of Churchhill, the following lines, which may have, for the purpose of poetical adornment, artfully exaggerated faults; or, in the eagerness to censure objectionable parts, illiherally overlooked immensity of undeniable merit :--

"Let Tommy Arne, with usual pomp of slyle, Whose chief, whose only merit's to compile, Who, meanly pilfering here and there a bit, Deals music out, as Murphy deals out wit; Publish proposals, laws for taste prescribe, And chaunt the praise of an Italian tribe; Let him reverse kind Nature's first decrees, And teach, e'en Brent, a method not to please; But never shall a truly British age Bear a vile race of eunuchs on the stage; The boasted work's called national in vain, If one Italian voice pollute the strain. Where tyrants rule, and slaves with joy ohey, Let slavish minstrels pour the enervate lay; To Britons far more noble pleasures spring, In native notes, while Beard and Vincent sing. -Rosciad.

WASTE ENTRUSIASM .- The national theatre was opened for the first time since the insurrection. The audience was immense. At the sight of the Polish and Lithuanian banners, the enthusiasm was unbounded. They were hailed as a symbol of the Dictatorship, promising the re-union of the sister countries. The performers clustering round them, chanted a solemn national hymn. The public joined in the chorus, and sang with the performers the concluding words of the strophe—"To arms, Poles!" A patriotic play long since prohibited, "The Cracovians and Highlanders," followed; after which the orchestra revived the hitherto forgotten melodies, the stately polonaise of Kosciuszko, the solemn march of Dombrowski, and the famous mazourka of the Polish legions in Italy. Just then the curtain fell, and the performers advancing to dance the mazourka, the sight inspired the pit, and in an instant every body joined. All distinctions were laid aside; patriotism equalised all. Two grave senators gave the example: and officers, soldiers, ensigns, academical guards, professors, deputies, high-bred ladies, all par-took in the rejoicing, continuing the air with their voices, when the orchestra gave over from fatigue. With such expansion of feeling did the citizens of Warsaw welcome the Dictatorship.

SHE'S FAIR AND FAUSE.





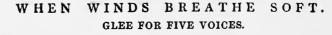


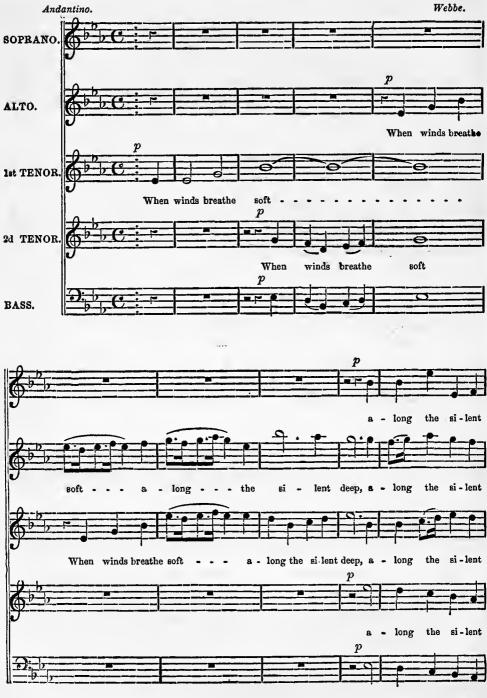


Whae'er ye be that woman love, To this he never blind; Nae ferlie 'tia, tho' fickle she prove, A woman hast by kind. O woman, lovely woman fair, An angel form's faun to thy share : 'Twould been o'er miekle to 've gi'en thee mair, I mean an angel mind.

This, beyond doubt, is one of the most successful songs in the language; the severe and cutting satire it contains, cannot be matched in the entire mass of lyrical poetry in which Scotland is so rich. We can scarcely believe it possible that the idea of this song could have suggested itself to the mind of Burns, without some

sufficiently powerful motive; for, in perusing his other songs, we are struck with the warmth of his language while addressing "Woman, God's most perfect work." And the chivalrous and romantic fervour displayed in his other songs, makes this one stand out as the solitary example of Burns's unprovoked spleen. Be that as it may, no fair dame has claimed for herself the unenviable honour of being the "Fair and Fause." The air is old—and one of the most beautiful of Scottish minor airs, breathing forth the very soul of pathos. We are not aware at present whether Burns wrote this song to the air. If he did so, with reverence to his immortal genius, we would say that they are not suited to each other. But woe be to him who, with sacrilegious hand, would divorce them.—En. B. M.

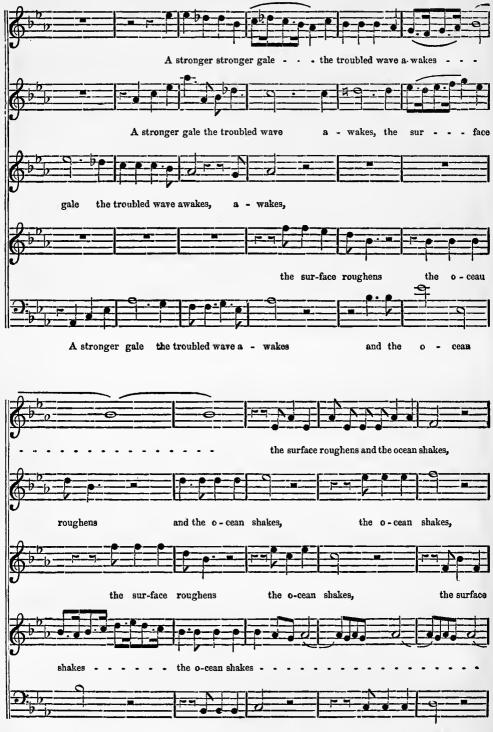




- long the ei-lent



THE BRITISH MINSTREL; AND



shakes,

the o-cean shakes,

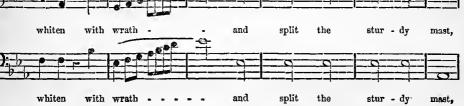
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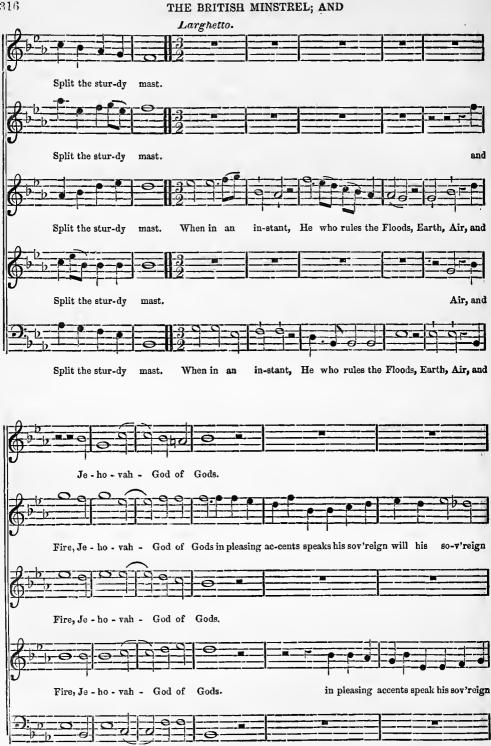


No. 40 & Suppliement.









Fire, Je - ho - vah - God of Gods.



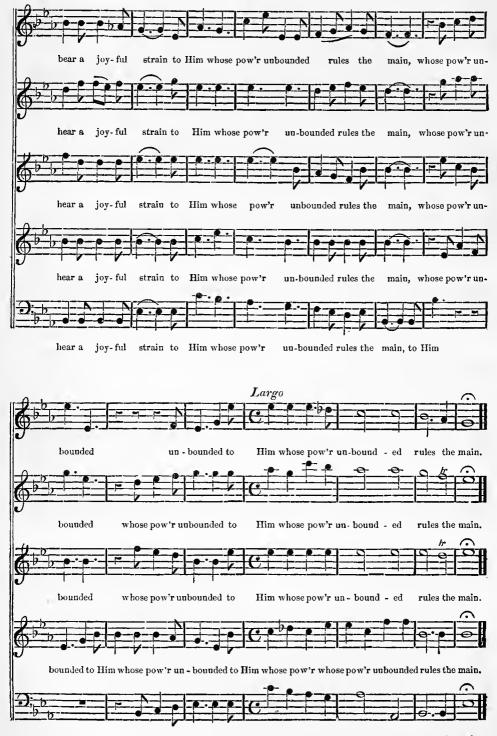
THE BRITISH MINSTREL; AND





for ev' - ry plaint we

# THE BRITISH MINSTREL; AND



whose pow'r unhounded to Him whose pow'r un - bound - ed rules the main.

O! BOTHWELL BANK.



Sad he left me ae dreary day, And haplie now sleeps in the clay, Without ae sigh his death to moan, Without ae flow'r his grave to crown. O whither is my lover gone, Alas! I fear he'll ne'er return. O! Bothwell bank thou blocmest fair, But, oh! thou mak'st my heart fu' sair.

In proof of the antiquity of at least the air to which this song is sung, and of its beautiful owerword, or hurden, a story has been quoted from a work entitled "Verstegan's Restitution of Decayed Intelligence," which was printed at Amsterdam in the year 1605. In journeying through Palestine, at some period even then remote, a Scotsman saw a female at the door of a

house, lulling her child to the air of Bothwell Bank. Surprise and rapture took simultaneous possession of his hreast, and he immediately accosted the fair singer. She turned out to be a native of Scotland, who, having wandered thither, was married to a Turk of rank, and who still, though far removed from her native land, frequently reverted to it in thought, and occasionally called up its image by chanting the ditties in which its banks and braes, its woods and streams, were so freshly and so endearingly delineated. She introduced the traveller to her husband, whose influence in the country was eventually of much service to him; an advantage which he could never have enjoyed, had not Bothwell Bank hloomed fair to a poet's eye, and been the scene of some passion not less tender than unfortunate. — Chambers's Scottish Songs.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### To the Editor of the British Minstrel.

Sir,—In Part 6 of the "Minstrel," you gave insertion to a newspaper paragraph, describing a new musical instrument, named the EUPHONICON, and which was then exhibiting in the warehouse of Messrs. Beale & Co., London. The instrument so noticed must be a vast improvement upon the ordinary Piano Forte—and I have not the least doubt, that if it comes up in all respects to the description given of it, it will meet, and deservedly, with most extensive patronage.

The object, however, of this letter, is to show, that you, as well as the whole newspaper press, have, while making known the merits of the above named "Euphonicon," been as widely injuring a highly talented and unassuming individual, who, so long ago as the month of March of the year 1838, advertised and exhibited, in the Monteith Rooms, Buchanan Street, (Glasgow), an instrument of the same name.

This was at a public Concert, got up for the express purpose of letting its powers be known. Mr. Nixon, some time organist, Portuguese Chapel, London, performed on the "Euphonicon" on that occasion, and expressed himself highly pleased with the quality, purity, and quantity of its tone.

This instrument then, named the "Euphonicon," is not larger than a *Piccolo* Piano Forte, has a clavier, with the usual register of six octaves, and comprises besides, the diapason; principal; twelfth; fifteenth; and trumpet. This instrument is not of the Harpsichord or Piano Forte kind, but is a wind instrument, the bellows of which is wrought hy the right foot, while there is a pedal swell under the left foot, as in chamber organs.

The inventor of this "Euphonicon" is Mr. Duncan Campbell, residing at No. 2, Guildry Conrt, East Clyde Street, Glasgow, who, since the period above named, has made several instruments on the same plan, and with improvements, but still with the same name. The last public occasion on which I had the pleasure of hearing it, was in the month of August, 1842, at the consecration of St. Mary's, (the new) Catholic Chapel, when Mr. Andrew Thomson, conductor, performed on it as a substitute for a church organ; and I helieve that every one who then heard its exquisite and powerful tones, would have been surprised, had they seen the Lilliputian instrument from which they emanated.

Allow me to repeat, that Mr. Campbell's Euphonicon was first advertised and publicly exhibited in the month of March 1838, and was spoken of in musical circles by that name for two years previously, so that Mr. Campbell is entitled to the exclusive use of the name, unless, indeed, the inventor of the instrument in the possession of Messrs. Beale & Co., can prove that his was *publicly named* prior to the date above specified. I am aware that Mr. Camphell's instrument is constructed on altogether a different principle from that of Messrs. Beale & Co., but it is of importance to the inventors of both instruments, and to the public also, that there should be a perfect understanding in this matter; for, though I write merely about the name, it is of more than merely a nominal importance; as, suppose a case which might readily occur—an individual sends his order to a musical warehouse, requesting an *Euphonicon*, now, in such a case, Mr. Camphell's might be the Euphonicon meant, while Messrs. Beale & Co.'s was forwarded, and *vice versa*.

I therefore request the insertion of this letter, that in case it should come to the hands of the inventor of the new "stringed Euphonicon," or the Messrs. Beale & Co., they may see that they have been anticipated in the name Euphonicon.—I am, Sir yours, &c.

Glasgow, 9th January, 1843.

#### JAMIE GOURLAY,

INSPECTOR.

THE HISTORY OF A LIFE. Saw ye e'er that funny carle, Auld Jamie Gourlay; His like is no in a' the warl', Queer Jamie Gourlay; He danced, he fiddl't, wore, an' sang, About his brain some bump was wrang, For he'd no crack o' ae thing lang, Auld Jamie Gourlay.

In youth he was a weaver gude, Blythe Jamie Gourlay; Ere hate o' heddles fir'd his blude, Thoehtless Jamie Gourlay; He drave the spule to win his bread, Ere Cotillons ran in his head, Or took to dancin' in its stead— Droll Jamie Gourlay.

He coost aside the whuppin' pin, Senseless Jamie Gourlay; To deave folk wi' his fiddle's din, Menseless Jamie Gourlay; Then learnt ilk Jig an' Country dance, An' Minuet sprit new frae France; Syne taught young sprigs to kick an' prance, Light-heel'd Jamie Gourlay.

Mang a' this misbeha'den part, O' silly Jamie Gourlay; The dancin' bodie had a heart, Speak truth o' Jamie Gourlay; He fell in love wi' *Lady Bess*, Wi' store o' gowd, au' heart o' brass,\* Syne Jamie's heart was broke, alas ! For trustfu' Jamie Gourlay.

\* The heart of brass lay not in the bosom of the lady, but in the carcase of her father. The line is obstinate and will not leave its place.—*Vide note accompanying*. His heart was broke, an' reason tint, Wae's me for Jamie Gourlay; He spoke, and few keu'd what he meant, Wanderin' Jamie Gourlay; An' aye his words were, "Beanty's Queen," An' "Guess ye wha I met yestreen?" While tears ran het frae haith the e'en O' waefu' Jamie Gourlay.

He gaed about frae town to town, Restless Jamie Gourlay; Withouten guide, save God aboon, Wha watch'd o'er Jamie Gourlay; But here a change comes o'er my sang, Law winks; while Justice ca's it wrang, An' Pity blames the mad pressgang Wha kidnapp'd Jamie Gourlay.

Thae ruthless reivers tore awa' Silly Jamie Gourlay, Frac hame, frae sweetheart, friends an' a', Forgotten Jamie Gourlay, An' mony a weary day was he Toss'd here an' there upo' the sea, While no ac tear bedimm'd the e'e O' dalt Jamie Gourlay.

No! Tears the balm o' hearts distress'd Foorsook puir Jamie Gourlay; Sarr grief dwelt deep within the breast O' wilfu' Jamie Gourlay, For aye, whatever wad betide, The bodie aye seen'd fou' o' pride, An' maander'd o' his "Bonnie Bride," A' leuch at Jamie Gourlay.

An' monie a comic prauk was play'd By sailor Jamie Gourlay, Whilk mair o' whim, than ill betray'd In Cook's mate Jamie Gourlay, Until cam' round the joyous time To a' within that ship but him, When Britain's shore rose grey and dim, Then hame cam' Jamie Gourlay.

Aye, hame cam' he, but o' the change Wrought on puir Jamie Gourlay, In sailor's rig, ilk ane look'd strange, Glourin' at Jamie Gourlay;

His fiddle now was seldom heard He hobbl'd like a naval lord, And talk'd of being still aboard,

Land sick was Jamie Gourlay.

He nail'd the door up o' his house, Bewilder'd Jamie Gourlay, By garret window enter'd crouse, Turn in, quo' Jamie Gourlay; An' hammock like he hung his bed,

Caulk'd a' the chinks around his shed, An' laid tarpaulin over-bead, Ship shape, quo' Jamie Gourlay.

And mony a prank was play'd, to quiz Stolid Jamie Gourlay; But frown or smile ne'er moved the phiz O' silent Jamie Gourlay. O' rich aud poor he took the wa' Demandiu' courtesie frae a', In knitted claes he strutted braw, Conceited Jamie Gourlay.

At length auld Age cam' up the gate, An' ca'd on Jamie Gourlay, In hammock perch'd he sat in state, Unflinchin' Janie Gourlay; Quo' Eild to James, "Were frien's I trow." "Friends!" Jamie said, "I'll mast head you." But Death crept in, wi' humble bow,, An' led aff Jamie Gourlay.

J. M.

The incidents contained in the foregoing verses are strictly true. James Gourlay was a native of the village of Kilwinning, Ayrshire. In early life he was a weaver; excessively fond of music and dancing, in the latter accomplishment he so far excelled, as to be tempted to become a professor. It has been told me by those who remembered of his gay time, as Maitre de Danse, that in his manners he was elegant, shrewd, and witty, and sometimes severely caustical in his conversation. In the pursuit of his profession, he visited the house of a wealthy gentleman in the north of England, between whose daughter and James feelings sprung up, of a much more tender nature than usually subsists between teacher and pupil. The progress of this amour having reached the ears of the father, he with a degree of rudeness that cannot be excused, ordered his servants to turn out the poor dancing master, and caused him to be hunted by his dogs beyond the bounds of his domain. This circumstance acted upon the mind of poor James to such an extent, that he became melancholy, which soon terminated in a quiet and uneradicable mania. During this period of his life he was in the habit of wandering from town to town, seemingly without In dress he was exceedingly neat and a motive. gentlemanly for the period, with cocked hat, powdered periwig, and queue, with small sword, white satin breeches, and gold shoe buckles. In such guise was he, when he was taken by the pressgang, and sent on board a man-of war; at first he was most numercifully flogged, as a sohemer, until it was seen that the cat-o'-nine tails could produce no change on the maniac. It would take too much time to relate all the anecdotes which have been told of his doings aboard ship. Suffice it that he remained there until the vessel was paid off, when, like an apparition, he showed himself amongst the people of Kilwinning; but a terrible change had been wrought on poor James Gourlay, no longer the spruce gentleman, he had become a thorough tar, at least in mind, all save the oaths and quid. As mentioned in the above verses, he overhauled his cottage, the same in which he formerly dwelt, and where his sister had continued to reside during his absence, and made it as far as possible assume the tight commodiousness of a ship's berth. He had been some time at home when his share of prizemoney was sent after him, and which, I think, was entrusted to the care of Mr. John Wylie, who disbursed it in such portions as was considered necessary for his comfort; for, though James mounted a web, and seemingly followed his first trade, he was by far too fickle and unsteady to produce as much work as entirely to support himself. And thus, with some very slight variations, waned the latter years of poor James. He died, I think, about the year 1828

Of his peculiarities and eccentricities many a story is told, and which I might have mingled with the filmsy woof of the gossamer tissue offered to your Miscellany. Amongst others, the following is worth preserving, as exhibiting in a pleasing light, the native elegance of his mind. First, figure to

60 years of age, dressed with a low-crowned hat made of white canvass, with black crape band; tight fitting jacket, and smalls, of wire-knitted cloth, with huge ear-rings, and a piece of woollen yarn drawn through his nose, to which is appended a flat piece of metal, hanging on his upper lip, and under his arm he carries janntily his small violin, and you have some idea of the personel of James Gourlay. About the time of the new year he set out to make his visit to the house of Colonel William Blair, of Blair, who at that time happened to be in England with his regiment. Blair house was full of visitors, when James, in such savage costume, made his entree into the drawing room, where the company then was. After some conversation between Jamie Gourlay and Lady Blair, she requested him to favour her with a song. With a grace equal to the most courtly professor, Jamie bowed low to the ladies, then with his sweet low voice, slightly tremulous from years, he sung, " Deil tak the wars that hurried Willie frae me," in a strain so moving, that Lady Blair fairly burst into tears, while there was not one of that gay assembly who did not show that the poor bewildered maniac had struck the chord of sympathy with a masterly hand. The bounty which James received that day, did honour to the heads and hearts of those who, perhaps, listened hist to laugh, but learned, from the heart struck and crazed old man, that some tears can be shed which produce more pleasure than half an age of laughter.

Poor JAMIE GOURLAY, peace he with thy proud and pure heart. J. M.

MUSIC COMPARED TO RHETORIC. THERE be in music certain figures or tropes, almost agreeing with the figures of rhetoric; and with the affections of the mind and other senses. First, the division and quavering, which please so much in music, have an agreement with the glittering of light; as the moonbeams playing upon a wave. Again, the falling from a discord to a concord, which maketh great sweetness in music, hath an agreement with the affections, which are reintegrated to the hetter after some dislikes. It agreeth also with the taste, which is soon glutted with that which is sweet alone. The sliding from the close or cadence, hath an agreement with the figure of rhetoric, which they call '*Præter expectatum*,' for there is a plea-sure even in being deceived. The Reports and Fugues, have an agreement with the figures in rhetoric, of repetition and traduction. The Triplas, and changing of times, have an agreement with the changing of motions; as when Galliard time, and

yourself, a light and neatly formed man, about 55 or | Measure time, are in the medley of one dance. It hath been anciently held, and observed, that the sense of hearing, and the kinds of music, have most operation upon manners; as to encourage men, and make them warlike; to make them soft and effeminate; to make them grave; to make them light; to make them gentle and inclined to pity, &c. The cause is this, for that the sense of Hearing striketh the spirits more immediately than the other senses; and more incorporeally than Smelling; for the Sight, Taste, and Feeling, have their organs not of so present and immediate access to the spirits, as the Hearing And as for the Smelling, (which, indeed, hath. worketh also immediately upon the spirits, and is forcible while the object remaineth,) it is with a communication with the breath or vapour of the object odorate; but harmony entering easily, and mingling not at all, and coming with a manifest motion, doth, by custom of often affecting the spirits, and putting them in one kind of posture, alter not a little the nature of the spirits, even when the object is removed. And, therefore, we see that tunes and airs, even in their own nature, have in themselves some affinity with the affections; as there be merry tunes, doleful tunes, solemn tunes, tunes inclining men's minds to pity, warlike tunes, &c. So, it is no marvel if they alter the spirits, considering that tunes have a predisposition to the motion of the spirits in themselves. But yet it hath been noted, that though this variety of tunes doth dispose the spirits to variety of passions, conform unto them; yet, generally, music feedeth that disposition of the spirits which it findeth. We see, also, that several airs and tunes do please several nations and persons, according to the sympathy they have with their spirits .- Bacon's Sylva Sylvarum.

#### THE REST OF THE HEART.

O for the quiet of the heart profound, Of hollow meadow, rich and close, and green-Whence no rude spire, no curling smoke is seen To tell of Man-nor heard the distant sound Even of sweet shepherd's call-but all around Peaceful and fair as when the earth was new, 'Ere human foot had printed Eden's dew, Or sin and shame its calm recesses found !-O for such haunt!---if there the feverish coil Of the worn heart might to the influence yield Of sight and scent, and casting by his toil,

Thought seek no further than that lonely field-Rest, blessed rest, from age increasing care, I call upon thy name! and echo answers, "Where? -Forget-me-not, 1836.

### END OF VOL. 1.

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