

instruction while knowing nothing of the mechanism of the voice or of its capabilities.

In the Toronto Conservatory only experienced teachers will be employed in Primary as well as Senior Departments.

Pianoforte Department.

The piano is now an accompaniment to civilization, and it has grown to be an almost indispensable article in every household where there are pretensions to culture and refinement. It is well-nigh an orchestra in itself, and is indeed the people's instrument.

For good or evil its influence on music as an art cannot be over-estimated, and great is the moral responsibility resting upon the ever-rapidly increasing army of those professing to teach the piano. Between correct and thorough instruction from the hands of an accomplished and experienced musician, and instruction from a novice, or possibly a charlatan, there is a wide gulf. The possibilities in *right* and *wrong* directions are of the gravest character, and a consideration of these possibilities is of the utmost importance to the one receiving instruction.

Students may chafe under "exercises" and rudimentary instruction generally, and long for brilliant compositions which may afford them opportunities for display; in brief, yearn to read before acquiring the alphabet; but foolish or ignorant indulgence in this respect on the part of incompetent teachers only too surely will ruin natural abilities of the brightest promise in any student.

It is not necessary to deprive the student of the enjoyment which the practice of melodious compositions brings, but these should be taken up judiciously, and require to be selected with great care and judgment.