

Mus. Bacs., would result only in further additions to the at present over-crowded army of "mathematical" composers, the kind who know that two plus two make four but are not capable of demonstrating anything beyond that.

Notes.

The presentation of *Nanon* by the Harmony Club, Toronto, under Mr. Schuch's direction, was creditable and the audiences in attendance were satisfactorily large.

The concert by the Toronto Ladies' Choral Club, May 1st, in Association Hall, under Miss Hillary's baton, was hardly up to the standard of the club's previous efforts. The feature of the programme was Pergolesi's "Stabat Mater." The vocal soloists were Mrs. Nicholson, Miss Hillary, Mrs. Pringle, Miss Beach and Miss Hutchinson. The Ladies' String Quartette and Miss Grassick, violinist, also contributed to the evening's enjoyment.

The Galt Philharmonic Society, under the direction of Mr. Walter H. Robinson, choir-master of the Church of the Redeemer, Toronto, gave Handel's oratorio "Samson" on April 27th. The soloists were: Samson (tenor), Mr. Fred. Jenkins, Cleveland; Delilah (soprano), Miss Smart, Toronto; Micah (contralto), Miss J. Mann, Hamilton; Monoach (bass), Mr. Fred. W. Lee, Toronto; Harapha (bass), Mr. Edwin Skedden, Hamilton. Mrs. Dreschler-Adamson, of Toronto, led the orchestra. The chorus numbered 130 voices and the orchestra 30 instruments.

The concert was reported as having been highly successful.

A very enjoyable concert was given April 19th, by the Don Mills Methodist church choir under the direction of Mr. W. F. Tasker, the organist and choir-master, assisted by Mrs. A. E. Blogg, soprano; Mr. C. S. Crabtree, tenor; Mr. J. S. Douglas, solo cornetist; and Master Anderson, solo violinist. Members of the choir who contributed solos were: Mr. A. J. Barker, Miss Schlenker, Miss Kate Cheeseman and Miss Davey. The programme, which was of a varied and attractive character, embracing compositions of the French, German, Italian, Belgian, and Russian schools of music, was carried out in excellent style and gave the liveliest satisfaction.

An excellent performance of Rossini's "Stabat Mater" was given at St. Mary's church, Toronto, April 22nd. The choir of the church, under Mr. P. McEvay, was assisted by an orchestra of twenty instruments and a number of capital soloists among whom were: Mrs. Campbell, Mr. Geo. Taylor, Mr. F. A. Anglin, Miss Reynolds, Miss Clarke, Mr. Walsh and Mr. Kirke. The admission fee charged was for the benefit of the poor.

The concert at Elm Street Methodist church, April 17th, was successful in a high degree. The large church was completely filled, many having to be accommodated in the aisles. The programme was decidedly ambitious, selections from oratorio being predominant, but it

was carried out by the choir and orchestra of the church in a creditable manner. Miss Agnes Dunlop, of Detroit, displayed a contralto voice of remarkable power for so young a singer. The orchestra, under Mr. Kuckenmeister, which was augmented for the occasion, did some good work, particularly in the "Bridal Rose" overture. The others taking part were, Mrs. H. Otter, Mrs. Fred. Cox, Mr. H. M. Blight, Mr. Kuckenmeister, and Mr. J. Humfrey Anger, who proved to be an organist of excellent ability.

The concert given for the benefit of Mr. W. E. Ramsay, April 30th, at the Pivilion, must have been exceedingly gratifying to the recipient as indicating his popularity and the kindly estimation in which he is held in Toronto. There was a large and fashionable audience, and the following representatives of Canadian talent contributed their services:—Mrs. Caldwell, Miss M. Jardine Thompson, Miss Lilli Kleiser, Mrs. Macklecan, Messrs D. E. Cameron, E. W. Schuch, Geo. Fox, J. W. Bengough, Owen A. Smily, Harry Rich, Geo. A. Matheson, Pipe-Major Ireland, Signor Dinelli, W. E. Hewlett, and the Ideal Banjo and Guitar Club. During the evening Mr. Ramsay was presented with an address and a purse of money by Mayor Kennedy. Mr. Ramsay was received with much enthusiasm by the audience, and his selections gained him several recalls.

The last of Mr. W. E. Fairclough's admirable organ recitals for this season was held at All Saints' Church on May 5th. Mr. Fairclough's selections were:—Gade's Moderato in F, three pieces, Op. 22, No. 1; the Larghetto from Mozart's Clarinet Quintette; Mendelssohn's Sonata, No. 6, in D Minor; Bach's Passacaglia; Theme, with variations, by T. T. Noble; the Barcarole from Sterdale Bennett's fourth piano concerto; Offertoire in F. Minor, by Th. Salome and S. B. Whitney's Processional March.

An interesting orchestral concert was given at the New Richmond Methodist church, McCaul St. in aid of the Sunday school orchestra of the church on May 3rd. The programme was as follows:—March—"The Reign of Peace," Orchestra; Solo—selected, Mr. A. E. Davey; Clarinet Solo—"The Old Folks at Home," Mr. T. E. Hiscott; Organ Solo—selected, Mr. Arthur Blakely; Recitation—selected, Miss Shaver; Duet—"Where are the Plains of Zion," Miss K. Davey and Mr. A. Davey; Selection—"Caliph of Bagdad," Orchestra; March—"Tournament," Orchestra; Solo—selected, Miss Kington; Flute Solo—"Vesper Hymn, Mr. H. Elson; Duet—"Whispering hope," Miss K. Davey and Mr. A. Davey; Recitation—selected, Miss Shaver; Violin Solo—"The Last Rose of Summer," Mr. G. Rainsford Cole; Selection—"La Traviata," Orchestra.

Pupils' concerts are of so frequent occurrence in Toronto, that we have not the space in which to notice them as a rule. However, one particular worthy of mention was that given by pupils of Messrs. W. O. Forsyth and F. Warrington in St. George's Hall, May 8th. The programme was long but admirably select-

ed and the performances reflected the highest credit on the pupils and their respective teachers. The instrumentalists were: Mr. J. L. Cherrier, Miss Muriel, H. Lailey and Miss Millie Evison. Those who sang were: Mrs. Mackidd, Miss Millie Murch, Mr. Alexander Caming, Mrs. Green, Miss Marge Haimes, Mr. Walter Sparks, Mrs. A. E. Nash and Mr. Warrington.

Mr. Tresham's Brass Band on April 30th, gave a musical and terpsichorean entertainment in Shaftesbury Hall, Toronto, which delighted the large numbers in attendance. The programme which was carried out in an excellent manner, comprised band selections, songs and vocal quartettes. The evening closed with dancing, kept up till a very late hour.

The Toronto Vocal Club closed its second season, which was a most successful one, with an "At Home" in McBean's Hall, Brunswick Ave. and College St., on Monday evening the 23rd inst. The reports of both the secretary and treasurer showed the club to be in an excellent financial and prosperous condition, and the future outlook is most encouraging. Under the leadership of Mr. W. J. McNally the club bids fair to become the most successful organization of its kind in the city.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—L. J. Clark, Hon-Pres; Wm. E. Orr, Pres., W. J. McNally, Conductor, J. S. McCullough, Secretary, J. R. Matthews, Treasurer.

According to Vaughan Kester, in *Kate Field's Washington*, Dan Emmett, the first negro minstrel (he preceded the Bryant's and Christy's), and writer of "Dixie's Land," "Old Dan Tucker" and other once popular songs in the Southern States, is still alive but in great poverty.

A Buffalo exchange states:—"The plans of Walter Damrosch, Theodore Thomas, Dudley Buck, Rafael Joseffy and the other musicians who have arranged for the incorporation by Congress of "The American College of Musicians" are as huge as they are vague. It is reported that they expect to see the establishment in Washington of a college of music which shall put to blush every institution of the sort in the old world, a college which shall be housed in buildings as handsome as anything at the capital except the Government buildings. The institution will have a full corps of officers, professors, examiners and instructors in every branch of music. The terms will be divided into courses after the manner of a university, and all branches of study connected with the art will be taken up. The diplomas will have the same force, musically, as do those of a medical college in the sphere of medicine, and it is likely that its graduation certification will in time become a sine qua non in the art. Candidates will be examined, prior to admission, by examiners appointed by the faculty, and young men and women will be received from all over the country. It is further reported that the incorporators expect to have something like \$1,000,000 at their disposal two years hence, and that they will begin practical operations as soon as their bill for incorporation gets through Congress."