

As far as we can judge, however, from some scraps that have floated to us in the English papers, the Wagnerian tendency, at least in this oratorio, leads to effects absurd in the extreme. It is one of the great *maestro's* theories that "words yearn for music," and therefore he, in most of his compositions, and now Dr. MacFarren in his, endeavour to repeat in music the very reflection of the force which, as we know, *point* so much the meaning of the word.

For instance, here is a duet between Jacob and Joseph, which tells of the coat of many colours :

And I have made thee a coat of ma-ny col-ours,

a coat! a coat! a coat of ma ny col-ours!

coat! a coat! a coat! of ma-ny col-ours!

We think the effect of this would at least be laughable, and mirth can hardly be said to be the fitting outcome of oratorio music. This far fetched attempt, however, has not many others of the kind to keep it company, and several soprano and baritone airs, two martial and startling choruses, and other interesting numbers, quite make up we expect for the failure of such passages as the one we have alluded to. Criticism is in fact impossible, until we can hear the whole work, which will not be here for some time. But until then, all thanks may be given to Dr. MacFarren for having aided by his latest work the growth of English music in particular, and sacred music in general.

We take from the *Musical World* the subjoined list of characters sustained by the late Mdlle Tietjens in London :

Valentina .....	Les Huguenots .....	April 13, 1858.
Leonora .....	Il Trovatore .....	May 4, "
Donna Anna .....	Don Giovanni .....	May 11, "
La Contessa .....	Le Nozze di Figaro .....	May 29, "
Lucrezia Borgia.....	Lucrezia Borgia.....	June 17, "
Norma .....	Norma .....	July 7, 1859
Hélène .....	Les Vêpres Siciliennes....	July 27, "
Martha .....	Martha .....	Nov. 11, "
Semiramide .....	Semiramide .....	May 17, 1860
Lucia de Lammermoor....	Lucia di Lammermoor....	June 19, "
Rezia .....	Oberon .....	June 30, "
Amelia .....	Un Ballo.....	June 15, 1861