

salaries to keep them under perfect discipline, he made up his concert programmes from the lighter class of compositions of masters, until gradually he succeeded in creating and cultivating a taste for the noblest and highest of instrumental works, the symphony. His programmes are always of the highest artistic quality, introducing many an interesting novelty simultaneously with its production in Europe.

"Mary Green" has succeeded "Annie Rooney" as a catch song. It is said to have something of the same jingle, and is fast becoming as great a favorite as the late lamented "Annie Rooney."

Verdi in an interview says: "It would be difficult to say how I compose. To decide it would be a severe task for the modern writers—those psychologists—but I never fear, they could not do it. Very often when I hear some hackneyed music on the streets it suggests to me a new musical thought—the beautiful tone of a voice, an indefinite noise, a euphonic sentence in a poem, but still oftener it comes without any reason that could be traced." "And do you take note of these suggestions?" "Yes, I jot them down immediately wherever I am. If I have no paper I often use my cuffs instead. But they are hieroglyphics to any one else but myself."

It is the custom in the best ordered opera house to shut the doors after the overture begins and allow no late comers to disturb the performance. At the close of the first act the doors are opened again and society can enter. In Berlin an edict has gone out that two of the government theatres must close their doors at the beginning of the performance and must stay closed until it is all over. This not only keeps out late comers but keeps in the constant goers.

Is he "Sharp" or "Flat" who strikes at the bait of low prices and finds the quality abated or debatable? Is he "Sharp" or otherwise who wants to buy an instrument cheap, and who, hence, gets a cheap instrument? If he buys an instrument at the price of a case, is it not a dear case of experience which he gets? The "Sharp" buyer beware of cheap wares lest he be

taken unawares for such wares soon wear out. There are many good makes of pianos, but there are many more poor, and very poor ones, and the "Sharp" buyer is he who distinguishes and is "nice to perceive and observe" the difference in the various makes.

The Canadian Society of musicians has selected officers as follows: President, T. H. Torrington; Vice-President, A. E. Fisher; Secretary, V. P. Hunt; Treasurer, Mrs. Bigelow; Asst. Secretary, Mrs. Bigelow; general representatives, E. Fisher, Miss Hillary and I. Martin; representatives of cities—Toronto, W. F. Forsythe; Hamilton, J. E. P. Aldous; London, Mrs. Moore; Ottawa, Miss Christie; Kingston, Miss Callaghan; St. Catherine's, A. M. Read; Belleville, Mrs. Campbell; Brantford, J. Fairclough; St. Thomas, J. H. Jones; Guelph, Mrs. Harvey; Stratford, Mrs. Smith.

Ed. Pleiss, of the Imperial orchestra has dedicated a March to his friend Mr. J. J. Cross, the leader, entitled "The Geeser."

The sacred concert at the Imperial last Sunday was not nearly so well patronized as the merit of the entertainment deserved. Truly it was a musical feast, as all who attended will testify. These concerts will be discontinued at least for the present.

PEN PICTURES OF PROMINENT MEN.

J. BEAUCHAMP MATTHEWS, M. R. C. S., ENGLAND; L. S. A., LONDON.

Joseph Beauchamp Matthews, the widely known surgeon, is one of the oldest and most favorably known medical practitioners in British Columbia. He was born in Oxfordshire, England, in the year 1826 and educated at home by private tutors. In 1848 he began the study of medicine at the famous St. George's Hospital of London, and was subsequently surgeon at the Marylebone Dispensary of the same city. After several years' very successful practice in London he came to Victoria, where he continued the practice of his profession. This was in 1869 and in a short time he acquired a large and lucrative practice. He was for some time surgeon to the Royal Hospital and Inspector of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum, and is at present the

visiting surgeon of the Jubilee Institution.

Dr. Matthews is one of those men for whom the mysteries of disease possess an irresistible fascination. He possesses a strong analytical mind and has been a life student of medicine and surgery. He is thoroughly in touch with the progressive spirit of the times and one of the most expert medical practitioners in Canada. He is a brilliant operator, steady and skillful of hand, and possessed of an extraordinary amount of energy.

Dr. Matthews is a gentleman of wide quiet charity, ever courteous and obliging to all, and in toto, a thoroughly intellectual and polished gentleman.

MAKING AN IMPRESSION.

The girl is unlucky who finds out suddenly that she has something nice the matter with her. I knew one, says a correspondent, who learned that she had lovely hair. She took to doing it up with the hairpin, and she used to look like a mop on the third day of a house cleaning. She took to jerking her head, too, so that her hair would come down, and then she did look lovely, especially if it happened at the theatre, at luncheon or in the cars. She would wriggle her head so that her words would come out scalloped, and her nose got all spread around. A girl with a neat foot is the worst nuisance I know. She always has it stuck out in the car. Her shoe-string is always coming undone. She is forever lifting her dress and making you nervous. It just about spoils a girl if she finds out that she has fine eyes and pretty teeth. Good-bye to quiet expression at once. Her eyes roll, droop, snap shut, open, dance and sparkle all over the place, till you wonder why they don't get sprained. Meanwhile her teeth are working just as hard. She smiles twice a minute, and often her eyes are getting in some fine touches that don't go with a smile. The effect is awful. I got so tired looking at a girl the other day that I wondered why the man with her didn't marry her just for the sake of tying her eyes fast to her nose and knocking her teeth out. As for me, give me a girl who knows she is homely or one who is so good-looking that she doesn't care.