

Griffin, L. Hurley, E. Timbers and N. Muccaster, A piano-forte trio, "Oberon," by Leybach, was rendered by Misses M. Morrow, J. Howden and E. Crummev. Miss J. McCabe followed with a selection, Rossini's *Semiramide* and Miss Stratton with Gottschalk's "Miserere." A finale duet between the pianos and violins brought the delightful programme to a close. In the rendition of it the young performers acquitted themselves in a manner to thoroughly satisfy parents that the time spent in musical instruction at the Convent was utilized to the best advantage. Previous to the closing number an address a good-night salutatory, thanked his lordship for the interest taken in the schools, and those who had assisted by contributing medals, etc. A short address in reply was also given by his Lordship, highly complimenting both teachers and pupils upon the satisfactory evidence of proficiency afforded by the evening's entertainment. Other visitors also added their full quota of praise.

The cost of the seven principal church organs in Peterborough is in the neighborhood of \$17,000, while the average cost of employing them as aids in public worship, aggregates nearly, if not quite, \$4,000 per year. There are seven organists receiving an average salary of \$164.28, or an aggregate of \$1,150. Add to this the cost of water motors for some of the organs, blowers' fees, music, repairs, etc., and we have the total of \$4,000 per year.—*Peterboro' Examiner*.

WHITBY.

The musical portion of the commencement exercises, of the Ontario Ladies' College, Whitby, were more than usually brilliant. At the morning recitals, the singing of Misses McDowell and Shields and the playing of Misses Johnston and McHardy were rapturously applauded, and on more than one occasion created quite a *furor* among the audience. Both young ladies were deserving of the marked appreciation bestowed, and it must have been gratifying, indeed not only to Dr. Hare and the College Board, but also to the musical faculty, so ably presided over by Professor Harrison, to note the enthusiastic reception thus accorded the young graduates. The opening number at the evening was Beethoven's overture *Egmont*, arranged for five pianos and twenty hands. Time and shading were fine. The ten pianists with the three exceptions of the Misses Hagar, Easton and Benson, being representatives of Whitby families,—Misses Bertha Fidler, Gertie Taylor, Emma Smith, Maud Annes, Bessie Ham, and Lizzie Wood, of Whitby, and Emma Lick, of Oshawa.

The choruses of the Choral class, the vocal solos of Misses Easton, McDowell, Shields and French, and the trios of Misses McAllister, Masson and McGee, and of Misses Fidler, Dryden and Benson, were delightfully rendered, and fully met the fondest expectations of the music-loving audience. The instrumental numbers of the programme consisting of solos, duos and overtures rendered by at least thirty young ladies, which were well executed. The medalists in instrumental music, Miss McHardy and Miss Johnston, were accorded an enthusiastic reception even warmer than that given them in the morning. All the young ladies proved conclusively that the department of instrumental music is in excellent hands, and from the large number who showed proficiency, we would judge that this department is more popular than ever.

The following were the diploma and prize winners :

DIPLOMAS.

Instrumental Music—Misses McHardy and Johnston.
Vocal Music—Misses Shields and McDowell.

PRIZES.

Harmony—J. W. F. Harrison, Esq., Miss Ketchum ; vocal and instrumental music—J. S. Barnard, Esq., Miss McDowell ; Instrumental music—Messrs. I. Suckling & Sons, Miss Decker ; instrumental music—Messrs. Suckling & Sons, Miss Thom.

MUSIC IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Much is said about music being put into the public schools as a regular branch of education. School boards are roundly berated because they hesitate. We thoroughly advocate popular musical education and believe that its place is in schools. The first day that a child goes to school it should have some musical education, and so each day thereafter. At twelve years of age the children should all be fair

readers of music ; at fourteen they should be good readers and at sixteen they should read *oratorio music at sight*. This is not wild speculation. A good method in ear, voice and eye training will easily do it. If those who teach music in public schools would show such a record it would not be ten years before the authorities would have it taught regularly in every school.

Where the attempts have been made we are sorry to say that it has in many cases been abandoned because of unsatisfactory results. Wherever good, practical methods have been employed the work has gone on ; but these are the exceptional cases. We are much interested in this matter and are making quite extensive investigations and find the above facts in the case. With *rare* exceptions, we do not find even fair practical readers as the result of continuous teaching. This matter is largely in the hands of music teachers ; it is not altogether the fault of school boards. Many boards are willing to try the experiment. Besides, it belongs to the profession to educate the people to a desire for music in the public schools. This they can do rapidly if, when there is an opportunity to show that can be done, they show gratifying results.—*Chicago Song Friend*.

TRADE NOTES.

MASON & RISCH.

This now celebrated firm of piano makers report business as unusually brisk. They have found it necessary to establish a branch of their large business in the west end of the city, and have opened a very fine wareroom in Occident Hall, cor. of Queen and Bathurst streets, under the management of Messrs. Nicholl and Harris, where they also keep a very choice stock of small musical instruments at close prices. They are now engaged in rebuilding and adding to their factory, 468 King street west, doubling its size, being the fourth enlargement within ten years. At their head warerooms, 32 King street west, the firm display a splendid collection of new and second hand pianos, at prices to suit all classes of customers. The firm are also sole agents in Canada for Decker Brothers' (N.Y.) celebrated pianos, and also the fine organs made by the Mason & Hamlin Co., of Boston, Mass., and W. Doherty & Co., Clinton. They have a large staff of travellers and agents, who take in the whole Dominion from Halifax to Victoria. In their warerooms may also be seen the large life size oil portrait of the late master, Dr. Franz Liszt, painted by the renowned Baron Joukovsky at his request, which, through his death, is now priceless, and which their courteous staff take a justifiable pride in showing to customers. Liszt sent the firm his portrait as an expression of his appreciation of their pianos, which he pronounced as "Excellent, magnificent, unequalled." "Artists and musicians will certainly be of the same opinion." At the Colonial and Indian Exhibition held in London, Eng., their exhibit met with unparalleled success, winning eulogiums from the highest authorities in England, such as Dr. A. C. McKenzie, Mme. Albani, Dr. J. F. Bridge, Henry Leslie and others. Her Majesty the Queen honored the firm with a special mark of favor, ordering one of their instruments to be sent to Windsor Castle, while the exhibit received constant visits from the Prince of Wales, Princess Louise, Lord Lorne and other members of the Royal Family. Highly flattering testimonials from all parts of Canada and the U. S. are constantly pouring in on this firm. Another point which has helped to build up their enviable reputation is that they will neither make nor recommend any instrument which does not come up to the highest standard of excellence, while their treatment of their numerous patrons is always conducted with the greatest liberality.

THOS. CLAXTON.

This old and reliable house reports business in band instruments and sheet music as very good at present. Mr. Claxton carries an enormous stock of all kinds of sheet music, and has at present on hand the stock of a wholesale music dealer who is giving up business, consisting of violins, accordions, guitars and other instruments, which he is selling at half price. Mr. Claxton does a large business by correspondence throughout the Dominion, from Prince Edward Island to British Columbia, and employs a large staff, whose sole business it is to attend to mail and express orders. As the lease of his present premises, 107 Yonge street, is nearly out he is now negotiating for a large store on King street, and to avoid the expense of moving is selling at immense reductions.