

MUSICAL CRITICISM.

To the Editor of THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL

SIR—Your contributor, "By-stander," declines to emerge from his anonymity. With his reasons I can readily sympathize, and he is certainly within his right. But by the same right I shall forthwith retire to my native obscurity, for I have no intention of remaining in the lists with an intangible *nom de plume* for an opponent.

Before I make my bow, however, I should like to correct an erroneous impression which your contributor appears to have gained, that it was because I discerned in his article an attack upon the Arion Club, that I wrote my open letter. Nothing can be further from the truth, for my relations with the club are not of public interest, and even were it in need of defence, I should be the last to rush into print in its behalf. The fact is simply that on previous occasions I have read Bystander's criticisms with disapproval, and have thought of writing something by way of protest, but before I carried out my intention, his article on the Arion Club concert offered a convenient text, and on that I preached my little sermon. I am grieved to hear that it was thought prosy and inopportune, and if your critic's feelings have been hurt I am sure I am sincerely sorry.

I am getting a little bewildered as to "Bystander's" personality. At first I thought he was double, now I hazard a guess that he is triple, for the difference, as a mere matter of literary style, between the original criticism and last Saturday's article is very marked. Be that as it may, however, if subsequent articles are distinguished by the same correctness and moderation as the last, there will never be a word of protest from

Yours Faithfully,

WM. GREIG.

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