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THE HEBREW ORATORIOS.

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THE Handel and Haydn Society, Boston, numbers about one thousand voices. We are told that eight thousand children greeted George III. with the National Anthem on the occasion of the thanksgiving for the king's recovery from insanity, and that ten thousand voices sometimes sing at the great Sunday-school festivals in London. The chorus at the last Peace Jubilee held in Boston consisted of some seventeen thousand trained singers, accompanied by several hundred instruments.

These great modern choruses excite our wonder, but they are small in numbers when compared with the Hebrew choirs.

There were made four thousand musical instruments for the Temple service. No modern chorus ever had an accompaniment like that.

The Bible speaks of the mysterious ages when "the morning stars sang together, and the Sons of God shouted for joy." In the early patriarchal age, people had learned to sing, for we are told that Laban under certain circumstances might have sent Jacob away "with songs, with tabret, and with harp." The ancient legend is that the wind, making sweet tones amid the reeds of the Nile, first taught mankind the art of music and the use of musical instruments. So at least began the organ. The horns of animals at a very early age were used for loud instruments. According to the Septuagint version of the book of Daniel, Nebuchadnezzar employed many kinds of music in his