

THE CULTIVATION OF MUSIC.—Passing by the religious argument, there was a moral influence to be attained by the cultivation of music; by its introduction into schools as a branch of national education, it would be the means of refining the manners of the great body of the people. But education was a word of great extent, and was as yet but little understood; it had hitherto been in a great measure confined to reading and writing, while its moral influence had been generally neglected or overlooked. If we were to have education, it ought to be for the best moral purpose, and we must look to the best moral means for setting the heart right to both God and man. The study of vocal music might be regarded as one of the best of those means. In Prussia vocal music was taught in every school, and the knowledge of the art was made by law requisite for every teacher. The moral influence of this had been shown in the manners of the inhabitants, who, forty years ago, were amongst the most drunken people of the earth; but were now amongst the most sober; and, in fact, Germans were employed in London in preference to Englishmen in those places where there was a temptation to drinking. The real question at issue then was, whether they should lead the people to seek their own sources of gratification, of a low and debasing character, or should lead them to have a taste for rational enjoyment. Mr. Hickson mentioned a school in London where the children were educated for twopence a-week each, and where they had a musical education; and in order that they might be enabled to continue the services of a professional teacher, they all cheerfully consented to pay a penny a-week more. It was objected by some persons that they could not afford instruments; but, as Mr. Hickson said, the human voice was the most beautiful instrument in the world, and a number of Germans singing in a cabin was better music than the Italian Opera. When vocal music was good, it was better than that produced by the best instruments which distracted the attention. Children should be taught to sing; but their instruction should not be confined to a few psalm tunes or a few songs; they should be taught melodies or catches, the words of which should be so set to music, as to give the proper dramatic effect.—[Lecture by Mr. H. Phillips, at the Manchester Mechanics' Institute.

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CALENDAR FOR 1839.

DAY	JAN.	FEB.	MARCH.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.	SUNDAY	JULY.	AUGUST.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
SATURDAY													
FRIDAY													
THURSDAY													
WEDNESDAY													
TUESDAY													
MONDAY													
SUNDAY													
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