

nescent. It is not alone to the cultured classes that music so strongly appeals. For the poor, and the sick at heart, and those upon whom the cares of the world press heavily, there is no stronger support than good music. It is when burdened by a bitter realisation of the complex struggle forever raging between the spirit and the flesh, or when the cares and distresses of the world weigh most heavily upon us, that our minds are usually in their most receptive mood. Singers inform us that, however uncultivated an audience may be, it is never more critical or sympathetic than when composed of the poor. Art appeals less to the senses than to the mind and spirit, and its gratifications are more spiritual than sensual.

Most practical musicians will admit that a choir must have the aid of women's voices, boy altos being inefficient, while men altos are rare and seldom satisfactory. Boy trebles have indeed a certain amount of freshness and purity of tone, but are thin, immature, and unequal to the full expression of deep religious feeling. Even with daily training, as in the larger English cathedral choirs, they lack body and fullness of tone in chorus, and are inadequate by themselves, though blending well with the voices of the female sopranos.

The practical difficulty found in the Anglican church in the general custom which is against seating women in the choir stalls, though not against the employment of their voices elsewhere, was first overcome, in so far as I have observed, by the Rev. H. R. Haweis, the well-known writer and authority on art and music as applied to church usages, who added a number of women to his surpliced choir, they as well as the male portion of the choir taking their places within the chancel. This innovation, rather startling to many minds at first, is gradually coming into popular favour. It is not improbable that a surpliced choir of mixed voices will be a feature of church music in Canada, not alone in the Anglican church, before many years. The old West gallery position of the choir which is still advocated by Shuttleworth