

plans, the Philharmonic Society resolved to make a call upon the public for subscribers to a guarantee fund, and met with a most gratifying response. Various working committees, upon which leading citizens cheerfully consented to serve, were appointed, and the Society properly organized for Festival work.

It was decided to include in the Festival programme a matinee performance by a children's chorus, at which solo artists were to appear, the concert to be free to the public. The Board of Education gave the required permission, so that under the direction of the Internal Management Committee of the Board, Mr. Wm. Bell, chairman, Mr. James Johnson, teacher of music in the schools, was able to prepare the music for the occasion. The Board also provided the necessary music books for the children. The children of the separate schools were trained by the Sisters.

The citizens of Hamilton finally matured plans for a Queen's Jubilee Celebration to cover two days and evenings, on June 21 and 22, 1887, and the Philharmonic Society's concerts were made the musical feature of the celebration; and the Executive of the Society, together with the Chairmen of the various Celebration Committees, became the Committee on Festival Concerts. The Parks and Crystal Palace Committee of the City Council, Ald. Kavanagh, chairman, gave permission for the use and fitting up of the Crystal Palace for concert purposes, and the committee to whom the City Council had entrusted the apportionment of the amount appropriated for Jubilee Celebration purposes, agreed to set aside \$500, to be expended in building a stage in the Palace for the children's matinee chorus, the stage to be left in position for use at the evening concerts. The Philharmonic Society having thus obtained a guarantee fund, a magnificent hall in which to give the concerts, and the co-operation of citizens and performers, proceeded at once to make arrangements to carry the Musical Festival enterprise to a successful issue.

In the selection of Soloists the Society has done itself credit. The artists are of continental reputation. Some of them are known in Canada as singers of the first rank, and others are vouched for by competent authority as being worthy to take part in a grand Jubilee Festival.

The Festival Grand Chorus, numbering more than 400 voices, includes the pick of the trained vocalists of the city. The chorus has been rehearsing diligently, both in sections and the mass, for some weeks.

The Grand Orchestra, numbering 60 performers, has been made up of the best players of the city of Hamilton, re-enforced by the ablest talent from Buffalo, Toronto, London, Guelph and other places.