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JOHN BAYLEY.

IN accordance with our promise in our last number to give short biographies of our leading musicians, we this month present to our readers the portrait of the popular bandmaster and violinist, Mr. John Bayley.

John Bayley is a native of Windsor, England, but at an early age left with his parents for Philadelphia, Pa., where he first began the study of music under his father, who was a cornet soloist and conductor of reputation in that city. The services of the best masters were procured, under whom the lad made rapid progress. After a sojourn of about seven years in Philadelphia he visited the Pacific Coast, staying in San Francisco and British Columbia for four years, when he returned to England to pursue his studies at the London Academy of Music, where he was a pupil of the celebrated violinist, Leopold Jansa, and studied harmony under Dr. Wylde. After completing his studies he entered the profession, and extended his knowledge of orchestral and military band instruments, soon gaining the appointment of bandmaster of Her Majesty's 46th Regiment, which he held for seven years. For two seasons his regiment was stationed at Aldershot, where, in competition with twenty-five other bands, his was always considered the finest. He resigned this engagement upon the corps being ordered abroad, and came to Canada in 1877, living in Montreal for two years. When the position of bandmaster of the Queen's Own Rifles became vacant, he was offered the post by Col. Jarvis, which he has since held. While residing in Toronto he has identified himself with the leading musical events, conspicuous among which, was the attempt to establish classical chamber concerts, which after three seasons had to be abandoned. In this connection, the Toronto String Quartette, composed of Mr. Henri Jacobson, first violin, Mr. A. E. Fisher, viola, and Mr. Ludwig Corell, 'cello, with Mr. Bayley as second violin, was the leading feature. Mr. Bayley has always had our sympathies with regard to this movement, as we believe he and his conferees did not receive the support which they deserved. In addition to his thorough qualifications as a bandmaster, he is also a remarkably fine orchestral leader.



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His latest effort has been the establishment of the Citizens' Band, a most worthy organization, which had a very successful season last summer at the Island, enormous crowds being attracted there nightly. Mr. Bayley believes that we can have in Toronto one of the finest bands on the continent, and it is due to his energy and perseverance, that the band has already earned the reputation of being the finest in the Dominion. We trust that Mr. Bayley will have the

support of the music loving portion of the community, and will be liberally supplied with what is so necessary in all undertakings, "the sinews of war." Compare the band with other organizations and notice the vast difference in its favor. Let us hope that Mr. Bayley will continue to supply us for many years to come with our band music, which under his supervision is constantly improving, and will, if given half a chance, soon bear favourable comparison with that branch of music in any city on the continent.

THE CITIZENS' BAND.

This popular band will again be engaged at the Island this summer, where nightly concerts will be given. On Friday evenings concerts in the public parks, in conjunction with the Grenadiers' and Body Guards' Bands, have been arranged for by the civic authorities. The strength of the band will be thirty men, with the following well-known soloists:—Mr. Culley, piccolo; Mr. Trendell, clarinet; Mr. Clarke, cornet; Mr. Smith, euphonium and Mr. Clegg, xylophone. A new and large selection of music has been prepared, and the public may expect a ten weeks' feast.

The citizens of London, Ont., have secured Gilmore's Band for a grand concert on Thursday, June 7th. Special trains will run from adjacent points.

The concert tendered to Mr. Edward Fisher by the Choral Society, announced for the 29th inst., promises to be a grand musical event, comprising as it will the finest choruses from the many celebrated works which Mr. Fisher has produced, since the organization of his society, from the conductorship of which, we understand, he is now retiring. Mr. Fisher has worked long and arduously in the interest of music in Toronto, and his efforts are deserving of recognition on the part of the profession and public generally.