

THE MUSIC WORLD.

Less Than a Thousand Dollars More Insures the Merz Library. SUBSCRIBERS UP TO THIS DATE.

The increasing popularity of the Carnegie Organ Recitals. NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST.

The present status of the effort now making to bring to Pittsburgh one of the most complete musical libraries in the country may best be seen from the following copy of the subscription book as it now appears:

"We, the undersigned, do hereby subscribe an amount to the Carnegie Music Library, for the purpose hereinafter set forth, the amounts set opposite our respective names, to be by them applied to the purpose of buying, transporting, casing and cataloguing the musical library of the late Karl Merz, now at Wooster, O.; the title to said library, when so bought, to vest forthwith in the Carnegie Music Library of Pittsburgh, which shall take custody thereof and provide for its present use in the best manner practicable, until such time as the Public Library, for which buildings have been offered to said city of Pittsburgh by Andrew Carnegie, Esq., shall be in actual operation, whereupon the said musical library shall be turned over to the trustees of the said Public Library, and the title thereto shall vest in them for like public uses with the other property intrusted to them; provided that the said musical library shall, as far as reasonably practicable, be kept together, undivided, forming all or part of a distinct alcove, section or other division of said Public Library, which shall be permanently designated as the 'Merz' musical library, and such section or other division of said subscriptions hereinafter made in consideration of and conditional upon the obtaining of other subscriptions therewith to the total amount of \$2,500 on or before the 1st day of October, 1890, on which date all our said subscriptions are hereby made payable by us, respectively, or by our respective executors or administrators, in case of the prior decease of any of us."

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes names like Mrs. Wm. Thaw, Mrs. J. H. Clark, etc.

A Grateful Beginning. That list of names and amounts of itself guarantees the probability and popularity of the effort. Apart from musical considerations, the people seem with one accord to show their disposition to make the most of Mr. Carnegie's splendid gift to Pittsburgh by seizing this opportunity to provide for it beforehand so complete and valuable a collection of works in one department. By way of emphasis the information at the library of its late owner, given last week, may be briefly re-stated, as follows:

Mr. Merz's collection of musical works is reflected in his library, which there are certainly not very few superior among the private collections in this country. It comprises about 1,200 volumes, treating of all departments of music and cognate subjects. It contains not a few old and rare editions, books that cannot be got any line you choose, but must be picked up, if at all, here and there, whenever the chance occurs. It is particularly rich in musical journals, early and late, domestic and foreign. Besides these and other specialties, it comprises a vast amount of the most complete working library for the student of almost any branch of the science and art of music.

Taken altogether, the library is exceptionally complete and possesses unique features difficult, if not impossible, to duplicate. It is undoubtedly well worth the \$2,000 asked for it, having been appraised at about \$1,500 when sold by Schubert, the New York musical publisher and bookseller.

It is hoped to complete the subscription this week, as there are other plans for purchasing the library and taking it elsewhere—and it would be a great shame for Pittsburgh to miss so rare an opportunity, when just seemingly within her reach.

To this end all people who care at all for the advancement of the art of music in this community are asked to subscribe themselves, and to describe what they can, be it much or little.

Subscriptions may be made through either of the three trustees named above, or may be sent to the Musical Editor of THE DISPATCH. All amounts will receive due acknowledgment in this column. Each subscriber is requested carefully to read the formula at the head of this column, which gives the conditions of the subscription in full.

It is the duty of every music-loving soul to help the good cause along. Many hands make light work!

concerts even after all the incidental expenses have been paid, there would be enough left to warrant an increase in the organist's salary instead of a decrease.

At the Exposition last Friday evening Conductor Innes, with his Thirteenth Regiment Band, gave the third of the weekly symphonic programmes, as follows:

- Part I. Commencing at 7 o'clock. 1. Surprise Symphony, No. 6.....Haydn (a) Adagio Cantabile—Vivace assai. (b) Allegretto. (c) (Menuetto) Molto. (d) (Finale) Presto.

It is rather amusing to see a local music column devote half its entire space to a topic which itself declares "scarcely a dozen people in America care" anything about, (a topic, moreover, that had been exhaustively treated in Mr. Webster's admirable letters to this department of THE DISPATCH and yet be unable to give so much as a twocent's worth of prospective pleasure to the city of one of the half dozen best musical libraries in the country where it would be more useful or more appreciated. It contains 1,200 volumes treating of all departments of music and cognate subjects, and was appraised last spring by Schubert, a music publisher and bookseller of New York, at about \$2,000.

Mr. Romaine Callender, the Detroit organist, has lately invented a "consecutive combination action," said to give a greatly increased facility in registration. Before beginning a piece the organist can by means of this device set in succession every combination he wishes to use, and then, while playing, has only to touch a rail, which extends along the rear of the keyboard, in order to bring the successive combinations into play, one by one. The new device does not interfere with the usual drawing of the organist's feet, which will tend to ease the organist's heart of its frequent yearning for an octopus-like organist.

Next Friday will be a Schubert-Mendelssohn night, the programme chosen being as follows: First Part, Schubert—(1) Overture, "Alphonse and Estrella," (2) "The Wanderer," song arranged for band; (3) Symphony in B minor (unfinished); second part, Mendelssohn—(1) Overture, "Ruy Blas," (2) part song, arranged, "Farewell to the Forest," (3) "Reminiscences," a mot pourri from the larger works; (4) "Cradle Song," trombone solo; and other programmes of the week as well.

These Friday evenings are attracting the best musical people of the city and Mr. Innes deserves the heartiest encouragement to the standard he has adopted in these and the other programmes of the week as well.

Crechet and Quavers. SYBIL SANDERSON is engaged at the Theater de la Monnaie, Brussels, for the approaching season. GOMES, the Brazilian composer, is at work on a new opera called "Il Cavaliere Bizzaro" (not Pizarro).

LET musical folk make the Merz Library purchase a copy of the book of conversation. That is half the battle.

MR. AD. M. FOERSTER'S "March Fantasia," op. 8, will be repeated by Innes' Band at the Exposition on Sunday evening, September 21, and on Tuesday, September 24, at the Pennsylvania Female College.

MR. JOSEPH H. GIDDINGS has engaged the Boston Symphony Orchestra Club (not the famous one, but a small chamber-musical club), for an afternoon and matinee, November 21 and 22, at the Pennsylvania Female College.

THE BEETHOVEN QUARTETTE CLUB (Messrs. Carl Retter, piano; Fred. G. Toerpe, violin; George Toerpe, viola; Charles F. Toerpe, violoncello), have been rehearsed again, and will open this season's chamber music recitals in the Carnegie Music Library on Tuesday, September 24.

MR. LEO OEHLMER, of Pittsburgh, has an engagement for one day each week as violin instructor and orchestral conductor in the musical department of the University of Wooster, O. Mr. Oehmer will spend every Thursday at his new post.

On Tuesday last, at Grand Rapids, Mich., a complimentary concert was tendered to William Lavin, the distinguished tenor, assisted by Emilio Agrasante, of New York, and other artists. In the series of social Friday evenings held in the Smithfield Street M. E. Church by the Epworth League, every third meeting is devoted to a musical and literary programme.

THE Allegheny Musical Association will resume their work under Conductor W. A. Leitch next Tuesday evening. The first work in hand is Hiller's "Song of Victory." Why should this chorus do as is proposed by the Mozart Club? The subscription from its members on Tuesday evening for the Merz Library fund, the total amount to be acknowledged under the auspices of the Carnegie Music Library, was \$1,000.

MR. CARL AHL, the new director of the Frohman Singing Society, was a well-known city resident, who in 1887, before he came to this country, which was about three months ago. The Frohman has just organized a female chorus of 40 voices—the most numbering at one time in the city.

MR. THOMAS F. KIRK has organized an amateur operatic club of 50 members, designed for permanent existence upon similar lines to those founded by the Glee Club or the best method. An amateur orchestra of 12 or 15 picked players will aid in the work. Rehearsals will begin next Friday evening, "The Pirates of Penzance," for which the right of performance has been secured, was personally obtained from Sir Arthur Sullivan by Messrs. Henry Aland and Geo. E. Vogel and Mr. Strub as soloists.

MR. JAMES P. McCOLLUM, conductor of the Mozart Club, arrived home last Tuesday, after a delightful European trip, much refreshed in body and mind. Mr. McCollum will resume his work with the club at to-morrow evening's rehearsal, when a full attendance is expected. The matter of the club name is a subject which has been discussed by the club members, and it is believed that the club will come up for action and leading members of the club have expressed their desire to see our countryman's name prominently represented in this important undertaking.

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