PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 8, 1853.

CHURCH CHOIRS.

The editor of the *Knickerbocker*, in reviewing a work entitled "The Rector of St. Bardolph's," gives the following quotation from the book. It strikes us being so truthful and so good that we cannot refrain giving it to our readers. They will all realize and appreciate the article;

"When you heard the brass rings rattle over the iron road to which the red curtain was attached, shutting up the choristers in the recession of their perched up loft, then you might know that some grand exploits of vocalism were to come off. The sexton, who had been dispatched in good season to the 'sacristy,' to obtain from the Rector the number of psalm and hymn, having returned with a small slip of paper on which they were indicted in pencil, a great whispering and consultation having taken place, which resulted in the selection of tunes, Mr. Tubinges placed the music book on the rack, and the bellows of the little-big organ were put in play.

Never was a more brilliant sparkle and scintillation elicited from the windy bellows of a blacksmith's forge. The head and shoulders of the organist swayed up and down like those of a Chinese eater of the narcotic drug, in the accompaniment of an improvisation upon the keys, which made the whole congregation involuntarily twist their necks and look aloft, and at last with a full choral blast from the tenor, bass, and treble, the magical effect was complete. There were, no doubt, many present who cannot conveniently say the old Scottish and the knowledge prayer had inspired the artists with a desire to do themselves justice. It is true some of the old people did not like the concatenation of sounds. These, however, were considered behind the age, and the opinion of such worthy as of small respect in the onward march of improvement. They were put away in their opposition by the force of public opinion, if not their deaf ears were becoming sealed to such an annoyance. It was to the great surprise of the Rector that the choir one day struck up on the *Te Deum*, which he had been accustomed to read, and through various turns, and windings, and repetitions, they discovered upon it for a full half hour.

It was, however, the last time that they so distinguished themselves before the musical world. There was no piece of cathedral composition which the choir at St. Bardolph's did not consider themselves competent to perform, and had they been allowed their own way, would have sung it at every service. At length, one Monday morning, and made more out of the *Amen* than any other part. Mr. Hivox had indeed composed something original out of the theme of an *amen*, full fifteen minutes long, and we are sure that when it was finished no hearer of sound judgment but would have instinctively ejaculated with his whole heart, *Amen! Amen!* It had in its triumph of all the voices was in some of the *fugue* tunes in which they emulated to interrupt and outstrip each other, as in the one hundred and thirty-third psalm:

"Yea love is like that precious oil
Which poured on Aaron's head,
Ran down his beard and o'er his robes
Its costly moisture shed."

In the prodigious effort of this performance the ear-splitting combination of the several voices hardly bore a resemblance to that oily current poured on Aaron's head, and which

"Ran down his beard and o'er his head—
Ran down his beard——
his robes
And o'er his robes
Ran down his beard—ran down his
o'er his robes
Ran down his beard and
his robes—his beard
Its costly moist——
Ran down beard
——ure—beard—his—beard—his—shed
his robes—its costly moist—his beard
ure shed—his—his robes—his robes—are shed
its—its moist—ure——shed."

It was of this very composition, similarly performed, that the late Bishop Seabury, on one of his visitations, was asked his opinion, and his reply was that he had paid no attention to the music; but that his sympathies were so much excited for poor Aaron, that he was afraid that he would not have a hair left."

MISCELLANEOUS.

Allegheny County, ss.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to the Sheriff of said County, Greeting:

WE command you that you cause Nicholas Graham, a resident of Pittsburgh, and for many years the County of Allegheny at the present time, to come into our Court of Common Pleas, to be holden at Pittsburgh, in and for our District Court, to be holden at Pittsburgh, on the first Monday of April next, there to answer James Anderson of a plea of debt. And you are hereby commanded to attach the said Nicholas Graham, if he may be found in your District, to be holden at Pittsburgh, on the first Monday of April next, there to answer James Anderson of a plea of debt. And you are hereby commanded to attach the said Nicholas Graham, if he may be found in your County, to be and appear before our Judges of our said Court,