MR. CHARLES HALLE'S GRAND CONCERTS.

PROGRAMME.

Overture ..... Mozart, (first time) ..... Cherubini
Rondo, Finale, Pianoforte and Orchestra ..... Mozart
Aria ..... Mozart
Symphony, Major Pastorale ..... "Alexander's Feast" (Oratorio) ..... Handel
Pianoforte Solo ..... "Il Penseroso" ..... Mozart
Aria ..... Mozart
Symphony, Major, Pastorale ..... Beethoven
Pianoforte Solo, Impromptu Mr. Charles Halle ..... Schubert
"Ro. 2 Oboi" ..... Mozart
Recitative, from "A Midsummer Night's Dream" ..... Mendelssohn
Overture, Pianoforte and Orchestra ..... Mendelssohn
Pianoforte Solo, "La Part de Dieu" ..... Auber

Half the last two pieces been omitted, the programme of last evening's concert would have certainly consisted of classical music.

The Pastoral Symphony of Beethoven is without well the finest and most delightful composition in the whole range of musical composition. The several scenes which it depicts are each wrought up with such accuracy and power that it would be difficult to say which of them was superior to the rest. It was not the first or second time that we had heard it at Mr. Halle's concerts, and we are inclined to think that last evening the rendering was than that of the previous ones; indeed it would seem almost impossible to improve upon what appeared to be in our perfection at the outset.

The Scena, Recitative, and Aria, "Ye shepherds, a single elegant movement, in which all parties did full justice to the graceful orchestral accompaniments were mentally given under the direction of Mr. Sugden, and Mr. Halle performed in the Rondo at the commencing with the "wonted dexterity and finish.

If Mr. Halle's interpretation of the Gottschalk was such as might have been expected from one who is perfectly celebrated as a master of the works of Beethoven.

Madlle. Tietjens sang the two pieces in that admirable style which secures to her the proud position of the first singer in this world." With regard to the "Ave Maria" by Bottesini, we will only remark that we with the name of Bottesini had been associated with a more unattractive composition. Mr. Sugden not only displayed well that it was rehearsed, and would have been separately from the other pieces, but he gave a specimen of those important people who can never remain to the close of a concert.

We are to have another choral concert next week, at which Costard's (Dead Solium Mass will be given for the second time, and Mendelssohn's Hymn of Praise, for Mozart composed two masses for the dead will be performed for the first time. The Soloists Miss Palmer, Mr. Sugden, and Mr. Lewis Thomas are announced as the principal vocalists.

PROPOSED TESTIMONIAL TO MR. JAMES SMITH OF THE PROVIDENT SOCIETY.

Yesterday afternoon a meeting was held at the Clarence Hotel, Spring Gardens, for the purpose of organizing a committee to take steps for raising a suitable testimonial to Mr. James Smith the secretary to the Provident Society, in consideration of the large amount of distress amongst the operatives, particularly the Cotton Spinners, in the absence of Mr. W. E. Callender, jun., who was unable to attend; and there were also present the Rev. H. H. Wentworth, Messrs. J. H. Bright, of Hallfield; Cumberlidge; H. Crossthwaite, R. Langton, J. Morris, H. Philips, and Mr. Unsworth, of the Unitarian Society, Mr. Smith's services were well known to them, for he had been with them for nearly half a dozen his duty but never than his duty. He could duty to the real benefactor of the Provident Society, but when demands were made upon that society by the relief committee Mr. Smith took the most truly interest in the proceedings. There was great gratitude men who knew Mr. Smith worked, not only on the relief committee, but in their own districts, and they stored the large funds placed at the disposal of the committee, and distributed them with the utmost judicious distribution of clothing. In fact, no man could have done more for the relief of the distressed than Mr. Smith. Mr. H. Philips then moved: "That a subscription having been opened for the purpose of testimonial of the value of a suitable nature, and that a committee be appointed to wait on the public, and to form a committee to further that object." He moved this resolution with very great pleasure. He was sure the members of the Provident Society were unable adequately to compensate Mr. Smith for the great and valuable services he had rendered to the work quite in the spirit of a philanthropist, and not as a paid officer. Mr. Smith was the soul of the Society in strength which he could scarcely spare. He was aware Mr. Smith's health had severely suffered with the cotton famine, and he was fearful of the result if the strain was continued. The Rev. H. H. Wentworth seconded the resolution, and was unanimously carried. Mr. Cumberlidge, in the absence of a committee formed of working men for the same object, and that he and Mr. Bailey Cumberlidge (committee member) attended as a deputation, he confer with the meeting as to the propriety of forming a committee of working men, and there should be a conference of the two committees at an early day. The resolution was unanimously carried. Mr. Perry was requested to act as honorary secretary, and Mr. Langton was appointed treasurer. The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

UNITARIAN MEMORIAL HALL, ALBERT SQUARE.

The formal opening of this building took place last evening, when the introductory address was delivered by the Rev. W. Gaskell, who presided. The attendance was large, the accommodation provided being fully taxed to accommodated on the occasion. The Grammar and Ia was with decorated with evergreens, and the Mission Buildings in which everyone would above, that he regarded the Unitarians of the town with a very high opinion of their zeal, and that he was about to announce that they now formally opened the Memorial Hall free from a single sixpence of debt. It was a matter of great satisfaction the work as it stood contrasted with the past. It was a Memorial Hall, built in the city, right in a street to do honour to three faithful nonconformist forefathers, who had suffered for their faith. It was a Hall in which Church—worship instead, of such a memorial were they, (Hear.) Not only was it a Memorial Hall, but it was many pages bright with illustrious deeds; but there was not one that, to the world, was so white a page, and one that which was inscribed "August 24, 1662." There was memorial of Nonconformity, and of Nonconformity, there were patriots who had nobly stood by the cause of weak and oppressed; there were philanthropists who had spent themselves in lessening human suffering and woe, he will deserved their meed of glory; but a higher measure be heaped to those who out of loyalty to God done what those 2,000 ministers had done that day. He need not repeat the history of that memorable day, the sufferings, sacrifices of men of learning, talent, and profound piety, who would have altered my Christian communion, given up the ministry, the pulpit, the pleasant parsonage and fair home abroad, and their prospects of usefulness, and went forth with their wives and children to a wilderness of poverty, to grief, and disrepute, and some to want, and because they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth had spies and informers dogged their steps; their chapels were closed, their ministers were shut out, and they were chased like felons from town to town, they were hounded and outlawed, and yet they were to prince enough as we would be ashamed of in our days. They all knew the original history, they preserved it, and the more they learned of them the greater they would be, and the more appear; they were called upon to submit to things which they did not like, and they did not like them, yet, they won't do that; come what, come, we, we must stand by our faith, and we will do it. He was glad that they gave the first separate existence to English Nonconformity, which had survived such great and terrible ordeals, and in modifying both our political and religious institutions, and became the strongest and highest power in the land, reader, and more independent spirit than would otherwise have prevailed. (Applause.) And by a religious nonconformity special obligations were laid on the twenty of their houses of prayer were built for worshipers, who, following out the great principle of Nonconformity, which was to be free, and to have the Bible translated, faith and unshackled worship—that principle, which had survived such great and terrible ordeals, and such and suffering. They had left to them, and that they had regard it as a sacred trust, and that it was a sacred trust, and that it was a sacred trust, for blessing the Church, and the world, and the nation. He had only with a word concerning their chapels in the Church, and the feeling that a memorial had another and that they had a Memorial Hall, and that it was not an event, but it seemed to him the truest way to honour the memory of the men who had to come in a building devoted to the work which they themselves had begun. He was glad that they had gone from the Memorial Hall would be a centre from which some light would shine and help intercourse might be with the world, and help in making it a little wiser, better, and happier, and with this trust they now solemnly dedicate it to the service of Christian Freedom, Truth, and charity, praying that God's blessing might be upon it, and upon the noble institution which it was to shelter, and upon the great purpose of His will, and to make it a place of honour and open earth. (Applause.) The speaker then thanked, on behalf of the committee, the secretary, and architect, Mr. Gilbert Scott, who was the next speaker, and congratulated the Unitarians on having completed the building free from debt; but there was still about £400 subscription to satisfy, and that sum was wanted the committee expected they would be able to pay all outstanding accounts; but, at all events, they would not make any further appeal to the subscribers, but would rely on complimentary assistance the efforts of the students of the Home Missionary Board, who had collected between them about £500 or £600 in behalf of the undertaking. (Applause.) He was glad to see the Home Missionary Board, and they contributed the opening ceremony. Mr. W. Harbottle, Mr. Gaskell, and other gentlemen, then addressed a meeting and conversazione of the Unitarian Home Missionary Board, and speeches were delivered by Mr. S. Gray, Rev. Brooke Herford, M.A. Dunby, Rev. Dr. Sadler, and others.—Mr. Dendy, on behalf of the old and present students of the Manchester New College, presented to the Home Mission Board a Bible, and a Bible called Mount Sinai, which was named after the place on which it was found. The acceptance of this gift was objected to as an unnecessary expense, but it was accepted between the two trustees.—Dr. Beard acknowledged the gift.—A selection of sacred music was given during the evening.

THE LATE OLDHAM ELECTION.

CELEBRATION OF THE RETURN OF HIBBERT SCHOLES.

Last evening a tea party was held in the large room of the Clarence Hotel, Oldham, to celebrate the return to the last general election of Messrs. Hibbert and Platt as members for Oldham. The hall, which is capable of holding 2,000 persons, was crowded. The tea was taken about half-past seven, which by Mr. Alderman Cross Brown, Chairman of the Liberal committee, and there were also present—Messrs. J. T. Hibbert M.P., Platt, M.P., Mr. Alderman Cross, Mr. Alderman Lees, H. A. Leathem, the ex-member for Huddersfield, Hugh Mason, and others.—The Chairman said they was that first great gathering since the conflict in July last, when they had to contend against the Conservatives, and it was result of that day's proceedings, and they were there to celebrate what was then done. (Cheers.)—Mr. Wilson Patten, M.P., was the man who had borrowed, and they had for some time had in Oldham an enigma in politics, a Radical Tory, a Conservative Liberal member, a Radical on the hustings, and a Tory in the House of Commons. (Laughter.) He believed, that should now be faithfully and honourably represented, and he felt proud that they were represented by native talent. As his friend Mr. Robinson said, "We have begun the ball, and we will bring it on our own fashion." (Cheers and laughter.) He proposed "Messrs. Hibbert and Platt, and progress of Liberal opinion in the borough of Oldham." (Cheers.) Mr. Hibbert was loudly cheered on rising to address the meeting. It said it was the greatest pleasure of his life to have himself spoken of as a tried man, and one who had carried the opposition of the Liberal party in Oldham. He could not survey that large assembly without hailing his thoughts carried back to the praise of the contest, and to the cheers of the Liberal party, they were so gloriously triumphant, and when they was "Hibbert and Platt." (Cheers.) He was proud of the reform (Cheers.) he was a person "entitled to a seat, he returned as the person and said by the largest number of votes ever recorded for a candidate in that borough. He had to contend against the Conservatives and Liberals of one, and without the badge of an invite upon them. (Cheers.) He felt proud of the distinction of the honour of a seat in Parliament, and would be the question of reform. (Applause.) And question was now looking up, and they had a Liberal Government, and they had a Liberal party supporting them. At that time had got a President who had a great deal of the Conservative spirit in his Reform Act; and he would not allow his name to be enlisted in the cause of the Chartists of the people of England. (Cheers.) There were those who tried to persuade them that Lord Russell may give some little way in the Conservative Ministry, and the Liberal Ministry, and the Whig benefit; but he trusted that Lord Russell would be the man who would be determined to prove to them that to do that, and would give the people what they expected, it was the Conservatives who had to do it, they must not forget that, in addition to Lord Russell, they had the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who had spoken out strongly in favour of reform, and who had done much for the country in financial matters. They had, too, in the cabinet the name of Mr. Villiers and Mr. Milner Gibson; and Mr. W. E. Forster and Mr. Goschen were amongst the Liberal Ministry. (Cheers.) He was sorry such appointments as that of Mr. Goschen was breaking up the Liberal party, and he was sorry that it was said to give the Conservatives more credit for bringing forward young and rising from the Whigs during the country. (Cheers.) He was sorry, in fact, if he let the Reform Bill was only delayed a year, he should be ready to appear it. (Cheers.) And the thing which gave him hope was that Lord Russell had the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who had spoken strongly, and that Mr. Smith's services were well known by them. He had been with them for nearly half a dozen his duty but never than his duty. He could duty to the real benefactor of the Provident Society, but when demands were made upon that society by the relief committee Mr. Smith took the most truly interest in the proceedings. There was great gratitude men who knew Mr. Smith worked, not only on the relief committee, but in their own districts, and they stored the large funds placed at the disposal of the committee, and distributed them with the utmost judicious distribution of clothing. In fact, no man could have done more for the relief of the distressed than Mr. Smith. Mr. H. 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