

Music, Drama.

[By "ORPHEUS"]

Spectatum admissi risum teneatis amici?

MR. W. H. JUDE.

DOUBTLESS "it is more blessed to give than to receive," but Mr. Jude's generosity in giving his services gratuitously has seriously diminished his receipts. The cynical definition of gratitude is "a lively sense of favours to come," and Mr. Jude seems to win that sort of gratitude and no other. Dealing with "Fugues" the other evening the lecturer got off an extremely witty *mot*—"Fugues," quoth he, "are not as a rule suited to the taste of a general audience, but only to that of scientific musicians. Yet if my programme this evening had consisted of fifteen fugues and the vice-regal party had patronised me the house would have been crowded!" *O tempora, o mores!* Perhaps some people think that Mr. Jude's *Bach* is worse than his bite, but the fact remains that so gifted an organist has never been heard in Auckland. Apart from the refined taste and delicate nuances of expression which pervade his work, the most striking effects are produced by a wonderful touch which brings from the keys rippling legato passages resembling the tones of a fine piano-forte. Again by the same resource the sighing and sighing of the wind blowing through trees, the tramp of a marching army, and the roll of drums are in turn exactly imitated. To Mr. Jude's perfect and sympathetic accompaniments the magnificent success of all the singers at St. Patrick's Cathedral at the memorable "last Foli recital" was largely due. That such a musician should fill every building when the show is a free one, and yet be so poorly patronised when a charge is made, is a reflection upon a community which bears a reputation for good taste, justice, and generosity.

WILLS' SURPRISE PARTY.

ON Friday evening this attractive combination gave their first change of programme to a large audience, which, however, was quite put into the shade by the immense house that thronged the spacious building on the following evening. The curtain rose upon a sylvan scene designed and executed in exquisite taste; drooping ferns and waving pine-branches were starred with glowing Chinese lanterns. The orchestra, ensconced in a leafy bower, enhanced the suggestion of a *fête champêtre*, while on a rocky background, draped with festoons of drooping foliage, reclined a bevy of graceful wood-nymphs. The *coup d'œil* was one of the prettiest and most effective bits of stage mounting. During the performance a Chinese lantern took fire, but Miss Verne coolly said "let it burn," and the ready-witted Dave Gardner improved the occasion by simply ejaculating "More expense," and capping the remark by requesting Miss Verne to "go on with the business when she had finished her fireworks!" In the first part each performer was impartially encored, Misses Mina Nimmo for "Take me home, Barney," Ettie Williams' "Johnny's got the shutters up," Priscilla Verne's "The wrong man," and Alice Taylor's "Bitter sweet," Messrs. Dave Gardner's "We'll all be angels," H. Townley's "The old log cabin," G. A. Jones' "He was mine," and J. R. Wardley's "Papa's footsteps." A most amusing sketch, "Automata," brought the first part to a conclusion. In the second part M. Ernest Provo introduced his extraordinary juggling and balancing feats, and Geo. Jones humourously burlesqued each *tour de force*. Miss Ettie Williams danced most gracefully, and looked sylph-like in her pale blue skirt, the effect being enhanced by a skilful manipulation of the lime-light. Miss Verne was immense in her character sketches, "Three girls in a boat" being especially rich. Miss Ruby Clifford, arrayed in an exquisite dress of pale yellow, danced a clever "sand jig." Mr. Dave Gardner, in an original and mirth-provoking *melange* of stump-speech and song, delighted everybody. Mons. Provo's "Shadowgraphs" are extremely ingenious. By means of a lamp and screen the performer, with cunning fingers, designs and reflects upon the screen exact facsimiles of birds, beasts and fishes, human faces, men smoking pipes, boxing, cock-fighting, and a splendid old college don in cap and gown delivering a lecture to his class. The Surprise Quartette sang that lovely glee "Sweet and low," displaying all those refined qualities of tone, tune, light and shade, and ensemble which I praised in my last notice. The Misses Priscilla Verne and Ettie Williams shone brightly in a medley end-

ing in an effective lime-light tableau, and an excellent programme was brought to a close by Dave Gardner's laughable farce "First Round for John." Wills' Surprise Party will draw like a blister.

On Tuesday evening another change of programme was presented to a packed house, and even surpassed all previous efforts. Mr. Zam Fritz, the clever Swiss jodeler and character performer, is a decided acquisition, and adds to the strength of an already powerful combination. Mr. John Tudor has also been engaged, but is just now too unwell to appear.

MR. SNAZELLE—MUSIC, SONG AND STORY.

A CROWDED and fashionable audience filled the Choral Hall on Monday evening when Mr. Snazelle and his talented assistants gave their farewell performance. Exquisite taste was displayed in the decorations, ferns, evergreens, flowers, and drapery of tappa cloth, and other materials being most artistically arranged. A rich and varied programme held everybody's attention throughout, and numerous encores were declined. Of course the lion's share of the work fell upon Mr. Snazelle's shoulders, and equally of course he distinguished himself in every number. His songs "The mill wheel," "The mocking serenade," "David singing before Saul," "The Old World and the New," were well chosen, and displayed the singer's fine voice, refined taste and excellent method to the best advantage. Mr. Snazelle also shines in *impromptus*, sparkling *mots* dropping from his lips when least expected. His yarns on this occasion were "Bill Adams," "The Whistler," and "The Drum," each one delivered in perfect style and with irresistible effect. The scenoscope was charming as ever, and the lovely pictures illustrating "The mill wheel," "The Brook," "Faust," "The gathered flower," and "The Cottar's Saturday Night," delighted all eyes. "Some beautiful places of the earth," and the views of "Bonnie Scotland" and of the Pacific Islands also compelled enthusiastic admiration. Miss Snazelle, besides playing accompaniments and music appropriate to the scenes, sang "The Brook," and played several piano-forte solos in excellent style. Her rendering of Ascher's brilliant "Alice, where art thou?" was in touch, taste, and execution an admirable performance. Herr Zimmerman, accompanied by Ivan Truegold, gave an exquisite rendering of Winiowski's "Legend," displaying a fine pure tone in the *cantabile* and faultless precision in his double-stopping, feathering and rapid arpeggio and cadenza passages. The last portion of the "Legend" was played with muted strings, and was simply delicious. An imperative encore was declined. The violinist also played an interesting work by Corelli in masterly style, but I fear it was "caviare to the general." In Ivan Truegold, the Russian pianist (pupil of Rubinstein) Mr. Snazelle has unearthed a true genius. Mr. Truegold, after years of hard manual toil, and but little practice on his instrument, naturally finds his phalanges not quite so flexible as of yore, and moreover was too nervous to do himself full justice. Nevertheless, he displayed powers of conception and rendering which held his audience spell-bound, and won an undeniable encore for his first piece, "Reviellé du Lion," to which he responded by playing a dainty *morceau* "The Hussar," by Spindler. Mr. Truegold was also very successful with his own fantasia on Russian airs, and now that he has resumed his proper vocation I feel confident that a brilliant future lies before him. After "Auld Lang Syne" had been sung, three cheers for Mr. Snazelle were heartily given by the audience, who dispersed to their homes delighted with so splendid an evening's entertainment.

"ORPHEUS" being off for a few weeks' holiday bids his patient readers a cordial "adieu," and hopes that it may be *au revoir!*

All-round Sport

THE following handicaps have been declared in connection with the Labour Demonstration Sports on Wednesday next:—

150yds Handicap.—W. Purdy scr., R. Keenan scr., W. Thompson 6yds, F. Nazer 6yds, J. Frost 7yds, D. Somers 7yds, F. Cave 7yds, M. Freney 8yds, W. Cummins 9yds, M. Conway 10yds, P. Purchase 14yds, H. Bradley 14yds, 220yds Handicap.—J. Frost scr., D. Somers scr., J. Lekis 2yds, W. Thomson 5yds, F. Nazer 5yds, M. Freney 7yds, W. Cummins 11yds. Half-mile

Handicap.—C. Swan scr., J. Frost 20yds, D. Somers 25yds, E. Donley 30yds, W. J. Colledge 30yds, J. Lekis 50yds, H. Adcock 65yds, A. Hewson 65yds, A. Molloy 65yds. Two Miles Walking Handicap.—A. Brady scr., W. Welch 40yds, E. Cockfield 40yds, G. Kelly 100yds, W. Stewart 100yds, F. Wilkins 200yds, J. Miles 300yds, W. Daisley 300yds, Y. Frost 350yds, G. Heron 350yds.

On the first day of the Canterbury Amateur Athletic Club's Sports (Friday last), W. J. S. Hayward reduced the Three Mile Bicycle record for the colony to 8min 37 3-5th sec. He started from scratch. The second day of the meeting (Saturday) saw the same rider win the One Mile Bicycle Race in 2min 35 2-5th sec., also lowering the record for that event. With the assistance of Ral-linshaw as pacemaker he also attempted to lower the Half Mile Bicycle record for the colony, and he completed the distance in 1min 14 4-5th sec. W. West, who covered 10ft 2in in the Pole Jump, put up a New Zealand record thereby.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of the initial number of the *New Zealand Wheelman*, which it is proposed shall be published at Christchurch every alternate Saturday. The number before us is a well got up and well printed publication, and specially appeals to the interests of cycling throughout New Zealand.

The annual meeting of the Auckland Regatta Committee was held on Friday night in the Waitemata Hotel. The secretary stated that he was unable to produce a balance-sheet as the treasurer had not forwarded one. After some discussion it was resolved that the secretary be requested to obtain from the treasurer the balance-sheet for the past year's accounts. After further discussion as to the best arrangements to be made in connection with the annual regatta it was decided "That the annual regatta be held on January 29, 1893, and that this meeting proceed to appoint ten members to carry out the same, with instructions to add to their number six members of the Auckland Yacht Club and six members from the Auckland Rowing Association." The following gentlemen were nominated as a general committee:—Messrs. A. H. Nathan, C. Bailey, T. McEwin, H. Parker, H. Hoffmann, C. C. Dacre, G. S. Kissling, J. J. Craig, J. Halyday, and Colebrook, with power to replace any gentleman who declined to act. It was also resolved that out of the whole committee of 22 seven should form a quorum at all meetings. Mr. Dacre was requested to act as secretary.

The second annual contest for the Searle Memorial Cup was set down for decision early in December over the usual course on the Thames; but owing to Bubeat's being the only entry, the event has fallen through. W. G. East was the winner last year. The cup is a perpetual challenge prize subscribed for by the admirers of the late H. E. Searle.

The balance-sheet submitted at the annual meeting of the New Zealand Rowing Association held at Wellington showed a credit of £41 1s 9d. The following office-bearers were elected:—Patron, His Excellency the Earl of Glasgow; President, Mr. A. E. G. Rhodes, M.H.R. (Canterbury); Vice-Presidents, Messrs. W. H. Field (Wellington) and Rodwell (Wanganui); hon Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. A. S. Biss (Wellington). Mr. C. Barnett, the retiring Secretary and Treasurer, was voted a sum of ten guineas in recognition of his past services to the Association. It was unanimously decided that the season's championships should be rowed on Lake Forsyth, near Christchurch, on Feb. 14th. A motion by the Waitemata Boating Club (Auckland), claiming first prize in the Inrigged Gig Race rowed at Pine Island on December 12th last, was lost. The application of the Auckland Rowing Club for the reinstatement of Mr. G. Barrett was also rejected.

On Saturday afternoon the Mount Eden Lawn Tennis Club held its opening meeting, which proved, if anything, a more brilliant success than in past years. The pretty grounds were in apple-pie order, and the turf bore every appearance of careful attention during the winter season. A large number of invitations had been issued, and the grounds were crowded throughout the afternoon by a brilliant throng of lady spectators, whose costumes contrasted with the summer suits worn by the inferior sex, lent colour and variety to the scene. The Truda brothers, 1st and 2nd violins, flute, and harp, played capital selections during the afternoon, and the excellent light refreshments supplied to the visitors by their attentive hosts with the hospitality for which the club is famous, together with some excellent play on the courts, all combined to render the afternoon a most enjoyable

one. The club deserved a perfect day for their opening, and Captain Edwin kindly recognised their claim.

The Auckland Polo Club opened their season at Avondale on Saturday, when there was a large attendance of members, and the day was beautifully fine. A couple of games were got off. In the first one Captain Hunter Blair and Messrs. Whewell, Lochart and Purchas were opposed by Messrs. McKellar, O'Rorke, Stewart and Wansborough, the latter winning by two goals. The second game was participated in by Messrs. Gilmore, Buddle, Heywood and Prince on the side of Dr. Forbes, and Messrs. Ansenne, Noble and Purchas on the other, and Dr. Forbes' team scored a goal to their opponents' nil. The game of polo should quickly go ahead in public favour in this district, especially as a team is shortly coming up from the South to compete in the Savile Challenge Cup. Future games for the season will be played at Potter's Paddock.

CRICKET.

GLORIOUS cricket weather and the prospect of some close finishes drew a large attendance to the Domain ground on Saturday. Close finishes there were truly, and one or two surprises. In the Auckland—Parnell match the former, with three wickets down for 42, continued their efforts to top Parnell's 79, Wilson and R. Neill, the "not outs," increasing the score to 64, when the former was bowled by W. Mills for 40. With only 15 runs to tie and six wickets to fall, it looked like a guinea to a gooseberry on the two blues, but the glorious uncertainty of the game was again illustrated, as Arneil was bowled first ball. Webster chivalrously sacrificed himself for Neill and was run out, and Hatton, Taylor, Banfield, and Rowe all succumbed to the powers of Mills and Lawson without scoring. The innings closed for 72—seven men making ducks. Lawson (5 for 25) and W. Mills (3 for 16) bowled magnificently, and assisted by capital fielding—only 3 extras—pulled off a seemingly hopeless game for Parnell by 7 runs. In their second innings Parnell had lost 4 wickets for 102, Gardiner 50 (not out) and Ike Mills 32 doing most of the scoring.

UNITED v. ONSLOW.—With the score a tie at 53 and one wicket to fall, the two not out "Macs" continued the game. McKinney made the winning hit off the first ball, but with the score at 58 Macpherson was c and b to Walton, having batted steadily and well for 30. Onslow made a poor stand in their second innings, Walton, with 12, being the only double figure, and United were set 42 to win, which they obtained after losing five wickets—Miller 13, Macpherson 11. D. Hay, Miller, and Walton had good bowling averages for their respective sides.

JUNIORS.

BELMONT v. GORDON II.—At the close of the first day's play the score stood—Belmont 71 and Gordon 45 for 8 wickets. The latter on continuing their innings on Saturday could only make 51. Goldie took his score to 11 when he was smartly caught by Smith at slip. The Belmont in their second venture made 91, Morrison 33 and Darby 16 being the only double figure men. They each gave a number of difficult catches, but none of them were held. Being in a minority of 115 and only an hour to play, the Gordons went in with the intention of trying to make the pace, but with the exception of Gilfillan 17 and Goldie 13, none of them succeeded. Smith secured 3 wickets for 3, including a doubtful l.b.w. decision given by the Belmont umpire.

AUCKLAND II. v. WANDERERS.—The Auckland II. after getting the Wanderers out in their second innings for 22, could not make 59, the required number to win, just falling 2 short of that number. A. Seccombe played a free innings for 30 not out. D. Clayton got 6 wickets for 6 runs.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL v. ROLLER MILLS.—The Grammar School succumbed to the Roller Mills Cricket Club on Saturday after a very close match, the winning hit being made just before the last wicket fell.

PARNELL II. v. NORTH SHORE.—Parnell won by two wickets after a capital match. North Shore, first innings, 64; second, 56 (Colbeck, not out, 20). Parnell, first innings, 69; second, 52 for 8 wickets (Wheatley 17, Edwards, not out, 13). Coupland's 7 wickets for 24, and Jones' 3 for 3 were notable bowling performances.

Mr. "W. Russell" has sold Bay King to a patron of R. Kingan's stable. The price paid is stated to have been 300 gns.