THE
BEETHOVEN
SOCIETY.
Having effected an engagement with H. L. Bateman, Esq, for
the professional services of the Unrivaled Songstress

M’LLE PAREPA,
Will give a performance of Handel’s Grand Oratorio,

THE MESSIAH,

—AT—

ALLYN HALL, HARTFORD,

—ON—

Monday Eve’g, December 25th, 1865.

SOLOS BY

M’LLE PAREPA,
MISS GERTRUDE FRANKAU,
MRS. E. A. RISLEY,
MONS. A. A. PATTOU.
The Bass Solos will be rendered by that distinguished artist

DR. C. A. GUILMETTE,
Of Boston.

THE
CHORUS OF 140 VOICES
Will be accompanied by the celebrated

GERMANIA ORCHESTRA
OF BOSTON.

J. G. BARNETT, - - - - - Conductor.
W. J. BABCOCK, - - - - - Organist.

Tickets with Reserved Seats, $2.00, and $1.50, according to location. The
sale of tickets will commence Thursday morning, at the music store of
L. Barker & Co.
Persons living at a distance can have good seats reserved by forwarding
the money to W. H. Hills, Sec’y, 51 Asylum Street.
An extra train will run to New Britain and Rockville, and intermediate
stations after the concert.
The composer of this sublime oratorio, George Frederick Handel, stands in the whole history of music, separate in all respects from all before or after him; singularly colossal in body and mind, a pious Christian, and in faith, as in everything else, both firm and zealous, looking for instruction and conviction, for true light, solely to the Holy Bible and the Word of God, and committing all his works, commands, and counsels in that holy perdom. These he read diligently and daily, and thus became intimately acquainted with them and particularly the most difficult writings of St. Paul and the doctrine of the Redemption, not merely coming into contact with them, but mentally and spiritually rooting them in his heart and soul, and so impressing them with deepering and importance. To glorify this truth before his fellow men, by his art as a musician, to bring it as near their hearts as it was to his own, was one of his most cherished ideas. He therefore, for his text, took again the whole of the Epistle, and the four verses of the 16th chapter of St. Paul, that are recorded in this letter. In his intentions, offered to write him a poem, but Handel replied in noble anger, "How can he think he can give me a better text than prophets and apostles full of the holy spirit?" And how noble did he feel it to have chosen such a choice! What else but a great and consistent decision, could have chosen this? In spirit this was the Messiah written. No language can do justice to its many beauties and sublime thoughts; it must be heard, and heard frequently to be appreciated.

The oratorio commences with an overture, somewhat sombre in its character, in which the whole human race grooves and sighs under its burden. Help there must be, help and comfort; but it cannot come by mere words of solemnity. There is a melody here. "The voice of him that calleth in the desert," and this heavenly comfort has opened the heart. "The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness prepare ye the way of the Lord." Now we may gain new hope. "Every valley shall be exalted; and the rough places of the mountains shall be filling up; and this mountain shall be the plain, and this hill shall be lowered. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed," is full of pious joy.

A solemn recitative pronounces, "Thus saith the Lord, I will shake the heavens and the earth, and the desire of all nations shall come. Yet still the soul is afraid even of its salvation; it hardly dare lift up its head; for, "Who may abide the day of His coming.""

The chorus following somewhat rejoices this desperacy, as they render the words, "He shall purify the sons of Levi," A short recitative announces, "A virgin shall conceive and bear a son," and in tender joy continues, "0 thou that tellest good tidings to Zion—lift up thy voice with strength." From this air Handel forms a beautiful chorus—"the voices descending slowly into the lower tones and cease, while the instruments, in low, soft murmurs, finish the passage.

The bass solo, "Behold darkness shall cover the earth," sonorous in its character together with the air that goes on waving as the people that walk in Darkness," makes you feel as if you also walked in the valley of the shadow of death; and could hardly see the distant and much wished morning dawn.

The chorus following, "For unto us a child is born," is celebrated for the great effect it displayed in its compositional and instrumental treatment. The solemn silence of the voices after "Peace on Earth," and the soft accompaniment that follows, and the conclusion, where voices unite in adoration and praise, indicating the return of the heavenly spirits to their abodes, against the more pleasing and satisfying portion of the oratorio.

The first act of the great work of redemption has been represented—the birth of the Messiah. Now follows a gentle joyfulness. "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zi-n," and in a more serious strain, "He is the righteous Saviour of the world," who shall fulfill the prophecies. Then shall the heavens and the earth sing of joy to one another to the ends of the world. Then shall the earth and the heavens sing of joy to one another to the ends of the world.

The first and very best of the chorus is which led us to the threshold of our Lord's sufferings, and the higher states. The chorus is so well harmonized. The path of pain and sorrow, exult from the beauty of the text, this ensemble, this recitative, this air have a decided effect, and the words are especially impressed on the minds of all who attempt to analyze them. On the morning of the Messiah, the apostles have been instructed by Christ to go into the world and proclaim the good news. The words "Thus saith the Lord," are the perfection of sweetness, delicacy and simplicity.

The following chorus, "Their sound is gone out into all the world," is full of vigor and brilliancy, and a word of the most intrinsic life pervades the whole of it.

A brilliant symphonycurly which follows, "Why do the nations so furiously rage together?" expressing with pomp and brilliancy not only the proud mind of the rulers, but successfully representing the love of the Messiah, who composed the words of the Messiah.

It is unnecessary to say much about the chorus which closes the second part, the glorious Hallelujah, it being so well known. Handel himself confessed that he had been, while composing it, in a state of mingled joy and sorrow, before which he could not give any account—quoting St. Paul—"Whether I was in my body or out of my body, God knows."

It therefore seems that he considered his Hallelujah a production of special, divine, prophetic inspiration. He was guided by the hearts of all to express this sentence. When I see one expression of exalted joy, "Who is the King of Glory?" They answer, "The Lord of Hosts."

These words are repeated several times, and in great joy and fervor every air, again and again "The King of Glory.

The words "How beautiful are the feet," is the perfection of sweetness, delicacy and simplicity.

The following chorus, "Their sound is gone out into all the world," is full of vigor and brilliancy, and a word of the most intrinsic life pervades the whole of it.

A brilliant symphony, after which follows, "Why do the nations so furiously rage together?" expressing with pomp and brilliancy not only the proud mind of the rulers, but successfully representing the love of the Messiah, who composed the words of the Messiah.
PROGRAMME.

Part First.

OVERTURE.

RECIPIFATIVE.—Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God; speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem; and cry unto her that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness—Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

AIR.—Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low, the crooked straight, and the rough places plain.

CHORUS.—And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

RECIPIFATIVE.—Thus saith the Lord of Hosts: Yet once a little while, and I will shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come. The Lord, whom ye seek shall suddenly come to His Temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in; Behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of Hosts.

AIR.—But who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? for He is like a refiner's fire.

CHORUS.—And He shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.

RECIPIFATIVE.—Behold! a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call His name EMMANUEL.—God be with us.

AIR.—O them that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountains; O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God! Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

RECIPIFATIVE.—For, behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people; but the Lord shall arise upon thee; and his glory shall be seen upon thee, and the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

AIR.—The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light, and they that dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

CHORUS.—For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

PASTORAL SYMPHONY.

RECIPIFATIVE.—There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night.

RECIPIFATIVE.—And lo! the Angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone around about them; and they were sore afraid.

RECIPIFATIVE.—And the Angel said unto them, Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people; for unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

RECIPIFATIVE.—And suddenly there was with the Angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying—(Chorus)—Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will towards men.

AIR.—Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, thy king cometh unto thee! He is the righteous Saviour, and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.

RECIPIFATIVE.—Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap as a hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing.

AIR.—He shall feed his flock like a shepherd; and He shall gather the lambs with His arm and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those who are with young.

AIR.—Come unto Him, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and He will give you rest. Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him; for He is meek and lowly of heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

CHORUS.—His yoke is easy and His burden is light.
Part Second.

Chorus.—Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world!

Air.—He was despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief.

Chorus.—He trusted in God that he would deliver Him; let Him deliver Him if He delight in Him.

Recitative.—Thy rebuke hath broken His heart; He is full of heaviness. He looked for some to have pity on Him, but there was no man; neither found He any to comfort Him.

Air.—Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto His sorrow.

Recitative.—He was cut off out of the land of the living; for the transgression of Thy people was He stricken,

Air.—But thou didst not leave His soul in hell; nor didst Thou suffer Thy Holy One to see corruption.

Chorus.—Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is the King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is the King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory.

Air.—How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things,

Chorus.—Their sound is gone out into all lands, and their words unto the end of the world.

Air.—Why do the nations so furiously rage together, and why do the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth rise up, and the rulers take counsel together against the Lord, and against His Anointed.

Chorus.—Let us break their bonds asunder, and cast away their yokes from us

Recitative.—He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh them to scorn; the Lord shall hold them in derision.

Air.—Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; Thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

Chorus.—Hallelujah: for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever.

King of kings and Lord of lords! Hallelujah!

It is related that on one occasion, when the Messiah was being performed, George III was so deeply impressed with the grandeur of this choruse, that he rose and remained standing through its performance and ever since that time, when the Hallelujah Chorus is performed abroad, all who listen arise, as if they were paying homage to the King of kings and Lord of lords.

Part Third.

Air.—I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though worms destroy this body, yet in the flesh shall I see God. For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that sleep.

Recitative.—Behold! I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.

Air.—The trump shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

Chorus.—But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Air.—If God be for us, who can be against us? Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect. It is God that justifieth, who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea, rather that is risen again, who is at the right hand of God, who makes intercession for us.

Chorus.—Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by His blood, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing: Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever. Amen. Amen.