

will lift up mine eyes," had been given, the *Elijah* selection began. The beautiful air, "O rest in the Lord," requiring as it does the utmost depth and delicacy of voice, was a bold feat for so young a singer to attempt: but Mr. Arkcoll, we think, showed signs of true musical feeling. The equally charming quartette, "Cast thy burden," which might, perhaps, have been better for a little more rehearsing, was followed by the superb chorus, "Thanks be to God," which, being the culminating point of the first part of the *Elijah*, is one of those works by which Mendelssohn has established his claim to be the *very first* among composers of Oratorio. In such a piece the choir fully felt the value of Mr. Goldschmidt's skill in wielding the *bâton*. The second subject, "But the Lord," begun by the basses, and taken up in succession by all the voices, was given, considering its difficulty, with creditable precision.

The second part opened with the march from Gounod's *Faust*—any defects in which were to be attributed far more to bad luck than to any inefficiency of the performers. The flute, Mr. Leslie, whose performance has been so deservedly popular at previous concerts, was taken ill at the last moment, and prevented from performing: the clarinet, from some occult cause, refused to yield to the by no means unskilful efforts of Mr. Stevenson; and altogether, as we heard from one of the performers, the music had been much better done at rehearsal. We must not omit to notice the addition to the band of Mr. H. W. Gardner, for whom, as a performer, we augur a successful career. Mr. Micholls performed with his usual brilliancy of execution and taste, first a solo by Grieg, and afterwards a Sonata in A, with the violin, by Mozart, in which Herr Petterson delighted the audience by his skill: the only criticisms we can venture to pass was that the piece was perhaps rather too long. "What does little birdie say," a new song by Sullivan, was chosen as Mr. Anstice's solo. Personally we can only say he gave us much more satisfaction than in his former triumph—"Toujours gai." The "Carmen Feriale," by the Rev. C. Moberly, brought the concert to an end: few will be found, we think, to grumble at its frequent repetition. The "Viva la Compagnie," sung by Mr. Rowden, caused considerable amusement, containing several very good hits. We have trespassed so far on our readers' patience that any remarks upon the general state of the choir must be deferred to a future num-

ber. We conclude with reminding the School how large a debt of gratitude they owe to Mr. Goldschmidt, for his conducting, to the Rev. Charles Smith, for his most artistic accompaniments, and to Mr. Edwards and Herr Petterson, for their untiring exertions on behalf of the School Choir.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

At a Meeting held June 6th, Papers were read "On a visit to some Salt Works in Cheshire," by F. R. Smith, and on "Dimorphism in Plants, especially the Cowslip and Purple Loose-strife," by the President.

At a Meeting held June 27th, a Lecture was given by the Rev. T. N. Hutchinson, "On permanent axes of rotation, and the Gyroscope." The success of the experiments was received with applause.

It was announced that Mr. Longstaff (late Secretary to the Society) had lately sent "Addenda and Corrigenda to the list of Lepidoptera," and that the Natural History Society lately established at Wellington College had been taken into union for the exchange of publications.

Duff (Arnold's), Sandars (School-house), and Rivington (Hutchinson's) have been elected Associates for their assistance this season in the Botanical Section, and Bull (Elsee's) as an Entomologist.

At the last Meeting of the Term, held July 11th, a paper "On the Rugby Gravels," was read by E. Cleminshaw. He mentioned the different discoveries that have as yet been made in our High and Low Level Gravels, and urged the importance of examining any pits which may hereafter be opened.

With a view to encourage original observation, the Society intends to offer a prize to the School, for essays to be sent in to the Secretary after Christmas; the writer to choose any subject of Natural History he likes, and the merits of the essay to be mainly the *originality* of the observations or descriptions it contains.

THE RIFLE CORPS.

On Monday, July 20, the Wimbledon Eleven went up to London, in order to take part in the competition for the Ashburton Shield the next day. Our Team had been so well instructed, and had thrown themselves with such spirit into their work, that in the opinion of many good judges their chance