

choir is not equally at home in each of the three styles represented in the selections. Whether tested by the grand strains in "Worthy is the Lamb," the softer notes of "Blessed Are the Men that Fear Him," or the rushing harmonies of "Now the Impetuous Torrents Rise," it was equally at home and alike good. From a purely technical and professional point of view there was little to be desired in the chorus work. A trifling blemish here and there might be pointed out, but where the general excellence of the performance was of so high a grade fault-finding is trivial. There was what is often lacking in concerts of professional people, a spirit of enthusiasm among the singers that more properly rendered the chosen selections than could have been done by professional skill alone. But when to the skill of the professional is added the enthusiasm of the amateur the result is perfection. Such a result, comparatively speaking, was the musical work of the Mormon choir.

One feature especially noticeable about the concert was the rendition of several compositions from the pen of the conductor, Mr. Stephens. The opening chorus was of his writing, as also was the duet, and each displays both learning and genius. Each had variety and fire; each showed not only a fondness of melody, but a marked command of all the resources of harmonic effect.

There was a lack of conventionality in the concert that both surprised and pleased the hearers. The leader read the program in an old-fashioned style that both interested and amused the people; he pulled the conductor's stand from the platform with an energy that showed he was accustomed to wait on himself; he forgot to bow on entering and on leaving, and generally exhibited unfamiliarity with the tricks of a professional conductor. But so far from being offended the change was evidently agreeable to the audience and they applauded his old-time ways as heartily as they would have done the most Chesterfieldian bow that was ever made from a platform.

The audience was limited only by the size of the hall, and was composed not only of the habitual concert-goers and musicians, but of people who are not regular attendants at such entertainments, but came because they anticipated a pleasant evening. Among the number were many hundreds of the visitors and delegates to the Sunday School convention, whose badges were plentifully scattered here and there through the tiers of seats. It was a good-humored audience from first to last, and the people had reason to be so, for not often do they have an opportunity to hear such music as was given by the visitors from beyond the Rockies.

#### A FACTORY FOR GENII.

Yesterday afternoon a NEWS representative made a visit to the elegant building on First North street, between First and Second West, just erected by the Salt Lake Literary and Scientific association and intended for the use of the Deseret Museum and the science department of the Church University. To declare that he was

surprised and delighted at the beauty, utility and withal the consistent simplicity of the structure and the grandeur of its most thorough equipment is to mildly express his feelings. He was warmly welcomed and conducted through the various apartments by Capt. Willard Young, the President of the Church University, and Dr. J. E. Talmage, professor of physical science in the University and President of the Deseret Museum.

The building consists of a basement and three other floors. In the basement are situated the assaying rooms, storage rooms, and heating and ventilating apparatus and toilet apartments. The building is warmed in winter, cooled in summer, and ventilated at all seasons by a powerful fan driving air into every room. The entire building is lighted by electricity.

On the ground floor are the President's office, library room, two large class rooms and the main lecture room. The last-named is a marvel of simple beauty and efficiency. The seats are all best opera chairs. These are arranged in terraces, so that every person present has a full view of the lecture table. A magnificent stereopticon throws a picture of twenty feet diameter on the wall. A large operating table in the front is fitted with pneumatic tanks, gas and water pipes, electric wires and other accessories for illustrated public lectures. An efficient hood, entirely of glass, provides for the safe removal of all vapors or fumes generated in the course of experiments, and through this hood a powerful blast is created by the simple touching of an electric button. To the unscientific observer the management of the room is absolutely novel, its efficacy is beyond question.

Ascending to the second floor the private office of Dr. Talmage is first entered. This is admirably adapted for a busy man's work. Electric wires run from this room to every science apartment in the building. By touching a concealed button on the desk the door is opened. "This," remarked the professor, "is not designed to save the trouble of rising to open the door, but to afford students an ever-present example of the serviceableness of electricity. It is our plan," he continued, "to keep as little of an apparatus in the cases as possible, and to use all of it we can in practical service about the house."

From his office to the doctor's laboratory is but a few steps. The latter is fitted with everything that can be conceived as necessary for physical and chemical investigation. A large glass hood with electric gas lights affords means of experiment with various substances. This hood is floored with asbestos board, upon which even molten iron may be poured with no danger of causing fire. The operating table carries a complete outfit of bottles, flasks, dishes, beakers, tubes of every description, and a powerful blast lamp, which is operated by an electric motor. Here also are filter pumps, water sink, water heater, distilled water, reservoir and numerous cases filled "a thousand and one" and surrounded by many more varieties of chemical elements and compounds. Chemically pure substances load the shelves. Beside all the ordinary metals

may be seen the costly platinum, palladium, iridium, osmium, calcium, magnesium, ruthenium, etc., etc.; nor can mention be omitted of the soft and waxy potassium, which takes fire whenever brought in contact with water. A series of gas furnaces provide for work requiring high temperatures; and a fully equipped blow pipe table stands ready for use.

The balance room is kept carefully guarded by cloth protected doors against dust and sudden changes of temperature. Here are in all six analytical balances, each in a beautiful glass case, and arranged so as to be operated by levers without opening the case. The professor demonstrated to a reporter that a very small bit of hair could be accurately weighed on these instruments. The balances are set on heavy marble slabs fastened to the walls, so that no tremor of the floor will disturb their simple equilibrium. The weights for these are so delicately adjusted that they may be handled only by the aid of ivory pointed forceps.

Next a visit was paid the apparatus room, containing one huge case over twenty feet long, ten feet high and seven feet deep; also two smaller but still immense corner cases. These are filled with instruments of every description. To mention only a few, there are fine Attwoods' machines, levers, pulleys, inclined planes and all apparatus for the demonstration of the mechanical power; specific gravity instruments, hydraulic presses—not simply toys, but fine working pieces; hydraulic rams, pumps, siphons, water wheels and jets. There is a huge rotary air pump with an immense array of receivers, fountain cylinders, compression chambers, etc. In the acoustics department are ecometers, diaphragms, pipes, resonance chambers and rubber lenses, and above all a magnificent double siren, made under the direction of Helmholtz himself. Amongst the heat apparatus are engine models, pyrometers, thermometers of most delicate construction, reflectors and radiators in abundance. In light, are provided lenses and mirrors, porte lumieres, polariscopes, photometers and a fine array of costly microscopes. Great attention will be paid to microscopy, and the equipment for mounting objects, observing and thoroughly investigating is most extensive. These are instruments for the student to use, not simply to watch others operate.

The array of electrical instruments for testing and demonstrating testifies to the high esteem with which this growing science is regarded. There are three fine Toepler Holtz machines, the largest being an eight-plate instrument just received from Germany; besides these are Leyden jar batteries, discharging tables and magnets beyond power to describe. Batteries and bells, galvanometers, motors, telegraphic and telephonic instruments, Ruhmkorff coils, resistance coils, Wheatstone's bridges, etc., etc., etc., fill many shelves. A collection of many hundreds of fine lantern views promises much for the popular side of university work.

In the chemical cases are ovens, and oil baths, retorts of glass and metal, beakers and dishes of platinum, silver, copper and glass, aspirators, receivers,