

## Professor Ives' Visit to England.

PROFESSOR IVES, Mus.Bac., who occupies the chair of music at the Adelaide University, is at present visiting the mother country to seek advice as to the use to be made of £25,000 recently left for musical purposes by Sir Thomas Elder, K.C.M.G., a rich squatter who was devoted to music. Calling upon Professor Ives, we found that the opinions he had received are most varied; he has already consulted Sir Alex. Mackenzie, Sir John Stainer, Sir Walter Parratt, Sir J. Fred. Bridge, Prof. Prout, Dr. Hubert Parry, Mr. W. H. Cummings, Dr. Turpin, Dr. Hiles, and others, and has visited the R.A.M., R.C.M., Guildhall School of Music, enquired into the Deppé system, the Macdonald Smith system, the Virgil Clavier, and other up-to-date ideas. His enthusiasm in musical matters has been considerably increased by hearing such performances as the Philharmonic Society, the Handel Festival, Richter's orchestra, M. Paderewski, the opera, and so on. These experiences bring him into the stream of musical life again. Adelaide, however, is by no means idle in musical culture. In addition to choral societies, Heinecke's orchestra, recently established, is doing excellent work. In a new country most thought is devoted to material things. Men want to make their fortunes and retire in the old country, but there are many who have shown a love of art themselves, and especially take care that their children cultivate it. The South Australian student is smart, quick in learning, and in every respect very go-ahead, and very soon his influence in music must be felt. If he has a fault it is that he is too self-reliant, and does not realise that he has much to learn. He does well, however, compared with his brother in Europe, who can hear concerts almost nightly, and has St. James' Hall, Queen's Hall, Albert Hall, or Crystal Palace to go to. The orchestras heard in the Colony are often incomplete, with instruments substituted. Orchestral works such as Wagner's and Tchaikowsky's are comparatively unknown, except in transcriptions for pianoforte and organ, which give no idea of their orchestral colouring. It is hoped soon to establish regular orchestral concerts. There is a strong love for good music, and excellent discrimination is shown in musical matters, as anyone can see by comparing the audiences when something good is offered with the audiences at a third-rate performance. Good foundation work is laid in the schools, where Tonic Sol-fa is generally taught, and Professor Ives, having opportunities of attending school festivals, has been pleased with the really excellent work done by some of the teachers. The University carries on musical work from the elements up to degrees. Professor Ives superintends primary examinations, junior and senior, in both theory and practice, and gives about eight lectures per week on harmony, counterpoint, canon, fugue, instrumentation, &c.,

besides giving evening lectures to which the public are admitted. About 400 candidates a year enter for the local examinations in pianoforte, singing, theory, &c.

Professor Ives is in his 43rd year. He was born at Hyde, near Manchester, and has been at Adelaide twelve years. Taking lessons from Mr. J. H. Greenwood in his fifteenth year, he made rapid progress, and was assistant organist at sixteen. In his teens he was organist respectively at St. James', Gorton, St. Andrew's, Manchester, and St. Stephen's, Hulme. After five years excellent control of a large choir, he was appointed to Anderston Established Church, Glasgow, one of the first churches of that denomination to have a large organ and musical service. As lecturer on harmony and musical composition at the Glasgow Athenæum, his students increased from 30 to 120. His own teachers were Dr. J. F. Bridge, and later Dr. Hiles when he went to Owen's College, Manchester. Professor Ives also studied organ and theory during several summer vacations, under the late Dr. Chipp, then organist of Ely Cathedral. Mr. Jas. Sneddon, Mus.Bac., took his degree at

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HON. MENTION.

CRITICISING HIS OWN PERFORMANCE.

A. DAVIES.

the same time as Professor Ives, at Cambridge. The Adelaide appointment drew a large number of applicants, including Dr. Gladstone and Dr. Warwick Jordan, and the position was decided by Sir John Stainer, Sir Geo. Macfarren, and others, who heard selected candidates play the organ in Westminster Abbey. The post of city organist was coupled with the professorship, but Professor Ives has given up the Town Hall organ recitals. He has also lately retired from the organistship of the North Ade-

elaide Baptist Church, and under the new scheme his energies will be fully occupied in developing the musical resources of the Colony. Musical enthusiasts subscribed his salary of £500 per annum for five years, but other posts largely increased that amount, and now Professor Ives' success in organising musical examinations, and the advantages of the new endowment, make his position secure. Though only two persons have obtained the degree at Adelaide (the exercises are sent to England), there is a prosperous future for music in South Australia, and every music lover will wish Professor Ives all success.

HALMEREND.—At the Alsagers Bank Wesleyan Sunday school anniversary the audiences at both services were delighted with F. A. Challinor's anthem "Praise ye the Lord," which was effectively rendered by the children and choir, Mr. Geo. R. Riley conducting.

EDINBURGH.—The operetta *The Happy Family* was performed twice by the pupils of Broughton Road School before crowded audiences, and several speakers praised the way in which the children had been trained by Mr. Frank Crosbie, music-master of the school.

BERWICK.—Rowe's operetta *Bold Robin and the Babes* was twice given under Rev. Mr. Inglis' direction before very large audiences who were thoroughly interested.