

"Hora Novissima" in England.

Professor Horatio W. Parker's sacred cantata "Hora Novissima," which was given as the chief number of the great musical festival in Worcester, England, Sept. 14, met with the almost unanimous approval of the English critics. The London Times, in speaking of the work, said:

"The climax of the festival was reached yesterday morning, when proceedings began in the Cathedral with the first performance in England of the American work "Hora Novissima," by Mr. Horatio W. Parker, organist of Trinity Church, Boston, and Professor

and in sound and effect there is not the slightest trace of academicism in Professor Parker's work. Even in the magnificent double chorus, "Stant Syon Atria," the effect of which is gorgeous, there was no smell of the lamp, no trace of midnight oil; nor in the beautiful ancient, yet very modern, chorus a capella "Urbs Syon Unica" was there a bar to which the most fanatical anti-academic could take exception. Throughout the entire oratorio hardly an effect was missed in the choral writing, and here above all Professor Parker proved himself a master. His treatment of the chorus is remarkable, yet there is none of the common modern tendency to strain or even to seek after effect. His effects come quite naturally, and he works up to superb climaxes with perfect ease. Precisely the same remarks apply, too, to his writing for quartets. There is no less than three quartets in the work, and it is no easy matter to single out any one of them for especial praise. Certainly they were all very finely sung by Mme. Albani, Miss Ada Crossley, Mr. Edward Lloyd, and Mr. Plunket Greene, to each of whom fell also a solo."

Opening of the Year at Harvard.

[Correspondence of YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY.]

CAMBRIDGE, Sept. 30—The most noticeable additions to Harvard's buildings at this, the beginning of her 263d year, are the Brooks House, a memorial to the late Bishop Phillips Brooks, devoted to the religious societies of the University, and the completion of Randall Hall, the new dining hall, which accommodates about six hundred students.

Inside the Newell Gate on Soldiers Field, the athletic committee is building a house of brick and stone which is to contain a reception room and quarters for a gatekeeper. The new boat house has progressed very slowly.

In the Faculty there have been the following new appointments; Prof. Sanger of Washington University, St. Louis, has been elected Professor of Chemistry; Dr. Asaph Hall has been made lecturer on Celestial Mechanics and Messrs Irving Babbit, N. H. Schofield, J. B. Woodworth, C. Palache and F. Russell have been chosen members of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

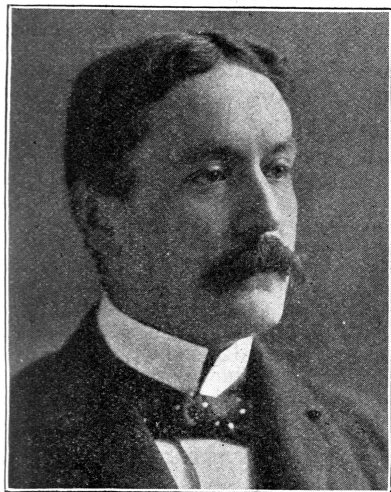
Among the professors who are to be absent on their sabbatical year are Professors White, Emerton, Gross, Wolf, James and Osgood.

As yet little can be definitely said in regard to the number of students for the new college year, but it is generally understood that the class, while it will be larger, will not greatly exceed the number in former years.

In the Medical School a new arrangement in teaching the subjects of the first two years will be followed. The first year class will devote the entire first half year to the study of Anatomy and correlated subjects, and the second half to Physiology and its correlated subjects. Second year students will study Pathology and Bacteriology until February and will spend the last four months in preparing for clinical work of the third and fourth years. It is thought that this logical arrangement of the subjects will enable the student to concentrate his energies to a much greater advantage than he can when his daily attention is divided among several courses. The lectures will explain the laboratory work instead of making the laboratory work explain the lectures as heretofore.

Registration Greater This Year.

Although it is too early to give the exact figures of registration in the different departments of the University, it can be positively stated that there will be an increase, probably about 75. The Academic Freshman class at the present writing numbers 330, the exact duplicate of the final figure last year; but there is a likelihood of two or perhaps three more being added. The Senior class has been augmented by 10, and the Junior by a small number. In the Scientific School a gain in all the classes is noticed, but how much, cannot be accurately stated yet. In the Law, Medical, Art, Divinity and Music Schools the reports are of small increases.



PROF. HORATIO W. PARKER.

of Music at Yale University. Professor Parker's name has been quite unknown here hitherto, though an English firm published the vocal score of this work, which bears the opus number 30, in its composer's list, some years ago. As a matter of fact, the oratorio has been in print since 1892, and since Professor Parker is but thirty-six years of age and apparently has not yet reached the zenith of his creative ability, it was high time that his early work should have been produced here if ever it was to be produced. Composers ripen very rapidly, and there is always considerable danger of their early work being overshadowed at least, if not entirely eclipsed, by their later compositions. Even now rumor has it that we have not heard the best fruits of Professor Parker's brain, and that a large oratorio on the subject of St. Christopher shows more clearly the present state of his musical faculties. As Professor Parker was a pupil of the Munich Conservatorium, it was natural that one should look for great contrapuntal skill in his music, for it were difficult to discover a pupil of Professor Rheinberger who was not a master of all the arts of ingenious contrapuntal device. Counterpoint there is in abundance in every number of the score, and counterpoint, too, that looks a little academic on paper; but in music, as in other matters, one cannot judge by appearances,

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