

An interesting book, entitled 'El oratorio musical,' has been published at Barcelona. The author, José Rafael Carreras y Bulbena, gives a *résumé* of the oratorio from the 16th century, when Animuccia wrote his *Laudi spirituali*, down to the present time. The names of Italian, German and French composers are fairly familiar; not so, however, those of Spanish nationality—Porsile, Pujol, Masevi, Figuera, Duran, Terradellas, Martinez, Puig, Casellas, Picanol and Andrevy; Belgium and England are not forgotten, but in the short notice of the work from which this information has been gathered no names are given for these countries.

The preliminary draft programme of the Gloucester Musical Festival (the 184th meeting of the Three Choirs) has just been issued. The following works, in the order of presentation, are to be performed:

CHORAL: Elijah; The Apostles and The Kingdom (*Elgar*); Christ in the Wilderness (a new work by *Granville Bantock*); The love that casteth out fear (*Parry*); Now shall the grace (*Bach*); Requiem (*Verdi*); Emmaus (*Brewer*); Hymn of Praise, and The Messiah.

INSTRUMENTAL: Symphony in C minor, No. 6 (*Glazounov*); Organ concerto (*Horatio Parker*); and Variations on the Chorale St. Antoni (*Brahms*).

The music to be performed at the opening service and the evening concert at the Shire Hall has not yet been selected, but at the latter a new orchestral work by Dr. F. H. Cowen will be produced. Dr. A. Herbert Brewer, organist of Gloucester Cathedral, will conduct the Festival, which is to take place on September 8, 10, 11, 12 and 13.

The Worshipful Company of Musicians offer various prizes, under the title 'Cobbett Musical Competition No. 2,' for the composition of a short Phantasie in the form of a string trio for violin, violoncello and pianoforte. The first-prize (given by Mr. W. W. Cobbett) is of fifty pounds; the second and third prizes (given by Mr. H. L. Sternberg) are of ten pounds each; and some 'Consolation prizes' will be given from a donors' fund provided by members of the Musicians' Company. Full particulars of the competition can be obtained from the Clerk to the Company, T. C. Fenwick, Esq., 16, Berners Street, W.

Mr. Thomas F. Dunhill announces a series of three concerts of chamber music to be given at Queen's (Small) Hall on the evenings of June 7, 14, and 21. According to the prospectus 'the special feature of these concerts will be the performance of British works (by the younger school of composers in particular), which, having been previously given with success, are generally considered worthy of a further hearing.' The experiment, to which we wish all success, will be watched with interest.

The list of works performed by the Municipal Orchestra of Bournemouth during the season 1906-7 again bears testimony to the enterprise and enthusiasm of Mr. Dan Godfrey, the conductor of those excellent concerts. The 'Summary' of the season's operations reads:

Total number of works performed	-	-	238
Works performed for the first time, &c.	-	-	57
Of the new works, British composers supplied	-	-	30
Total works by British composers, old and new	-	-	47