

MIRFIELD CHORAL SOCIETY.

The Mirfield Choral Society, since its re-establishment ten years ago, has rendered great service to the cause of popular music in Mirfield and the surrounding district. They have performed several important works, and have moreover met with a gratifying measure of support from the public. For this season the society's programme consists of "The Messiah" and "The Seasons" (Haydn). The former was given last evening at the Co-operative Hall, Ravensthorpe, and the latter will follow at Mirfield during the winter. Handel's masterpiece loses none of its popularity by constant repetition, and the oratorio was last night listened to throughout by a large audience with the closest of attention. The principals were Madame Minnie Jones, soprano, prize winner Royal National Eisteddfod; Miss Emily Lincoln, contralto; Mr. George Green, of the Liverpool Philharmonic Concerts, and principal tenor Liverpool Cathedral; and Mr. W. H. Dawson, principal bass York Minster. Mr. Dawson was in good voice, and his clear and powerful rendering of his numbers was much admired. He sang in a finished manner, and with due expression. Mr. Green rendered his contributions with great vigour and accuracy, and was deservedly and frequently applauded. Madame Jones sang with considerable feeling, but in her case a little more attention to enunciation would be an advantage. Miss Lincoln as contralto was fairly successful. The band and chorus of 100 performers had evidently been carefully trained, and under the able conductorship of Mr. W. Clark Ainley acquitted themselves most creditably. Mr. H. Kemp led the band. The chorus sang with great power and precision and with remarkable clearness. The Pastoral Symphony may be mentioned as having been gone through in an excellent manner, and it was heartily applauded. The hall in which the concert was held, though somewhat bare of aspect, is well adapted for hearing, and on the whole the committee and performers have great reason to congratulate themselves on the success of their opening concert of the season at Ravensthorpe.