

[Untitled.]

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Manchester, New Hampshire

Hall's Brass and String Band, of Boston, Mass., assisted by Mrs. D. C. Hall, soprano, Mr. M. Carpenter, pianist, and Mr. George W. Fox, baritone, gave a concert of vocal and instrumental music, at Smyth's Hall, in this city, November 23, 1866.

The audience was too small to express the gratitude due this well trained band, from the real lovers of good music residing in the city of Manchester. They gave us an entertainment such as we rarely hear anywhere, and left with us some of the pleasantest impressions of the season. The small number of hearers present learned that band music can be music, and not noise. This band has the good sense to retain the bugle, clarinet and the trombone; and more reed instruments would create a finer outline, and impart more light and shade, with the contrast of color, to the music. The Saxhorn family, though represented, was not sufficiently numerous to overpower everything else, and those which were used were skillfully made to sing in such a subdued manner that they really did blend richly with the voices of the other instruments. Such concerts give us something of the refined charm of music, instead of ministering to the barbarous love of noise - music suitable for civilized humanity, instead of such as would be admired by mere gamins or rowdies.

We thank Hall's Band for all they have done; and we could wish, as all delighted listeners might have done, that more of our people., that all the would, in fact, might often attend such concerts, and get new ideas of what is truly excellent in music. The members of the Band played as if they loved their music. Wherever they go they will leave an abiding impression upon some minds that there is something in music above and beyond a mere tune or melody. Such concerts enlarge the ideas of those who attend for the purpose of hearing, and plant seed that will in time produce good fruit. In all their performance there was less of noisy and more of softening influence than we usually get for the amount of money.

The sweetness and purity of Mrs. Hall's voice will ensure a delicate tribute of gratitude and tender remembrance, that will always welcome her reappearance here with a smile. Modest and unassuming, while she is singing we forget her, and realize only the music in which she forgets herself.

D. C. Hall, in April, 1850, was presented with a Gold Bugle, by the members of the Lowell Brass Band, he at that time being the leader. The bugle was a splendid instrument. It had twelve keys and a richly chased form; the inscription being surrounded by scroll-work, inclosing military and Masonic emblems with a wreath of flowers. The instrument weighed about twenty-five ounces and was manufactured entirely of pure California gold, eighteen carats fine. The entire cost was \$1000. The tone was superior to that of any instrument of inferior metal, and we doubt if there has been a better instrument of the kind made in this country. It was a most beautiful and perfect bugle, and was

made by E. G. Wright, of Lowell. In 1853 Mr. Hall was elected leader of the Band in Boston, now so well known as Hall's Band.