

GRAND CONCERT AT THE GAWLER INSTITUTE.

The second anniversary of this Institute was celebrated at the Oddfellows' Hall, in Gawler Town, on the evening of Monday, December 12. It had been announced that the National Song would be performed to the air composed by Herr Linger, and a great deal of interest was manifested, many persons having come from town by the afternoon train. The doors of the spacious room in the Oddfellows' Hall were thrown open shortly after 7 o'clock, and by 8 the hall was nearly full, not fewer than between 200 and 300 persons being present. The assemblage was a very fashionable one, the majority of the audience being in evening dress; indeed, visitors from Adelaide, judging from the appearance of the room, would scarcely have imagined that they were present at a concert in a provincial town. The arrangements seemed to have been very well made. The Stewards were very obliging, and nothing appeared to have been omitted which was required to give eclat to so interesting an occasion. The first piece on the programme, an overture entitled "The Brewer of Preston," was very well performed by the Brunswick Band. The song "I've Loved Thee Long," followed, and was sung by Miss Rowe, Herr Linger taking the pianoforte accompaniment. This beautiful air was very pleasingly rendered, but the piano was out of tune, and a jarring note occasionally struck unpleasantly on the ear. A buffo duet, sung by Mrs. Perryman and Mr. Daniel, succeeded, the Brunswick band taking the accompaniment. The instrumental portion of this music was much too loud, and drowned the voices of the vocalists completely, none of the words being audible. It is most likely that the Brunswick Band, accustomed to play in very large rooms, were not aware of the power of their instruments, or their effect in the Music Hall of Gawler. The duet was encored, and, possibly owing to a hint received in the interim, the instrumental accompaniment was this time more properly modulated, and the audience had an opportunity of admiring the vocal music, which was much applauded. Miss Rowe then performed a fantasia on the piano, in which she exhibited great execution. "Dearest Home" was then sung by Mr. Oehlmann, after which the "Prize Song of Australia" was introduced, numerous copies of the words and music having been previously distributed throughout the room. The piece was arranged for the concert as a solo and quartette for four voices, and was very favorably received by the audience, who broke out into loud applause at the end of each verse. It is likely that this song will become very popular, being not only simple, but pleasing, and as characteristic of a national melody, as an appropriate adaptation to the poem could be expected to be. When the song was finished, the audience manifested great enthusiasm, and loudly called for Herr Linger, who came forward and bowed his acknowledgments. The verses were sung as solos—Miss Rowe, Mrs. Perryman, Mr. Daniel, and Mr. Oehlmann each taking a verse alternately, and all collectively singing the chorus as a quartette. Rendered as the song was on Tuesday evening, it was remarkably successful, and appeared to have made a favorable and permanent impression. After a short interval the band performed an overture from "Nebuchadnezzar," which was very much admired. Mrs. Perryman then followed with the song "Beautiful Star," and on an encore being called for, substituted "I'll be a Gipsy," both of which songs were sung with good taste, and did credit to the vocal powers of Mrs. Perryman. Messrs. Schrader and Linger performed an instrumental duet on the cornepean and piano, in which Mr. Schrader exhibited great command over his instrument. "The Sailor's Grave," sung by Mr. Daniel, which followed, was very spirit stirring, and given with Mr. Daniel's usual power and good taste. Miss Rowe performed a fantasia of the "Song of Australia," composed by Herr Linger. This seemed to meet the popular taste, and was very warmly approved by the audience. As a musical composition it may claim almost greater merit than the original air itself. Miss Rowe played it very well, and accomplished the rapid passages with a degree of execution very few ladies possess. The "Laughing Glee" followed, and was rendered very amusing by the clever acting of Mr. Daniel. It pleased

The "Laughing Glee" followed, and was rendered very amusing by the clever acting of Mr. Daniel. It pleased the audience so much that they called for its repetition. The concert concluded with a *melange*, consisting of the national anthems of different countries performed by the instrumental band, that of England being the first, and the "Song of Australia" the last. The audience exhibited their nationality by rising simultaneously during the "English Anthem," and also when the music of the "Song of Australia" was played. After the singing of "God Save the Queen" by the vocal performers, the concert terminated. It was a very successful affair as an entertainment, and must have proved highly gratifying to those gentlemen connected with the Gawler Institute who have been the means of awakening local talent, and giving to Australia the first national melody.