

A GREAT ORGAN

Criticised by a Player Well Known
in Meriden.

Minor C. Baldwin, the favorite concert organist, so well known and liked in Meriden, has, in the current issue of the American Art Journal, published in New York, a criticism of the great organ in Chickering hall, New York, that will certainly be read with interest by all musicians. It is as follows:

A not inconsiderable experience with the great Roosevelt organ in Chickering hall induces me, from the standpoint of a concert organist, to say a few words in commendation of this most magnificent instrument.

The following specifications, as I find them from the constructor's data, will show the mechanical build of the organ, and from which its capacity, quality and power may be learned:

Three manuals, compass CC to A3, 58 notes; pedal clavier, compass CCC to E, 29 notes.

GRAND ORGAN.—Double op. diapason, 16 ft., 58 pipes; open diapason, 8 ft., 58 pipes; viola di gamba, 8 ft., 58 pipes; doppel, 8 ft., 58 pipes; doppel flote, 8ft., 58 pipes; octave, 4 ft., 58 pipes; lute harmonique, 4 ft., 58 pipes; octave quint, 2 2/3 ft., 58 pipes; super octave, 2 ft., 58 pipes; mixture four ranks, 232 pipes; trumpet, 8 ft., 58 pipes.

BWELL ORGAN.—Bourdon, 16 ft., 58 pipes; violin diapason, 8 ft., 58 pipes; dolce, 8 ft., 58 pipes; stopped diapason, 8 ft., 58 pipes; violins, 4 ft., 58 pipes; cornet, 3 ranks, 174 pipes; cornepean, 8 ft., 58 pipes; oboe, 8 ft., 58 pipes.

SOLO ORGAN.—Keraulophon, 8 ft., 58 pipes; concert flute, 8 ft., 58 pipes; wald flöte, 4 ft., 58 pipes; piccolo, 2 ft., 58 pipes; clarinet, 8 ft., 58 pipes.

ECHO ORGAN (ELECTRIC).—Stopped diapason, 8 ft., 58 pipes; vox humana, 8 ft., 58 pipes; vox humana (French), 8 ft., 58 pipes.

PEDAL ORGAN.—Open diapason, 16 ft., 29 pipes; violon, 16 ft., 29 pipes; bourdon 16 ft., 29 pipes; violoncello, 8 ft., 29 pipes; trombone, 16 ft., 29 pipes.

COUPLES.—Swell to great, swell to solo, swell to great octaves, solo to pedal, swell to pedal, great to pedal.

MECHANICAL REGISTERS.—Swell tremulant, echo tremulant, bellows signal.

PEDAL MOVEMENTS.—Great organ forte, great organ piano, swell organ forte, swell organ piano, balanced swell pedal, echo swell pedal.

The selection of a more judicious combination of tone colors for effective concert work would be impossible.

The voicing is not only of a superior quality, but contains that something which positively realizes the tone of the several instruments represented. Another effective feature is the echo organ, which is wholly isolated from the main instrument and is also operated by electricity. By means of it the most delicate effects may be produced and an artistic finish given to many compositions which can be secured in no other way. By no means the least important feature is the minor consideration in the placing of the organ seat at the side rather than under the organ. This placing reveals to the performer the exact volume of tone he is producing, thus insuring a more intelligent rendition of musical effects.

The action and workmanship of this organ are of the finest quality, and the builders have in its construction not only exhibited a knowledge of the mechanical principles necessary to produce the desired results, but they have applied these principles in a manner which reaches very near perfection. I have never performed on any organ which has given me more satisfaction than produced by this one, and can truly say that no other has so readily responded to my best musical conceptions.

Chickering Hall



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