

drove Moray into a cave, where he was murdered. Huntly would have held back, but his kinsman, Gordon of Buckle, cursed him as afraid to go as far as the rest, and forced him on to give a blow that he might be art and part in his death, as he had been in the conspiracy. Thus goaded, Huntly slashed the face of the Earl, who al-

MUSICAL CALENDAR.

Covent Garden Burned 125 Years Ago

Monday, September 18.

Born: Lord Berners (Gerald Tyrwhitt), composer (1883).
Arthur L. Benjamin, Australian composer (1893).

Tuesday, September 19.

Born: Charles Vincent, author and composer (1852).

Wednesday, September 20.

Born: Ildebrando Pizzetti, Italian composer (1850).

Covent Garden Theatre burnt (1808).

Thursday, September 21.

Born: Charles Lamoureux, French conductor (1834).
Auguste Wilhelmj, violinist and composer (1850).
Gustav Holst, English composer (1859).

Died: Pablo de Sarasate, Spanish violinist and composer (1908).

Friday, September 22.

Born: Henry T. Finck, American author and musical critic (1854).
Died: Sir Charles Santley, baritone (1922).

Saturday, September 24.

Died: Vincenzo Bellini, Italian composer (1835).
Maria Felicità Malibran, dramatic contralto (1836).

ready lay dying under Buckle's blow, but who looked up with a strange smile and said: "Ye've spoilt a bonnier face than yer ain." The restrained, dignified singing of the ballad is an artistic triumph for Alexander Carmichael. (Col. 01388.)

"Spain Incarnate."

HAVE you ever listened with ordinary care to one of La Argentina's Parlophone recordings? The rhythmic beauty of those castenets solos seems to be Spain incarnate. This lady is probably the greatest living dancer whose goings and comings between two continents keep the journalistic gossip writer busy. She has the unique distinction of being the first person to be decorated by the new Republican Government of Spain. It is indicative of the change in attitude towards women in Spain that it was a woman who was so honoured. The decoration is that of "Isabel la Catolica," founded in 1815. Arnold Meckel is her delightful Russian manager.

Forty Years On.

THAT favourite among recording orchestras, the Bournemouth Municipal, completed 40 years' unbroken service under Sir Dan Godfrey, recently. In these four decades the orchestra has given 32,000 concerts, of which 2600 have been symphony concerts, 600 performances of Beethoven symphonies, and 300 of the symphonies of Brahms. Ben Davies, who first sang with the orchestra in 1893, was the soloist on the last anniversary, and the programme included the Festival March from "Tannhauser," the first item played by the orchestra on May 22, 1893.

Correspondence.

THIS department is at the disposal of all readers who wish for information about records, works re-

corded or recording artists. No charge is made. Communications must be addressed—Bolton Woods, c/o "N.Z. Radio Record," P.O. Box 1032, Wellington.

"PICK-UP" (Dunedin).—If "Pick-Up" sends me his name and address his inquiry will be answered.

OWING to unforeseen circumstances, Dante, the famous magician at present touring New Zealand will now be unable to speak from 2YA during his Wellington season.

IN one of the Berlin courts the Ministry of Propaganda has installed microphones in order that the proceedings may be broadcast. The usual custom is to record the trial first and broadcast the recording at an hour when the majority of listeners are free to hear.

FAMOUS BANDS, No. 2

The Royal Artillery Band, Woolwich, is Oldest in England



In the front rank of the world's military bands the band of the Royal Artillery, Woolwich, stands supreme. Oldest and largest in the whole British army, it is also the senior permanent musical organisation in Great Britain, being formed exactly fifty years before the London Philharmonic Society. Near the close of the seven years war, in 1762, eight men were attested under certain conditions.

The articles of agreement covered the following rules. The original octet had to be capable players on the violoncello, bass, violin, flute and other "common instruments." "The regiment's music" must consist of two trumpets, two French horns, two bassoons and four hautbois or clarinets. The musicians were regarded as actual soldiers under discipline and were clothed by the regiment. Whilst the artillery remained in Germany their pay was ten dollars a month, out of which they bought their bread. On arrival in England each musician was to have a shilling a day, the two French horns 14d. a day. Fivepence farthing a month was to be allowed out of a bandsman's pay during such time as he was sick and attended by the regimental surgeon. Musicians found not to be good performers on their arrival risked discharge at their own expense. This was meant to make the person who engaged the musicians careful in his choice.

The first official bandmaster was Frederick Wiele (1777-1802), an excellent musician capable of making his own military band arrangements, in addition to scoring for a string band. He was succeeded by G. Schnuphass (1802-1810) who, in turn, was succeeded by George Mackenzie, the first Briton to receive the appointment of army bandmaster. Mackenzie joined the band in 1795, and retired from the control of it in 1845, completing half a century's service, and leaving behind him a magnificent team of fifty musicians. William Collins, principal violin and leading clarinet, was the next bandmaster, who reigned for nine years, being succeeded by James Smyth. The band numbered seventy-one performers by the time he retired in 1881.

A naturalised British subject, Cavaliere Ladislao Zavertal, formerly conductor of the Glasgow Musical Society, was next appointed bandmaster. Here was a man who was without doubt, the most gifted musician the British service ever possessed. This one time Italian opera composer placed the R.A. Orchestra on the same level as the Queen's Hall and London Symphony Orchestras. On his retirement in 1906, he was succeeded by Captain Edward O. Stretton, who commenced his musical career under Zavertal in the R.A. band in 1886. That the plume of service musical circles should fall to such a fine organiser and able conductor will be readily understood by any New Zealanders fortunate enough to have heard the band on its visit to this country in 1913. This premier military band and orchestra, with its membership of ninety-five expert musicians, is in constant demand for state functions and Court balls.