SUCCESSFUL Bognor CONCERT.

Large audience at the Queen's Hall.

The successful success attended a concert held at the Queen's Hall, Bognor, on Thursday evening, in aid of the Belgian Relief Fund. The large hall was not only crowded to an unprecedented degree, but a great many people had to be turned away owing to the lack of even standing accommodation.

The concert was provided by a choir and orchestra (under the conductorship of Mr. J. J. Wilson Eiben, of the West Stedge, London Road, and several talented artists. The performers were expected to one another, and it was intended that a young Belgian artist, M. I. Richard, should appear. Owing to the death of a relative, however, M. I. Richard had to return to France, and he did not play on the evening. In his letter to Mr. Elton, regretting his inability to fulfill his engagement, he wrote: "If it is possible to say how I appreciate your efforts for the relief of my countrymen, I am sure that the service which has been rendered will be a most success.

And a great success it was. Too, it was not only a musical treat, but from the financial point of view the result was most satisfactory. Something like £20 being available after paying expenses.

The concert was to be repeated tomorrow (Thursday) evening.

The choir sang capitally. They gave the National Anthem for the opening item, and followed this with some Christmas and other choruses. The solo in 'Happy! The glad sound!' was taken by Miss N. Bailey, who also took the solo part in 'Hark! A thrilling voice was sounding,' 'O come all ye Faithful,' 'Soldiers of Christ' and 'On in danger.' were also admirably sung, the solo in the last being sung by Mr. M. Murdoch. The Hallichoise chorus was sung with splendid effect.

There was a delightful orchestra which carried the choruses and contributed greatly to the success of the performance. Mr. W. W. Eiben and Mr. G. Eiben were Mr. Eiben's second violins, Mr. Smith, cornet; Mr. J. H. Young, oboe, Mr. H. Butterfield, trombone, and Miss Wright, 'clarinet.

Miss E. T. Bailey sang two numbers, 'Nearer to God Thy, and 'Angels ever bright and good,' and Mr. M. Eiben's recitatives, 'The Day,' were enthusiastically applauded.

During the evening Mr. H. E. Letter, J.P., provided 'The Chairman's Remarks, and fulfilled his duty admirably. It was not the first time that he had had the opportunity of speaking about the German and their conduct, and in restrained and gentlemanly language, it somewhat to the point, he once again expressed himself plainly, and it is highly probable that his vigorous denunciation of the 'barbarous barbarians' was in a measure responsible for the liberality of the collection.

He must congratulate, he said, the promoters of the concert on such a tremendous success. He had never seen the hall so full as he had that evening, and something like another half full had gone away because there was no room inside. He felt sure if the promoters could see their way to repeat the concert they would be able to get the hall full again. What were the reasons for the success of the concert? One was, he thought, that it had been well advertised, and he had been asked to thank Mr. Storer for working so hard in selling tickets, etc. The promoters wished him to express their great indebtedness to him for all he had done. (Applause.)

Continuing, the speaker said another reason for the success of the concert was that they had divided them with beautiful music and songs, and they thanked him on behalf of the audience. (Applause.)

Thirdly, the concert was owing to the cause for which the concert was held. The concert was in aid of a fund of world wide interest. He must hardly remind them that it was for the Belgian Relief Fund, and probably no nation had ever in the history of the world required assistance as did the Belgian nation at the present time; probably no nation had ever had such times on the sympathy of their allies and of all the neutrals as Belgium at the present time. (Applause.)

Not only was it a great cause now, but it was feared it would press very heavily for a long time to come. He could not remind them of the great wrong done to the Belgian nation by its invasion by hordes of Germans who could hardly describe in any other term in spite of their 'barbarous barbarians.' (Heav. boots.) They knew how homes had been destroyed, to say nothing of the Churches, Universities, and public buildings, who of whose whose were not required in the defense of the country who had been invited to find refuge in Holland, France and other countries. (Applause.)

In announcing that the collection would then be taken on behalf of the local Branch of the Belgian Relief Fund, Mr. Storer mentioned that 15 Belgium women were in Bognor and the district, and said that but for the regulations which the Government had thought it necessary to enforce they would have had many more.