CONSERVATORY CONCERT.

The orchestral concert given in Elder Hall last night was most successful, and the orchestra played considerable skill in the arrangement and execution of the programme. The string quartet of the pieces was first, and the concert consisted of a concert-pie with a complete movement of Beethoven's third symphony in a classic style. The orchestra responded to the conductor's interpretation with a good deal of effective tone at the same time, from this somewhat general criticism, we think Mr. R. E. Alderman was an excellent conductor. The string quartet was well arranged, and the whole balance of tone was good. The sections were well defined, and the strings and woodwinds, as well as the woodwinds and brass, were well balanced. The piece was well played, and the whole performance was excellent.

The programme consisted of four movements. The first movement was a slow movement, more like a slow dance, and was played by the strings only. The second movement was a quick movement, and was played by the woodwinds and brass. The third movement was a slow movement, and was played by the strings only. The fourth movement was a quick movement, and was played by the woodwinds and brass.

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The Register.
September 2nd 1914.
VII.—BOMBARDMENT.

[By W. Jethro Brown, LL.D., Litt. D.]

The subject of bombardment has a very direct interest for Australia in the present war. Her colonies and territories, with the exception of Australia itself, are ill defended or defended not at all. Although the British command of the seas is at present so well maintained as to render any immediate danger of raids on her coastal possessions improbable, we are not entitled to suppose that this happy condition of things will continue. We must be prepared for the possibility of an attack on one or other of our Australian ports. It is therefore desirable to inquire what is the nature of bombardment, for what purposes, bombardment of towns or ports is permissible.

—Hague Conferences of 1899 and 1907.

The more important rules relating to bombardment have been codified by the Hague Conferences. Article XXV, for example, states that bombardment is to be carried out only against defended towns, villages, or places of like importance, and that it is prohibited to destroy or seize enemy property, unless it is necessary to do so in order to secure the safety of the town or place. The latter article refers to public buildings, churches, hospitals, and places of interest. The Hague Conferences also prohibited the use of chemical or biological weapons in warfare, which are often used in modern conflicts.

Naval Bombardment.

The Ninth Convention of the Hague Conference of 1907 prohibits the naval bombardment of undefended towns, villages, or places of like importance. The Convention also prohibits the use of naval forces in the capture of undefended towns, villages, or places of like importance. The Convention further prohibits the use of naval forces in the capture of undefended towns, villages, or places of like importance, unless it is necessary to do so in order to secure the safety of the town or place. The Convention also prohibits the use of naval forces in the capture of undefended towns, villages, or places of like importance, unless it is necessary to do so in order to secure the safety of the town or place.
locality may be bombarded if the local authorities refuse to obey orders to evacuate regions of virtual or other property necessary for the actual wants of the forces before the locality. But the questions must be in proportion to resources of the locality; they must be reasonable and practical as far as possible; if not, the fact of furnishing such orders may be recorded by receipts. By Art. IV bombardment for non-payment of contributions in money is prohibited. By Art. VI a naval commander may not bomb until military exigencies do not permit it, and must give 24 hours' notice to warn the authorities before commencing a bombardment.

-Aerial Bombardment-

The general rules restraining bombardment of undefended places applies equally to aerial bombardment. A cable from Rotterdam, dated August 28, reports that the Ministers representing France and Belgium, on the principle of engagement the Belgian Foreign Minister, urged Antwerp, as a matter of justice, to comply with the violation by Germany of the terms of the Hague Convention of 1907, prohibiting the discharge of projectiles and explosives from balloons or other methods of a similar nature. But this declaration was only ratified by Great Britain and not by Austria-Hungary (of the eight Great Powers). The war between Great Britain and Germany neither will nor could be bound by it. The Institute of National Law, at its Oxford Conference of 1913, in its codification of the law relating to bombardment, is silent on aerial bombarding.

We may conclude that Germany was quite within her rights in using airships for the purpose of attack on Antwerp, whether with a view to destruction of the city itself or to the destruction of war material, deposits, arms, arsenals, &c. What international law may be said to forbid is the destruction of enemy's property save insofar as such destruction is imperatively demanded by the necessities of war. There have already occurred occasion to suggest, an elastic expression, as Oppenheim says, there is no legal duty compelling the attacking force to destroy fortifications only. On the contrary, destruction of material by bombardment has always been and is still considered lawful, as it is one of the means to impose upon the authorities the advisability of surrender.

When, in 1870, Germany bombarded Strassburg, nearly 3,000 out of a total of 5,150 were more or less injured, 1,700 civilians were killed or wounded, and 10,000 persons rendered homeless. The total damage to the city was estimated at 40,000,000. I have no reason to believe that the cable above referred to must relate to the grievance that Germany has used the city for the purpose of dropping bombs on Antwerp before giving notice of intention to bombard in accordance with these regulations that have already been prepared. Under all the circumstances of the case, we can understand with what apprehension the citizens of London, and other ports on the eastern coast of Great Britain, view the approach of Germany to the adjacent