



MR TERRIS.

Kelty and Blairadam Band.

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS.

The members, trustees, and friends of the above band met in the Co-operative Hall, Kelty, on Saturday, 11th Nov., to celebrate the jubilee of this well-known Fifeshire combination. Mr John M'Cabe, chairman of the trustees, occupied the chair. Among the friends present were Mr D. Tweedie, now resident in Glasgow, who promoted the band exactly fifty years ago; also Mr J. Ireland, Dalmeny, Mr Wm. Ireland, Mr James Terris, and Mr Robert Stewart, who became members within three years of the band's formation; also Mr Alexander, the genial secretary of the Scottish Association; Mr M'Bean, secretary, Fife Association; and Councillor M'Kenzie, Cupar. Letters of apology for their inability to attend were read from Mr Buchanan, chairman of the Scottish Association, and Mr J. O. Hume, the professional conductor.

In his opening remarks the Chairman spoke of the enthusiastic manner in which the old members and friends had joined them that night to celebrate this, their golden jubilee. On behalf of the band and trustees, he thanked them most sincerely for their attendance, and was sure everybody would benefit by their presence to-night. In conclusion, he hoped this social gathering would lead to good results, and draw the bond of friendship closer than ever it had been in the past. The musical part of the program was commenced with the band, whose rendering of the well-known national fantasia, "Tam o' Shanter," aroused much enthusiasm. Mr James Muir, the band secretary and solo euphonium, was the first vocalist, and his singing of "Mary" was delightful. Mr David Muir (one of the trustees) sang a song (specially written for this event) to the tune of "Hearts of Oak." This was certainly one of the good things of the evening. After this the toast of "The Veterans" was given by the Chairman, and had a right royal reception. Mr J. Ireland, Dalmeny, in replying, narrated how the formation of the band was brought about. A few of them canvassed the leading citizens for subscriptions to enable them to buy a few instruments. Others purchased their own, which showed the sacrifice and enthusiasm

displayed in those days, to enable them to start a band. After having done so much, each playing member contributed 1s 3d per week to pay for lessons from Mr Wallace, of Edinburgh. This was done at a time, too, when wages were only half what they are to-day. He (Mr Ireland) had followed the movements of the band since leaving the district, and was as interested in their welfare as when he was a playing member. He was a great believer in contests, but thought many improvements might be brought about in our methods of judging. The system of confining judges in boxes or tents should be abolished. In conclusion, he trusted he might yet be spared to see his old band reach the top of the ladder in Scotland.

Mr Wm. Ireland proposed the next toast, "Success to the Band." This was responded to by Mr C. Terris, bandmaster, who thanked him for the kind words and expressions contained therein. Out of seven contests attended, they had won three firsts, two thirds, and one fifth. The number of rehearsals since March 14th had been 104; the average attendance 22. This was extremely satisfactory, and reflected the highest credit on each member of the band. One member, he regretted, had been a long time in the Edinburgh Infirmary. The band were being nobly supported by the public, which was very encouraging, and they would do all in their power to retain the public sympathy and support in the future, as they had done in the past.



MR TWEEDIE.

After the Junior Band had played a short selection, Mr David Tweedie (the father of the band) sang "The Lea Rig." Although 75 years of age, a feeble and tottering old man, the expression and sentiment throughout the song was an object-lesson to every musician present. He received a great ovation, and had to respond with "The Emigrant's Dream." This was equally as impressive as his first song, and showed the artistic temperament of the old man in every word. When he concluded, the large assembly rose and gave three hearty cheers for the veteran.

Other songs followed from Mr John Ireland, Mr Wm. Ireland, and Mr Pratt.

An amusing minstrel entertainment by the band members created much amusement.

Mr James Terris, who gave the next toast, "The Trustees," was for thirty years a member of the band, and father of the present bandmaster.

Mr M'Cabe, replying on behalf of the trustees, said: "They had the welfare of the band at heart, and would do all they could to further their interests."

The S.A.B.B.A. was toasted by Mr Rennie. He was delighted to see Mr Alexander at their jubilee. Mr Alexander thanked them for their hospitality, and was delighted to be amongst them. He referred, in the course of his remarks, to their Junior Band, and requested the old members present to give them every encouragement, for sooner or later this would be the Kelty Band of the future.

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," the gathering dispersed. This is the most successful social function ever held under the auspices of Kelty Band, and will live in the memory of even the youngest member present.

The band have been selected to compete at the forthcoming contest between Scotland and England, and will do their utmost to show the Executive of the Scottish Association that the honour has not been misplaced.