

Grand

Pipe Organ

Concert,

1885.



Chas Clanchord

OUR LADY OF SORROWS ORGAN CELEBRATION

(All Optic items, unless otherwise specified.)

Article 1 - The Proposed Pipe Organ

02/21/1885

Within the past year the question has often been mooted by the citizens of Las Vegas of the desirability of procuring an organ for the Catholic church. Thus far but little progress has been made, as but few seemed willing to undertake the enormous task of canvassing the matter. The acquisition of a large organ is one of the first and greatest steps towards musical progress in Las Vegas, if not in New Mexico, as the grand pipe organ which is contemplated to be required will be the first of this kind in New Mexico. This grand pipe organ, manufactured by Marshall Brothers, the eminent organ builders of Milwaukee, was placed by them in the mercantile library hall of St. Louis, 4 years ago, and is comparatively new, as it has been used only a few times this year. The original cost of the organ was twelve thousand dollars and the brief description of it will show that it is the finest organ in America, except that in music hall, Boston.

It is composed of six different mechanical arrangements, comprising sixty-two stops, three manuals and a pedal of thirty notes, placing under the immediate control of a skillful organist the different departments of the organ, its resources being almost boundless, it having over 3000 pipes, from which numberless combinations may be formed, the pipes being voiced with a view to obtain that variety and individuality of timbre which give character and power to the instrument, combining that pleasing ensemble which tempers and unites all of the registers to a harmonious whole, thus approaching in effect a trained orchestra.

The organ stands thirty-five feet high, twenty-eight feet wide, and twelve feet deep. These dimensions are well adapted to the size of the Catholic church in Las Vegas, and will require but slight alterations in the church to place it in position.

As soon as the organ is in position, if bought, the trustees of the Catholic church will arrange for a grand organ concert, to which a reasonable admission fee will be charged. It is expected that such a concert, for which the best talent, choral and instrumental will be secured, besides the attraction of such an instrument, as this organ will produce, will undoubtedly draw a large crowd of people, and thus enable the management to pay the balance of the price of the organ. Judging by the generous offers already made by several citizens, about \$2,000 can be raised by subscriptions.

It now remains with our liberal-minded citizens how far they will encourage the enterprise which if successful, will be quite an attraction in New Mexico.

In order to facilitate the canvassing of the above named project, if people favoring the progress of music would forward their names with the amount they feel willing to subscribe at the earliest opportunity to Charles Blanchard, Las Vegas, N. M., the favor will be highly esteemed.

A receipt will be given to every person stating the amount placed in the bank, with the express condition that the money will be refunded should the scheme fail.

The list has already been headed by Hon. F. A. Manzanares with \$100.

The management is figuring on getting reduced rates from all points in the Territory for people wishing to attend the opening concert.

Article 2 - Transportation

02/28/1885

The pipe organ scheme is meeting with the very best encouragement abroad. The railroad company made the very liberal offer through the courtesy of Mr. Goddard to carry the large organ from Kansas City for \$75. Subscriptions are falling in from every quarter of the territory. Las Vegas has not been canvassed yet, except that some of the prominent citizens have signed the list with good round sums. If the citizens show their usual liberali-

ty towards this undertaking it will certainly be crowned with success. Strangers visiting New Mexico next summer will be agreeably suprised to find here what many populous eastern towns do not possess.

Easter Services

04/06/1885

Easter Sunday being one of the most important af all the festivals of the Catholic church, a reporter was sent to attend the services at the cathedral on the west side. He found the church crowded to its utmost capacity, not only by Catholics, but a large number of the best people from all denominations were present, and many had to be content with standing room. Rev. Father Coudert officiated, assisted by Fathers Rivera and Acorisini, of Springer, who preached eloquently in both Spanish and English. The music was especially beautiful. The quartet choir was composed of Mrs. E. P. Sampson, soprano; Mrs. Jacob Gross, alto; Mr. Louis Tetard, tenor; Mr. Charles Blanchafd, baso. Max Nordhaus, organist, with Prof. Boffa's full orchestra. The choir sang and orchestra played in perfect time and harmony. A difficult Paschal mass, the gems of the mass, were the solo Incarnaties, by Mrs. Sampson, and the Quoniam, by Charles Blanchard. The voices of Mrs. Sampson and Judge Blanchard were particularly remarked and they rendered some of the finest work ever heard within the walls of the grand old cathedral.

Article 3 - Heavenly Art in LV

05/20/1885

A critical reader of The Optic and a prominent mover in musical circles, to-day denied most cleverly the soft impeachment that there is a war of jealousy existing among the singers of the city. Las Vegas is by no means a backwoods town, but a cosmopolitan little city instead. We have in our midst ladies and gentlemen who are cultivated singers and musicians who have studied under the best masters. They have resided for years in the first cities of the land and have availed themselves of the repeated opportunities to listen to the best artists the world has produced. Such people as these we have in Las Vegas and such people as these are infinitely far above mere petty prejudices, neither are they ever known to attempt that which they cannot perform. There is in this liberal western country a lively and keen appreciation of the attainments of people, and even when people fail in the accomplishment of that which they set out to do, the veil of charity is quietly drawn in perhaps too many instances. Again be it said there is no war or bad feelings among the lovers of the heavenly art in Las Vegas. On the other hand, there is at present an awakening interest, occasioned in part, no doubt, by the contemplated purchase of the \$10,000 pipe organ for the Catholic church. People of every Christian demonination have responded liberally to the appeal for contributions. And through this awakening interest in musical circles we have an opera company of which Las Vegas will yet be prouder of tham now. And there will be other musical organizations here. They are already talked of and by persons who know what they are talking about. Some of the projectors may be only penny whistles and others eight-keyed flutes, but all are pulling together as one individual for the advancement of musical interests and all should have their proportionate credit for what is being done in this direction. And so it will certainly be at the outcome when the big book of public opinion is opened and read.

Etc.:

Chas. Blanchard, Pres., Las Vegas Philharmonic Society
--06/10/1885

Mrs. Chas. Blanchard, Pres., Mt. Carmel Society of Las Vegas
--07/17/1885

"The trustees of the Catholic church of Las Vegas are now a

Corporate body with Rev. J.M. Coudert as president; C. Blanchard, secretary and treasurer. The other directors are Demetrio Perez, F. A. Manzanares and Fred Desmarais." --07/30/1885

"Father [Jose Romulo] Rivera's raffle for the safe, half of the proceeds to be devoted to the organ fund for the Catholic church, will positively come off at the Plaza Hotel this evening at 8 o'clock sharp. Let all holding chances in the raffle be on hand promptly at the hour designated." --09/08/1885

Article 4 - Concert plans 09/19/1885

The grand concert that is to take place in the Catholic church about the 23d of October, will climax anything ever given in New Mexico, there will be at least one thousand tickets sold. The concert is under the management of Judge Blanchard with I. N. Donaldson musical director, Prof. Boffa, leader of orchestra and Prof. Miller organist.

Article 5 - Rehearsal postponed 09/24/1885

All the singers who are to participate in the grand organ concert which takes place in the cathedral on the evening of October 22d, are requested to meet at the academy hall tomorrow evening at half past seven o'clock. The rehearsal set for this evening, through the courtesy of Judge Blanchard, has been postponed on account of the meeting of the Woman's Christian Temperance union at the Baptist church.

Article 6 - New Mexican article 09/26/1885

The large pipe organ bought for the Catholic church in Las Vegas, was shipped from St. Louis on the 26th instant, and should reach its destination by the 6th of October. The cost of this instrument is \$7,000. It is fifty-eight feet high, twenty-two feet wide, and twelve feet deep. and the bellows will be run by water motor. A grand concert to take place Oct. 22, has been arranged. A choir of thirty voices is now being trained by Prof. Donaldson for the occasion, and an orchestra of sixty pieces will accompany the chorus. The program is varied and said to be a brilliant one. At the concert will be present Archbishop Salpointe of Santa Fe, who will preside at the imposing ceremony of blessing the organ. An able lecture on music will also be delivered by Rev. Father De Fouri of Santa Fe, in the English language. Tickets for the concert are just out, each ticket bears a true portrait of the organ. One dollar is really cheap admission to such an extraordinary entertainment. Mr. Louis E. Alarid, of this city, has tickets for the grand concert. Call and buy one and encourage the musical and educational interests of New Mexico.

Article 7 - Rehearsals 10/01/1885

Rehearsals for the approaching grand organ concert in the Catholic church are being held two or three times a week, and we can safely premise our readers the richest musical treat ever given in Las Vegas. The best talent in the city has been enlisted and all take a lively interest in the affair. The big organ is now in transit from St. Louis and is expected to arrive here on the 5th instant.

Article 8 - Arrival of organ in Las Vegas 10/10/1885

The magnificent large pipe organ ordered from the St. Louis Mechanic Institute for the west side cathedral arrived in the city this morning and will be moved to the church on Monday, when workmen will begin placing it in position. The total weight of

the organ is 22,000 pounds, which will give the reader an idea of its immense proportions. It will be placed in position at the front balcony in the cathedral as promptly as possible and efforts will be made to have everything in complete readiness for the grand organ concert on the 22d inst.

Article 9 - Organ transferred to Old Town 10/13/1885

The big pipe organ has been transferred to the west side cathedral. The grand organ concert set for the 22d inst., will have to be postponed a couple of weeks because the workmen find it impossible to get the big machine planted in place by that date.

Article 10 - Rehearsals 10/17/1885

The approaching organ concert at the west side parish church will top any musical entertainment ever held in the southwest. Rehearsals are being held regularly and our best talent has taken an active interest in the concert.

Article 11 - Organ soon in position 10/27/1885

The mammoth pipe organ will soon be in position at the cathedral, and in a few days the date of postponement will be announced for the grand concert. Judge Blanchard says the next rehearsal will take place at the church with the new organ. The choir is now in splendid trim, and a great success is assured.

Article 12 - Organ in place 10/30/1885

The big pipe organ, which weighs eleven tons and cost an even four thousand dollars, is being placed in position as rapidly as possible at the Catholic church on the west side. A large force of men is now employed in the work of erection, which will require at least two more weeks and then another week will be set apart for toning the five thousand pipes belonging to the mammoth and costly instrument. The auditorium has been supplied with new, handsome and comfortable pews and the same have been provided with locks and keys. Seats will be reserved for the grand concert, after which the pews will be rented to those desiring them.

Article 13 - The Date Not Yet Fixed 11/09/1885

A) The date has not yet been fixed for the grand organ concert.

B) To the Editor of the Optic

The postponement of the pipe organ concert as published this morning and definitely set for the 19th inst., is without authority whatever. It would be unjust, I should say devoid of common decency towards the hose boys who have advertised their annual ball for that evening, and without making proper arrangements with them. The date of the concert will be made known one week in advance and that will be very soon now.

Truly Yours,

Las Vegas, November 9th

Charles Blanchard

Article 14 - Rehearsal & Specifications 11/21/1885

A) Another rehearsal for the organ concert will be held at the Catholic church tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock.

B) The Immense Instrument

The new grand pipe organ for the Catholic church is now finished and in position. This instrument is the only one of the

kind in the Territory, and is, with few exceptions, the largest west of St. Louis. The builder, Mr. George H. Kilgan, of St. Louis, who, with his son, has been in our city the past four weeks, furnished us with the following descriptions of this magnificent instrument:

The case is thirty feet in height, twenty feet in width, with a depth of fourteen feet from keyboard to back. It is gothic in style with center surmounted with a cross made of cherry and elaborately finished. The organ consists of two manuals, great and small, with pedal. In the great organ there are 11 stops, swell 13, with 3 in pedal, 5 mechanical. It is also provided with the pneumatic ff and pp in both small and great. Patent reversible complex and also tremulant reversible pedal, together with the balance swell pedal and one for water motor.

SPECIFICATIONS OF THE ORGAN

Great organ	
Feet	Pipes
16 Double Open Diapson	58
8 Open Diapson	58
8 Dulciana	58
8 Viol D'Gamba	58
8 Melodia	58
4 Flute D'Amour	58
4 Octave	58
3 Twelfth	58
3 Rank Mixture	174
8 Trumpet	58
Swell Organ	
16 Bourdon Bass	58
16 Bourdon	58
8 Open Diapson	58
8 Viola	58
8 Stopped Diapson	58
8 Quintedana	58
4 Violina	58
4 Flute Traverso	58
2 Flutina	58
5 Rank Cornet	174
8 Cornopean	58
8 Bassoon	58
8 Oboe	
Pedal Organ	
16 Grand Double Open Diapson	27
16 Bourdon	27
8 Violoncello	27

Mechanical Stop

Manual Coupler, Swell to Great; Pedal Coupler, Swell to Pedal; Pedal Coupler, Great to Pedal; Vox Menualo

Bellows

4 Pneumatic Pleton over keps F F and P P to Great and P P and F F to Swell Organ. Pneumatic lever is used on key action making the thread as light as a piano.

4 Pedal movements

1 Reversal Pedal to operate Great to Pedal coupler

2 Revesal Pedal to operate Tremulo to Swell coupler

3 Balance Swell Pedal

4 Motor Pedal

The bellows are filled by John Coates, of Erie, Penn., "Little Giant water motor," which performs its work to the complete satisfaction of both builder and purchasers. The voicing is of unexceptional character; much time having been spent upon this portion of the work. Mr. Kilgen says it will compare with the instrument built by him and placed in the cathedral at San Antonio, Texas, in 1884, and which is said to be the largest and finest in the southwest. Our citizens have cause to be proud of their acquisition while the builder can congratulate himself upon

having placed such an instrument in the midst of a music-loving and appreciative people.

At the concert which takes place on Monday evening, the public will be enabled to ascertain its merits. Prof. Miller, the organist, having taken every opportunity during the erection of the instrument to prepare himself with a full understanding of its merits.

Article 15 - Tickets, Rehearsals, etc. 11/23/1885

A) It is expected that one thousand tickets will be sold for the grand organ concert at the west side Catholic church this evening. You cannot afford to miss hearing the fine musical program that will be rendered.

B) Yesterday's and to-day's rehearsals for the grand organ concert in the west side Catholic church, this evening, were satisfactory in every particular and a great and rare musical treat is in store for all who attend the entertainment.

C) Rev. D. H. De Fouri arrived in the city from Santa Fe this morning and will deliver an address at the big organ concert in the west side parish church this evening.

Article 16 - Praise of Judge Blanchard 11/24/1885

It is not going to far to say that such music as was listened to with marked attention at the Catholic church in Las Vegas last evening, has never before been rendered in the southwest, nor is it probable that we shall have such a musical treat here again very soon. The mammoth pipe organ, which has frequently been spoken of in the columns of The Optic, is a credit to the Catholic church in this city and to the Territory of New Mexico. Too much praise cannot be awarded Judge Blanchard of this city, mainly through whose individual and persistent efforts the big instrument was obtained.

Article 17 - The Concert 11/24/1885

The Pipe Organ Concert

About six months ago, Judge Charles Blanchard, while on a business trip to St. Louis and seeing there a pipe organ that met his fancy, conceived the idea of procuring a big instrument of the kind for the Catholic church of this city, he being a prominent member of the same. The instrument was consequently bargained for and was to have been in operation by the 21st of October; however owing to some unforeseen and unavoidable occurrences, the erection of the organ was delayed one month. The great organ concert was then necessarily postponed from the date fixed, October 22nd, until last evening, when it occurred and was just what everybody anticipated it would be--one of the finest and grandest musical entertainments given in the city.

First occurred the rare and impressive ceremony of consecrating the organ to the worship of Almighty God, which was done by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Malchoeuf, of Denver, assisted by numerous clergy and leading members of the west side parish church. Following the dedicatory exercises came an able and timely address by Rev. Father De Fouri of Santa Fe.

The concert was under the management of Judge Charles Blanchard, assisted by Prof. I. N. Donaldson, musical director; Prof. Mitter, organist; Prof. D. Boffa, leader together with the following vocal talent: Mrs. E. P. Sampson, Mrs. R. Studebaker, the Misses Hume, Miss Cavanaugh, Miss Josie Hubbell, Miss Tetard and Messrs. Browne, Ponder, Hoffmeister and Le Duc. All members of this most excellent choir acquitted themselves nobly in all parts they had to perform and are indeed to be heartily congratulated upon their success. Paucity of space alone prevents us from paying the glowing compliment that each one deserves.

At the conclusion of the concert a grand reception was

tendered a few invited guests at the residence of Rev. Father Coudert. It was a recherche affair and the toasts of the evening certainly caused Judge Blanchard to blush, although he deserved every word of praise that was said in honor of the completion of the great work he set out to accomplish.

Article 18 - Fr. DeFouri's speech

11/30/1885

Music in Catholic Worship

The address of Rev. Father DeFouri, of Santa Fe, delivered at the concecration of the new Pipe Organ in Las Vegas

Rev. Fathers, Ladies and Gentlemen:

In the very dawn of the world men fell from God by means of his senses. He preferred the pleasures of sense and sensible things to God's holy law; and when Almighty God punished man for his sin, depriving him of original grace and innocence, the curse fell largely upon those very senses which rebelled against reason, thus becoming man's greatest obstacle and curse, leading him away from service, and even the knowledge of the true God, and plunging him into every abyss of crime and error. Man's sense was changed. The eye of unfallen man was pure, "and they were both marked," says holy scripture, to wit: "Adam and his wife," and were not ashamed. He looked upon the face of God and conversed with him. The ear of unfallen man rejoiced at hearing the voice of God, and listened with rapture to the harmonious music of angels in the groves of Eden, but after his fall, he said to the Lord: "I heard thy voice and I was afraid." Man's senses became the great open wounds through which his soul was destroyed and his true life taken away. But when the Lord Jesus came -- the good Samaritan -- He poured the oil and wine of his grace into man's soul through those very senses. He applied himself to the wounds of man, and, therefore, faith, which is the root of justification comes by hearing; and sacramental grace, by which alone we can be saved, is infused into the soul by the external agency of sensible things. The very nature of man requires this, for such is the intimate moral union of soul and body in man, that is impossible to reach the soul save through the senses of the body. If you wish to influence the mind of man and touch his heart, either for good or evil, you must appeal to his bodily senses. God himself respects his own divine disposition in this regard, making the senses the ordinary channels of his highest graces; and the church of God, the only true interpreter of his will, whose mission it is to raise fallen man up to God, to purify and to preserve his soul, and to make him perfect by charity, makes use of every thing that strikes and captivates the senses, in order thereby to reach man's soul, to touch his heart, and offer to God the homage of the entire creature; as well of the body as of the soul. This will explain why the Catholic church uses so much of external grandeur in her ceremonies. The lights and ornaments of the altar, the vestments of the priests, the smoke of incense, the pealing notes of the organ, the lofty dome, the graceful arch, the picture and the statues-- all these things are intended by the church as means whereby to reach the hearts and souls of her children, by instructing, ennobling, touching and captivating their senses. Now the mission of the church in this world is to win man to God. In order to do this she must take him as he is, she must turn to God all the powers of his soul, all the affections of his heart, and therefore she seizes upon all that is beautiful in this world, and makes it subservient to this great end. Hence the fine arts have always found their most generous protection, as they found their highest inspiration, in the Catholic church. Among the fine arts there is one which God seems to have consecrated in a particular manner to the services of the sanctuary, and which may be said to be especially the child of the church-- and this is music. Thus we read that when King David brought the ark of God to the city of Sion, he spoke to the chiefs of the Levites to appoint some of their brethren to be singers with musical instruments, to wit: psalteries, harps and cymbals, that

the joyful noise might resound on high. And again, when Solomon consecrated the temple, we are told how the Levites, and their sons and brethren, sounded with cymbals and psalteries, and harps, and with them one hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets, so when they all sounded together, both with trumpets and voice, and cymbals and organs, and diverse kinds of instruments, and lifted their voice on high, the sound was heard afar off, so that when they began to praise the Lord and to say give "glory to the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endureth for ever," the house of God was filled with a cloud. And so for succeeding ages the sound of cymbal and organ was heard in the great temple of Jerusalem. But when temple and nation was alike and destroyed, and the sorrowful Jeremias wept over their ruin, this was the burthen of his song: "the ancients have ceased from the gates, the young men from the choir of the singers; therefore are our hearts sorrowful, therefore are our eyes become dim." And when the church, the great civilizer of the world, came to build up society and restore civilization upon the relics of the times and things which had passed away, she found among the ruins of the societies masterpieces of paintings, sculpture and architecture, but of their music they have left us nothing, save a dim and obscure tradition. But as music is pre-eminently the science of the soul, christainity, which opened to man's soul its proper object, thereby exalting and enlarging the soul, soon awoke the inspiration of music, and in the dim catacombs strains were heard which ravished with delight even pagan ears, for whilst organs pealed, Cecilia's angelic voice was heard, and they sang to the Lord a new canticle, and his praise was in the church of the saints. And when persecutions has ceased, and church had come forth from the catacombs to spread herself over the earth, new forms of beauty appeared in all the arts, and christain music was so sweet as to penetrate, as St. Augustin relates of himself, the hearts, and move the souls of its hearers. But a great revolution was at hand, millions of barbarians swept down from the North of Europe and Asia, destroying all before them. They swept away the last vestiges of ancient paganism and ancient civilization, and there was only one to resist them and finally to absorb them into itself, and that was the christain church, which converted and civilized them.

In those days of ruin and calamity. The arts and sciences, as well as ancient literature, were saved by the church--they took refuge in her bosom, and for a thousand years they found a home in her cloisters. Then the painter and the scientist and the musician, as well as the profound scholar and man of letters, were all centered in the monk. Then did Pope Gregory, himself a monk, produced those plaintive, yet majestic chants, which bear his name, then did the loud hosannas, roll through the long drawn isles which the architect brothers had built. And the full tide of sacred song swelled through those wonderful medieval churches and cloisters whose very vivid ruins still command our admiration, and move us to tears. And there the tired crusader, exhausted after his Eastern wars, would refresh his soul with holy song, and at the midnight hour would come the proud fierce baron to matins, and there harken to the tender notes of the organ so skillfully touched by the hand of the Benedictine, 'till in the very depths of his soul, he would be moved to the humility of christain sorrow, and the heroism of christain forgiveness. Thus far music in the hands of the church was turned to the highest and holiest end. But when in the sixteenth century the heretical spirit of the age encroached upon the domain of the church, the noble science was also debased, and directed to other and inferior purposes. Its developments were all for the world, and not for God. The cymbal and harp were no longer used only to kindle in man's soul high and holy emotions; the sweetness of the human voice sang no longer exclusively of God; the music of earth ceased to be the echo of the harmony of heaven, and was penetrated with the curse--wherewith the world was cursed.

But, amid all this evil, there is one musical instrument which remained faithful to its grand calling nor lent itself to the frivolities of the world--and that is the organ.

Of all other instruments, the organ was (if I may use the phrase) born in the church and for church purposes; and from its

very formation and the solemnity of its beauty, the world has not been able to tear it from the sanctuary. It disdains to lend itself to the worlds light polish purposes; its voice is not heard in the gilded theater, nor bright saloon, but its grand, inspiring notes mingle now, as of old, with the prayer and the sacrifice and our borne up toward heaven with the smoke of incense and the aspirations of religious love.

And, as music, more than any other visible thing, touches the heart and inspires and raises up the soul, the organ is a most necessary and indispensable appendage to the Catholic Church, for the great object of Catholic worship is to absorb the entire man, body and soul, mind and affections, and to bring him into the presence of God.

Jesus Christ is really and corporally present and therefore, we prostrate, not only our minds but also our bodies before Him. Then the great organ, so varied yet so harmonious, is symbolical of the majestic body of Christ--that is, the faithful. The organ is made up of a multitude of different notes, or pipes and stops, each varying one with another, yet all blending into one sweet and solemn harmony, and so the Catholic congregation is made up of a multitude of Christians, differing each from the other in thoughts, in tastes, in condition of life; in their views and worldly aspirations; in age; in manners; yet from all these varied elements there arises one solemn act of worship, as they blend together in the union of faith and in the unanimous voice of praise. They enter the church bringing their worldly cares and distractions with them. The young filled with the thoughts of the vanities with which they are surrounded, and which appear to them so true and pleasing; the old, groaning under their infirmities, and absorbed in themselves; the rich, with thoughts perhaps of ambition or how they may acquire still more; the poor, with discontented hearts and impatient reflections on their daily wants; and so they kneel before the altar.

But, hearken! The music is heard, and the soft, high notes of the organ float in the air like the breathing of angels, and steal into the distracted ears and hearts of those around, powerfully yet almost insensibly, gathering in their wandering thoughts; and the music swells, and increasing in its strength, fills the holy house until the very air trembles, and men's hearts beat quicker and heads are bent down, and tears flow, and hearts and souls are moved; and cares and distractions and miseries are forgotten, and the organ has done its work well, for now all our absorbed in the presence of the living God. In all this I have not exaggerated the power of instrumental music as a means for moving the soul and bringing it to the presence of God, for there is a strange and powerful connection between the human soul and music. As the soul is a spirit, and music, of all the beauties or pleasures of sense, approaches the nearest to the condition of pure spirit, it may be said to be the language of the soul--it is soonest and most understood by the soul--it calms the troubled soul, soothing its peace and enhancing its joy.

And surely does not the soul, as it came from the hand of God, resemble a beautiful musical instrument? Did not God breathe upon it that it might return to him here a continual hymn of praise until its voice shall be united in heaven to that of the angels?

Oh! The scriptures and the holy fathers love to describe the kingdom of heaven as the mansion of everlasting harmony and song of Joy, where the souls of the virgins "sing a new canticle to the lamb," where the souls of the just made perfect ever sing: Holy, holy, holy to the Lord God of Sabaoth! I have in my memory a witness of this music. It is John, the beloved disciple relegated, in the island of Patmos. He is carried in a vision to the highest heavens and there he beholds, etc., etc. Sing on, therefore, O thou grand organ, sing the praises of the Lord; thou art the voice by which the ever worthy pastor of this church, with his zealous choir, and his no less worthy people, send up the incense of their music to the throne of the Most High; thou art the expression of their love of God and his Holy Church. Oh! peal forth their hosannas and bring the showers of divine dew upon both priest and people; mingle thy notes with those of the

angels of Bethlehem; Glory to God on high and peace, etc., so that after that God-given peace upon earth, all may enjoy the eternal reward in those admirable mansions which the hands of God himself has prepared for His elect. AMEN.

Article 19 - Judge Blanchard, organist 12/07/1885

Judge Blanchard presided at the pipe organ at vesper services in the Catholic church yesterday afternoon. The big instrument responded obediently to the touch of Judge Blanchard's scientific fingers.

Article 20 - Obituary, Charles Blanchard 05/07/1914

Charles Blanchard Died Last Night

Was a pioneer resident of New Mexico and an early day freighter

Last night at 9:05 o'clock, Charles Blanchard, one of the oldest pioneers of this city and widely known over the entire state, died after an illness of practically two years. The last four months of his illness were discouraging to his hopes for recovery. Mr. Blanchard was 72 years of age.

In 1864, Charles Blanchard traveled from St. Mark, Quebec, Canada, to New Mexico and took up a residence in this city, then hardly a village, from that time on, Mr. Blanchard continued his residence here and was engaged in business that brought him in touch with men all over the state, many of whom survive him and now mourn his death.

Mr. Blanchard was born in St. Mark, January 1, 1842. His younger days were spent there, and at the age of 21 years he started for the southwest. Following his location here he was engaged in a freighting and overland express business, then the only means of transportation in this part of the United States. Shortly afterwards he became interested in the mercantile business and later the owner of extensive interests in different parts of New Mexico.

Mr. Blanchard made and lost several fortunes during his life. He was prominent in politics and held a position as probate judge and later as a member of the board of county commissioners of this county.

Mr. Blanchard was married in 1871 to Miss Margaret Des Marais, a sister of Dr. M. F. Des Marais in this city. Besides his wife he is survived by a daughter, Mrs. George J. Hermann of this city, two sons, Frank Blanchard, of Colton, Calif., and Charles Blanchard Jr., of Walsenburg, Colo., a brother, E. Blanchard of St. Mark, Canada, and a nephew Napoleon Fontaine of this city.

Pending information from relatives, no funeral arrangements have been announced.

Research by JULIÁN JOSUÉ VIGIL, Ph.D.
Manuscript by PAUL H. LUJÁN
Concert ticket and Blanchard photograph
supplied by CHARLES I. HERMANN



D. A. Manzana

ADMIT BEARER.

TO THE

Grand Pipe Organ Concert,

TO TAKE PLACE AT THE

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LAS VEGAS,

Thursday Evening, October 22, 1885.

DOORS WILL OPEN AT 7 O'CLOCK,

CONCERT TO COMMENCE AT 7:30 O'CLOCK.

All Tickets should be Signed

Chas Clambord
Sec'y Board of Trustees.

SHOULD POSTPONEMENT BECOME NECESSARY DUE NOTICE WILL BE GIVEN.

