

as the waves overwhelmed the bewitched sailor who listened to the voice of the charmer." Without doubt this ancient theory is true and so long as it is confined to "false and sensuous music," it can readily be accepted; but the condemnation of the class of men just mentioned is not confined. They maintain that all music, because it arouses the emotions to a high pitch, is liable to result in wrong. To be sure a man who has been cherishing murder in his heart might be spurred on to the evil deed by music, but should we condemn the art for that reason? I cannot think so; it is an extreme case and such extremes will always exist. Music is just as likely to calm evil meditations as to arouse them and in my opinion good music, rightly interpreted, need not be feared by anyone.

The Bible and the whole history of the church would seem to substantiate this belief. Since early times music has grown up side by side with religious faith, at every outburst of renewed fervor, there has been an accompanying outburst of song. The Psalms are full of commands to bring the harp, the trumpet, the psaltery, and every kind of instrument in order to praise the Lord in song. In another place in Samuel we read, "And it came to pass when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp and played with his hand. So Saul was refreshed and the evil spirit departed from him." Thus we see that the opinion of there being virtue in music is not of recent origin. Later on there grew up the great body of hymns which have made our church services so much more beautiful; and indeed, it is said, that they intensify the emotions and prepare for the reception of the accompanying moral teaching or sermon. Today in foreign lands missionaries often find the sway of harmony potent where all else fails.

But even should we leave out of our consideration all of these manifestations of the elevating influence of music we could still fall back upon the teachings of psychology as an even safer basis for conclusion. We are told there that the power of music is over the feelings, that feeling is the