

PROFESSOR MAX SPRINGER,
Organist of the Royal Abbey of Emaus, Prague, Austria.

Dear Sir :

I am happy to inform you that the Holy Father has been pleased to accept the dedication of your work, entitled "The Art of Accompanying Plain Chant" (*"Die Kunst der Choralbegleitung"*). Pius X. in sending you his blessing is pleased to observe how completely you have entered into his ideas regarding the revival of Gregorian Chant.

Allow me to add my felicitations to those of the Sovereign Pontiff.

A hasty glance into your beautiful work convinced me that it is not an ordinary manual, but rather a solid treatise from the standpoint both of science and art.

I gave special attention to, and derived particular pleasure from, that part of your work which treats of the accompaniment of the Gregorian Chant.

Not long since in the preface of Abbe Moreau's "Practical Manual of Gregorian Chant" I wrote as follows: *The accompaniment must correspond exactly to the Gregorian tonality, a tonality which, besides its general character, carries a peculiar physiognomy that varies with each mode.*—This thought I find developed in your book with rare competence of judgment and delicacy of esthetic perception.

Let me also add my approval of the moderation with which you treat the Theory of Gregorian Rhythm and its graphical expression.

You have happily avoided certain unimportant and subtle questions, which, since they are often arbitrary and sometimes even false, are, in my opinion, the more dangerous as they open the way on the one side to exaggeration and on the other to error, either of which is as dangerous as the other.

I have the best hopes that your excellent work may be translated into many languages and find the widest circulation in those countries which have at heart the revival of liturgical chant.

Repeating once more my good wishes and the expression of my sincerest regard, I am,

Yours truly,

DOM LAWRENCE JANSSENS, O. S. B.,
Rector of St. Anselm's College at Rome,
Member of the Papal Commission for the *Editio Vaticana*.

ROME, Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul, 1906.

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