

RACHMANINOFF'S VISIT.

GREAT RUSSIAN COMPOSER- PIANIST IN NOTTINGHAM.

SUPERB BEETHOVEN SONATA.

The fine series of Nottingham Charity Subscription Concerts came to a brilliant close for the present season last night, when Sergei Rachmaninoff, the eminent Russian composer-pianist, played in the Albert Hall. Once again a "capacity" audience was seen, even the window ledges holding their quota of eager listeners.

The chief feature of the programme was the Beethoven Sonata in D minor, Op. 31, No. 2, one of the Bonn composer's greatest achievements in the field of sonata. Rachmaninoff gave the Sonata the thoughtful and interpretative rendering that the music calls for, and his playing of the adagio in particular realised all the delicate fascination of the subject.

CHOPIN GROUP.

Following Beethoven, Rachmaninoff demonstrated his eclectic style by some great playing in a group of Chopin pieces, commencing with the Polonaise in C minor. The group was completed by the Impromptu in A flat and the Scherzo in C sharp minor, which is one of the Majorca works and is dedicated to Gutmann, whose striking personality is indicated by a chord in the sixth bar.

The eminent composer-pianist was represented in the programme by three of his six Etudes-Tableaux, delightful pieces entirely typical of Rachmaninoff's genius, and consummately played. Then there were examples of Liszt—the Abbé's own Sonetto del Petrarca in E major and two transcriptions, the "Spinning Song" from Wagner's "Flying Dutchman," and the Paganini Etude in E major.

Tall, austere, and dignified, Rachmaninoff gravely acknowledged the enthusiasm with which he was greeted, and, obviously pleased at his reception, conceded several extra pieces, among which, it almost goes without saying, was the famous Prelude, vociferously called for by the audience.

The concert was directed by Mr. A. M. Foulds for the Nottingham Furnishing Company.