

RACHMANINOFF.

Russian Pianist's Liverpool Concert.

The Rachmaninoff recital drew a large audience to the Philharmonic on Saturday afternoon, including a numerous contingent of devotees of the C sharp minor Prelude, which by this time has, like Lemare's "Andantino," become anathema to its author.

Although specially announced as an "extra," it was not reached until the end of the programme, when, after an exhausting performance of Liszt's difficult "Rhapsodie Espagnole," the pianist, like a weary Titan, returned to the platform and gave us what must be presumed to be an authoritative reading of the famous piece, the principal theme of which, be it said, is reminiscent of Grieg.

The high-water mark of the concert, however, was reached during the Chopin B flat minor Sonata, which was handled with great skill and convincing judgment. His version of that composer's Fantasia in F minor was also a noteworthy effort.

There is no doubt that Rachmaninoff is a musician of the first order, and has few rivals in the domain of the piano.

The local arrangements were in the hands of Messrs. Rushworth and Dreaper.

W. J. B.