Contents

List of illustrations page xi
Preface xiii

PART 1 THE BEGINNINGS

Introduction 3
1 The Crystal Palace at Hyde Park 7
2 The Crystal Palace at Sydenham 11

PART 2 THE CHORAL LIFE

3 The Handel Festivals, 1857–1926 27
4 Other large-scale choral performances 58

PART 3 AUGUST MANNS AND THE SATURDAY CONCERTS, 1855–1900

5 The concerts, orchestra and conductor 67
6 Programmes, performers, repertory, programme notes 82
7 The Crystal Palace and its audience 117

PART 4 OTHER ORCHESTRAL, VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL CONCERTS

8 After Manns: the Crystal Palace amateur orchestra and choir 127
9 Popular concerts 133
Table of Contents

Contents

10 Solo instrumental music 144

PART 5 THE BROADER EDUCATIONAL DIMENSION

11 Exhibitions; the School of Art, Science and Literature; the Theatre 161

12 The great popular festivals 181

APPENDICES

1 The Handel Festivals selection day programmes and repertory, 1857–1923 215

2 Personnel of the Saturday Orchestra 218

3 (a) Works by non-British composers given first British performances in the Saturday concerts of the Crystal Palace 222

(b) Works by British composers given first performances in the Saturday concerts of the Crystal Palace 227

4 Staged works with music performed in the theatre 231

5 The Brass Band championships 237

Notes 239

Bibliography 264

Index 268