## Chappell's Army Journal. NO 399.

## CONDUCTOR.

## A FAUST OVERTURE.

Arranged for Military Band by DAN GODFREY. HON. R.A.M.

Music by RICHARD WAGNER.

Wagner wrote seven Concert Overtures, irrespective of the Preludes to his Operas and Music Dramas. Out of this number, the Faust Overture, is the only one that the musical world generally is acquainted with. The first score of this superb work was finished on February 4th, 1840. It occurred to the composer's mind, after a rehearsal of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony at the Conservatoire, Paris. The composer was then 26 years of age. The original idea was to write a Faust Symphony, of which this was to be the first movement. It was given a trial performance at Dresden on July 22nd, 1844, and was then laid aside until 1855, when it was published as we now know it. In construction and orchestration, the overture is a masterpiece. The influence of Beethoven can be traced in the clearness and direct manner in which the themes are set forth, but it is none the less true Wagner work, and is stamped with the master's individuality, and marks the real point where he left all thoughts of the "old order of things" behind him, and started to open up that vast, boundless field of intellectual art which he did alone and without once turning back and upon whose granite hewn path the whole army of modern musicians have trodden, and followed in his footsteps.





















