

Literature and Art.

SIR GARNET WOLSELEY is writing a life of MARLBOROUGH.

KINGLAKE, of Crimean fame, is suffering from bronchitis, and has gone to the continent.

LORD DERBY has protested against the publication of his father's memoirs by his brother.

The Russian Government has given permission for the publication of the correspondence of PETER the Great.

Nuremberg is growing so rapidly that the destruction of her interesting, many-towered old wall has been decided upon.

ARCHIBALD FORBES, the correspondent, announces an article criticising Lord CHELMSFORD's conduct during the Zulu war.

Mr. PEHRAULT's new monthly the *Colonial Emancipator* is out. In appearance it resembles the *Bystander* though not in literary merit.

Macmillan is to have a highly sensational article for February. King CETYWAYO is to publish an "Apologia pro Vitasua," interspersed with running comments on the Zulu war.

The "Tablette" photograph, designed and introduced by the distinguished firm of NOTMAN & FRASER, is very much admired. Some exceedingly beautiful specimens may be seen at their studio on King St.

The London Society of Painters in Water Colors has lately announced, in its last catalogue, that there are no vacancies for lady members, which has made quite a stir in London art circles, for ladies up to this time have been sparingly elected.

A special meeting of the Society of Painters in Water-colors has been called by Sir JOHN GILBERT, R.A., to memorialize the Italian Minister of Public Works in regard to the proposed restoration of the facade of St. Mark's, in Venice.

A fine collection of original drawings of JOHN LEECH has been purchased by subscription for the Charterhouse, the school at which LEECH spent his early years. The drawings are now arranged and exhibited in the library at the Charterhouse.

The *Spectator* says of the Princess LOUISE's contributions to the Water Color Exhibition, "that people will think them very able, for a princess," and that "some of the sketches are more fitted for a young lady's album than exhibition in a London gallery."

A gentleman writes us to know if we will accept a series of articles "pitching into" the management of the Canadian Academy of Art. As the Academy is scarcely yet in existence we think it hardly generous to attack its management—at least until something objectionable has been done.

The two child-songs, by ALFRED TENNYSON, written especially for *St. Nicholas*, appear in the February issue. Both songs have been set to music under Mr. TENNYSON's supervision, and one of the musical accompaniments forwarded by him will also be given in the same number.

The Berlin National Museum has lately been enriched by what is said to be the largest modern group of sculpture known. It is a "Prometheus" group, modeled out of one block of Carrara marble weighing three hundredweight, and has been executed by Professor GUSTAV MULLER, of Coburg, a sculptor long resident at Rome.

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Stage Whispers.

A local juvenile comic opera troupe gave performances of *Pinafore* at St. Andrew's Hall this week.

Mr. J. C. CONNER has resigned the business management of the Royal Opera House of this city. He will be succeeded by Mr. LUCIEN BARNES, late of BARNES' *Revellers*.

REMENTY, the violinist, was greeted by a large audience who enjoyed his performance beyond all expression. It is not likely that the negotiations with JOSEFFY will eventuate in the appearance of that wonderful artist before the Toronto public.

The "Commercial Travellers" is a new organization on the plan of the "Tourists." M. V. LANGHAM is to be the leading man, and the company includes WM. DAVIDGE, Jr., CORA DANIELS, and others. The first date is set for Wilmington, Del., Jan. 19.

Mme. NILSSON's debut at Madrid in "Faust," on Dec. 4, was one of the greatest triumphs of her career. After the garden scene she was re-called three times, also at the end of each following act, their Majesties joining in the applause, which at certain moments was almost frantic.

MINNIE PALMER with her comedy company occupies the stage of the Royal at present. The piece, which is called *The Boarding School*, abounds in humor and music and proves a good attraction. Mr. WM. J. SCANLON the well known Irish comedian plays the leading male part.

Queen VICTORIA is very fond of the drama, and Mrs. DAVENPORT says the profession is indebted to her for a valuable idea—that of turning the lights of the audience down during the acts, and up between them. The advantage was so obvious, and royalty having suggested it, it at once became the rule.

As an evangelist DAN RICE shows the same appreciation of the value of advertising that he did when he led a circus-van. On his letter headings is a circus clown gaudily pictured on a skeleton horse, with these words in red, "DAN RICE's New Departure—A Jump from the Ring to the Rostrum."

JOHN E. McDONOUGH, the veteran actor, has been interviewed by a Pittsburgh paper. He claims to have brought LOTTA out in 1858, finding her in a third story room of a San Francisco boarding house picking a banjo. He says that she had previously attempted to play in New York, but failed, and he started her on the road to success.

After JOHN E. OWENS, the comedian, had retired to his chamber in the Palace Hotel, in San Francisco, the other night, he caught the sound of something crinoline in the hall, and heard a gentle tap on the door of his room. He opened the door. He shut it again. For on the mat outside lay a pretty baby boy, who was crowing lustily. Pinned to the baby's clothing was the following note: "My Dear Sir:—I have seen your performance of *Higgins* in 'Dr. Clyde,' and consider it one of the finest impersonations I ever witnessed. The only way in which I can evince my gratitude to you is by offering you one of the loveliest infants I could select from the orphan asylum. Take it and cherish it, and God bless you and prosper you.—AN UNKNOWN ADMIRER." Mr. OWENS struggled with conflicting purposes for a few moments, and then summoning all his friends that could be found, solemnly announced that baby's adoption as "JOHN E. OWENS, Jr."