

## ART NOTES.

MR. PAUL WICKSON'S portrait of a horse shown at the Industrial Exhibition attracted a good deal of notice. Some critics of animal painting have spoken very highly of its merits. We hope that the encouragement which Mr. Wickson has received will stimulate him to still abler efforts in the splendid and attractive field of art in which he has shown such promise.

MR. FORBES has nearly completed the portrait of Mr. Gladstone, upon which he has been working for several months past. Mr. Gladstone last year expressed his willingness to do everything in his power to forward the matter, and at no little inconvenience gave Mr. Forbes special sittings at London and at Hawarden, his country seat. The picture will be presented to the National Liberal Club by Mr. Gladstone's Canadian admirers. A copy of the portrait will be taken and placed in the Canadian House of Commons.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

MR. FREDERICK BOSCOVITZ will give a piano recital at an early date at the College of Music, and will, we understand, give two or three of his interesting illustrated lectures during the coming season. These lectures, which evoked great interest in England, and indeed wherever they have been given, will be arranged on the subscription plan.

THE good work being done by the Toronto College of Music has evidently been recognized abroad. The *Musical News*, London, Eng., September 4, has the following: "Under the able and zealous direction of Mr. F. H. Torrington, the Toronto College of Music is doing right good service to music in Canada, and its recent affiliation to the University of Toronto in connection with the preparation of candidates for degrees will ensure that these distinctions must be honestly earned. Indeed a perusal of the course to be gone through, and the tests to be passed (a proof of the regulations has just reached England) shows that the curriculum does not materially differ from the standard exacted by our English universities. . . . We are indeed glad to see such a promising school of music established in the chief city of the Dominion. The systematic course of teaching shows that the school is working on the right lines. Mr. Torrington has just been paying a flying visit to the Continent and England, gathering fresh ideas for carrying on his work in the best and most experienced way."

TULLO TRICCOLI'S Chopin and Gottschalk playing has created a sensation in Italy. He is assisted by Arturo Bizzarri, a violinist who has much success in the compositions of Sivori and Sarasate.

THE Italian composer receives one-third of the profits of "Cavalleria," the other thirds going to the librettist and publisher. There was some queer litigation between these three before the matter was arranged.

MADAME PATTI gave her annual concert for the benefit of the Swansea Hospital the other week, meeting with a reception of quite a royal character at the Welsh sea-port, so recently the scene of the National Eisteddfod.

THE violinist, Edward Remenyi, will travel this year for the Redpath Bureau. Some of his earlier dates are: Albany, October 28; Philadelphia, November 5, and Hartford, November 15. He will visit all the large cities, and travel as far as the Pacific coast.

ON account of several mishaps and ill-health, Madame Trebelli's concert-touring in Scandinavia came to an abrupt end in Copenhagen, on August the 17th. The well-known lady singer has now gone to spend a time at her villa at Etretat, in France, in order to rest before she returns to England.

MINNIE HAUKE has returned to New York on the *Elbe* and will soon go out with her English opera company, in which Galassi, the great baritone, will sing. Mme. Hauke brought with her superb dresses for the parts of "Selika," "Ella," "Mignon" and other rôles. Her tenor will be one Montariol from Brussels.

AT the Paris Conservatory the jury to decide on the competition, in the line of comic opera, included Ambroise Thomas, Jules Barbier, Carvalho and Capoul. At the recent examination no competitor was deemed worthy of a first prize, but a second was awarded to MM. Ghasne, David and Perier. The first prize for violin was won by a lady, one Mlle. Vornése.

SOMETHING like a sensation was made by a young lady at a concert at the Etablissement at Spa. She is an American with a powerful voice, said to have been used with effect in the large building in which she sang. The name under which she appeared was Smith-Blawett. Since her first performance she has been engaged to sing at the Théâtre de la Monnaie at Brussels.

THE Norwegian journal *Morgenbladet* is responsible for the following: "Last winter Verdi went from Genoa to Milano in order to hear Madame Sigrid Arnoldson sing as Rossina in his opera 'The Barber.' The maestro was so pleased with the singing of Madame Arnoldson that he said to her: 'At present time there are only two Rossinas in the world, Adelina Patti and Sigrid Arnoldson!'"

NICHOLAS YOUSSEPOFF, the Russian composer and critic, died in Baden-Baden. He was born in 1827, in St. Petersburg, and was a pupil of Vieuxtemps and organized

an orchestra at his own expense. He wrote a concerto symphonique for the violin, a symphonic poem, "Gonsalvo de Cordova," and a treatise on the history and construction of the violin. In 1862 he published a history of music in Russia.

ONE is glad to see that Mr. Tree has commissioned new music for the revival of "Hamlet." As he seems to have failed in getting an English composer to undertake the task, fault cannot be found with him for employing Herr Henschel. This gentleman has already given proof of his power to write, and no doubt he will produce some good and effective music. It is said the music will be of a far more ambitious character than the incidental music usually associated with stage plays; indeed, so far as orchestration goes, it will partake of an operatic character, an attempt being made to identify the persons in the play with representative scenes.

ON the occasion of the first night of "Tannhauser" at the Grand Opéra in Paris, it met with a very stormy and unfavourable reception. The courtly director of the Conservatoire, after listening to the violent judgment passed on the opera by some of the younger French musical generation, said: "Gentlemen, this is a work which requires a second hearing to enable one to judge it." "Then," after a short pause, and with his peculiar humorous dryness, rejoined Mons. Auber, turning up the collar of his overcoat, preparatory to his exit, "I am afraid I shall not be able to judge it."

IN the last issue of *Le Ménestrel* appears a letter from the eminent writer Arthur Pougin, giving account of a trip he has made, staff in hand, to Spain; he briefly mentions some concerts he attended *en route*, but his letter is chiefly concerned with the doings at a bull-fight he witnessed at San Sebastian. The subject is far removed from the art of music, though an orchestra was employed at this place, but was hardly to be heard amidst the applause and cries that went on, and the account he gives of the proceedings would sicken our readers. We only mention the matter to say it is a most vivid and graphic account of this disgusting "sport," and the distinguished critic Mons. Pougin does not hesitate to write in the strongest terms of condemnation of this debasing spectacle and the horrible scene presented.

IN an article entitled "Animal Aesthetics," which appears in a recent number of the *London Spectator*, some interesting and curious stories of the effect of music upon various animals are related. The writer tells how the old horses in the regimental riding schools learn the meaning of the different bugle calls; and, though it is not possible to say whether they distinguish between different airs, it is well known that they trot or gallop better to some tunes than others. This may be compared with a curious story told by Playford in his "Introduction to Music." "When travelling some years since," he writes, "I met on the road near Royston a heard of about 20 bucks following a bagpipe and a violin; while the music played they went forward, when it ceased they all stood still; and in this manner they were brought out of Yorkshire into Hampton Court." Seals have long been known for their love of sweet sounds; Laing, in his account of a voyage to Spitzbergen, says that when a violin was played on board a vessel a numerous audience of seals would often assemble and follow the vessel for miles. Sir Walter Scott mentions this taste in the lines:—

Rude Heiskars seals, through surges dark,  
Would oft pursue the minstrel's bark.

And it is said that when the bell of the church on the island of Hoy rang, the seals within hearing swam to the shore and remained looking about them as long as it was tolled. After remarking how interesting it would be to make some musical experiments in the Zoological Gardens, the writer relates his own experience in this direction. The only occasion when he attempted this led to such strong suspicions of his insanity among the visitors that, in the face of a caution addressed by an elderly nurse to her charges, "Don't go near 'im; he ain't right in his 'ead," he had not the courage to continue his researches. Who knows what useful discoveries have been arrested by this untoward incident!

SATURDAY last was a notable day in Canadian annals of sport. At the great athletic gathering held on the Rosedale grounds by the Canadian Amateur Athletic Association, some of the foremost athletes of America met in competition. The best Canadian records were broken in some cases, and the Association achieved a signal success. The entire conduct of the games was of the most satisfactory and commendable character. The field management and appointments were excellent. The promptness, fairness and capacity shown by the management was very praiseworthy, and reflected credit not only on the management themselves, but also on the amateur athletic fraternity of Canada. At Woodbine Park the fall meeting of the Ontario Jockey Club also took place. The day was a charming one for a race meeting, and the sport was in keeping with the day, though the entries were not numerous. The fifth race was perhaps the most interesting and closest, and was won cleverly by "Long Shot." The management are to be heartily complimented on the able and efficient way in which they carried out their programme.

## OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

THE LEAF COLLECTOR'S HAND-BOOK AND HERBARIUM. By Charles S. Newhall. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons; Toronto: Williamson and Company.

This Hand-Book was published as an aid in the preservation and classification of specimen leaves of the trees of North-Eastern America. The book is a model of its kind. It contains a sufficient description and classification of all the important trees and abundant illustrations of their leaves. Clear and concise directions are given for finding, mounting and preserving specimens. A list of genera is also provided. At the end of the book there is an index. There are also oiled leaves and a pocket for pressing and storing leaves when gathered. A most interesting and entertaining recreation is provided in this book, and we cordially commend it to our young readers of both sexes.

FREEDOM AS ETHICAL POSTULATE. By Professor James Seth. Edinburgh: Blackwood. 1891.

Mr. Seth is Professor of Philosophy in Dalhousie College, and brother, we believe, of the Professor of the same name at St. Andrew's, Scotland. In this pamphlet he well sustains the honour of his name; his utterances are seasonable as well as weighty. There can be no doubt that ethical beliefs are in considerable danger. The old Necessitarianism has come back, as Mr. Seth truly remarks, under the name of Determinism; and the doctrine has been promulgated that freedom of will is no necessary element in responsibility, or, perhaps, that responsibility itself is a mere name. Now, there can be no doubt that an unspiritual philosophy of this kind must and always does lead to materialistic conceptions of life, and we are indebted to those teachers of philosophy who set themselves to stem this dangerous torrent. Mr. Seth contends in this pamphlet that Morality would be a mere name apart from Liberty. It is impossible to condense his argument, but we strongly commend it to the attention of our readers.

THE BROADWAY SERIES. 50 cents per volume. No. 1, SWEET IS REVENGE. No. 2, OUT AT TWINNETT'S. New York: J. A. Taylor and Company. 1891.

THE MAY FLOWER LIBRARY. 30 cents per volume. No. 1, WELL-WON. (Same publishers.)

We have pleasure in drawing attention to these two new series of works of fiction on various grounds. In the first place, they are, so far as the English novels are concerned, an outcome of the new international copyright law between England and the United States. These works are all copyright, and can be published only by the firm whose name they bear. But a second feature of the series results from this. These books are excellently printed on good paper, and, as far as their external appearance is concerned, are quite fit for binding, and worthy of being placed on the library shelf. They are, in this respect, very superior to the best of the "pirated" reprints which we had before the passing of the new law. We have noted above that the Broadway Series is fifty cents a volume, whilst the Mayflower Library is only thirty cents. This difference is caused by no difference in the quality of the books, but by the difference in quantity, the dearer ones being double the thickness of the cheaper ones. In other respects they are identical in getting-up.

The first novel in the list is perhaps the weakest. It is sensational, it is moderately well written, and the plot, whilst fairly credible, is tolerably obvious. Still it is not at all a bad story, and it ends with poetical justice all round, which is pleasant alike to the natural man and the spiritual man. Mr. Fitzgerald Molloy will find a good many readers for his "Sweet is Revenge."

The second, "Out at Twinnett's," by Mrs. Habberton, the author of the famous "Helen's Babies," and of a very good book which is not mentioned on the title page of this one. "All He Knew" is a story a good deal out of the common, whether we consider its subject or the manner of its treatment. We confess that we guessed at the secret of the story; but we were not quite sure, and this is exactly as it ought to be. It is not quite a love-story, although there is love in it; but we do not think anyone will grudge the time spent on its perusal.

"Well-Won," by Mrs. Alexander, is perhaps a little slighter than most of that lady's very excellent novels, of which the "Woicing O't" may be regarded as the type. Here and there we wish that the points were a little more elaborated; but then we are difficult to please. If they were so, we might complain that they were a little too prolix. The heroine is a governess, a sweet, true, brave woman, perhaps a little imprudent, and this gets her into something like trouble; but happily she has to deal with those who in her imprudence discern high principle. It will be seen that these two series begin well, and we give our thanks to the publishers for their enterprise.

THE *Writer* for September prefaces its usual complement of excellent and helpful matter for its literary readers with a series of anecdotes, letters and reminiscences by a number of well-known writers bearing upon the life and work of James Russell Lowell. It is a fine collective tribute to the sweet and enduring memory of one of the noblest, most robust and accomplished men of this, or indeed of any, age.