

not look at anything unless it is somewhat startling or rather indecent. "Audacity is mistaken for genius, and cleverness and eccentricity are accounted the brightest parts of talent." There are French painters, of course, that paint for us the nude in a pure and artistic way that entirely refines it and lifts it

again to their arts and occupations, it was before pictures like those of Detaille that the greatest crowds were to be found and the most passionate tears of admiration were shed.

Our illustrations afford varied glimpses of our artist's genius, and they represent pictures that were among those which



ÉDOUARD DETAILLE.

out of the region of the gross and sensual. There are painters like Breton and Millet and Corot who give us the most poetic and delightful aspects of nature and mankind. But to much of French art the work of Detaille came like a purifying breeze. The war had swept its destructive course through France. When it was over, and the people turned

were received with the greatest enthusiasm. The task of the painter was a difficult one. He had keenly to characterize the nationality of the soldiers he painted, and to soothe, if he could, the bruised national pride. He chose such incidents as would display the courage of brave, though conquered, soldiers. He lost no opportunity, consistent with