

Literature and Art.

CONOT signed a picture he had just finish ed on his death-bed.

*The Stricken South*, a statue by HOWARD KRETCHEMAR, is highly praised in St. Louis.

It is proposed to hold an exhibition of the works of the late WILLIAM M. HUNT, in Boston.

M. FAGEL, a pupil of M. CURALIER, has carried off the Grand Prix de Rome in sculpture.

The Buffalo Society of Decorative Art opened last week, and everything promises a successful year.

Mrs. J. W. MACKAY, the wife of the Bonanza King, has had her portrait painted in Paris by CABANEL.

In France there are two National Schools of Decorative Art, one for men, the other for women, the latter being superintended by a woman.

*The Story of a Disappearance* is the title of a new novel by the author of *The Leavenworth Case*. The latter was the first book of its author, and it made a decided hit, receiving praise from critics abroad as well as at home.

Readers of good poetry will hail with pleasure the announcement of a new volume of the complete poetical works of RICHARD HENRY STODDARD. There is no edition of Mr. STODDARD'S poems to be found in the book stores.

"Society Unmasked" is the title of a lecture being delivered by a young Canadian named J. B. WATSON. People who know him well say that "WATSON Unmasked" would be a more profitable subject to his prospective victims in the north and west of Ontario.

The New York Press Club has started a movement for the sale of a collection of pictures to be contributed by artists and others, for the benefit of the family of the late CHARLES G. ROSENBERG, artist, journalist, and author.

A letter from France states that a gentleman of this city visited Paris, Rouen, London, and other art centres in Europe, not long ago, and stated there that he was authorized to expend 2,000,000 of francs for pictures for Mr. VANDERBILT. He bought extensively. The great picture by DETAILLE, for Mr. VANDERBILT, the largest ever produced by this artist, passed through the New York Custom House only a few days ago.

They have what are called DICKENS Parties in some of the American cities. Here is the programme of one from one of our New York exchanges: "Mr. Pickwick is to hold a reception, at which over a hundred of DICKENS'S most prominent characters are to appear in appropriate costume. This will be followed by a grand promenade of the characters, which will give the audience an opportunity to see the groupes in detail. Mrs. Jarley will then present her unrivaled collection of real Wax-Work. After this there will be time to visit the Curiosity Shop, and patronize little Jenny Wren, the dolls' dressmaker. Refreshments will be served at Mugby Junction, where will be found 'eatable things to eat, and drinkable things to drink.' To quote from Mrs. Jarley, 'Hevery expectation set forth in the 'an bills will be realized to the utmost, and the whole form an effect of imposing brilliancy 'itherto unrivaled in this Republic.'"



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SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tenders Pacific Railway," will be received at this office up to noon on MONDAY, the 17th day of NOVEMBER next, for certain works of construction required to be executed on the line from near Yale to Lake Kamloops, in the following sections, viz:

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- Boston Bar to Lytton ..... 29 miles
- Lytton to Junction Flat ..... 28½ miles
- Junction Flat to Savona's Ferry ..... 40½ miles

Specifications, bills of quantities, conditions of contract, forms of tender, and all printed information may be obtained on application at the Pacific Railway office in New Westminster, British Columbia, and at the office of the Engineer-in-Chief at Ottawa. Plans and profiles will be open for inspection at the latter office. No tender will be entertained unless on one of the printed forms and all the conditions are complied with.

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F. BRAUN,

Secretary.

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A curious book has been published by BLACKIE & Son, London, called *The Newspaper Reader*. It is made up of clippings from the journals of the nineteenth century, on the events of the day, carefully selected by H. F. BUSSY and T. WILSON REID.

Stage Whispers.

The Count JOHANNES will "star" it next season. Misquid man! He evidently believes that the egg crop is a total failure.

The reason SARA BERNHARDT has never appeared in French opera is because her modesty will not permit her to wear tights. This is reliable.

MARION D'ARCY, whose recent theatrical debut was a failure, is Miss TALBOT, the Halifax governess, who recently inherited a fortune of two hundred thousand dollars per annum.

SARA BERNHARDT has sold her picture *La Dormeuse* in the London Exhibition, to the Prince and Princess of Wales, and they have given her commissions for a new painting and a piece of statuary. From another source she has received a commission to execute a bust of Lord BEACONSFIELD before leaving England.

When Mrs. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE was given a check for \$10,000 by Mr. JEWETT three months after *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was issued, she didn't know what to do with it, and the publisher was obliged to go with her to a bank, into the mysteries of which she was initiated. Mrs. STOWE was paid \$30,000 by Mr. JEWETT.

At the Grand the New York Criterion Company held forth during the week. *Our Daughters* occupied the three first nights. The play (a "society" one) seemed to highly please the fair audiences, which attended this Opera House during the week. The drawing-room scene was very prettily put on—and the acting throughout was good. *Breaks* and a *Triple Courtship* fill the bill for the rest of the week.

The railroad drawbridge scene in BOUCCAULT'S new play at BOOTH'S Theatre, according to the Boston *Herald's* correspondent, is received with more applause than "BOOTH'S best acting in the house of his misfortunes was ever rewarded with," and he makes the suggestion: "If machinery is so much more effective than men and women in exciting an audience, how long will it be before somebody will invent a tragedian of wheels, springs and bellows to go by steam power?"

The comic opera *The Mayor of St. Bruiez*, which, it will be remembered, was written by Mr. FREDERICK A. DIXON and composed by Mr. F. W. MILLS, for Her Excellency the Countess of DUFFERIN, was produced lately at the Broad Street Theatre in Philadelphia, and will shortly be brought out in New York. Since its production at Ottawa it has been re-arranged and extended into two acts by Messrs. DIXON and MILLS, and therefore, the better adapted for the general stage. The following was the cast for its production at the Broad Street Theatre: *The Mayor*, Mr. GEO. DENHAM; *Charles Duval*, Mr. HOFF; *Monsieur Buillet*, Mr. PIERSON; *Pierre*, Mr. MCCOLLEN; *Pompon*, Mr. REIBERT; *Countesse de Beauvry*, Miss BLANCHE CHAMPSON; *Marie*, Miss BOCKEL; *Violette*, Miss BELLE MACKENZIE. Of this cast one of the Philadelphia journals says: "This cast, comprising as it does the principals from two companies, each of whom are known to public fame, and have been selected for his or her known ability to fill the parts assigned them, will present the strongest operatic cast yet seen upon the stage at this theatre." It is gratifying to find so purely a Canadian work commanding attention abroad, entitling the writer and composer to congratulations.