

fering his arm to one of the ladies. If they are thus in company with French Canadians, they enter into conversation in French, as both speak it well and fluently. After dinner, when the company returns to the drawing-room, the Princess passes about amongst her guests, speaking to all. It is not proper to sit when the Princess does not, and whenever she has occasion to rise, the entire company does the same, and remains standing until she is again seated.

that it can easily be converted into a theatre. The platform upon which the musicians have sat for the one occasion is now, by an ingenious contrivance for enlarging it, turned into an exquisitely appointed stage. Of late years Rideau Hall has been fortunate in having within its walls most excellent amateur talent. Lady Dufferin was a most charming actress, and in the present household one of the aides-de-camp has the reputation of being the finest amateur actor in England.



SKATING RINK AND CABIN.

In these days of ceramic achievements it is quite allowable to peep into other people's china closets, so I may say something of the china displayed at Rideau Hall. Much of it is beautiful, but by no means exceptionally rare. Neither is the plate of unusual magnificence, though rich and handsome, and gold enters freely into the furnishing of the table. Of course the family plate of Argyll is not yet inherited, still, so abundant is the supply that it is hardly missed.

Of all the entertainments given at the Government House none are more popular or more enjoyed than the theatricals, and invitations to them are eagerly sought. The ball-room is so constructed

He certainly plays to perfection—that is, non-professional perfection. The ladies and gentlemen taking part in the theatricals are usually from Ottawa, and the Princess does not act. And just here I am reminded to say that the announcement that the Princess has written a play founded upon scenes and amongst the fishermen of Gaspé Bay is quite untrue. No such play has been written, or, at least, not by her Royal Highness. The theatricals are full-dress occasions, and the ball-room on these nights presents a brilliant appearance. The plays are always put upon the stage with all the elegance of which they admit, or taste or money can supply. Flowers are used in profusion,