

throughout, in an inimitable manner; her gestures might have been objected to as being even too suggestive, but as a piece of French delineation, her effort was excellent. The opera virtual'y closes with the clever quarelling duet between Lange and Clairette. M'lle. Aimee gave an extremely spirited presentation of Clairette, and her singing, of its kind, is rarely equalled. M'lle. Nardin as *Lange*, and second principal lady, ably sustained the *role*; her singing is careful and effective, and her voice contains some good notes in the lower register. Mr. Kolletz makes a good *buffo tenor*, and the interest in his part was never allowed to flag. The rest of the artists fairly supported the efforts of their principals, and the singing generally was very even. The orchestra played well, but lacked brilliancy, owing to its weakness in strings. We cheerfully admit the merit of the Aimee Opera Company, but consider it doubtful whether a familiarity with French Opera Bouffe does not tend to lower the standard of public taste. The dialogue, even in French, is often objectionable, the music inclines towards the frivolous, and never rises above the pretty. It can scarcely be wished that a *taste* for this class of entertainment should be cultivated; a public enamoured of the cloying melodies of Offenbach and Lecocq will probably feel a disinclination to make itself acquainted with the healthier and purer music of the "immortal five."

It is gratifying to learn that the *debut* of Mdlle. Albani in New York was an unqualified triumph. Her first appearance was at the Academy of Music, on Monday, the 19th ult., when she assumed the *role* of *Amina*, in "La Sonnambula." The New York press states that her youth, beauty and, above all, her exquisite singing and finished acting took the susceptible heart of the public by storm. On the following Friday, Mdlle. Albani achieved a still greater success as *Lucia*, and we are told that her conception of the character approached almost an inspiration, and was more touching than that of Mdlle. Nillson, whose *Lucia* is of a more tragic cast and less feminine. It is somewhat amusing to observe with what eagerness our American cousins claim Mdlle. Albani as their own. The *New York Herald* refers to her "as a young American girl," while the *Republic*, with infinite condescension, says, "to be sure, we are told that the lady was born in Canada, but Canada is in America, and we are willing to give Mdlle. Albani the *benefit* of our republican nationality." Our New York friends can afford to be generous, and they should, without reserve, recognize the *distinction* that Mdlle. Albani claims for herself, that of being a Canadian. It is said that Mdlle. Albani will shortly appear in Toronto; it is unnecessary to speculate as to the character of the greeting she will receive.

LITERARY NOTES.

THE second American contribution to the International Scientific Series will consist of a "History of the Conflict between Religion and Science," from the pen of Dr. John W. Draper, whose "History of the Intellectual Development of Europe" has taken such high rank among the original contributions of the time.

The translation from the German of Prof. Maetznor's great work on English Grammar is positively announced for publication in November. Dr. Morris' long promised "Elementary Lessons in Historical English Grammar" has at last appeared. It deals with accident and word-formation. Philological students may also be interested in the announcement of a new and compendious Dictionary of the French Language, by Prof. Gustave Masson, of Harrow.

The work is being well received by educationists in England.

A new volume of Essays, by Lowell, the American poet, and a work on Poetry and Criticism, by Emerson, are announced as among the forthcoming publications.

A collection of Essays on Chemical and Geological Subjects, by Prof. T. Sterry Hunt, late of Montreal, and now of Boston, will shortly issue from the press. A still cheaper edition, in four volumes at \$2 each, of Prof. Jowett's translation of the "Dialogues of Plato," has just been issued by Messrs. Scribner of New York.

Dr. McCosh's forthcoming work on Scottish Philosophy, it is understood, is to be biographical in its character, embracing sketches of Hutcheson, Hume,