

Literature and Art.

The Royal Academy of Art, Berlin, finding no composition sent in this year worthy of the MEYERBEER prize, declined to award it.

The statue of the late Prince Imperial, now being executed by Mr. BOEM, will be life-size, and will be in the attitude of defence with drawn sword.

The Chinese fashion of complimenting one's friends by inscribing upon their fans a pretty sentiment, is not unknown to American watering-places, whence a reigning belle often carries away devoutly scribbled on her fan as many couplets, original or the reverse, as an Indian chief bears scalp's at his girdle in token of his work achieved.

The daughter of THOMAS COLE is said to inherit a considerable amount of her father's genius as an artist. Her china decorations are spoken of as especially beautiful. COLE's studio in Catskill is just as he left it, his widow refusing admittance to any but friends. An enormous canvas stands upon the easel with a landscape marked upon it, and upon the wall are studies for the well-known series of paintings representing the "Voyage of Life."

Some very interesting wall paintings in the dining-hall of Kingsbridge Hospital, the resting-place of the poorer pilgrims to Canterbury, have just been brought to light. When the white-wash was being cleared off the walls fragments of paintings representing the murder of BECKET were found on the north wall. The huge fireplace which had been built against this was thereupon removed. This laid bare paintings of rare beauty, containing in the central portion a vesica enclosing a life-size picture of our Saviour, seated upon a throne. The emblems of the four Evangelists surrounded the vesica, each enclosed in a circle.

Two remarkable pictures are exhibited this year in the Munich Exhibition. The subject of the one by PICKLEIN is "CHRIST upon the Cross, ministered to by an angel." The conception of the whole is grand. One cannot say that the face of CHRIST possesses that superhuman expression which the old masters were sometimes able to call from the imagery of their imaginations, and faults or exaggerations of drawing are easily noticed. Still, we must confess that the dying look of the Saviour, the angel brooding with outstretched wings and whispering words of comfort, the rays of light bathing the whole in a golden glory, serve to produce a conception of the solemn scene scarcely equalled in modern German art. The other picture of like subject is by ZIMMERMANN, "CHRIST in the Temple." The color in many places is somewhat crude and the figures do not possess the strength of pose or action which a greater master of drawing could have given. The composition, however, is good, and above all the expression of the faces, which in such a work is the chief thing, is wrought out with a power and truthfulness to nature which is very remarkable, especially in so young an artist. The attempted air of superiority and condescension and yet conscious confusion of the one who questions the youthful teacher, the proud yet honest endeavor of another to fathom this discussion, the sneer of a third at the embarrassment of the elders, and, more than all, the humble and respectful look, yet deep understanding, of the child expounder of the law, serve to place this work and PICKLEIN's among the notable German pictures of this present year.

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Stage Whispers.

Miss EVA MILLS, the daughter of Mr. CLARK MILLS, of Washington, intends to become a regular operatic singer, and has made an engagement in English opera for next season.

PATTI, who is always quoted against other singers as an instance of impregnable health, has been touched at last. *Trovatore* had to be substituted for *L'Africaine* by reason of her indisposition.

Miss BATEMAN reappeared in Liverpool a few days ago. She performed in Tom Taylor's *Mary Warner*, and, according to the accounts received, made an impressive success. Her portrayal of blending rage and pathos was "overwhelming."

The unlooked-for death of CHARLES CALVERT suspended negotiations which were pending for the appearance of BESSIE DARLING in London, as *Lady Macbeth*, and she has made a brief visit to America to negotiate for the production of her new play.

ROSE HERSEE, a pleasant soprano who will be remembered as singing with PAREPA ten or twelve years ago at the Lyceum Theatre, is singing with success in Melbourne, Australia, as *Carmen*, and also in *Un Ballo, Faust, Aida, and Lohengrin*. Signor D. VERDI, late of STRAKOSCH's opera company, is also with the Australian troupe.

Dr. VON BULOW, who is now sojourning with his mother and some friends at Bonn, will this winter have an opposition to his opera season at Hanover by the presence of M. RUBINSTEIN at Hamburg. M. RUBINSTEIN goes to the last named town to superintend the performance of his *Nero*, which must, under a penalty of £250, be produced there before November 15.

Mr. MAPLESON has opened a season of cheap opera in London where low prices, early hours and no "stupid restrictions as to costume" prevail. The houses have been crowded nightly. Miss MINNIE HAUCK played *Elsa*, a part in which she has been congratulated by HERR WAGNER and HERR RICHTER. The regular season closed Saturday, July 12th, with Mme. GERSTER in *Dimorah*. The season will extend over three or four weeks.

The Concert given in the Horticultural Gardens on Wednesday night by Poppenburg's Orchestra was attended by a very large and refined audience, who apparently enjoyed the performance exceedingly. Miss REIDY added greatly to her already high popularity with our citizens. There are few better ballad vocalists than she at present before the public. HERR WEIFFENBACH gave us another taste of his marvellous drum playing. The enterprising managers of the Gardens have Mr GRIP's congratulation on scoring another success.

The actresses of the Theatre Francaise—at least such of them as were *societaires*—used at one time to vote with the actors about the reception of new pieces. They had to be disfranchised at length, because they wrote such ungrammatical commentaries on their voting papers. Many of them had no notion of orthography. Some of the illiterate ones, however, were very expert at epigrammatic criticism; thus, one day when a choleric author was reading a tragedy, he perceived that an actress was fast asleep. Bringing down his manuscript with a bang on the table, he abruptly awoke her, and remarked that she could have formed no just opinion of his piece. "Excuse me," she answered dryly, "sleep is an opinion."