

reliable and conscientious. Mr. Bayley plays an excellent second violin, though in Monday night's performance it was occasionally rather too prominent. Mr. Fisher and Mr. Corell are both excellent executants, the latter displaying much skill in his rendering of some difficult work in the ensemble playing. His *obligato* was not so successful. The rendering of the Beethoven quartette gave unmixed satisfaction, the *Andante* being played in a masterly manner. The Barnett selections came next in order of interest as novelties; but, while well written and well played, they did not reveal the English composer at his best.

The Haydn quartette, with its graceful phrases, so suggestive of the "Creation," and its fascinating *Pueto*, closed the work of the club, and was played with much force and animation.

The vocalist of the evening was Miss Howden, who gave three songs and encores in that charming style now familiar to our concert-goers. This young lady establishes the most frank and friendly relations with the audience the moment she appears, being possessed of a very pleasing stage presence and keen dramatic sense. Her enunciation is pure, and her voice fresh and sweet, though the high notes seem to demand, even already, more than natural effort, and display a tendency toward unnecessary tremolo.

The vocal quartette, composed of Messrs. Taylor, Lye, Warrington, and Schuch, sustained their high reputation, and proved their ability to render unaccompanied part-singing in faultless style. Of the selections, the part song by Dudley Buck appeared to find extraordinary favour with the audience, considering that beyond a labyrinth of chords and modulations, and an effort to conscientiously "set" hexameters, it had little to offer. Mrs. Blight played her accompaniments with her usual skill, though the fact of the powerful upright piano used having the top open, made them sound too loud. The analytical programme, though containing a serious misprint, was calculated to afford additional interest to the audience who, no doubt, will look forward with great pleasure to the second concert, to be given on December 6. X.

THE entertainment given by the Mexican Orchestra, who appear at the Toronto Opera House on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday next, is described as most brilliant and unique. The Orchestra is composed of sixteen highly accomplished players, with violins, 'cello, flute, guitars, bandolons and salterios (zither-like instruments). The players appear in neat native uniform, wearing their light sombreros. This performance will be followed on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday by Mme. Janish, whose acting in *Charakter Bild* is spoken of very highly by Berlin and Vienna authorities.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

CONQUEST OF MEXICO. By William H. Prescott. Vol. II. New York: John B. Alden.

The second volume of Prescott's "Conquest of Mexico" is simply a duplicate of the first, in so far as its character is affected by its form. It is as well bound, as well printed, as well illustrated, and as cheap. Prescott's "Mexico" is one of the most entertaining histories in the English language. So strong indeed is the fascination of the old historian's graphic pages, that one closes the book half inclined to extol his imagination at the expense of his regard for facts. However that may be, for him who can winnow romance from reality in Mexican history, these volumes are an almost indispensable assistance to its study. And for him who is unable or unwilling to separate fact and fancy they hold the spell of a magician who has swayed many.

#### MUSIC.

Toronto: Published by the Anglo-Canadian Music Publishers' Association.

"YELLOW ROSES." (Song.) Words and music by Michael Watson. A very charming contralto song.

"TIP-TOE." (A Fairy Dance.) By Henri Logé. A pretty little *morceau*. Good for staccato playing.

"ERMINIE." (Gavotte.) By Edward Jakobowski. Tuneful and simple. Prettier, too, than the name of its composer.

WE have also received the following publications:

THE FORUM. November. New York: 97 Fifth Avenue.  
 ECLECTIC MAGAZINE. November. New York: E. R. Pelton.  
 MAGAZINE OF AMERICAN HISTORY. November. New York: 30 Lafayette Place.  
 CANADIAN METHODIST MAGAZINE. November. Toronto: Wm. Briggs.  
 NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW. November. New York: 3 East Fourteenth Street.  
 WIDE AWAKE. November. Boston: D. Lothrop and Company.  
 OUTING. November. New York: 140 Nassau Street.  
 CENTURY. November. New York: Century Company.  
 BROOKLYN MAGAZINE. November. New York: 7 Murray Street.

WILL they ever return to me, those grandiose immortal cosmogonic dreams, in which one seems to carry the world in one's breast, to touch the stars, to possess the infinite?

WHAT is threatened to-day is moral liberty, conscience, respect for the soul, the very nobility of man. To defend the soul, its interests, its rights, its dignity, is the most pressing duty for whoever sees the danger.—Amiel.

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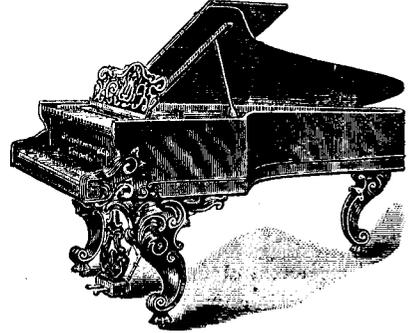
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