

ART NOTES.

A MONUMENT in memory of the distinguished painter Hans Makart will be erected next spring at Vienna.

SOME fragments of a Hyksos statue, which had been usurped by Menephtah, have been recently found at Alexandria, near Pompey's Pillar, and have been removed to the Cairo Museum.

THE first general meeting of the Hellenic Society in the new session took place at 22 Albemarle Street on Monday last, at 5 p.m. Mr. Cecil Smith read a paper on "An Archaic Greek Lekythos," recently presented to the British Museum by Mr. Malcolm Macmillan; and Mr. J. A. R. Munro gave an account of recent excavations in Cyprus, and exhibited some of the objects found.

WE are promised an important work on the "Barbizon School of Painters," from the pen of Mr. David Croal Thomson, author of "The Life of Thomas Bewick," and "The Life of Phiz." The book will be profusely illustrated, and will deal exhaustively with the lives of Théodore Rousseau, Narcisse Virgilio Diaz, Jean François Millet, Charles François Daubigny, and Jean Baptiste Camille Corot.

THERE is a statistical paper in the *Art Journal* on the sales of the past season. From this it appears that people have been buying more water-colours and fewer oil-paintings than they did last year; taking, that is, water-colours that fetched £100 and upwards, and paintings in oil fetching £200 and upwards. The highest price paid for a water-colour was £2,415, which was given for "The Vale of Clwyd," by David Cox. Raphael's "Knight's Dream," which is engraved for the frontispiece of the journal this month, was bought in 1847 for only £1,050.

MR. J. J. HISSEY, of Raven's Moat, Eastbourne, writes:—"Now that the electric light is being generally introduced into our houses, it may be well to caution those possessing valuable water-colour paintings against placing the electric lamps in close proximity to their pictures, as I have found, after three years' experience of the electric (incandescent) light in my own home, that so placed the new illuminant is sufficiently powerful to cause some of the more delicate pigments to fade to a greater or lesser degree. Water-colours that are safe in diffused daylight are certainly not always so when exposed night after night, for many hours, to the active white light of electricity close at hand."

THE Belgian collections of pictures by the old masters have now been housed in the fine new gallery of the Palais des Beaux-Arts at Brussels. The pictures, which amount to 521, have been numbered, and are carefully described in a new catalogue, being the sixth edition of M. E. Fétis's capital work, which contains an historical account of the collection extending to ninety-four pages. The old Flemish masters are dealt with in a separate section of the text, beginning with the fourteenth century and ending with Van Arley in the sixteenth. The authenticated examples are taken first, and the questionable ones are grouped, as in former editions of the catalogue, under "Maitres inconnus" of each nation. An introductory note states that an attentive revision of the collection has been made by the officials of the gallery, assisted by two experts, and the attribution of pictures decided by a majority of voices.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

HISTORY OF THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL: From the Reign of David up to the Capture of Samaria. By Ernest Renan. \$2.50. 1889. Boston: Roberts Brothers; Toronto: Williamson.

With regard to the actual merits of this "history," we have only to repeat the opinion expressed in noticing the French original of the present volume and of its predecessor. Mr. Renan is a charming writer and a provoking. No one has a more perfect command of all the resources of French prose, and no one is more arbitrary in his critical principles. His work may be regarded as a very readable presentation of the results of the destructive criticism of the Old Testament. Most readers will naturally prefer the French original, the charm of which it is not easy to transfer to the English rendering. We can, however, assure those who may prefer to read a translation that the present version does, in all essential points, convey the meaning of the original. In bearing such testimony we must nevertheless remark that the translation might be better. Sometimes the translator does not seem to be quite familiar with the differences of idiom between the French and English, sometimes the rendering lacks precision, sometimes it falls short of accuracy. In the preface we are told, "Judaism, like all religions, has had a starting point, and required nearly four hundred years for its development." An Englishman writing that sentence would have used the past tense where a Frenchman uses the perfect. We open the volume at random, near the beginning of the history of Solomon, and read as follows: "We who know what occurred in connection with the reign of Louis XIV., can see very well that these brilliant developments of monarchical power are twofold in their aspect. Advantageous for a part of the nation, they weigh heavily upon the other part. Some suffer, others profit by them. . . . Solomon was evidently detested by some, admired by others," and so forth. Here is the French: "Nous qui savons comment les choses se sont passées à la suite du règne de Louis XIV., nous voyons bien que ces brillants développements de puissance monarchique sont à double

visage. Avantageux pour une partie de la nation, ils pèsent lourdement sur l'autre partie. Les uns en souffrent, les autres en profitent. . . . Salomon fut, évidemment, détesté des uns, admiré des autres. If the reader will compare the italicised words and phrases, he will see what we mean; but he will also infer that he may obtain the substantial meaning of the original from the translation.

OUR OWN COUNTRY. By W. H. Withrow, D.D., F.R.S.C. Toronto: William Briggs.

No enthusiastic Canadian can find fault with Dr. Withrow's admirable compendium of all that is beautiful and enduring in our landscape and history, and much that is instructive in statistics and topics of general interest which he has put together under the above title. "Our Own Country" is handsomely printed and bound, richly illustrated and vivaciously written. Nothing better for a gift-book to friends abroad can be imagined. It should be a matter of self-congratulation to Dr. Withrow that with all his manifold duties he can still find time to compile so large and interesting a volume, a fact which accounts, perhaps, for a few slips here and there. The eloquent peroration descriptive of Niagara Falls, attributed to Ruskin, contains those beautiful sentences in which Charles Dickens attempted to pourtray his emotions. They were originally printed in "American Notes," and still remain as evidences of the true and powerful touch with which that great mind depicted almost everything he saw. The fact—however, that the quotation from Dickens appears sandwiched between two other paragraphs foreign to that particular chapter in the "American Notes," signifies that very probably Dr. Withrow has unconsciously quoted the entire section from some source not over accurate in its compilation. We also presume that when the author speaks of seeing the trailing arbutus growing in the cliff that leads down to the foot of the Canadian Fall, he has actually noticed the plant referred to. The ground laurel, *Epigaea repens*, certainly is to be sometimes found in rocky soil, but oftener in cold sandy woods in the shadow of the pines, and is generally regarded as a difficult plant to catch. The book is, in short, a "Picturesque Canada" on a reduced scale, and will no doubt find many purchasers and readers.

HAND-BOOK OF CANADIAN GEOLOGY. By Sir J. William Dawson, C.M.G., LL.D., F.R.S., etc., Principal of McGill University. Montreal: Dawson Brothers.

This work, by Canada's most eminent and gifted scientist, is intended to serve as lecture notes for teachers of geology, more especially in the Dominion of Canada, and as a guide to Canadian geology for private students, enquirers and travellers. It is such a work as has been often offered to American and English students of the geology of their native countries, and it is well for our Canadian teachers and students both that so distinguished and forcible a writer as Sir W. Dawson has seen fit, in the multitude of his daily duties, to compile a text-book for Canada. The distribution of Canadian rocks and fossils is fully given with the aid of suitable figures and charts.

THE CHURCH IN MODERN SOCIETY. By Julius H. Ward. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin and Co.

The changed and changing aspects of our complex modern civilization are engaging the attention of thoughtful minds in varied spheres of life. Social phenomena are being attentively examined with a view to the discovery of the laws of sociology. There are certain permanent factors that influence the thought and activity of successive ages. Julius Ward, in this admirable little volume, recognizes these in the family, the Church and the nation. The development of individualism in modern life has sapped the foundations of traditional authority, and like every thoughtful Christian, he deplors the absence of an organized national Church. He admits that there is a large degree of unity in essentials, but that unity is greatly impaired in its influence upon society by sectarianism. The difficulties the problem presents are fully and clearly faced, and he reaches the conclusion that if an ideal unity, the result of a large, comprehensive and exalted conception of the Christian Church cannot now be realized, at all events an effective measure of unity may be reached through working agreements, entered into by the various sections of the Church. Only through the ethical and spiritual can the modern Church obtain that authority and influence that will guide and ennoble life in all its manifestations. The little book is the product of an earnest and candid mind that looks with sympathetic insight into the needs of the age. It will be read with interest and gratitude by all who feel the important bearings of present-day questions now pressing for solution. Mechanically, the volume is in every way worthy of the publishers' reputation.

THE *Church Review* for October (New York) is a very good number of a Review which represents in an able manner the Anglican position. The articles are, naturally, of unequal value; but few will complain that they have not the worth of their money. Perhaps the most remarkable article is one entitled "Another Voice for Reunion." It is written by Dr. J. H. Hopkins, and is based upon a very striking treatise by Dr. C. A. Briggs, a theologian of eminence, and a Professor in the Union Theological Seminary in New York. Dr. Briggs addresses himself principally to Presbyterians; but his work, and the copious comments upon it in the *Church Review*, will be of interest to all the Reformed communities. Of no small interest to

Episcopalians will be the article on the "Voice of the Church of England on Episcopal Ordination." The article on Confirmation shows that a large section of the Episcopal Church seems to be adopting a theory on that subject which at one time was thought peculiar to some Nonjurors. Two articles argue the question of changing the name of the "Protestant Episcopal Church" in the States, both sides in the controversy being fairly represented. A large number of reviews are placed at the end, and seem, on the whole, to do their work usefully and efficiently.

THE *North American Review* for November is certainly eclectic. We have three views of "Divorce," Roman Catholic, Episcopalian and Agnostic; Bishop Potter, Cardinal Gibbons and Col. Ingersoll meeting upon the same platform. John Burroughs is seen in a new light, his paper being entitled "The Corroboration of Professor Huxley." Charles Wyndham, the latest English importation, discourses upon "The Tendencies of Modern Comedy," and proves himself a clever and graceful writer. The remarkable "Edgar"—Saltus, not Fawcett, gives his notion of "The Future of Fiction" in some extraordinary paragraphs from which we learn that the novel of the future will be a "sentient psychology for the use of the idle" whatever may be meant by such an ambiguous and pretentious phrase. By far the most forcible paper in the number is "Our National Conceits," by Murat Halstead, in which the national vanity is handled without gloves, but fairly, and is certain to provoke much criticism.

PROBABLY the most interesting item in the *Magazine of American History*, to Canadian readers, will be a Declaration, addressed in the name of the King of France to all the Ancient French in North America, by the Count d'Estaing, in 1778, contributed by Mr. Henry T. Drowne. "A Chapter from the History of Utah" is accompanied by graphic illustrations, and a thrilling story of a British Surgeon, "Experience in the Revolution," from Hugh Gaines' Gazette, in 1778, is contributed by Adrian Von Sinderen. The number is perhaps hardly up to the usual mark.

THE *Forum*, always well to the fore, contains a number of striking articles. Archdeacon Farrar is the most distinguished contributor and urges the claims of the pulpit—not as an entertainer but as an expositor of grave, good sense and the highest spirituality. President Angell discourses upon "American Rights in Behring Sea," and two light and sparkling papers are "The Domain of Romance," by Maurice Thompson, and "Types of American Women," by H. H. Boyesen. J. C. Kelton urges in a paper entitled "Requirements for National Defence" an annual appropriation by Congress of \$2,000,000 for the national guard, and Francis Peabody writes of "Industrial Co-operation in England."

THE complete novel in *Lippincott's* is a story of Kentucky frontier life in 1810. The strength of the tale is unusual, and although there is a good deal of dialect running through it the reader, unless satiated with dialect, need not object to it on this score. An article on William Cullen Bryant, by R. H. Stoddard, has much literary interest, and there are three papers of similar issue, "Handwriting and Writers," "The Seamy Side of Literature," and "What it Costs to Issue Big Newspapers." Mr. Melville Phillips says in the latter:—"It is impossible to cover in a single statement the editorial expenditures of the leading newspapers. They differ in this respect more widely than in any other. There is one successful class, represented by the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, whose staff of editorial writers does not cost it one hundred dollars a week; there is another class, including papers like the *New York Sun* and *Chicago Tribune*, the weekly salaries of whose editorial writers foot up not less than one thousand dollars. Perhaps the best-paid editorial writer on any daily journal in the country is Mayo W. Haseltine, of the *New York Sun*, who is said to receive one hundred and seventy-five dollars a week. Then there are the telegraph editors, say five of them at an average weekly wage of twenty-five dollars (the *New York Sun* pays best for this important and laborious service); the literary, dramatic, and financial editors, on salaries ranging from thirty dollars to seventy-five dollars per week; the 'news,' sometimes the same as the 'night' editor, who 'makes up' the paper and puts it to press, and rightly gets well paid therefor; and—saving his highness the editor-in-chief, whose income is too magnificent for mention—there is, finally, the managing editor, who may be paid from fifty to sixty dollars a week all the way up to the princely salary of Colonel John Cockerill, of the *New York World*, who receives from Mr. Pulitzer the snug fortune of twenty thousand a year."

JOSEPH JEFFERSON'S "Autobiography," which forms the initial article of the November *Century*, is delightfully told, and is one more testimony to the unsullied, hard-working, patient, and persevering lives oftener than otherwise led by men and women of the stage. Two unusually strong poems mark this number further; one, "Poe's Cottage at Fordham," the other "A Thanksgiving Hymn," by S. E. Adams. The first instalment of Amelia Barr's Cromwellian serial entitled "Friend Olivia" is given, and would appear to contain much promise. It is curious, as the literary fashions wax and wane, to perceive how the historical slowly edges out the commonplace and modern, to be itself edged out by the next incoming novelty. People who have never taken the trouble to read a novel by Walter Besant will follow Amelia Barr in the *Century* as if such a production were for the first time given to the