

ure. Mr. Cook is to be congratulated on the successful conclusion of a task which has taxed even his indomitable perseverance and shows anew the value of his favorite maxim, "It's dogged as does it."

### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Ovide Musin always gives pleasure. His company of artists, consisting of Mme. Anne Louise Tanner-Musin, soprano; Miss Bessie Bonsall, contralto; Mr. Elliott, tenor; Mr. Scharfe, pianist, and his genial self, were well received by a large audience, on the occasion of their appearance here last week at the Foresters' concert. We have frequently spoken of Musin's playing in these columns, of his mastery of the violin, his exquisite tone, his fabulous technique, and his beautiful phrasing. We only regret that he doesn't think it worth while to play music of a better character when he comes here. We remember speaking with the artist on this very point during one of his visits here two or three years ago, but he good naturedly said that the great majority who go to hear him play, wish to be sensuously pleased, to be entertained, that they would not enjoy music of a higher class, and he thought an artist, travelling as he does the continent over, should endeavour to please and delight this majority. We know there is both truth and wisdom in this statement; an artist to be successful with his audiences must please and electrify them almost, otherwise they will not give their dollars a second time. But just on this account, there are many musical people who will not go, simply because they wish to hear some genuinely good music-performed as Musin can perform it. The plan spoken of above may be better for money making, but it is not the highest art by any means, and we believe should not be encouraged. Ole Bull followed this plan, Remenyi is doing so now; but what about the great violinists, Sarasate, Joachim, Cesar Thompson and Ysaye, who are so popular, and who draw such crowded houses wherever they play? They do not play music wholly to please the uncultivated, but perform pieces chosen from the choicest of violin literature, and by the noble beauty of their playing, delight everybody, musicians and all. M. Musin's accompanist, Mr. Scharfe, is so excellent a pianist that it would be a treat to hear them play at least one *Sonata* by Grieg, Beethoven, or some such composer. This certainly could not be tedious to the most unmusical, and then all would be pleased. Mme. Musin sang on the occasion above spoken of beautifully, as did also our talented Torontonians, Miss Bonsall. Mr. Elliott, the tenor, likewise won immediate success. Musin was, however, the great attraction, and was frequently recalled.

We are glad to observe that the subscription list for the Seidl Orchestra, which is to appear here on the evening of the 20th November in the Massey Music Hall, is being well filled up, many having signified their intention of being present by signing their names on the list. The Seidl Orchestra is an expensive organization, and our music-loving public should come out in large numbers to hear it. Seidl is one of the greatest conductors in the world, perhaps the greatest Wagnerian conductor, and his orchestra is magnificent. In a week or two we will be able to give the programme. Miss Lillian Blauvelt is to be the soloist.

Dr. and Mrs. C. E. Saunders, who we believe recently came here from Ottawa, gave a highly enjoyable recital of flute, piano and vocal music in St. George's Hall on the 10th inst. The programme was well arranged, varied and interesting, and both performers succeeded in pleasing the large audience present exceedingly. We are sorry not to be able to give a more detailed account of this concert, but unfortunately were, at the last moment, prevented from personally attending it. We hope to have the pleasure of hearing them in the near future.

Modjeska's California home contains many unique and beautiful souvenirs. In a library of some 200 volumes, each book contains on the fly-leaf an autograph inscription to the actress. There is also a copy of "As You Like It" dedicated to her, the only one of its kind in the world. It was prepared and presented by an English admirer of her *Rosalind*, and but one copy was printed.

Mr. Walter H. Robinson has again accepted the position as conductor of the Galt Philharmonic Society. Rehearsals have already begun, and expectations are high for another successful season. Anderson's "Wreck of the Hesperus" and many other choice works will be given.

A second monument to Robert Schumann will shortly be unveiled in Leipzig, through the efforts of an admirer of his, who contributed 50,000 marks. The first monument was erected in 1875, by another admirer, Dr. P. Fiedler.

It is now certain that New York will have a season of German Opera this winter. Mr. Walter Damrosch, who has been in Germany has engaged singers. The season will begin in New York on February 25, continuing for four weeks. A second four weeks will be divided between Boston, Philadelphia and Chicago. Only Wagner's operas will be given. The *Trilogy* will be sung throughout, "Das Rheingold" being given for the first time in several years in this country. Among the singers engaged are Frau Rosa Sucher, the dramatic soprano of the Berlin Royal Opera House, Mme. Materna, Fräuleins Malten and Mailhas, Herren Max Alvary, one of the greatest Wagnerian tenors. Rothmühl, Lange, Oberhauser, Emil Fischer, Conrad Behrens. Many of the costumes have been ordered in Germany. "Lohengrin" will be the star opera, and its costumes have been ordered with special reference to a color scene, the colors being entirely in pale tints. A sufficient amount has been subscribed by New Yorkers to ensure the financial success of the season. Tickets for the entire course of 16 operas are to be sold at \$50.

Massenet is reported to be writing an opera for Mlle. Nikita, who has just signed a three years' engagement at the Paris Opera Comique.

Marion Manola, the singer and actress, is seriously ill in New Hampshire. Her trouble is insanity, and the chances for her recovery are slight. She has not been successful for some time, and the nervous strain, together with the hypodermic injections of morphine, taken to enable her to keep up, have proved too much for her.

The thirty years set by Meyerbeer in his will, during which his musical effects should be undisturbed, have expired, and examination reveals a nearly completed opera, with Goethe as the central figure.

### LIBRARY TABLE.

THE NEW ACTS OF THE APOSTLES, OR THE MARVELS OF MODERN MISSIONS. By Dr. Arthur T. Pierson. Price \$1.50. New York: Baker & Taylor Co. 1894.

These lectures were delivered upon the foundation of the "Duff Missionary Lecture-ship." Dr. Pierson will be remembered as the temporary successor of Mr. Spurgeon at the Surrey Tabernacle and as a writer of some distinction. The idea of the present volume is a good one, and Dr. Pierson has carried it out very well. Their design, as Dr. Andrew Thomson remarks in his introduction, was to compare the Christian church in the nineteenth century with the church in the first century, especially in their missionary aspects, so as to bring out the points of resemblance and of contrast between them. Although they were prepared while Dr. Pierson was ministering at the Tabernacle, Dr. Thomson says he was astonished at their power, and freshness, and varied excellence. We are bound to state that this is a remarkable book showing a wonderful acquaintance with missionary work of all kinds.

A TREATISE on the INVESTIGATION of TITLES to REAL ESTATE in ONTARIO with a PRECEDENT for an ABSTRACT. (Second Edition). By Edward Douglas Armour, Q.C., of Osgoode Hall, Barister-at-Law. Toronto: The Carswell Co., Ltd. 1894.

It is always a matter of inconvenience and regret, and the occasion of no little loss of valuable time, both to the law student and practitioner of our Province, when some important branch of our law has to be studied without the aid of an authoritative home text-book. It is all very well to say you may consult English or American text-books for the principles involved and then ferret out their application in the reports or statutes. To those to whom "time is of the essence of the contract," who have much to do and but short time to do it in, it is of the first importance that they should have every reasonable facility for doing their work promptly and well. For many years there has surely been sufficient waste of time in the way indicated to make the legal profession rejoice at possessing such an excellent and trustworthy text-book as that of Mr. Armour on Titles. The work of which Mr. Taylor—now Mr. Justice Taylor—was the author, served its day well. The constant changes in case and statute law rendered the first edition of Mr. Armour's book necessary, and the same operative causes have made the present edition imperative. Those who were familiar with the earlier works can at a glance see how necessary the present edition has become, and in a measure estimate the pains and labour involved in bringing the whole subject down to date. A most important addition will here be found in Chapter VIII. Part 1, on Payment and Discharge of Mortgages, a subject of no small importance. The present edition now includes, in all, over 400 pages. It is unnecessary in a lay journal to enter into detailed statements regarding a work so well and favourably known in earlier editions to our professional readers. The first edition established for its author a reputation as a thoroughly well grounded specialist, and one, moreover, possessing the eminently useful faculty, for a legal writer, of clear and concise exposition. Apt in comment, as well as in illustration, Mr. Armour also possesses the by no means common merit of including what is essential and excluding what is not germane to his subject. Thus his pages are not padded and overloaded with matter of little or doubtful utility. One cannot fail to be impressed by the thoroughness, as one is by the clearness of his work. Nor is it at all surprising to its reader that this able and learned author should, at a comparatively early age, have attained his present distinction as a legal editor and lecturer, or his prominence at the bar of his native Province. Thoroughness, conscientious-