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MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

In its forty-fourth season, and having in the ordinary vicissitudes of human affairs, undergone many changes, the Mendelssohn Quintette Club is still in the van of travelling musical organizations. The veteran leader, Thomas Ryan, still elicits from his audiences all over the continent that warm, spontaneous welcome accorded only to old favorites of the public, his reception Wednesday evening at The Victoria being thoroughly homelike and correspondingly hearty.

The personnel of the Quintette has changed somewhat from last year, but it has not in any sense depreciated, each member is a finished musician and the Club as a whole was worth a far better house than was played to on this occasion. A programme by the Mendelssohn Quintette, without a composition by the master after whom it is named, is a novelty in a sense, but the fact does not detract from the general merit of the rather tasteful bill of fare provided, and which was as highly appreciated by the audience as it was artistically rendered by the club, who is this year composed of Mr. Andre Verdier, violin virtuoso and concert master; Mr. Jules Schrey, violin; Mr. Thomas Ryan, clarinet and viola; Mr. John Roodenburg, solo flute and viola; Mr. Ludwig W. Hoffman, solo violin; cello, and Miss Lilla Juel, prima donna. As an instrumentalist each member excels in his respective sphere, their performances in each case being encored. Miss Juel possesses one of those voices which give one the impression of greater power in the background, for it was very evident she did not let the audience hear the full scope of her remarkably sweet and pleasant soprano on Wednesday evening.

We have received the following pieces of music for pianoforte: Concert Polonaise, "Le Croix d'Honneur" and a Spanish dance, "Dance of the Lillies." Mr. Stoel, the composer, has dedicated the polonaise to Mr. J. M. Finn, who is making an arrangement of it for the battery band and will play it as soon as an opportunity presents itself.

The Chicago Quartette Club has been booked for The Victoria.

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