

The Life of Wagner. By LOUIS NOHL. Translated from the German by GEORGE P. UPTON. 12mo. pp. 204, with portrait. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, \$1.25.

The time has passed when a shallow sneer at the "music of the future" was thought either witty or wise. It has become the music of the present. The grand, sublime, and massive strains of Wagner make the tinkling melodies of Italian music seem trivial and thin. This volume describes the process by which this revolution in musical taste has taken place. The great corypheus of this movement is Wagner. Competent critics have described him as the greatest master of the tuneful art who ever lived. This book not merely records the events of his life, but analyses his great works and traces the musical development of his genius. To Dr. Nohl has been awarded the prize for the best essay on "Wagner's influence on the national art," a proof of his eminent qualification for the task of writing the biography of the great master.

Music-Study in Germany. From the Home Correspondence of AMY FAY. 12mo., pp. 352. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Co. Price, \$1.25.

This is a book in which our young lady readers will delight. It is the bright and piquant narration of an American girl's experience in a German musical conservatory, also with Kullak, Liszt, and Deppe, the greatest living teachers of the piano. The book gives charming pictures of German home-life and social entertainment; breezy sketches of Rhine travel, and residence in Berlin, Dresden, Wiemar, Brussels, and Hamburg; and especially musical criticism and gossip about Tausig, Schumann, Rubenstein, Von Eulow, Kullak, and Liszt. With the grand old Abbe the fair writer seems to have been fascinated; conscientious music practice is pretty severe work. The writer deplors the lack of home comforts, and especially of religious life in Germany. The editor of the book remarks in conclu-

sion, "American teachers best understand American temperament, and therefore are by far the best for American pupils till they have got beyond the pupil stage. Not manual skill, but musical insight and conception, wider and deeper musical comprehension, and concert style, are what the young artist should now go to seek in that marvellous and only real home of music—GERMANY." Young ladies studying music will gain many valuable suggestions from this book.

A Tragedy at Constantinople. By LEILA-HANOUM. 12mo., pp. 299. New York: William S. Gottsberger. Price 90 cents.

This graphic narrative draws aside the veil that conceals the jealousies, intrigues, and crimes of the Seraglio. The "tragedy" is the death of the late Sultan Abdul Aziz, attributed to suicide, but now known to have been murder. It is a picture of a social condition doomed to extinction—and not a moment too soon. The removal of the Turk, "bag and baggage," across the Bosphorus, will lift an incubus from one of the fairest portions of Europe, and give back to Christian civilization a land now cursed with Moslem oppression. Spite of his iron-clads and his palaces, and veneer of French polish, the Sultan's rule is, in essence, not far removed from the barbarism of Bajazet.

CORRECTION.—In our notice of Messrs. Hatton & Harvey's admirable illustrated work on Newfoundland, Historical and Descriptive, we quoted its price as \$3.75. This was a mistake. It should have been \$2.50. The American edition is revised and improved from the English edition, yet it is offered at a much lower price. Hence the misquotation of price was not detected. This book should have a large sale in Canada. It is exceedingly interesting and instructive, as we will show in an article based upon it in our next number. It may be ordered from our Book Rooms at Toronto, Montreal, and Halifax, for \$2.50.