

success in future years than it has yet done in the past. The system adopted is good, the standard is high, but the teachers are good and thoroughly equal to the requirements of their respective departments. This being so we have no fear but that the Conservatory will strengthen its position considerably in the immediate future.

WILLIAM J. FLORENCE will sail in a few days to join Miss Florence in Europe.

SARAH BERNHARDT has postponed her London engagement two weeks, as she is suffering from rheumatism.

"A CONNECTICUT YANKEE at the court of King Arthur," Mark Twain's latest book, is being dramatized by Howard P. Taylor by arrangement with the author.

LAST week Robert Mantell took out papers declaring his intention of becoming a citizen of the United States. Mr. Mantell was born in Irvine, in Ayrshire, Scotland.

ONE of the funny things in "Cerise and Co.," the new London farce, is the introduction of a woman's hat exchange, an institution where society women may, upon paying a small subscription, change their hats and bonnets *ad infinitum*, and thus paralyze their women friends with envy.

THE French Government supports music and the drama by the following appropriations for 1891: Grand Opera, \$160,000; Theatre Francais, \$48,000; Opera Comique, \$60,000; Odéon, \$20,000; Concerts Lamoureux, \$2,000; Colonne, \$2,000; popular concerts \$2,000, and besides these sums \$2,000 additional for the general encouragement of musical and dramatic enterprises.

W. S. GILBERT has signed a partnership with Alfred Cellier, and they will begin at once to write a comic opera with which Horace Sedger will commence his management of the Lyric Theatre. Gilbert swears that he will never allow any of the operas produced by the new firm to be played in America, and D'Oyley Carte says he will never handle any of Gilbert and Cellier's works. Sullivan will probably collaborate with George R. Sims.

It is reported that Sembrich is coming back here next year. Sembrich has the same curious quality of personal magnetism which Mme. Patti possesses in such an extreme degree, besides a fair share of good looks and a voice of great richness and power. It was said that the Czar of Russia had made up his mind last year to keep Mme. Sembrich in St. Petersburg forever, and it looks as though he may have his way, for the *diva* is extremely fond of the Russians.

MARGARET MATHER, whose manager has purchased all the rights to Jules Barbier's "Jeanne d'Arc," in which Bernhardt made such a hit, is now in Europe studying the part with the French actress, who was to appear in it in London, June 16. The New York production will be very elaborate, and Gounod's music composed for it will be one of its features. In costumes and spectacular effects it will be identical with the Porte St. Martin production.

MARY ANDERSON, who may fairly be considered America's leading actress at the present time, was married on Tuesday fortnight to young Mr. Navarro. It is stated that she will never appear on the stage again; but this may be taken with a grain of salt. Miss Anderson is only thirty-one, and there are few cases on record where women who have tasted the sweets of fame have been willing to relinquish those confections for the bread and cheese and kisses of domesticity.

A WRITER in *Nuova Italia* has interviewed Verdi, who has been passing some months in the Doria Palace at Genoa. The interviewer describes him as in excellent health, his eyes full of fire, his beard white and flowing. Being asked whether the world was to consider his "Otello" as his last work, as the song of the swan, he replied: "I do not know. At present I feel tired. But who can tell what I may do yet—if the inspiration comes to me." His interviewer gathered the idea that Verdi's days of composition are not yet over.

EDWARD STRAUSS has been so provoked by harsh criticism in the Pittsburg papers, that he has written a letter denying that he has any American musicians in his orchestra. The nationality of his musicians has little to do with the case. Audiences would not care whether the orchestra was made up of Viennese or Esquimaux, if it were in any way a remarkable body of instrumentalists. Perhaps the Strauss aggregation would be the better for the introduction of a few American musicians such as compose the Thomas forces.

LAWRENCE BARRETT has brought from England a tragedy, "Thomas à Becket," the central figure of which is that great prelate, who was one of the master-spirits of his age, and whose career was full of dramatic incident. At the close of the Booth-Barrett season next spring Mr. Barrett will add "Thomas à Becket" to the long list of poetic plays which this representative American actor has had the courage and enterprise to bring forward. The author is an English gentleman, who—*mirabile dictu*!—does not wish to be known.

THE amphitheatre of the new Madison Square Garden is completed and the claim is made for it that it is the largest hall of public entertainment in the world. There may be some doubt of the correctness of this claim but the hall is certainly an immense one. It will seat 9,000 persons and will provide standing room for 5,000 more. It can be

used for circus performances, for conventions and great public assemblies and for concerts. New York has long needed such a place as this. The old Madison Square Garden, though covering the same plot of ground, was not constructed as this has been—to give the largest amount of available space.

GREAT musical festivals are capable of being made financially successful in this country. The recent Handel and Haydn festival in Boston, with four concerts by local performers, about paid expenses. Cincinnati's festival, which included seven concerts, was made expensive by the taking to that city of a hundred instrumentalists from New York, but the expenses footed up only \$39,000 while the receipts were \$47,000, leaving a good margin of profit, enough at least to encourage similar undertakings. The chief essential to success is a very large hall in which concerts of the highest class can be given with moderate charges of admission.

LIBRARY TABLE.

BY ORDER OF THE CZAR. A Novel. By Joseph Hatton. Montreal: John Lovell and Son.

Mr. Hatton has founded his story on an incident related in the *Brooklyn Times*, and by the aid of local colour and topographical study has worked out a sufficiently pitiful and exasperating story. Dick Chetwynd and the Klostocks are well drawn and one cannot but sympathize with those who became Nihilists under such provocation. The knowledge that such conditions exist lends attractiveness to the tale.

EVOLUTION, ANTIQUITY OF MAN, BACTERIA, ETC. By William Durham. Edinburgh: A. and C. Black; Toronto: Williamson's.

This volume, which is to be followed by another on Astronomy and Physics, contains a series of papers originally contributed to the *Scotsman*, and intended to present in concise yet complete form the general results of scientific investigation for the benefit of those who do not possess sufficient leisure to read at length. Taken as a whole the book is really a continued illustration of the evolutionary principle put in a popular and attractive form. The present volume and its successor come under the general title of "Science in Plain Language," and the one before us fully justifies the title. The papers are full of information given in an easy and pleasantly unpedantic way, and totally free from all the tedium of scientific detail.

HISTORY OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA. By William P. Gresswell, M.A. Oxford: Clarendon Press; London: Frowde.

The author announces this short study of the "History of the Dominion" as the first of "a series designed to illustrate the progress of our three great self-governing groups of Colonies." Primarily, of course, it is an educational book but it will doubtless prove useful to the general reader. Although Mr. Gresswell takes his readers back to the times of Columbus and the Cabots the history of Canada proper can hardly be said to begin with him till the year 1783. Future historians will probably regard Confederation as the initial stage of Dominion history. However it seems necessary, in order to thoroughly understand Canadian records, to trace *seriatim* the development of the different provinces, including Newfoundland. This of course was impossible in a work of limited compass, but the author has noted in a fairly comprehensive way the chief points of interest. Bancroft and Parkman have been drawn upon considerably while Kingsford and Bryce have been consulted. The maps are good, having been specially prepared.

ARTICLES AND DISCUSSIONS ON THE LABOUR QUESTION. By Wheelbarrow. Chicago: Open Court Publishing Company.

"Wheelbarrow" is not a philosopher pure and simple, but a man of the people—one who, to use his own expression, "has never had time to study the principles of political economy or social science, but upon whom the facts of both have fallen heavily as with a hammer," to which cause we may attribute the pith and pregnancy of this series of vivid and interesting presentations of the various sides of the labour problem. We are glad to trace in the different essays which make up the volume an entire absence of a dogmatic spirit; while the tone is bright, fair, and eminently sympathetic, it is yet the tone of one who has felt the burdens and experienced the ills which afflict the masses, and which he acknowledges, much to his credit, are not altogether due to the classes. In "Signing the Document" Wheelbarrow condemns the tyranny once exercised by employers in compelling their employees to bind themselves not to form unions, while he likewise shows the consequences of acceptance or refusal. The following essay grasps the reverse side and depicts the folly and greed of unions in closing the avenues of labour to those who do not belong to their particular combination. "Live and let live" is an exposition of the highest fraternal principle in labour, but one which on grounds of commercial interest alone will not, we fear, obtain this side of the millennium. The competition problem engages the author's attention and with it the kindred subject of convict labour, the solution of which we lately saw attempted over the border, and, still nearer home, in Toronto itself.

Wheelbarrow does not offer a moral solution of the question, or show the deteriorating influences of idleness or of useless labour, such as carrying sand from C to D and thence back to C. He simply points out that unless such moral deterioration is faced the convict competition must fall on some one branch, and had therefore better be divided over the many. To which, we think, he might have added the fact that had all these convicts been citizens in good standing the competition would be no greater in the aggregate than it is when these citizens are convicts in jail. Therefore the real sum of competition is not affected, though prices are. The remedying of the scale of prices seems therefore the true solution. The subject of metallic standards does not escape, and the one hard fact that at bottom it is the actual value of the metal which determines the real value of the coin, and not the legal tender, which is temporary and fictitious, is insisted on. The gold and silver dollar is the example cited and perhaps the most telling one available. There are various other essays, the arguments in which are not always conclusive and perhaps not intended to be, for the author writes rather in the spirit of enquiry than in that of the special pleader. The volume closes with a controversy with Hugh O. Pentecost and others on the "Single tax movement," the fallacy of which in some of its bearings, notably that of the assumed difference between land value and product of labour, is deftly exposed. The book is on the whole a very readable and useful contribution to the discussion of the labour problem.

WE have received from William Bryce No. 75 of his "Library" series, "Forging the Fetters," by Mrs. Alexander.

CASSELL'S *Family Magazine* for July is to hand, full as ever of good and varied reading. "Aerial Photography" is an attractive and well-illustrated article.

WE have received Nos. VII.-VIII.-IX., of the Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science. This is a supplement to "The Negro in Maryland," and concerns itself about the progress of the coloured population of that State since the war. It is by Jeffrey R. Brackett, Ph.D., and is chatty and interesting, being rather in the nature of an essay than a scientific study.

THE *Overland Monthly* for June has a clever paper, unsigned, on Spencer's Utopian idea of co-operation. Edward Berwick writes on "Farming in 2000 A.D.," and "Looking Backward in Peru" is a borrowed idea interestingly worked out. "Social Transformation" is a thoughtful article and so is the "Future of Industrialism" though the author's conclusions will bear criticism. Numerous other papers make up a good number.

La *Revue Française* for June contains fresh instalments of Henri de Bornier's poetic drama "Mahomet" and Jules Simon's "Liberté." The Marquis de Pedrosso talks about "Les Américains chez eux," but we fancy it is a field in which Max O'Rell has culled all the best flowers. Leon Seche has a Chouan tale, "Le Roman d'une Vendéenne," and there are some fair literary portraits of contemporary authors.

JEFFERSON DAVIS is the subject of a sonnet by Henry Stockard in *Belford's* for July. "The form is faulty but the thought is fine." The articles are far too numerous to mention. But we might select out of the abundance of good reading the papers on "Mormonism in Idaho," "The Gardeners of Kentucky" and M. M. Trumbull's article on "The Chartist Movement in England." *Belford's* is so full and bright in every department that one can dip at random and be satisfied.

THE *Quiver* for July is as varied as usual, containing descriptive papers, short stories, poetry, music, and articles of a theological nature. The serials are continued, one of them to its closing chapter, and the frontispiece is an idealistic embodiment of "A Summer Thought." The "Upper Class Salvation Army" is described by F. M. Holmes, under the title of "A Day with the Church Army," and Sidney Paget has a good story in three chapters, entitled "A Broken Will."

OSCAR WILDE occupies the place of honour in the July *Lippincott's* with a strong and tragic story entitled "Dorian Gray." An interesting article is that by Edward Heron Allen, called "The Cheiromancy of To-day," in which is given a short account of how to derive knowledge of character from the lines and general formation of the human hand. Mrs. Bloomfield Moore has a thoughtful article on "Keeley's Contributions to Science." To the second instalment of "Round Robin Talks," Julian Hawthorne, Col. Ochiltree, Moses P. Handy, and others contribute their quota of interesting and amusing matter, and there is an eloquent sketch of Senator Ingalls. The poetry is by Mrs. Stoddard and Rose Lathrop.

MISS FANNY MURFREE, sister to "Charles Egbert Craddock," begins her serial "Felicia" in the July *Atlantic*, but it does not promise great things. Frank Gaylord Cook reverts to the infancy of the enlightened Republic in his paper on Richard Henry Lee and "Science and the African Problem," affords to N. S. Shaler a basis for a short historical, anthropological and social enquiry into the negro race. The instalment of Mrs. Deland's "Sidney" is rather a melancholy one. Other articles are by Albert Hart on "The Status of Athletics in American Colleges," a short story by Sarah Orne Jewett, a pleasant talk about Odysseus and Nausicaa, by W. C. Lawton, and No. VIII. of "Over the Teacups," by Oliver Wendell Holmes, to