

THE ARTS.

MR. GEORGE DU MAURIER has on view, at the Fine Art Society's Rooms in New Bond Street, two hundred drawings which are as interesting to the humorist as to the artist, closely resembling as they do the style of caricature immortalised by the late Mr. John Leech. They embrace many of the author's most successful ideas, which, like his "Things One Would Rather Have Left Unsaid," are essentially witty, and appropriate to the public taste of England. Mr. Du Maurier is a capital draughtsman, and has the clearest manner of expressing the sense of humour in his designs; to illustrate which we will give a few examples of the collection. The child, referring to a Scotchman playing upon a bagpipes, is called "A Young Humanitarian." "Oh mamma, couldn't you interfere? there is a horrid man squeezing something under his arm, he is hurting it so." Again, we have a deaf old gentleman: "The conversation seems very amusing, my dear. What is it all about?" Hostess (fortissimo): "When they say anything worth repeating, grandpapa, I'll tell you." One other comically suggestive little drawing of a child noticing a dead horse being carried away in a cart, followed by a number of other miserable-looking horses going to be slaughtered, bears the title of "Sic transit!" Effie: "Poor things! I suppose they are going to the funeral of that poor dead horse, that's why they look so sad."

A WELL-KNOWN Continental artist, Signor H. Campotosto, of Kensington Gardens Square, long resident in England, has been engaged in painting a large commemorative picture of the Queen. His design, which is highly imaginative and symbolical, portrays Her Majesty surrounded by seraphs. The picture has by command of the Queen been sent to Windsor Castle; it has also been exhibited at Clarence House to the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh. Another of Her Majesty's commands was issued to Sir Oswald Brierly, whose attendance was required on board the royal yacht to make sketches of the naval review. This notable marine event has been reproduced by a whole army of artists, among others Mr. R. Canton Woodville, also from the deck of the *Victoria and Albert*; Mr. L. Speed, of the *Illustrated London News* staff, from the immense *Silvertown* cable ship belonging to the India Rubber, Gutta Percha and Telegraph Works Co.; Mr. Melton Prior, from the steam-boat of the London and South-Western Railway; Mr. Overend, from H.M.S. *Assistance*, and Mr. J. R. Wells, from the Indian troop ship *Himalaya*. There is evidently no fear of this spectacular feature of the Jubilee being lost to posterity, indeed the chances are largely in favour of its being done to death. Mr. J. R. Wells' large coloured illustration for the *Illustrated London News* does not strike us as being particularly happy in tone or effect, recalling vividly the garish colouring of some years back. There is an all-over olive-green tone about sea, sky, and ships, which has been too realistically reproduced to make a pleasant picture.

MR. GEORGE TINWORTH, the eminent artist, whose name is so much associated with the recent creations of Messrs. Doulton's Pottery Works, has just completed a terra cotta reredos, font, and pulpit for the Prince and Princess of Wales, of the now celebrated Doulton ware. On referring to some old notes we discover that Mr. Tinworth began his career in the employment of the above firm at Lambeth. He is of humble origin, but early evinced artistic tastes, which were promptly recognised and appreciated by the Messrs. Doulton, who gave him every opportunity of developing them. He inherited from his mother a deeply religious temperament, and all his subjects illustrate some Scripture incident, and are eminently adapted to ecclesiastical ornament; in fact, that is the atmosphere most congenial to him, and in which he feels thoroughly inspired and at home. The furniture in question is intended for the Church of St. Alban's at Copenhagen.

THE nomination of M. Deck to the directorship of the Sévres manufactory is likely to produce a revolution in that establishment, which, after having been the pride of the nation, is now wofully behind the age, as much from a scientific as an artistic point of view. Many of the old processes have been forgotten, or have fallen into disuse, and the art element has been at a standstill, while this same branch of industry in other countries and especially in England has been making the most wonderful strides.

THE Queen of Portugal is an accomplished potter. When staying at the seaside last year she constantly visited an important pottery factory in the neighbourhood, and was so interested in it that she took lessons in the whole process. Now Queen Maria Pia has become a first-rate workwoman, and turns out most artistic vases, bowls, cups, etc. Her Majesty, it may not be remembered, is a daughter of the illustrious Victor Emmanuel.

THE STAGE.

THE London opera season closed in the end of July with the six weeks' performances, conducted under the management of Mr. Augustus Harris, which introduced to the public several new and promising artists. Among the eminently successful may be mentioned Mlle. Sigrid Arnoldsén, M. Jean de Rezke and Signori Navairini and Battistine, who made their first appearance in England. Some of the Drury Lane presentations have been characterised by special features, among others the production of the *Walpurgis Night* in "Faust," hitherto omitted, and of part of the last act of "Les Huguenots," which has not been given for many years.

M. GOUNOD's new mass in memory of Joan of Arc, which was performed in the Cathedral of Rheims recently, proved very impressive from its musical merit as well as the historical associations connected with its purpose. It will soon be given in London.

THE visit of Sarah Bernhardt to England's metropolis has covered her with fresh laurels; her marvellous impersonations of Theodora, Marguerite Gauthier, Gilberte, and Jean Marie have been the general topic of conversation, and enthusiasm has been unlimited. A great difference is remarked by the press between her present performances and those of her former appearances in London, especially that of last year, which is spoken of as being careless, indifferent, and listless, the actress seeming fatigued by travel, worried by care, and harassed by commerce, her star no longer in the ascendant. A change has now come over the spirit of her dream; it is many, many seasons since she has played as lately. She is once more artist and actress; the greatest dramatic creator, the finest exponent of tragedy since Rachel, nay, one of the very few examples of genius that the stage has given us in our time. Ristori in her best days may have been more severely classical, and Aimée Desclée in certain characters her superior in introspection and searching analysis of the soul; but in passages of love, hate, terror, and despair; in all that is passionately human in woman as contrasted with the spiritual, Sarah Bernhardt has had and has no rival whatever. A most capricious genius certainly, one night playing so carelessly that she has not made one pulse in her audience stir, the next every creature sitting literally spell-bound. Often she has played half the drama with indifference, the second part with consummate power. In this erratic element of her genius she strongly resembles Edmund Kean, who never impersonated Othello or Shylock with the same vigour and persuasive force on successive nights.

SARAH BERNHARDT found time in the interval of twenty-four hours between two representations at the Lyceum Theatre to pay a flying visit to her beloved Paris from which she had been absent more than a year. There was a large gathering at the station to meet the popular actress, conspicuous among her friends being Mlle. Abbema. M. Grau, her manager, has secured for her M. Cantin's house during her short stay in the capital, it being her intention to spend some time at Caunterets to recruit from the fatigues of her London season.

MISS HARRIET JAY, the popular authoress who has taken the Novelty Theatre, will commence her season with a new drama by Mr. Robert Buchanan, entitled the "Blue Bells of Scotland," the scene of which is laid partly in Scotland and partly in England and the British possessions in Burmah. Mr. Henry Neville has been engaged to impersonate the hero.

MISS AMY ROSELLE has ceased to support Mrs. Potter, and in the end of July started with her husband, Mr. Arthur Dacre, on a provincial tour, to be opened at Birmingham with a new play by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Merivale, entitled "Our Joan," and a new drama by Mr. Jas. Blood founded on Miss Braddon's novel, "Twixt Kith and Kin."

WE are glad to learn from telegraphic reports that the energetic American society actress, whose name we confess to being a little weary of seeing in print, has made a hit at the Gaiety with "Loyal Love." The plot of this piece is bright and vivacious and the cast excellent, including Mr. Kyrle Bellow in the leading part. The artiste's role is an exceedingly trying one, but more suited to her capacities than those she has before attempted. Her acting is much improved, and she was recalled three times.

THE latest development of the Wild Westerns has taken the form of a social club rejoicing in the effective title of "The Welcome," which has just been opened in the grounds of the American Exhibition, and is replete with luxuries and novelties, among the former being the Royal Pavilion intended specially for the use of the Royal Princes and Princesses, which is a charming little retreat, effectively decorated in true Louis XVI. style with white carved wood furniture covered with satin and brocade. Among the latter an attractive buffet draped with electric blue plush and oriental fringes, where American iced drinks may be obtained in endless variety. Only gentlemen are admitted as members, but each member may bring a lady guest, hence that elegant portion of the building set apart for the use of the fair sex, yept the ladies' pavilion. This select institution was inaugurated by a garden party given by the members to their friends, which proved one of the most attractive events of the waning season, a number of distinguished aristocratic and titled guests being present. Indeed, the ex-scout and his cowboys have been right royally entertained by the best blood of England, and can have no want of hospitality to complain of in the prosecution of their American enterprise.

THE French Chamber has voted £20,000 for the temporary installation of the Opera Comique; that is to say, £4,000 for the rental of one of the Parisian theatres, and £16,000 for scenery, properties, and costume.

CURRENT COMMENT.

THE Cynthia of the minute is certainly the Hon. William Cody. Perhaps, indeed, he is something more; for he was that when I wrote my last letter, though—to my shame be it recorded—I forgot to mention his romantic name. It is true that some ill-natured folk have compared him with Barnum, and that the dire word "circus" has been mentioned more than once in connection with him. But, none the less, at the "Yankeries" and elsewhere he is doing an enormous business. He goes everywhere and sees everybody; and twice a day the populace comes westward in its thousands and its tens of thousands, and does him honour in his public capacity. He is the "Yankeries" à lui seul, and without him the speculation must, I think, have been a mournful failure. What the public wants is not American machinery, nor even American art, but Buffalo Bill; and that gentleman may take credit to himself for a tremendous success. We are like Panurge's sheep, we English: Where one leads the rest will follow in flock. It was so when Mrs. Langtry played