

The Arion,

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EDITORIAL.

True to our promise, and in spite of no little discouragement, with this number of THE ARION we complete our first volume. The berries were red on the Mountain Ash when "our" Mr. ARION took his plunge into the sea, again the berries are red, a cycle of months has completed its period, and turned, as a page that has been read in the vast volume of time, the year, with its record of joys and sorrow, successes and failures has passed away. True to our promise, we have made no compromise with that which is false, but to the satisfaction of others as we have stated in one of our early editorials, we did not expect to please all, and in that expectation, at least, we have not been disappointed, nevertheless the encouragement with which we have met from time to time from those, on whose judgments we felt we could rely, has acted as a counter, and stimulated us to persevere in the course we had marked out. For the coming month we purpose taking a rest from the duties and responsibilities of an issue. We are induced to do so for two reasons, the first of which is that there is little or nothing doing in the music world just at present, and the second, that we wish to place THE ARION upon a secure financial basis for the coming year, and to do this requires a little more time, which under the present circumstances we find very difficult to obtain. With reference to unpaid subscriptions we would respectfully remind the delinquents that our publisher is insatiable and always hungry for money, and we look to them for the wherewithal to appease his appetite. We hope that the names of our present subscribers may continue upon our list for another year. We shall issue, at Xmas, a presentation composition as before. Our anecdotes, sketches of and events in the lives of composers and musicians will be continued. Our criticism and reviews will be conducted on the same independent and earnest footing as heretofore. Our editorials will speak out plainly when a principle is involved, but will avoid personalities as far as it is possible so to do. We feel constrained to express our regret that the members of the profession have not shown a more lively interest in the work of the journal, although frequently invited to contribute their ideas. With one or two exceptions during the past year we have received not a line on any subject from any member of the profession. We have frequently stated that our columns were open to discussions on Music and Art subjects, likely to prove of interest to the public and the profession. Can it be that the votaries of Music and Art have no ideas, or it is that they cannot give expression to them in writing, they are too busy

coining money, or is it that they do not possess that *Esprit de Corps* which in other professions, however such individuals may be divided in opinions still binds them in the chain of professional brotherhood. We hope that the coming year will witness a marked change in this respect, and that each number will contain some expression of interest in the form of an essay, item of news or other article. We cannot close our remarks without expressing our thanks to our able editor of the Art Department whose articles have contributed so much to the interest of the journal. Our index will be found on the first page (usually occupied by the editorials). This we do for the accommodation of those who may wish to bind the numbers on hand, which we can supply at the price marked if any of our readers should wish them to make the volume good. And now, kind readers, friends and subscribers we wish for the present adieu.

THE article headed "Musical Chicanery," and which we copy from *The American Art Journal* will help to prove that we do not hold singular views with regard to the teachers and professors of music. The fourth paragraph is especially worthy of attention, and we add that our sharp business men and women who will bargain for the value of a cent in the purchase of the necessaries of life will pay away their dollars term after term and year after year to incompetent and unqualified teachers of music getting no adequate value in return, and simply because they have no means of determining accurately for themselves as to the ability of the teachers who, as a rule, the more ignorant, the more pretentious they are. The rest of the article speaks strongly for itself, and is well worthy the attention of those who are laying out their money in the musical education of their children. Happy would they be if some of the teachers would take a hint, and better qualify themselves or at least drop some of their pretensions, but although this is a consummation to be wished for it is scarcely likely to be realized. While fish may be caught with a piece of red flannel no fishermen will go to the trouble and expense of procuring real bait.

STUDIO NOTES.

IMPRESSIONISM.

The present age appears to bear the very marked characteristic of running after new ideas. So strong, indeed is the craving for this, that one thing hardly has time to become old before something else takes its place, and what was "all the rage" yesterday is buried at last if not