

Literature and Art.

National schools of drawing are to be established in Paris, and lectures on art will be given at the city's expense.

Mr. MILLAIS is quoted as saying that Miss ELIZABETH THOMPSON'S (Mrs. BUTLER) drawing is almost unrivalled in respect of exactitude.

A large picture of the late Prince LOUIS NAPOLEON in Zululand is being painted by Mr. R. C. WOODVILLE, a well known young English painter.

The sculptor MERCIER has been appointed officer of the Legion of Honor and the painters BASTIEN-LAPAGE, FANTIN-LA-ZOUR, EHRMANN, together with the lithographer CHAUVEL, have been nominated Chevaliers.

Before distributing the prizes at the Westminster Industrial Exhibition, Lord BEACONSFIELD delivered a speech replete with good sense and good advice, and his lordship will have rendered an important public service if his address stimulates the working man to devote some part of his leisure to the production of works of industry of such excellence in design and workmanship as to make them really works of art.

In the "Life of Charles Lever" occurs this pleasant paragraph about the bright novelist:—"To judge from the exploits of Lorrequer and O'Mally in the field of flirtation, LEVER might well be supposed to have had considerable experience and aptitude as a Lothario; but his companion from youth, Major D—, assures us that this was in reality not the case, for although delighting in female society, he seems to have never had but one real love affair—the one which began in his boyhood, and ended only with his life." LEVER read all his novels to his wife, and pruned as she pleased. From the day she died, he felt that his right hand had lost its cunning; and in dedicating "Lord Kilgobin" to her memory, he declares that it must be his last.

And this is said of TENNYSON. LONGFELLOW'S great contemporary—A clergyman has recently died in Lincolnshire, England, who, it is said, was the man that won the affections of that "shallow-hearted" Cousin Amy, familiar to every one who knows TENNYSON'S "Locksley Hall;" and who does not? He was very fond of horses, and extravagant stories are told of his love for dogs. It is to him that the following lines refer:

"As the husband is, the wife is. Thou art mated with a clown,
And the grossness of his nature will have weight to drag thee down.
He will hold thee, when his passion shall have lost its novel force,
Something better than his dog, a little dearer than his horse."

SIGNOR V. CESATI writes to the *Rassegna Settimanale* that he had often wondered why LONGFELLOW should have employed in the title of "Excelsior" the masculine adjective in preference to the adverbial neuter form. Encouraged by an American friend he wrote to the poet and received the following reply:—"MY DEAR SIR: I have had the pleasure of receiving your card, with your friendly criticism on the word 'Excelsior.' In reply I would say, by way of explanation, that the device on the banner is not to be interpreted 'ascende superius,' but 'scopus meus excelsior est.'

This will make evident why I say 'Excelsior,' and not 'Excelsius.'" With great regard,

Yours truly,
HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.

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The Royal Academy has never been honored by a picture from Mr. BURNE JONES.

MARK TWAIN has got a great deal more money for his play, *The Gilded Age*, than SHAKESPEARE got for all of his dramas. Now, which would you rather be SHAKESPEARE or MARK?—*Boston Post*.

Stage Whispers.

A recent outgoing vessel had among her passengers a Mr. and Mrs. PINNER and two daughters. That's one pinner-four company less in the country. Thank Heaven!—*Baltimore Every Saturday*.

The report that SARA BERNHARDT is to receive about a thousand dollars a night during her American engagement will probably lead hundreds of good girls to become poor actresses.—*N. Y. Herald*.

Miss MINNIE HAWK has just given in London her hundredth representation of *Carmen*. She was surrounded by flowers and received a memorial of the occasion in the shape of a beautiful Spanish necklace.

Miss FLORENCE HYDE and Mr. IVEF, members of a London *Pinafore* company, were recently drowned in the Avon, near Bath, while on a boating excursion, just after finishing an engagement at Bath.

The new comic opera by Messrs. W. S. GILBERT and ARTHUR SULLIVAN, entitled *The Bold Burglar*, to be produced at the Broadway Theatre, New York, in the fall, is described by the London papers as a humorous satire upon the romance of crime.

"The Octoroon" occupies the boards of the Royal Opera House this week.—The play is well put on, and admirably acted by the GOTTHOLD Combination. Notwithstanding the fact that the Sentimental Negro is to a great degree "played out" the good acting of the company, and the intrinsic merits of the play, could not fail to make it a success. The peculiar weather of course "hurt the house," still the audiences were very fair and decidedly appreciative. It would be invidious to particularize any of the actors, as they all took their respective roles well. We were glad to see one of our Toronto actors (Mr. ALLAN HALFORD) in the part of *George Peyton*, which he played with his usual carefulness and good taste. Next week MCKEE RANKIN and *The Danites*.

An extraordinary scene was witnessed at Covent Garden last week, says *Figaro*, when Madame ADELINA PATTI, took her usual annual benefit. The opera selected for this occasion was ROSSINI'S "Barbieri di Siviglia," and directly her smiling face was first seen, she was greeted with a volley of hisses, hooting, and whistling from the gallery. Counter demonstrations were vigorously made in other parts of the house, but Madame PATTI, bursting into tears, retired—closing the balcony window behind her, and after a painful pause the curtain was dropped. Presently the curtain rose again, and the great *prima donna*, greeted by cheers so loud and enthusiastic that hostility was silenced, came forward and sang. "Una voce poco fa" (transposed into E major) with the exquisite finish of style for which she is famous. From this point all signs of enmity ceased, and the bouquets, wreaths, and other floral tributes showered upon the *beneficitaire* after the "lesson scene" would have filled a good sized wagon. The withdrawal of Madame PATTI's name from the programme of the Italian charity concert recently given appears to have given umbrage to some Italians, who adopted an ungenerous mode of expressing their displeasure. They were soon silenced, and this petty spite was rendered additionally contemptible by the fervent applause bestowed on Madame PATTI throughout the opera by the large audience, amongst whom their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh were conspicuously demonstrative.