

a wonderful procession of geniuses? High thinking with plain living would do a good deal for Canada at the present juncture.

The feeling about the kilted regiment runs high in certain quarters and well it may. The city should never have been asked to grant any monies towards such an end. The promoters of the scheme could very well find a sum sufficient among themselves, and as they are the only people really interested in the enterprise they might safely be left to carry it out. We require so many more, vastly more important things than a kilted regiment, that it puts us really a little out of temper to see money going where it need not go. Apart from sanitary and civic reforms, we require to pay up all debts on churches, to open Loan Museums and to conduct successfully Canadian magazines run by Canadian capital.

Here is Mrs. Jameson's picture of our Queen City in November, 1836:—

"What Toronto may be in summer I cannot tell; they say it is a pretty place. At present its appearance to me, a stranger, is most strangely mean and melancholy. A little ill-built town on low land, at the bottom of a frozen bay, with one very ugly church without tower or steeple; some Government offices built of staring red brick in the most tasteless vulgar taste imaginable; three feet of snow all around, and the grey, sullen, uninviting lake, and the dark gloom of the pine forest bounding the prospect. Such seems Toronto to me now."

## CORRESPONDENCE.

HOODLING.

To the Editor of THE WEEK:

SIR,—It is evident from the Ottawa revelations that rascals have been working the manipulating wires. The order now is "Let go!" and those who will not obey the command must have their hands chopped off. The question is: "Who is to do it?" Parliamentary Committees or Commissions will not accomplish much: they seldom do. Party managers will do still less: 'tis their nature. I fear that the remedy lies with the people, with their voices and their votes, and with them alone. Now, at any rate, it is the people's bounden duty to stop all this hoodling. Hitherto they may have been hoodwinked and bamboozled into the belief that the rumours thick in the air had little or no foundation in fact. Now, however, their eyes are opened, and it will be their own fault if they be hoodwinked or bamboozled again. I say that I "fear" it rests with the people to kill the snake that has left its slimy trail on Canadian politics. I fear it because the public memory is so short-lived (Gladstone says so), and after a grand display of proper indignation the people will shut their eyes and go to sleep again, leaving hoodlism triumphant, until rudely re-awakened by another Tarte, when the whole thing will be gone over again, and then—to sleep once more. It is this that should be prevented. The public ought to be kept awake—wide awake, and I suggest that an anti-hoodling association be formed, with vigilance-committees all over the Dominion. These should be on the look-out for cases of corruption in their respective localities, and the central executive should drive into limbo both hoodlers and boodles, the receivers as well as the thieves. Of course such an association would be fettered to no party, would, indeed, consist of the honesty and independency of all parties, and might do something to remove from Canadian politics the foul disgrace that weighs so heavily upon it.

WM. TRANT.

Cotham, Assiniboia, Oct. 8, 1891.

## ART NOTES.

A BEAUTIFUL little oil painting, representing a waterfall, may be seen at the rooms of Mr. Roberts, on King Street West. It is from the brush of Mr. J. B. Smith, an English artist, who has made waterfalls a special study. The fall is softly yet effectively treated; the flow of brown water over the rocky bed of the river below the fall is especially well done, as is also the treatment of tree and sky. Our young art students would find an occasional visit to the rooms of our leading art dealers very beneficial, as they would there be able to observe, if not study, works of matured excellence.

In the company of Cecil Lawson, Swan, Daubigny, Peppercorn, Arthur Melville, Troyon and other painters of distinction, Messrs. Boussod and Valadon are showing Mr. G. Léon Little's latest work, "Moonlight: Thanet." Certainly romanticism has never struck a higher note than this picture strikes. It coheres, it is absolutely perfect in technique, and, as a colour scheme, nothing could be more sensuous and satisfying. Mr. Little recognizes the fact that cloud forms have as much drawing about them as animals or trees; moreover, his clouds move. The artist has succeeded in conveying a sense of breadth and bigness within the limits of a small canvas. To successfully translate a pregnant idea, a big motif, without having recourse to the adventitious aid which a large canvas undoubtedly gives, is one of the most difficult problems the master is called upon to solve. Such a picture as this gives this brilliant young painter the position of unassailable

pre-eminence among the poet-painters of our day. A *Nineteenth Century* reviewer has recently claimed for landscape art a future which shall put to the blush all its previous achievements, and "Moonlight: Thanet" justifies his sanguine hopes.—*Public Opinion*.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

THE GRAND.

THE "Mr. Barnes of New York" company, from Broadway Theatre, brought with them entirely new scenery, costumes, etc. The beach at Ajaccio and the gardens at Monte Carlo being especially well executed. This bright and exhilarating comedy-drama drew large audiences to the Grand the last three nights of last week, Mr. Barnes having many distinguished visitors at his splendidly conducted receptions each night. A more life-like exponent of the familiar character could hardly be conceived than that of Mr. Toland's. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, "H. M. S. Pinafore," has had smooth water and fair weather on the boards of the Grand, whereby she was enabled to entertain her large-hearted patrons through the happy medium of Gilbert and Sullivan's music and mirth. The little sick ones will have every cause to feel grateful to Toronto's amateurs, who have bestirred themselves in the cause of charity. The performances were excellent, showing hard drilling and much native talent, and the receipts must be highly gratifying to those interested. The proprietor and staff of the *Telegram* made special efforts to crown this charitable event with success, and they succeeded. The Tillotson Opera Company, from New York, will sing, "A Night in Venice," which is highly spoken of by the American press, this Friday evening and to-morrow matinée and evening. This opera is Strauss' latest success.

THE TORONTO.

"THE TWO JOHNS," at this Opera House, in their funny effervescent fat feats, caused intense fun during this week, the similarity of these jocund jokers being quite bewildering. Next week, November 9, Corinne, with her clever company in the "Carmen Burlesque," will appear. Bernard Dyllin is said to possess a very fine baritone voice, and handles the Torreador song like an artist.

THE ACADEMY.

GORMAN's old established and clever minstrels appeared at this house during the latter part of last week. They have introduced a new style of first-part, which supersedes the ballad, quartette and chorus singing, so long associated with minstrelsy. Alas! for musical Toronto, as we love to style ourselves, but the spectacle of Emma Juch and empty benches, on the one hand, and Gorman's "Niggers" with "standing room only" on the other hand, is an instructive, if tough, lesson for cultivated music lovers to digest. "Sara," the divinity, came along just too late for this issue, but will be administered to in the next.

NOVEMBER 2ND, 3RD AND 4TH, will witness the presentation of a new Comedy-Drama, "The High-Roller," which has had a very successful run in New York city.

THE PAVILION.

THE Pavilion was quite two-thirds filled on Thursday evening, 22nd inst., with a very enthusiastic audience, gathered to greet the great Hungarian violinist, Remenyi, who has not favoured Canada with a visit for some ten years. His manipulation of his beautiful toned violin has an individuality about it entirely his own. This was especially evident in the lovely "Hungarian Melodies," and in an *encore* number, the "Hymn to Liberty," which brought out all the soulful power of the artist and the instrument he loves. The "Allegro" movement from the "Concerto," by Mendelssohn, fairly roused into a burst of genuine applause the hitherto somewhat apathetic audience. An ovation greeted Remenyi's rendering of his final selection from the "Capriccios," by Paganini. A return concert by this great artist will be looked forward to with distinct pleasure. The assisting members of the company were Mrs. Rice, who possesses a clear soprano voice, skilfully managed, sometimes quite brilliant in her upper register, but at times, in the concerted music, overpowered by the rich, deep contralto of Miss McGregor, whose singing of "A Summer Night" gained her a deserved *encore*. For some unexpressed reason Toronto audiences look more for some other element in contraltos than that of richness, fulness and power, that are chiefly looked for by audiences abroad. Mr. Fessenden's sweet voice blended well with his co-singers.

ASSOCIATION HALL.

ANOTHER charitable cause is to be benefited on Thursday, the 26th of November, when Mr. W. Edgar Buck will give his popular concert-lecture on "The Voice in Speech and Song," for the benefit of the "Children's Aid Society," a most worthy object, seeing that the chief aim of the society is the rescuing of gutter-arabs, the reclaiming of young criminals from jail, the forming of kindergarten mission schools, etc. Mr. Buck will be assisted by several amateur singers at the concert. Mr. Phillips, organist of St. George's Church, will preside as accompanist. Tickets can be had of Mr. Buck at 555 Church Street, and at the music stores. Mr. Morgan, organist, Miss Morgan, harpist, and Miss Hortense Pierse, soprano, of N. Y., appear in concert on November 4th.

THE AUDITORIUM.

MR. BARRINGTON FOOTE, the English baritone, who has had the honour of singing before Her Majesty at a State Concert, together with the really marvellous Mercedes sisters, pianistes from Costa Rica, have delighted their audiences during their three nights stay here. Mr. Foote's open chest voice is manly and free from throatiness; the same cannot be said of his mezza-voce, in the use of which he fell sometimes from pitch; his various song interpretations are quite enjoyable. The piano prodigies are little artistes and free from affectations.

A NEW composition by the Chevalier de Kontski, for orchestra and chorus, entitled, "Liberty Triumphant," was produced quite recently at the Academy of Music, Philadelphia, in connection with the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America.

THE recent discovery of the only perfect copy known to be in existence of the original word-book of the "Messiah," used at the first performance in Dublin, April 13, 1742, forms the subject of a highly interesting pamphlet written by Mr. James C. Culwick, of Dublin. The copy was found among a collection of the word-books of Handel's works, as performed by him in Dublin in 1742, contained in a small quarto volume bound in old calf.

THE London *Musical News* says Rubinstein is about to go to Leipzig, then he will proceed for a short stay to Berlin. He will spend the winter in Dresden, and return to St. Petersburg in the spring. Then comes the final leave of his Russian friends and his journey either to Dresden or to Paris. The great pianist has nearly finished the new volume of his memoirs, in which he criticizes severely Berlioz, Liszt and Wagner, who, he affirms, have retarded the progress of music.

SIBYL SANDERSON, the Swedish nightingale, has been engaged at a large salary for the Imperial Theatre in St. Petersburg to sing there in Massenet's opera, "L'Esclarmonde," in which she was the creator of the leading rôle at the first production of the work in Paris. Her career has been a most brilliant one for so young a singer, and chiefly through the active interest which Massenet took in her success. Later reports come from Paris of the signal success of Miss Sanderson in a revival of "Manon." A new vocal gavotte had been added to the opera for the *prima-donna* to sing. We heard this delightful cantatrice in opera at Drury Lane Theatre in jubilee year; she is called the third Swedish nightingale.

## OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

HISTORICAL ESSAYS. By Henry Adams. Price \$2.00. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons; Toronto: W. Briggs. 1891.

We have here a volume of historical essays of very wide extent and bearing, dealing quite as much with economic questions as with historical. The first is of special interest in these days of Associations for the Advancement of Women, or "Woman," dealing as it does with the "primitive rights of women." As far as we have been able to observe, the interesting facts relating to the subordination of women are given with accuracy and care; and the study of these facts can never be quite unfruitful, even although we may have reached the period when principle has more influence than authority. The second article on Captain John Smith, one of the founders and first historians of Virginia, is not only interesting in itself, but it helps to warn us against the mythical element in these early histories. "Harvard College, 1756-1787" is of interest not only to the alumni of that great university, but to all who are interested in the higher education. A great part of the article consists of records of the doings at the college within the period indicated. "Napoleon I. at St. Domingo" is of especial interest, as showing the manner in which the first Consul dealt with the negro and slavery questions, and also the way in which he neglected the island and lost it for France. The other articles on the "Bank of England Restrictions," the "Declaration of Paris, 1861" (not at all satisfactory to Americans), the "Legal-tender Act," which did so much to change the average of prices in the States, the "New York Gold Conspiracy," which gives some information about the financial methods of Mr. Jay Gould and others. The last paper is on the "Session of 1869-70," a period of transition with consequences which Mr. Adams deprecates.

BEGGARS ALL. A Novel. By L. Dougall. Price \$1.50. London and New York: Longmans; Montreal: W. Drysdale and Company. 1891.

This handsome book comes to us with the double recommendation of Canadian authorship and of the great publishing house of Longman, which seldom condescends to the putting forth of novels, and, when it does, takes care that they are of the best. The book before us, however, has no need of these extrinsic recommendations. It stands upon its own merits, which are considerable.

In the first place, it is written in good, nervous English—no slight advantage at any time, and a special excellence in days of somewhat excessive production and publication, and of a good deal of slipshod writing. We feel that we are in good company and bracing fellowship. A man who writes well thinks well. A cultivated style is the index of a cultivated mind. And this is much to start with. As regards the story itself, it possesses the qualities