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The Field of Art

The Executive and general meetings of the Woman's Art Association for October and November were very well attended, and much business was transacted.

The Ceramic Exhibition in October attracted more than usual attention, the work displayed being of a very high character.

At the close of the exhibition, the china and designs for china were sent to the Arts and Handicrafts Exhibition in Montreal, as well as an exhibit in copper, leather and lace work from the Women's Institute, London, England, and the competitive designs of book-covers, life membership certificates, carpets, wall-papers, etc.

The Ceramic design competition is still open, as a sufficient number of designs were not sent in. Intending competitors may obtain fuller information on application to the Secretary.

Her Excellency the Countess of Minto acceded to the request of the president and members to become Honorary President of the Woman's Art Association of Canada.

The sequence of Annual Sketch Exhibitions are being held in Kingston and Brockville, and the exhibition will be shown in the gallery early in December. This exhibition is particularly interesting as showing chiefly the work of the artists during the summer months, as well as designs and illustrations.

The Saturday Night Sketch began the first Saturday in November, meeting at the homes of the members. Still life and models are provided each Wednesday in the studio, for the use of the active members, from 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and it is hoped that many will take advantage of this opportunity for work together.

At the November meeting of the Executive a Permanent Exhibition Committee was formed to procure pictures which will represent the artists in the gallery of the Association, the pictures to be changed from time to time.

The reports of the Standing Committee show the affairs of the Association to be in a most satisfactory condition. Four lectures of the most interesting course have already been given.

The Committee have satisfactorily completed arrangements for "Open Studio Day" in the city, and nearly all the Toronto artists have promised to open their studios on the first Saturdays of December, January and February, when it is expected that the public will avail themselves fully of the privileges thus afforded.

E. F. DENISON, Cor. Sec.

The private view of the Arts and Handicrafts Exhibition, given under the auspices of the Woman's Art Association,

Montreal, in the Art Gallery of the Colonial House during the month, was very largely attended, invitations having been extended to the members of the various committees, contributors to the loan and sale exhibitions and to the members of the Woman's Art Association. Lord Strathcona, Dr. Peterson, of McGill, and the Rector of Laval University, had been requested to open the exhibition and all three were present. The exhibition itself is wonderfully interesting, and has reached far better proportions than its organizers anticipated. From an educational standpoint it is well worth studying, and the opportunity to see and examine the exhibits was availed of by many. Apart from the wonderful interest attached to the historical side of the exhibition one finds much to admire in the specimens of arts and handicrafts of to-day. Excellent examples of china painting, book-binding, lace-making, and embroidery are shown, and in the various departments where women's work is exhibited side by side with man's, no allowance need be made for the sex of craftsman for the result of her work deserves to be judged on the same plane as the craftsman. The exhibition has been kept open for two weeks.

A Revelation.

If there are doubting Thomases or Maidens fair, or those unfair, who fain would be fair, let them use Dr. T. Felix Gouraud's Oriental Cream, and prove the efficacy of what the proprietor has so long tried to impress on the minds of all, in nearly every part of the world. As a Skin Purifier and Beautifier it has no equal or rival. If the reader would prove the virtues of Oriental Cream, use it where a Scratch or slight Cut, or where a Black-head or Pimple is troubling you, then you see its healing and purifying qualities—if it does its work well, then read the advertisement again for further testimony of its virtues, and by using Oriental Cream renew both Youth and Beauty.

NEW YORK, Nov. 11th, 1887.

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Music Notes

MADAME SEMBRICH, who is recognized as a mistress of the art of vocalization, is to re-visit Toronto early in the new year. Another distinguished visitor will probably be Mlle. Chameide, the famous composer and solo pianist.

THE *London Truth* reveals a peculiarity of Sims Reeves, supposed to be common only to the ladies. In some personal reminiscence we are told Sims Reeves was in many respects a curious man. He had a great horror—shared by many ladies, though rarely by elderly men—of disclosing the correct date of his birth, and, indeed, in two autobiographies which he from time to time published (but which were, I believe, written by a respected and still living journalist), he gave his birthday at different dates. He really was born on September 26th, 1818, although he loved to make himself out four years younger, declaring that he was born on October 22nd, 1822.

MISS EMILY FINDLAY, A.T.C.M., pupil of Mrs. Reynolds Roburn, at the Toronto Conservatory of Music, has severed her connection with Westminster Presbyterian Church, to take the position of leading soprano in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Bloor street east.

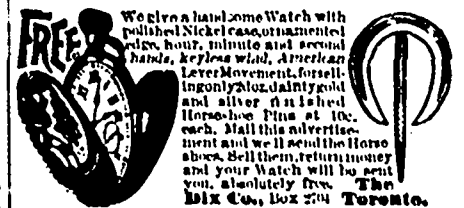
MR. ELGAR, the composer of the "Dream of Gerontius," a setting of Cardinal Newman's poem, which was brought out at the recent Birmingham festival, awoke the day after the performance to find himself famous. The *Musical Times* gives some interesting particulars of his life. It appears that he was practically self-taught, and never received a lesson in orchestration in his life. The son of a Worcestershire music seller and organist, he, in 1877, saved up £10 and spent £7 in a fortnight's trip to London to receive a few violin lessons from the late Mr. P. Litzner. He was a solicitor's clerk, but at twenty-two became bandmaster at the Worcester County Lunatic Asylum, and afterwards he set up as a teacher, a violinist and organist. As a young man Mr. Elgar composed quadrilles at five shillings a set, and wrote accompaniments to Christy Minstrel songs at eighteen pence each. In 1885 he became organist of St. George's Roman Catholic Church, Worcester, and four years later he married the only daughter of the late Sir Henry Gee Roberts, K.C.B., his wife's mother being a descendant of Robert Raikes, the founder of Sunday Schools.

By the death of Sir Arthur Sullivan England has lost her most prominent, perhaps her most representative, composer. In the field of symphony, Mr. Frederick Hymon Cowen surpassed Sir Arthur, but in oratorio or sacred cantata, comic opera, church music, and song, the latter has not been equalled by any of his British contemporaries. To the great masses of the English-speaking people Sir Arthur Sullivan is best known by his numerous operas.

Music, Song and Story is the descriptive title of a forthcoming new magazine to be ready early in December with a holiday issue dated January, 1901. It

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