



"THE SCULPTURE GALLERY."

Mr. Gambart of the French gallery, London, was the first to bring Alma-Tadema's work before the British public. It made an instant impression, because it had characteristics which the public could appreciate. Here were things such as marble, and drapery, and curtains, and ancient furniture, painted so that it did not need an artis-

tic education to admire them. The marble looked hard, and one could see the polish on it; you could almost push back that curtain, and pick up that flower. The Dutch painters had long been celebrated for this réalism, but the British public were not so familiar with it as might be supposed. Also the continental artists had exhibited