

after all, we doubt if the time made much difference. "Lucia di Lammermoor" was given on the Thursday, and though not as lamentable as the performance of "Rigoletto" on the Friday, was sufficiently feeble. The tenors on both nights might have been effaced with advantage, and the "cutting," especially in "Rigoletto," was unsparingly done. Indeed, in "Rigoletto," the two principal tenors were excised. W. H. Mertens was the redeeming feature of the cast on both nights, and his singing of the jester's trying music was artistic and gratifying. Orchestra and chorus were very weak. The "Bohemian Girl" and well-worn "Trovatore" were given on Saturday matinee and night, but neither call for notice.

TORONTO COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

ON Saturday afternoon last the pupils assembled in the College Hall on the occasion of the regular weekly concert were given a rare treat. While visiting the College on Friday afternoon, Mr. Edward Lloyd was so struck with evidences of the genuine musical aims of the institution, that upon learning of the concert to be given the next day he most generously offered to sing before the pupils. Such an offer coming from so great an artist was at once and very gratefully accepted by Mr. Torrington. Mr. Lloyd sang during the afternoon the "Adelaide" of Beethoven, "The Message" by Blumenthal and "I'll sing thee songs of Araby" by Clay, in a manner which must have been of inestimable educational value to the many vocal pupils who were present, and who will doubtless long remember Mr. Lloyd's great kindness in singing for them. The programme for the afternoon was of an unusual degree of richness, and was exceedingly well rendered by pupils of Mr. Torrington, Mr. W. E. Haslam and Mr. H. M. Field; and Mr. Lloyd, who evidently enjoyed it, expressed the greatest surprise at the excellent results of the College work, as shown by the pupils who took part. It was of a very varied character and included piano, organ and vocal music, as well as some fine chamber compositions.

LAWRENCE BARRETT has bulletined his intention of coming to the front next season with a great original historical work, in which Thomas à Becket will be the central figure. Mr. Barrett's tireless ambition to do something worthy of the English stage is well known.

It is stated that a volume of Reminiscences by that veteran composer, C. K. Salaman, is about to be issued. Mr. Salaman was the first to introduce Grisi at a London concert, and his first concert was given in London no less than fifty-seven years ago.

MIDLE RHEA's manager is announcing that "Mdle. Rhea has been fortunate enough to secure a Napoleonic souvenir, which she wears in one act in 'Josephine, Empress of the French.' It is a miniature of Napoleon which the Empress used to wear in a locket. It was given to Mdle. Rhea by Prince Lichtenberg, a descendant of Josephine." It is sad to reflect that the enthusiastic admirers of Napoleon will have no opportunity of seeing this precious relic without being compelled to see Mdle. Rhea act.

YOUNG TOMMY RUSSELL, the successful Lord Fauntleroy, has been receiving a salary of one hundred dollars a week since he began to play the part, but Tommy's step-father recently became so importunate in his demands for a raise of salary, that Manager French was compelled to dispense with the services of the juvenile star. In view of the prominence gained by diminutive and precocious Thespians, the actress' husband, as a profession, may be succeeded wholly by the actor's step-father, truly a noble and elevated vocation.

COSTA'S "ELI" was announced to be performed at Hamilton last night, and Frederick Archer is billed for a recital in the Central Presbyterian Church of that city to-night (Friday).

AN interesting lecture-recital, illustrating the construction of symphonic and other compositions, was given to the students of the above institution on Saturday afternoon, in the lecture-room of the Y.M.C.A. building, by Mr. J. W. F. Harrison, of the Conservatory staff, assisted by Mrs. Harrison. The programme consisted of the following selections:—The No. 6 (Pastoral) Symphony, by Beethoven; a selection entitled "Rouet d'Omphale," by Saint-Saëns; and the "Hebrides" Overture, by Mendelssohn. In his explanatory remarks Mr. Harrison showed the origin of the symphony and its construction, tracing the development of the binary form introduced by Beethoven, the use of repetitions, and the peculiar characteristics of Saint-Saëns' style. The recital was of a most interesting nature throughout, and reflected much credit on the abilities of both Mr. Harrison and his wife.

CONSIDERABLE stir is being made in Geneva and the neighbouring French departments by a scheme for piercing the Faucilles, which would shorten the distance between Paris and Geneva by six hours.

THE mistress of a metropolitan infants' school communicated to a friend the following naïve answer of a little five-year-old girl:—The governess was delighting the children with that ever-welcome description of Eden or Paradise, with its ambrosial fruit, and its music-murmuring streams, and its two joyous and privileged human occupants. She had related to them how the man, Adam, was first created fresh from the hands of God, and how Eve was afterwards formed by the same Almighty power. Presently the speaker paused, and asked the question, "And why, children, did the good God create the woman Eve for the man?" "Please, ma'am," then answered the five-year-old, "to make Adam his coffee, mornin's!"

FALL WHEAT.

THE fields are green, and farmers spy
Their verdure with a gladdened eye,
Which sees afar the ripened wheat
Though winter's frost, and snow, and sleet
Must come and go ere Spring draw nigh.

And all the mourning souls who sigh
At withered leaves and flowers that die
Find Nature's answer at their feet,
The fields are green.

Spring's robe is first adopted by
November chill. Though Death may fly
On myriad, rustling, brown wings fleet,
His triumph yet is incomplete:—
To give their spoiler's boast the lie,
The fields are green.

WILLIAM MCGILL.

LIBRARY TABLE.

IN POTIPHAR'S HOUSE, OR THE YOUNG MAN IN PERIL. By Rev. J. F. Flint; with an introduction by H. S. Pomeroy, M.D., author of "Ethics of Marriage." New York: John B. Alden.

The gist of this book is sufficiently indicated by its title. It is made up largely of quotations from writers, lecturers and preachers, and, as intimated in the preface, its object is "to provide a guide for young men over the stormy sea that lies just beyond the confines of youth, and which all must cross before they can reach the secure haven of marriage." It is a question whether books of this kind do any good directly to young people. The effective lessons that tend to purity of thought and conduct must be learned in the home life and the social surroundings of the young; but parents and those who have charge of the young may find valuable suggestions in such a book as "In Potiphar's House."

NADESCHDA. A poem in nine cantos. By Johan Ludvig Runeberg. Translated from the Swedish by Mrs. John B. Shipley (Marie A. Brown). New York: John B. Alden.

The author of this poem was born in Finland as long ago as 1804, and gained by his works the highest reputation throughout the Scandinavian nations. For all we can learn from the biographical sketch prefaced to this volume, Runeberg may be still alive, but the productive period of his life ceased long ago. "Nadeschda" first appeared in 1841. It is a romantic poem, the scene of which is laid in Russia, in the time of Catherine the Great. It hinges on the marriage of a young prince with a serf girl, and the great Zarina and Potemkin are among the characters in the story. Mrs. Shipley translates the poem into rugged, rhythmic verse, but how far it fairly represents the original we cannot say.

WE have received from the author, Mr. J. B. Tyrrell, of the Geological Survey of Canada, a pamphlet of some fifteen pages embodying a paper on the "Post-tertiary Deposits of Manitoba and the Adjoining Territories of North-Western Canada," read before the Geological Society of America, at Washington, and the discussion thereon. The pamphlet contains some valuable information of general interest, and is very neatly got up.

NUMBER four of the eighth series of the Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science is by Frank W. Blackmar, Ph.D., and treats of "Spanish Colonization in the South-west." The chief subdivisions of the treatise are "Spanish Policy," "Comparative Colonization," "The Mission System," "Civic Colonies," and "Presidial Pueblos." The pamphlet runs to some seventy or eighty pages and is elucidated by diagrams. It is issued from the Johns Hopkins University Publication Agency.

THE May *Andover* opens with a paper by Rev. Charles Caverno on "Theistic Agnosticism Irrational." The "Revival of Hinduism" is a timely paper in view of the present religious ferment in the land of the Vedas and the strenuous efforts now being made by the Hindu native press to stem the wave of Christianity by locking hands with infidel societies and literature. Professor Hulbert, E. G. Harmer and Rev. E. H. Byington contribute interesting papers, and there are some strong editorials, which, with Joseph King's "Notes from England," and the other departments make up a good number.

PERHAPS the two most interesting papers in the *Overland Monthly* for May are "Martin," by A. G. Tassin, and "Camp and Travel in Colorado," by Dagmar Mariager. F. L. Vassault criticises Senator Stanford's scheme for the "Relief of Farmers," and A. Burrows performs a like service for the divorce question and from an unusual standpoint. A. S. Hallidie and S. S. Boynton give us the second parts of their papers on "Skilled Labour Organizations" and "Adventures in Mexico," while the poetry of the number is by M. C. Gillington, C. F. Lummis and J. L. French. "Modern Journalism" is dissected by H. Elton Smith, but without any new presentation of the subject, while the leading paper of the number is a touching little story by Mary Williams entitled "Carmen," the scene of which is laid in Southern California. The number is up to its usual standard.

A PORTRAIT of Rev. Phillips Brooks forms the frontispiece of the *Arena* for May, and Professor M. S. Shaler opens with a paper on "Rock Gases." No. III. of the "No Name" series is entitled "In Heaven and in Earth," and the Rev. Alexander Hyde supplies the sketch of Rev. Phillips Brooks' life to accompany the portrait. An interesting paper is that by Prof. Alfred Hennequin on "Characteristics of the American Drama." Other papers of varied and able tone are "The Dogmatism of Science," by R. H. Newton, D.D.; "God in Government," by Canon Fremantle; "The Cosmic Sphere of Woman," by Professor Buchanan; "The Divorce Problem," by Rabbi Schindler. Lawrence Grönlund discusses and advocates Godin's theory and Messrs. Keatley and Hartt, D.D., contribute timely papers, while W. H. H. Murray affords us another and interesting instalment of "Ungava."

IN the May number of the *Atlantic Monthly* the leading paper concerns itself about Henrik Ibsen, the Norwegian, or rather Danish playwright, who, although his work is so distinctly Norse, has naught but Danish blood in his veins. His career as "playwright and poet" is interestingly traced by E. P. Evans. Agnes Repplier talks pungently about "Literary Shibboleths," and dissects the affectation which prevails as largely in the world of books and letters as in other walks of life. The solid paper of the number is by Oliver T. Morton, and is styled "Some Popular Objections to Civil Service Reform," in which the writer handles without gloves the doctrine of Rotation. Oliver Wendell Holmes gives us No. VI. of his "Over the Tea Cups," and the serials, "The Tragic Muse," by Henry James, and "Sidney," by Margaret Deland, sustain their interest. "Rod's Salvation," in two parts, by Annie Eliot, two poems by S. Weir Mitchell and Edith M. Thomas, and other papers together with the usual departments make up a strong number.

THREE Washington papers open the *Century* for May, but most readers, we fancy, will turn at once to George Kennan's Russian article "Blackened Out," with facsimile of pages blacked out by Russian censors. A very interesting paper is "A Study of Consciousness," by H. C. Wood, which succeeds the Kennan article, and is followed by still another attractive paper, "The Women of the French Salons," by Amelia G. Mason. Amelia Barr continues her "Friend Olivia," and an exciting short story is that entitled "A Romance of Two Cameras," by Eliz. W. Champney. Andrea del Verrocchio is the Old Italian Master discussed in this issue, and from all appearances the inevitable Marie Bashkirtseff has not yet ceased to excite interest. The number abounds in poetry, "Twilight Song," by Walt Whitman, and "The Fighting Parson," by Henry Ames Blood, being the most noticeable. Other poems are by H. S. Morris, J. H. Morse, and there is a sonnet by Thomas Bailey Aldrich. Number seven of Joseph Jefferson's "Autobiography" sustains its interest. Various other interesting papers, too numerous to mention, together with the usual departments, serve to complete a number fully up to the usual standard.

LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

THE late Robert Browning is the subject of a sonnet by Aubrey de Vere in *Harper's Magazine* for May.

ARCHDEACON FARRAR will dedicate his new book, "Truth to Live By," to Mr. George W. Childs, of Philadelphia.

ROBERT CLARKE and COMPANY publish this month Butterfield's "History of the Girtys"—a limited edition, printed from type.

MRS. GRANT is said to be at work upon a volume of memoirs of the General, which will include the letters he wrote to her during the war.

SWINBURNE, Edmund Gosse, Andrew Lang, and Lewis Morris are among the poets who will contribute sonnets to the Beatrice celebration in Florence in May and June.

A new edition of Trelawny's "Adventures of a Younger Son" will be published immediately by Macmillan and Company, forming the first volume of "The Adventure Series."

MISS JEWETT has selected from her various delightful books eight of the best stories, which will shortly be issued in the Riverside Aldine Series, under the title, "Tales of New England."

THE partnership of Frederick A. Stokes and Brother has been dissolved, Mr. Horace S. Stokes retiring. A corporation called the Frederick A. Stokes Company has been formed to carry on the business.

WE notice that the *Vindicator*, of Rapid City, Manitoba, so far esteems THE WEEK as to use one of its leading paragraphs wholesale as a leaded editorial, carefully abstaining, of course, from any allusion as to the source thereof.

THE next volume in the series of "American Statesmen" will be devoted to John Jay. It will be written by George Pellow, Esq., who has already produced some noteworthy books, and is related to the great Chief Justice.

THE widespread interest in all matters relating to American history will cause a new and cheaper edition of the admirable "Life of General Greene" to be heartily welcomed. The three volumes will soon be issued, at \$7.50 instead of \$12, from the Riverside Press.

MR. RIDER HAGGARD is described by Eugene Field as "not particularly prepossessing." He looks "like a good natured boy, that is all. His head is small, and his nose is large; he has blue eyes and red cheeks; his manner is that of a loose-jointed, companionable fellow."