

task the powers of any Company to get up four new plays in one week, we shall refrain from unfavourable comment. Among the parts deserving note may be mentioned *The Duchess of York*, acted by Miss Carr with dignity and feeling; *The Prince of Wales*, a part for which Miss Delmar's graceful figure fitted her, and which she looked admirably; and the small but pleasant part of *Francois* in "Richelieu," played with much spirit by Mr. Roberts. Miss Davenport also deserves commendation for industry, in getting up the three important parts of *Lady Anne*, *Julie*, and *Mrs. Beverley*. Mr. Farwell's wardrobe is apparently of the scantiest. His costume as the *Ghost* in "Hamlet," was surely the most remarkable with which any unearthly visitant ever astonished the gaze of a denizen of the upper world. It possessed one merit, however—serviceableness—as was proved by its being made to do duty on the succeeding night outside the anything but ghostlike form of *Huguet* in "Richelieu." Nor can we congratulate Mr. Sullivan on the assistance he received from his *fidus Achates*, Mr. Cathcart. The style of acting which this gentleman affects was doubtless familiar to "old, old men," in their youth, but we thought there was not left upon the modern stage any such archaic embodiment of stilted elocution, stage strut,

and attitudinising. The constant necessity Mr. Cathcart finds for the pressure and warmth of his hands over the region of his pericardium creates more amusement than sympathy, and the spectator is relieved when they are turned to much better account, as they are in the fine fencing scenes with Mr. Sullivan.

The summer season at this theatre commences on the 1st May, when we understand some changes will be made in the stock company. On May 22nd, Mr. Edwin Booth, the great American tragedian, will appear.

Among coming musical and dramatic events may be noted the following:—The Mendelssohn Quintette Club will give two concerts on the 5th and 6th May, the first in the evening and the other as a *matinée*; Mr. Sothorn and Company will give three evening performances and a *matinée* at the Royal Opera House, on the 18th, 19th and 20th May, appearing in "Our American Cousin" and "David Garrick"; and Mdlle. de Belocca, the youthful Russian contralto, who recently created so great an impression in Paris, is expected to give a concert in Toronto at an early day. Herr Bulow, who was to have appeared in Toronto on the 24th and 25th April, has postponed his visit indefinitely.

## LITERARY NOTES.

Few men of the present day have more successfully laboured on the side of virtue, manliness, independence of thought, and charity towards their fellow-men, than the Rev. Dr. Norman Macleod, whose biography has just been given to the world. The record of his life and labours, and the transcripts from his journals and correspondence, give us glimpses of a character too rarely to be met with among the clergy of our day. For a time, standing almost alone among his brethren in the Scotch Church—misconceived, misunderstood, misinterpreted—he long maintained his ground, fighting for toleration, catholicity, brotherhood, and that freedom of thought and opinion that his large soul ardently desired should characterize the National Church of his fathers. Meeting opposition and discouragement on all sides, the alienation of friends, the jibings of enemies; regarded with suspicion, branded as heretical, latitudinarian, and apostate, he struggled on, "lived down" the detraction, won back his friends, commended himself to the Church and his brethren, was honoured of his Sovereign, and became the idol of the people. Such was the life history of Norman Macleod; and of such is the material for the memoir now before us. Not to his countrymen alone is the story of such a life attractive. Its lessons are

for all; and its examples are never unworthy of imitation. Here in Canada there is need of just such men—devout minded, large hearted, free from fanaticism, bitterness, illiberality, and cant, zealous but for the essentials of Christian faith, and loyal only to Catholic truth. Much of the controversy to which the memoir introduces us, belongs to history; but history is ever repeating itself, and we have here similar contests to go through, and much the same battles to fight—the same emancipation from unreasoning prejudice, from tyranny of tradition, the fetters of dogma and creed, and the yoke of hyper-orthodoxy. The stimulus which a perusal of Dr. Macleod's memoir will produce must be great, and, to all fair minds, in the direction we have indicated. Purposing to notice the work at greater length in our next issue, we meantime call attention to its publication. Messrs. Belford, the publishers of the authorized native edition, have given us a worthy sample of their enterprise in producing the work for Canadian readers in so handsome yet inexpensive a style, and they deserve hearty thanks for the service rendered, which, doubtless, the large sale the book will meet with will satisfactorily express to them.