



Aesthetic Attributes of Acadia.



THE FORMATION of literary and artistic ideas is due to a number of varied influences, either disintegrating the results of immatured ungoverned taste, or patching and renovating the structure originally well planned, but badly put together. It is true that literature and art are impelled by whims of uncertain origin and of only brief duration; but, like the under-current which presses back the ripple of a short-lived breeze, the first vital impulse drives the faltering intellect along its wonted course, the turgid conceit expands to nothing, the weakly affectation dies; then all is calm, and the stream, unchecked, flows onward as before. The artist cannot answer whence come the inspirations under which he acts, but he feels the hidden motives and takes his part, almost unconsciously, as the indicator of results, in the origin of which his fellow-workers share. At intervals, indeed, the musician catches new strains of harmony from higher angels; a painter portrays upon his canvas the vision of things unseen and scarcely understood by other men; or the mind of a poet bears to earth some blessed gift of heaven. But few musicians, painters or