

Actors, Orators and Musicians.

The Editor will be pleased to receive Canadian items of interest for this column.

Offenbach's "Belle Lurette," opera comique, in three acts, is a success; this posthumous score has all the vivacity and melody of the composer's best productions; there are half a dozen *morceaux* that take possession of your ears and also of your feet.

LITTLE CORINNE, who is announced to appear in Toronto shortly in the "Magic Slipper" is perhaps the most remarkable prodigy the stage has ever produced. She is said to rival the best of star actresses both in vocal and histrionic talent.

The Toronto Opera Company, *nee* Church Choir Co., are still to the fore though not Pinafore at present. They are playing the *Chimée of Normandy* just now as the Royal, and playing it very well, too. Go and see for yourself, *pour encourager les garçons*, as it were.

Prof. HAANEL, of Victoria University, Cobourg, is to deliver a lecture on "Musical Acoustics" in Philharmonic Hall, 10 Adelaide street east, on Friday evening, 26 instant. This is an important subject upon which there is a remarkable amount of ignorance in the world, and it is therefore to be hoped the professor will be listened to by a large audience of practical people.

FRECHETTE must, by this time, be pretty well satiated with the literary admirers in his native land. The people of Montreal banqueted him in grand style a few weeks ago, and now his compatriots in the city of Quebec have gone and done likewise. It was most appropriate that the ancient capital, or, as Mr. Frechette termed it, the City of Champlain, should tender its congratulations to this gifted and successful son of New France, for he was born under the very shadow of its citadel.

Sardou's play of "Daniel Rochat" created an uproar in the Theatre Francais, because it attacked free thinkers, or rather perhaps civil marriage; a dislike for theology on the stage has influenced the manager to decline M. Deroncles' five act drama, the "Moabite," founded on incidents occurring during the reign of one of the Judges of Israel; the piece aims to prove that religious belief is necessary to man; that this belief, weakened or destroyed, man becomes only governed by his passions and sinks from abyss to abyss, where neither the light of heaven nor the voice of conscience can be heard. The drama has just been read at a literary soiree given by Mme. Adam. It is a beautiful play, and full of sensational interest; the verse is trying, but the chief defect of the piece is its length.

The next attraction at the Grand is "Dreams," concerning which the St. Louis *Post Despatch* says:—

"Do you want to laugh?—Do you want nearly three hours of pure, unadulterated fun? Do you want to get rid of the cares and anxieties of life in a few hours' enjoyable mirth? Then, we say, go at once and see WILLIE EDWIN'S 'Sparks.' If there is any misanthropic or cadaverous looking individual who does not leave it metamorphosed into a jolly, generous, healthy person, we want to see him. WILLIE EDWIN'S 'Sparks' are a sure cure for jaundice megrims, neuralgia or any other of the thousand ills which flesh is heir to. 'Dreams' is so far ahead of other entertainments of its kind that comparison is impossible. The artists too, could not be surpassed in their respective roles. This may seem like puffery, but it is sober second judgment. If you miss 'Dreams' you miss an evening of unalloyed enjoyment.

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Authors, Artists & Journalists.

The Editor will be pleased to receive Canadian items of interest for this column.

THE *Canada School Journal* has made a valuable accession to its editorial staff in the person of Rev. C. P. Mulvany, M.A. That gentleman's hand is readily discernable in the last number which is one of the most interesting yet issued.

THE *London Advertiser* is presenting as a premium for 1881, a lithographic portrait of GLADSTONE. The picture is admirably finished, but defective as a likeness, if the average counterfeit presentments if the great commoner are to be considered trustworthy.

"G.R.I.P."—This favorite weekly journal of satire and fun continues to maintain its high character and reputation. The cartoons are always in good taste and spirit, hitting off the follies of the hour capitably, while the letter-press is refined, delicate, and of that kind of humor which would have delighted Addison in the old *Spectator* days. Bengough's notices, or "lives" of Canadian literary celebrities are decidedly neat in their way.—*Quebec Chronicle*.

G.R.I.P. continues to present its readers with cartoons and reading matter of an ever increasingly interesting character. Each issue seems to be an improvement on the previous one, if such a thing could be possible. It is now an eight page publication, brimful of wit, wisdom and originality. If you want a few hours good fun every week, then subscribe for G.R.I.P.—*Bowmanville Statesman*.

THE *Toronto Grip*, the best comic paper published in the Canadae, puts it in this manner: "The *Waterloo Observer*, we hasten to say, is among the very best of our humorous exchanges. The issue of the 27th ult., is simply capital in its original matter. It has a cordial welcome to our heart and scissors." As G.R.I.P. always credits what it clips we are willing to submit to scissors and heart.—*Waterloo (N. Y.) Observer*.

The *Atlantic Monthly's* December issue dealt out five more chapters of HENRY JAMES, junior's "Portrait of a Lady." JAMES is no novice in depicting character, such as is met with on this side of the Atlantic, and this last novel of his will go far to enhance his reputation. The book reviews deal with some of the later publications, "White Wings," included.

MR. CHESTER GLASS' letters written to the *London Advertiser* during his recent tour round the world, are to be issued in book form, with the addition of several literary effusions hitherto unpublished. These letters proved extremely readable in the columns of the *Tiscr*, and the prospect of obtaining them in permanent form is gratifying. The volume is to be profusely illustrated.

FOR pure, simple, unadulterated, *wishee-washee* innamy, and as BRET HART would put it "gratuitous irrelevancy," pass us over to WILLIAM BLACK. This pictorial writer presumes, on the cheap reputation he made for himself through the "Princess of Thule," and now forsooth he imagines that he can palm off his stale West Highland scenes and wretched amateur seamanship upon an undiscerning public. WILLIAM is mistaken. We have had enough. Enough is as good as a feast, and in WILLIAM BLACK'S case we have had a surfeit.

The new edition of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, just issued, is to be, in the quantity of matter it contains, by far the largest volume published. It now contains about 118,000 words defined, and nearly 15,000 words and meanings not found in any one dictionary. The Biographical Dictionary, just added, supplies a want long felt by the reader and student, in giving the desired information so briefly. Never was one volume so complete as an aid in getting an education.

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