

the increased attendance may be attributed to the public interest excited by the production of a new work. The Society did most admirable work, and in the full choruses sang with a power and volume of tone that completely filled the hall and fully satisfied the hearers.

The striking chain of choruses in the second section of the work, "Temptation," produced a fine effect, and elicited enthusiastic applause. One of the most beautiful numbers Mackenzie has written is the orchestral introduction, entitled "Sleep," to the third part. It is so much admired in England that it is played by itself at the leading orchestral concerts in London and the large provincial towns. The solo vocalists were Mrs. Gertrude Luther, soprano, of Buffalo; Mr. Whitney Mockridge, tenor, of New York; Mrs. McKelcan, alto, of Hamilton; and Messrs. Schuch, Blight, and Curran, basses, of Toronto. Mrs. Luther, who has an agreeable voice, and sings with care and judgment, made a very favourable impression, and in a work which would have given her opportunities for individual display might have won more of a triumph. Mr. Mockridge, although suffering from a cold, sang with his accustomed sweetness and finish. Mr. Blight had a part to sing which was very ungracious and unattractive, and it could not be expected that he could make much of music which neither in New York nor London has been received with favour. His effort, however, was a very creditable one, and he, at least, brought his part into prominence. Mrs. McKelcan was fortunate in being assigned one of the few melodious numbers in the oratorio, and in this she won one of the successes of the evening. Her voice is of a very musical quality, and she interpreted the music intelligently and effectively. Mr. Schuch sang the music of the tempting "Elder" *con amore*, and in good voice and finished style. The orchestra were at times somewhat overweighed by the difficulties of the instrumentation, but on the whole they played well. They still fail, however, to show what a true pianissimo is. While the work, owing to its character, did not create anything like general enthusiasm, it was listened to with interest, and created a desire to hear it again. Mr. Torrington conducted with great skill, and controlled the chorus and orchestra with exceptional ability.—*Clef*.

WE have to correct the notice in our issue of 11th inst. with reference to M. Musin and his concert company. We there, under misinformation, stated that this company would give only one performance in Toronto, on Monday, 1st March; but we now learn that, as previously announced, M. Musin and his company will appear also at one of the Monday Popular Concerts—that is on Monday, March 29.

CACOTHANASIA.

WHEN gallant André, doomed beyond appeal,
Went forth to meet the fate
To which the stern Virginian set his seal,
He stepped with steadfast gait;
His eye on his last sunrise, steel'd to face
The levelled tubes of death;
But when it caught the engines of disgrace,
Hangman and noose, his breath
Shortened an instant: "Death doth not appal,"
Quoth he—"but death like this?"

Our England! If God wills that she must fall
And sink in the abyss,
Crowned with her centuries of peerless glory,
We bow. But not by tools
Like these! Nor thus ignobly end her story
Riven by Barabbas and the crew he fools?

MININ 'AEIΔE.—*St. James's Gazette*.

It is not generally known that the famous cream-coloured horses which drew Her Majesty's state carriage on Thursday, Jan. 21, as they have drawn the carriage of her predecessors before her for the last century and a half, belong to her not as Queen of England, but as a Princess of the Royal House of Hanover. The home of the breed for a very long period has been at Herrenhausen, a country residence lying a couple of miles outside the Hanoverian capital. There may be seen to this day a stud of some twenty or thirty of these fine animals, kept by the Prussian Government on behalf of the exiled Duke of Cumberland out of the revenues of his confiscated estates. The breed has so long been carefully kept pure that it is rare (so say the attendants) for anything but a cream-coloured foal to be produced. In Hanover, on state occasions, the King's carriage was accustomed to be drawn by the creams, while the Queen sat behind a team of bays. If the account of the stable authorities may be believed, the footmen who walk at the head of each animal are not merely ornamental. Except on state occasions these horses never leave the stable; and they are kept in such gross condition that they need to be watched, lest they should suddenly give way to a desire for instant repose and thereby disturb the stately progress of the Queen's *cortège*.—*St. James's Gazette*.

At the fifty-third annual meeting of the British America Assurance Company, held on the 17th inst., what must have been a very satisfactory statement of the business of the Company for the past year was presented. Both the marine and fire departments showed a profit, and after paying all losses and providing for all liabilities, the assets have been increased by \$92,000, and the net surplus by \$45,000, both now amounting to a total of \$1,285,000.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

WE have received the following publications:

FRANK LESLIE'S SUNDAY MAGAZINE. March. New York.
LITTELL'S LIVING AGE. February 13, 20. Boston: Littell and Company.
MACMILLAN'S MAGAZINE. February. London and New York: Macmillan and Company.
LITERARY LIFE. February. Chicago and New York: Literary Life Company.
CONTEMPORARY REVIEW. February. Philadelphia: Leonard Scott Publishing Company.
FORTNIGHTLY REVIEW. February. Philadelphia: Leonard Scott Publishing Company.
WIDE AWAKE. March. Boston: D. Lothrop and Company.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

MR. BRANDER MATTHEWS and Mr. Laurence Hutton will be among the notable contributors to the March number of *Lippincott's Magazine*, the former with one of his inimitable short stories entitled "Perchance to Dream," while Mr. Hutton will appear as the author of a carefully-written historical and critical essay on "The American Play."

THE new novel by H. F. Keenan, author of the much-advertised "Trajan," is to be brought out immediately by Messrs. D. Appleton and Co., and will have for its title "The Aliens." From the same house we are to have Mr. George Ticknor Curtis' new volume, "Creation or Evolution," and Prof. F. V. N. Painter's "History of Education."

"THE Strength and Weakness of Socialism" is the title of a striking and timely article by Dr. Washington Gladden in the forthcoming (March) number of the *Century*. Dr. Gladden attempts to show what the Socialists think and want. Dr. Gladden also gives his own views on this pressing public question—the result of many years of observation and study.

MR. DAVID KER, who is the *New York Times'* special globe-ranger, and from whom we hear in letters dated from unheard-of places beyond the pale of civilization, has written a new book for boys, recording the adventures of a clever youth on the Upper Congo, with the title, "Lost Among White Africans." It will be illustrated and published by Cassell and Company.

MR. F. MARION CRAWFORD'S new novel, "A Tale of a Lonely Parish," will not be brought out by the Macmillans until the early part of next month. A good deal is expected of this latest production of the popular novelist, whose "Mr. Isaacs" seems still to prove the best selling of all his published works, over 10,000 copies having been sold in America alone.

EX-MINISTER S. G. W. BENJAMIN, who, since his return from Persia, has been contributing a series of articles to the *Century* and other periodicals descriptive of the country with which he so thoroughly acquainted himself during his diplomatic residence, has nearly finished a work on Persia, which, embellished with a number of beautiful illustrations, will be shortly published by Messrs. Ticknor and Company, of Boston.

EMILIO CASTELAR is probably the most brilliant orator now living. A full-page portrait of him will form the frontispiece of the March *Century*; with articles by William Jackson Armstrong and Alvey A. Adee, of the State Department, Washington. The latter was a member of the American Legation in Spain at the time of Castelar's political ascendancy. The present situation in Spain makes these papers especially timely.

MESSRS. D. APPLETON AND CO. will publish next week a companion novel to "Donovan" by the same author, Edna Lyall, under the title, "We Two." The story deals with English life and incidents, and combines delightful touches of humour with a vein of true pathos. The tale is a picture of what bigotry and persecution can produce, and appeals to a thoughtful class of fiction readers, who, in these days of light stories, are given but little attention.

"OTTING" for March will contain the first of Mr. Theodore Roosevelt's papers on "Ranch Life and Game Shooting in the West." The article will be freely illustrated by R. Swain Gifford and two other artists of repute. Mr. E. S. Jaffray, another of the new proprietors of the magazine, will also be represented by an article on "Our Unknown Benefactors." Lieut. John Bigelow and Edith Evelyn Bigelow will represent in separate contributions the family literary talents of the new editor, Mr. Poultney Bigelow.

THE death of Mr. Randolph Caldecott will come as a shock to many thousands of readers, to whom his charming drawings have given pleasure. He was sent to this country by the *London Graphic* ostensibly to sketch for the paper, but in reality for the benefit of his health, which for some time had been rapidly failing. He had been here for a year, keeping himself in the greatest seclusion, and so successfully that few people knew that he was in America. He died in St. Augustine, Fla., from an affection of the lungs.

THE March *Wide Awake* opens with one of Langren's best frontispieces, "Under the Electric Light," a brilliant night-scene. Sandham and Hassam also have striking full-page drawings in this number, both with strong fire-effects, but widely diverse; Hassam's illustrates Elizabeth Stuart Phelps' ballad, "The Tenement House Fire," while Sandham's accompanies Mrs. Huse's historical Seminole story, "The Light of Key Biscayne," and represents the burning lighthouse. There are some excellent short stories in the number. The serials are interesting. The "papers" are very bright and entertaining.

THE art, if such it may be termed, of guarding the secret of the authorship of anonymous works appears to be lost, since the authorship of "England as Seen by an American Banker," which has made some stir in literary circles, is given out as belonging to Mr. C. B. Patten, the cashier of a Boston bank. And in this connection it may be of interest to the number of critics who have unanimously attributed the authorship of the clever book, "How to be Happy, though Married," to an English lady, to learn that the distinction belongs to the Rev. E. J. Hardy, chaplain of Her Majesty's forces at Gosport, England.

THE *Forum* is the title given to a new monthly magazine shortly to be added to the long list of New York periodicals. The magazine is to be devoted to the discussion of timely and important questions from an independent attitude. The publishers of the new enterprise, which will have its headquarters at 97 Fifth Avenue, will start out with the co-operation of some of the most popular American essayists, and in form the publication will be modelled after the English reviews, with large type, wide margins and heavy paper. The encouraging assurance is given that the enterprise is "backed by abundant capital," certainly a very essential feature.

THE valuable collection of autographs and literary manuscripts collected by Mr. James R. Osgood, the publisher, now with the Harpers, has been catalogued and will shortly be offered for sale. Among the more important manuscripts which will attract attention are Dr. Holmes' famous "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table," Mr. Emerson's "Representative Men," a story in manuscript by Nathaniel Hawthorne, an unpublished