

LITERATURE

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS

From the American Opera Publishing Company, No. 19 N. Sixth street, we have received the first of their series of "Gems of the Lyric Drama," which gives the complete English libretto of Auber's opera of Fra Diavolo, with the euvre and all the principals arranged for voice and accompaniment, and also for piano solo. The book is illustrated by a life steel portrait of Mr. William...

in the lodgings of some of the Moscow prisoners. The conspiracy wears the usual features characteristic of plots in modern Muscovy. A handful of headless boys undertake to remodel the world, are unfortunately disturbed in their comprehensive task by a couple of policemen, and, without a hand raised in their behalf, bundled off to a living death in the Siberian mines. As set forth in the printed circulars and proclamations found, their modest object in the present instance was to repeal matrimony, property, government, and the State generally. For the better attainment of this end, those enumerated by worldly goods and chattels were to be subjected to a summary process of expropriation, while all superior officers must be knocked on the head, and all literary men who have ever defended the existing state of things effectually silenced by having their tongues torn out. After this general delineation of their humane designs, the circulars specially address the Poles to secure their co-operation in the sacred work of the world's revival. The Poles, the circulars tell us, must be highly praised for hating the Russian Government; but their shortcomings lies in that they aspire to the re-establishment of an independent national republic, whereas they should be content to recover freedom, regardless of state, race, and government.

exists, and the industries are made to keep the idle, and as well to pay taxes and rent for them, it must be difficult to attain a moderate degree of prosperity, even had the Russian peasant a liking for his trade, and a little more assiduity and thrift than he at present shows. With the peasants suffer the landed proprietors, who in the prevailing apathy find it no easy matter to hire laborers at the price they can afford to pay. Unless stimulated by excessive wages, a peasant, as a rule in these latter days, works only when driven to extremity. A more cheering prospect is presented by the southern half of the country, the excellent soil of which needs no manure, and the Polish provinces (from Wilna right south to Volhynia and the Dnieper), which, by their fertility and the personal property principle, are protected against northern calamities. It is the embarrassed condition of the northern peasant, and the confusion likely to ensue should large numbers avail themselves of the right of emigration developing on them on March 31, 1870, that the third category of the above inflammatory circulars evidently counts upon. Their authors seem to expect that the suffering inhabitants of the north will throng to the south, and that, to prevent the depopulation of one-half of the empire, Government will be obliged to extend the term of nine years, and restrain the wanderers by force. Amid the excitement incident to such a critical juncture, the conspirators must have hoped to induce the northern peasantry to claim the lands still in the possession of their former masters. Based on communism as Russian peasant life is, the impoverished people were expected willingly to re-echo such a cry; while, as to the raising of it by educated men, it is certainly an enormity in itself, but not so unnatural, taking all the local circumstances into consideration. If it is a general principle that the less liberal the constitution in a country, the more extreme the radicalism it produces, the Russian "Nihilist" is naturally tempted to surpass his more westerly fellow-agitators in extravagant ideas. In an age which produces socialists even in London, which produces socialists in Paris, and which produces socialists in London, Paris, and Berlin, the Russian enthusiast is liable to develop the worst phase of the disease at St. Petersburg; and how immensely must the intellectual disorder be aggravated in his case by seeing peasant communism all around him, and the wholesale expropriations of the nobility undertaken for political purposes in the Polish provinces of the realm. However, if the malady assumes an acute character in Russia, it is confined to a very limited area. Its victims are only a few excitable, ill-advised young men, the rest of the population quietly jogging on in their wonted grooves. If the Government should deem it expedient to keep the peasantry on their soil beyond the term of nine years, they have only to issue a ukase, and it is done. Only should continued laziness reduce ever increasing numbers to the state of pauperism, they may then will become apparent that education and the right of property are better safeguards than the police.

Table with columns for ASSETS OF THE COMPANY, Real Estate, and various financial items. Includes items like United States Six Per Cent. Loan, State of Pennsylvania Six Per Cent. Loan, and various stocks and bonds.

INSURANCE. DELAWARE MUTUAL SAFETY INSURANCE COMPANY, INCORPORATED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1828. Office southeast corner of THIRD and WALNUT STREETS, PHILADELPHIA. MARINE INSURANCES. On Vessels, Cargo and Freight to all parts of the world. INLAND INSURANCES. On goods by river, canal, lake and land carriage to all parts of the United States. FIRE INSURANCES. On Merchandise generally, on Stores, Dwellings, Houses, etc.

PROPOSALS. PROPOSALS FOR STAMPED ENVELOPES AND WRAPPERS. Sealed Proposals will be received until 3 P. M. on the 1st day of MARCH, 1870, for furnishing all the "stamped" envelopes and "newspaper" wrappers which this Department may require during a period of four years, commencing 1st of July, 1870, viz.: STAMPED ENVELOPES. No. 1. Note size, 3 1/2 by 4 1/2 inches, of white paper. No. 2. Ordinary letter size, 3 1/2 by 5 1/2 inches, of white, buff, cream, or cream-colored paper, or in such proportion of either as may be required.

From J. P. Lippincott & Co. we have received "Askaros Kassis, the Capt.," a romance of modern Egypt, by Edwin De Leon. The author of this story was United States Consul-General for Egypt for many years, and he had unusual opportunities for observing the manners and customs of the people, and particularly their domestic habits, that do not come under the observation of ordinary travellers. Mr. De Leon evidently writes with a thorough knowledge of his subject, and under the guise of a romance of some interest he gives a very detailed and highly-finished picture of Egyptian society of the present day, as it exists in the seclusion of the Moslem's home, where outside barbarians are seldom permitted to enter and observe for themselves what the intrinsic peculiarities of Orientalism are.

From the same house we have received "Charles O'Malley," the first volume of a new edition of Charles Lever's works. This novel retains and is likely to retain its popularity for a long time with lovers of hearty, rollicking humor. It is not equal, in our opinion, to some of Lever's later works in the higher qualities of the novelist's art, but it is a story bubbling over with hearty and uproarious fun and frolic that make it a favorite above most of the other performances of the author.

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INSURANCE. INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA. INCORPORATED 1794. CHARTER PERPETUAL. CAPITAL. \$1,000,000.00. ASSETS. \$1,250,000.00. Losses paid since organization. \$1,000,000.00. Interest from investments. \$1,000,000.00.

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GOVERNMENT SALES. AUCTION SALE OF MEDICINES, INSTRUMENTS AND CONDEMNED HOSPITAL PROPERTY. ASSISTANT MEDICAL PURVEYOR'S OFFICE, 1101 N. 11th St., PHILADELPHIA. Will be offered at public sale, in this city, at the City and County Building, on the 14th day of February next, between the hours of 11 and 12 o'clock A. M., at which time the bids will be opened, in the presence of such bidders as may wish to attend.

From Turner Brothers & Co. we have received Appleton's Journal and Our Young Men for February 19, and the Transatlantic for February 22. The Central News Company, No. 505 Chestnut street, sends us the latest numbers of Punch and Fun.

RUSSIAN SOCIALISM. Progress of the Revolutionary Movement. "Russia and Nobility: The Land Question." Berlin Correspondence of the London Times. At last the outline of the Socialist conspiracy is becoming more apparent. As by lightning, the misty veil of rumor has been pierced through by a sudden sanguinary deed. One Ivanov, a student in the Agricultural Academy of Moscow, who played the informer, and denounced to the police his accomplices in the conspiracy, has been assassinated. Whether he was a detective artfully introduced among the confederates, or whether he betrayed the associates in the plot of his own accord, is not known.

ASBURY LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY. No. 805 BROADWAY, corner of Eleventh Street, New York.

1829-CHARTER PERPETUAL. Franklin Fire Insurance Company OF PHILADELPHIA. Office, Nos. 435 and 437 CHESTNUT ST. Assets Jan. 1, '69, \$2,677,372 1/3.

STRICTLY MUTUAL. Provident Life and Trust Co. OF PHILADELPHIA. OFFICE, No. 111 S. FOURTH STREET.

CLOTHS, CASSIMERES, ETC. JAMES & HUBER, Successors to JAMES & LEE, No. 11 NORTH SECOND STREET.

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