

Now, to what can our poverty in voices of the highest class be due? I believe to a combination of three different causes: First, inadequacy of training; secondly, the want of good teachers; and thirdly, the gradual rise of the concert pitch which has taken place in recent years. Insufficient training arises from the breathless haste to "succeed" which is a characteristic of this feverish age. Voices are quickly run up by contract, and as swiftly fall into decay. The preference for supposed "royal roads" over the hard-earned path that has led former singers to fame is another error which has worked almost as much mischief in song as it has in scholarship. In "the brave days of old" singers never deemed their vocal education complete until they had given six or seven years to the ceaseless study of their art. The want of good teachers is closely connected with the inadequacy of modern training, for it is evident that a man who has not himself had the patience or the industry to master his art cannot be a satisfactory guide to others. Show and superficial brilliancy of execution are aimed at rather than solidity and thoroughness; more attention is paid to vocal *tours de force* than to artistic ornament. The firm basis of experience has been abandoned for fantastic methods of teaching which are useless when they are not positively harmful. I would earnestly advise all those who profess to impart the divine art of song, like Prospero, to "drown their books," and study the production of the voice as an art, and not as a branch of Chinese metaphysics.—*Sir Morell Mackenzie in the Contemporary Review.*

REPRODUCTION OF HOT AIR.

The instantaneous photograph bids fair to become a very potent aid to artists who seek to teach their pupils that reproduction is not art; for it is clearly demonstrated by this means that the real is in nowise like the apparent, says a writer in the *Washington Post*. For example, an instantaneous photograph of a man in the act of running never looks as much like a man in the act of running as the pen drawing of an artist does. The reason is that the photograph reproduces the one exact position of the runner at the instant the picture is made, while the artist pictures several positions in one and makes his man seem to be moving. Art always has dealt and always must deal with things, not as they are, but as they seem to be. We sit and look at a runner. He seems simultaneously to bend forward his body, throw one leg away forward and the other far to the rear, with both knees at almost an acute angle. At the same instant he seems to swing one arm forward while the other is drawn back, both being "shut" tightly at the elbows. So it seems, for the eye of the observer is not keen enough to see the position of each instant separately—it sees the positions of a group of instants, and the observer thinks that these positions

are simultaneous. The instantaneous photograph shows they are not simultaneous, and in doing this presents a picture that does not look like a man in the act of running. This photograph is going to be—indeed, already is—a great aid to science, but the only thing it can do for art will be to prove that reality does not seem as true as the ideal. What is true of the painter's and the sculptor's art is true also of the writer's. He who describes things as they really are may be a scientist, but only he who describes things as they seem to be is an artist. We frequently hear readers say of characters created by an artistic writer that they have seen just such persons. They think they have, but they haven't. It is the writer's art that makes them think they have. If he had actually described the persons they have in mind they would say there were never such beings on earth. Thus it comes about that "truth [reality] is stranger [because less commonly observed] than fiction," and that "fiction [the ideal] hath a nobler end than fact."

BISMARCK'S LITERARY TASTES.

Although Bismarck is old and becoming less strong, he still finds pleasure in his library. He is a fluent French and German scholar, and although he hates the French people with an intensity that can hardly be emphasized in cold type, he is an admirer of the realistic school of fiction writers. Of these he prefers Zola, but he is as often engrossed in the *feuilleton* of one of the French dailies as he is with a new book from the master's hands. He has a small and valuable library. That portion of it devoted to political history and state craft is as valuable as any in Europe.

The Iron Chancellor is quite a connoisseur in books, and has added without very much expense at any time to the small library that he began to gather when a student. He is a good Greek and Latin scholar also, and often amuses himself by translating from the original. He is not nearly so voluminous a reader as Mr. Gladstone, and is not always looking for a gem or something that will repay the perusal of a stupid chapter. He once explained to a friend that the book must interest him at the beginning, or he would have nothing to do with it.

He pays little or no attention to English or American literature, and although many of the English and American men of letters have been presented to him he is not well acquainted with their work. He possesses a well thumbed copy of Whittier's poems, and likes to spend an hour or so occasionally with the "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table." When some great work has appeared in either England or America, and is translated into German, Bismarck reads it, but it must be of surpassing interest to engage his attention. Of the English and American magazines and newspapers he knows but little.

The various representatives in

Germany and Great Britain and the United States send to the German war office translations of everything bearing on German affairs, and these are filed and properly indexed for reference with copies of the original, but only occasionally does Bismarck feel sufficient interest in them to devote his own time to reading and studying up the subject. He prefers German literature and German music, and he cannot be blamed perhaps for patronizing letters when he is such an ardent believer in state-craft and warfare. He is a profound student of sociology and a philosopher as well, and one of the rules of his life has been not to undertake what he could not accomplish. He unhesitatingly pleads ignorance of American men of letters, but is always willing to learn.

CURRENT EVENTS.

Edmunds Law Prosecutions.

United States Deputy McCutcheon and another officer drove into Teasdale, Mute County, about noon on the 6th inst., and arrested John A. Burr on a charge of unlawful cohabitation. His wife Angeline, his son John, and his brother M. L. Burr, were subpoenaed as witnesses. The defendant was allowed to remain on his promise to appear before the commissioner at Salina in the course of a few days with the witnesses named.

On January 6, Joseph Derbridge, of the Nineteenth Ward, was arrested on a charge of unlawful cohabitation. He is to have a hearing before Commissioner Greenman.

The examination of the charge of unlawful cohabitation against Joseph Derbridge, of the Nineteenth Ward, was held before Commissioner Greenman Monday, January 6th. The testimony was to the effect that the defendant had a plural wife, but for the past five years there had been no association. The Commissioner remarked, however, that he thought the witnesses knew something which they did not tell, and on this he held Mr. Derbridge to await the grand jury's action.

Released From Prison.

Andrew J. Kershaw, of Ogden, was liberated from the penitentiary Jan. 11, having served a sentence of eighteen months for adultery. There was no fine or costs in this case.

Jan. 7, L. H. Newman, of Monroe, Sevier County, was released from the penitentiary, where he was imprisoned for unlawful cohabitation. He was sentenced to sixty days, and was detained thirty days longer for the costs.

Jan. 8, Jas. Bywater, of Brigham City, emerged from the penitentiary, having served six months for unlawful cohabitation. It was his second term. He served thirty days in lieu of paying the fine of \$150 and costs which was assessed against him.