

space to two such superb artists on the same instrument.

On October 14th, we shall have Opera Buffe at the Olympic by a troupe led by Aimee, and engaged recently in France by Mr. Maurice Grau. We are promised German Opera also, at the Stadt Theatre, under the management of Mr. Neuendorff. Before this latter can succeed, the theatre must be rebuilt, or renovated and purified to an extent that will all but destroy its identity. It is a disgrace to the city, and to the wealthy and intelligent classes it is supposed to represent, and who deserve a better index to their genius and refinement.

Mr. Daly, now of the Grand Opera House, has brought out his long-promised *Roi Carotte*; but without making any favorable impression whatever in educated and refined circles. The piece is an extravaganza, full of gaudy tableaux and tinsel, and having only one singer of undoubted merit—Miss Rose Hersee, who appeared at Julien's out-door convivial concerts at Terrace Garden—the musical features of the play, or whatever it may be called, are, of course, a failure. Mr. Daly intimates that he has made arrangements to give Sunday concerts at this establishment, at which the principal artists of the Jarrett and Marztek Opera Company are to appear. This may be so; but we, notwithstanding, incline to the opinion that neither Lucca nor Kellogg will charm the gods of Eighth Avenue for some time to come.

There is but very little known of the intentions of the Messrs. Strakosch in relation to the season now upon us. Up to the very moment of our writing we have been only able to ascertain and that without any degree of certainty, that he is on his way to this country, with a splendid concert troupe, of which Mlle. Carlotta Patti is the star. English opera appears to have fallen into the shade for the present, as neither the Seguin nor any one else seems desirous of laying hold of it. Mr. Van Gant's name, however, has been mentioned in connection with its revival; but on what authority we are unable to say. Of this, however, we may rest assured, that to succeed here now, English opera would have to be put on the stage at a cost that would shake the nerves of the most adventurous manager; and that even then, its triumph could scarcely hope to be of a very signal character.

We perceive that the lecture field, has announced Mrs. Henry C. Watson, the wife of the able editor of *Watson's Art Journal*. This lady, who is not only highly educated, but has musical and dramatic powers of the first order, cannot fail to make a decided impression wherever she appears. George F. Bristow, the composer of all American composers, has fine things in store for us in concert.

Miss Emily Faithful is expected to arrive in New York in October, for the purpose of making herself acquainted with movements of interest to women in this country, which she will photograph in a series of letters to the *Victoria Magazine*, London, of which she is the editor and proprietor.

Miss Faithful has been a leader in all the efforts for women in England looking toward social or educational advancement, and is one of the hardest and most practical of workers. She is a fine elocutionist, and has taught quite a number of Parliamentary orators all they know about speaking. She will give lectures and readings in this country, and has already made arrangements which will consume most of her time.

Booth's Theatre re-opened, according to

announcement, with the *The Bells*, in the production of which, the able hand of the manager, Mr. J. H. Magonigle, was quite apparent. Notwithstanding some adverse criticism, the play was performed most admirably. Wallack's, through the Lydia Thompson season, and up to the present moment, has been well patronized. Niblo's will be ready to re-open some time in November. Fechter's Lyceum is progressing slowly toward completion. A magnificent chandelier has been added to Booth's, where Miss Cushman is to re-appear soon, in connection with other great dramatic artists. The Olympic and the Theatre Comique have been doing admirably, and the same may be said of the Union Square, Wood's Museum, and the Bowery.

Literary and Art Gossip.

MEMORIAL VOLUME TO ALICE CARY.—Mrs. Mary Clemmer Ames, author of "Eirene," and a well-known writer for the newspapers, has prepared a Memorial of Alice and Phoebe Cary, which will be published by Hurd & Houghton. The volume will contain the later poems of the sisters. The *Westminster Review* once said of the older sister: "No American woman has evinced in prose or poetry anything like the genius of Alice Cary."

"MAOIML"—We have the pleasure of announcing a new story by the author of "Beck at the Farm," with the above title. It is the real name of a real woman, whose story, the author writes, "would be too sad, as all stories of real life are, to suit the general reader." The facts will, however, only be altered just enough to furnish that pleasant poetical justice and reward of virtue which the average story-reader insists upon as common law in ideal life, while the author's vivid portraiture will afford no evidence of where reality ends and imagination begins. The new story will commence with the December number.

THE MUSICAL WORLD.—This excellent musical magazine now publishes three editions—A, B, and C.—the first consisting of selections for the piano; the second of songs, for soprano, or tenor; the third of the same songs, arranged on a lower key, for a low voice. The music is varied, and admirably chosen, and we recommend this periodical to all those who wish to possess a musical journal of real excellence.

DRIED FLOWERS.

It is a mistake to suppose that great weight and pressure are necessary for the process; on the contrary, this is one of the great causes of failure. *No more pressure must be used than is required to keep the flower flat.* The flowers gathered for drying must be free from all damp and dew, and, if possible, should have had seven or eight hours' sun upon them, and those only selected which are in full perfection, as, if beginning at all to fade, the drying process will fail to preserve their color. Cut them with a sharp pair of scissors, and do not hold them in your hands, but throw them lightly as they are gathered into a large handkerchief, so as not to press one upon another. If the petals of a flower are at all bruised or broken, it is better to discard it at once.

When the flowers are gathered take them from the leaves, leaving the stalk to each flower from one to two inches long; light a candle, and hold the stalks one by one in the flame, until about a quarter of an inch is quite burnt; this prevents the juice from escaping. Some flowers of very bright red, purple, or magenta hue, such as some of the cinerarias, pyrethrus, and those of a fleshy nature, such as the dielytra, require to have their stalks, previous to burning, dipped from ten to twenty minutes in a weak solution of muriate of lime, in crystals, and water: while very fleshy green leaves should have their stalks first put into a solution of saltpetre and water.

Some blotting pads must be provided, and several quires of thin white blotting paper. We will suppose we are going to dry scarlet geraniums, periwinkles, single magenta stocks, and laburnums, as they are some of the flowers most liable to change color. Take the blotting pad and raise the whole of the blotting paper from the cover on each side. For the geraniums, periwinkles, and stocks, take each bloom out singly, and having burnt the stalks as before directed, bore a number of holes in one of the thicknesses of blotting paper sufficiently large to admit the calyces of the flowers, and so far apart that, when the flowers are arranged, no one bloom shall touch another; pass the stalk and calyx of each flower through the pad, so that the petals of the flower shall rest flat on the surface of the blotting paper, and no part of them be pressed against the calyx. Arrange each truss of laburnum (having passed its stalk through the pad) so that the blooms shall be distinct upon the paper; now lay the other thickness of blotting paper over the petals, and, holding the two pads together, turn them over on one of the covers. Gently press down the stalks and calyces, which will now be uppermost, and shut down the other cover upon them; tie the opposite edges of the pad round and round with cotton, taking care to make all the edges meet perfectly. Prepare as many pads as you require in this manner, then prop them up at about a yard's distance from a fire, or put them in a very gentle oven. When one side of the pad is so hot that you can just bear your hand upon it, turn the other side to the heat, and repeat the process for an hour. Then open the pads and examine the flowers; if they feel like smooth paper, they are sufficiently dried, but if they have still any fleshy feeling about them, the pads must be reclosed, and the exposure to heat continued. After the hour, however, they must be carefully watched, the pads being frequently unclosed for examination, as a very little *too much* heat will cause the flowers to scorch and turn brown. Some take longer drying than others, even of the same kind, so that it is impossible to lay down any exact rules as to the time required; but no flower will need more than three hours. Great care must be taken in removing the flowers from the pad, as the drying renders them extremely brittle. The best method is gently to enlarge the holes on the side on which the stalks are, and, having seen that they and the calyces are free, to take hold of the petals on the other side, between a small ivory folder and one finger, and draw the flowers out; put them away immediately between sheets of white writing paper, being careful not to lay one flower over another. Remove the top sheet of blotting paper from each side before making use of the pad again.

Double flowers, such as stocks, small roses, narcissus, etc., must have layers of cotton wool or small pieces of blotting

paper placed between the petals after they are arranged in the blotting pads before subjecting them to any heat or pressure. Calceolarias must have cotton wool or very fine sand very carefully put inside each flower; the flower being just sufficiently filled to retain its shape without fear of its bursting. The fuchsia should have a part of its calyx passed through the paper, with a little cotton wool between the flower and the surface of the paper, and also between the corolla and sepals, so as to keep the form of the flower as much as possible. Blue flowers in general do not require heat; they may be put between sheets of plain white blotting paper, five or six sheets on each side, and subjected to just sufficient pressure to keep the flowers from wrinkling. Ferns, white and some variegated leaved plants, such as centaurea, begonia, and caladiums, may be thus treated. For mounting the flowers, a sheet of white cardboard, a pair of scissors or a penknife, gum, and a small camel's-hair pencil are required. The gum must be *very* strong, made by taking 3oz. of gum arabic, pouring on it just sufficient hot water to dissolve it, and adding a table-spoonful of spirits of wine. The greatest care and patience are required in the manipulation of the flowers; they must be taken up between the blade of the penknife and one finger. It is well to arrange them first on the cardboard without fastening them, and, having arrived at a satisfactory effect, fix the arrangement in your mind, or make a slight sketch of it; then remove the flowers and proceed to gum them one by one in the position you have assigned them. The smallest quantity of gum in the middle of the back of the flower or leaf is sufficient to hold it in its place. A cardboard mount, round or oval, must be placed over the group, and the whole covered with a sheet of glass, and the edges bound round so as to exclude the air. These groups may be mounted as fire-screens or table-tops, as well as pictures. If hung up as a picture, it must be on a wall looking north; and, however used, care must be taken that the sun shall not rest upon them. They must also be kept from damp.

Household

HOUSEKEEPERS who are fond of their work, should rejoice in October. It is a real pleasure to visit the markets, everything is so fresh and tempting. Meats regain their sound looks and proper color. Good poultry abounds, and game makes an addition to the bill of fare.

Vegetables, bright and crisp, meet one on all sides, and what fruits can equal those of Autumn? Luscious peaches, delicate pears, many-hued grapes. Juicy apples, melons, and plums, quinces for preserving, all charm the eyes, and tempt the appetite.

Americans should be the healthiest people in the world. No other country produces such variety of food. Nature does her best for us, but we fail in our share of the work.

At present, women are inclined toward greater educational advantages, and much time is given to the dress question. To look pretty and to know a great deal are for a very well, but how about "a sound mind in a sound body"?