

FAMOUS WOMEN ARTISTS.



From a photo by]

[Jacotin, Paris.

MADemoISELLE ROSA BONHEUR.

MADemoISELLE ROSA BONHEUR, the most celebrated woman artist in the domain of animal painting, was born at Bordeaux on March 22, 1822. She was taught entirely by her father, who was himself a French artist of considerable ability. Public attention was first attracted to her work by two pictures she exhibited in 1841—"Chèvres et Moutons" and "Les Deux Lapins." The most famous of all her work, however, is her masterpiece, "The Horse Fair," which was exhibited in London in 1855. Mademoiselle Bonheur's face is one of marked character. She frequently adopts masculine attire in order that she may attend the horse-markets without attracting any attention. In addition to being decorated with the Legion of Honour, this distinguished artist was the first woman to receive the Leopold Cross from the King of the Belgians, and she obtained a similarly unique compliment from Spain with regard to the Commander's Cross of the Royal Order of Isabella the Catholic. Yet another tribute was paid to her genius when, during the siege of Paris in 1870-71, the Crown Prince of Prussia issued a special order that her studio in Fontainebleau was to be spared.

LADY BUTLER, who is now the foremost among women artists in England, made her first great success as Miss Elizabeth Thompson when, in 1874, her picture, the "Roll Call," created a sensation in the Academy, and was ultimately purchased by the Queen. Miss Thompson had, the year before, exhibited "Missing" in the Academy, but it was the "Roll Call" that placed her at a bound in the front rank of artists, where she has ever since remained. Among her other celebrated pictures may be mentioned "Balaclava," "Inkerman," "The Defence of Rorke's Drift," "Floreat Etona," "The Charge of the Scots Greys at Waterloo," "Evicted," and several other battle-pieces, all of which are handled with wonderful strength and vividness of detail. In 1877 Miss Thompson was married to Major-General Sir William Francis Butler. As a girl, Lady Butler spent some years in Italy and studied art in Florence. She also attended the Kensington School of Art. Her sister, Mrs. Meynell, is the well-known poet and essayist.



From a photo by]

[Barraud.

LADY BUTLER.