MARY STUART, BY SCHILLER.

Madamos, Stael, in her work "De l'Allemagne," Bays :- "Mary Stuart appears to us the most pathetic and best conceived of all German tragedles. The fate of this queen, who began life in such prosperity, who lost her happiness through so many errors, and who was led, after nineteen years' imprisonment, to the scaffold, calls forth as much our pity as that of 'Œdipus,' 'Orestes,' or 'Niobe.' But the very beauty of this story, so favorable to genius, would crush mediocrity."

The scene is at Fotheringay Castle, where "Mary Stuart" is confined. The nineteen years of her captivity are already , and the tribunal appointed by "Elizabeth" is e point of deciding the fate of the unfortuna een or Scotland. The character of "Mary", a mirably supported, and never ceases to interest during the whole piece. Weak, passionate, vain of her person, and repentant of her life, we at once love and censure her. Her remorse and her errors excite compassi on; we per ceive, throughout, the power of the beauty for which she was so famous. A man who conceives the design of saving her, dares to avow that he devotes hlmself for her only from the enthusiasm which charms have inspired. "Elizabeth" is jealous bese chaims, and even "Leicester," the favorite of "best chaims, and even "Leicester." the favorite of "Elizabeth," has become enamored of "Mary," and has secre:ly promised her his support.

Her a most supernatural beauty appears to be the cause and excuse of that hapitual intoxication of the heart which is the lata ity of her existence. The character of "Elizabeth" excites attention in a very different manner. A female tyrant is a new subject for painting. The littleness of women in general, their vanity, their desire of pleasing, in short, all the qualifies that belong peculiarly to them, tend to despotism in "Elizabeth," and that dissimulation which is born of weakness forms one of the instruments of her absolute power. Doubtless, all tyrants are dissemblers. Men must be deceived that they may be enslaved. To this end it may be necessary that falsehood come to them under the polished semblance of truth. But what distinguishes the character of "Elizabeth" is the desire of pleasing united to the utmost despotism of will. and all that is most refined in the self-love of a woman manifested by the most violent acts of severeign authority. "Elizabeth" was a woman of great genius, as the lustre of her reign evinces. Yet in a tragedy which represents the death of "Mary," 'Elizabeth' can appear only as the rival who causes her prisoner to be assassinated; and the crime which she commits is too atrocions not to efface all the good we might be disposed to say of her political genius.

"Leicester" entreats "Elizabeth" to see "Mary." He proposes to her to stop in the middle of a hunting party, in the garden of Fotheringay Castle, and to permit "Mary" to walk there. "Elizabeth" con. sents, and the third act opens with the affecting joy of "Mary" on again breathing the free air. "Mary" is informed of "E izabe h's" approach. She had wished for this interview, but as the moment draws near a chilly shudder runs through her frame :-

"Mary. I myself, O Talbot, have yearned for it! Long years have I prepared for this—in both heart and mind I have sought for, and carefully resolved the words that seemed most likely to affect and touch her! But now my labor is all obliterated and forgotten! Nought survives in me but the recollec-tion of my unmerited wrongs! An ungovernable fury devours my heart, and inflames me against nor! In one instant all my better thoughts have fled, and nought remains to counsel me but the internal Furies waving their snaky locks!"

"Leicester" accompanies "Elizabeth." Thus all the passions of "Mary" are at once excited. She commands herself for a time; but the arrogant "E izabeth" provokes her by her disdainful bearing, and the two rival Queens end by alike abandoning themselves to their natural hatred. "Elizabeth" reproaches "Mary" with her faults; "Mary" recalls te her mind the suspicions of "Henry VIII" against her mother on a point even that regards herself:-

"I have nought to conceal, or todeny my faultsmy pride has ever disdrined the base artifices of vile intriguers. The worst I ever did is known, and I may boast myself far better than my reputation. But woe to thee, thou malignant hypocrits, if ever thou lettest fall the virgin mantle beneath which thou concealest thine own shamless amours! Thou, the daughter of Anne Boleyn, hast not inherited virtue! The chaste virtues that brought thine adulterous mother to the block are known

The entire scene is singularly fine on this account, that their mutual rage makes the two Queens transgress the bounds of their natural dignity. They are no longer any other than two women rivals in respect of beauty; they are no longer the one a sovereign and the other a prisoner; and even though the one possesses the power of sending the other to the scaffold, "Mary," the Lautiful, enjoys yet the plea sure of humbling the all-power ul "Elizabeth" in the eyes of "Leicester," in the eyes of a lover dear to

The emissaries of the Romish party favor the design of assassinating "Elizabeth" on her return to London. 'Shrewsbury," the most virtuous of the "Queen's" friends, disarms the assarsin who at tempted to stab her, and the people cry out aloud for the blood of "Mary." It is an admitable scene in which the Chancellor, "Burleigh," presses "Elizabeth" to sign the death-warrant of "Mar," while "Shrewsbury," who had just saved the life of his sovereign, throws himself at her feet, imploring her to pardon her enemy. The answer of "Elizabeth" to his discourse is a speech of remarkable address. A man in a similar situation would probably have employed falsehood to pallrate injustice ; but ' Eliza beth" does more; she wishes to exc te interest, and, giving vent to her revenge, she would even, if possible, inspire regard whilst perpetrating the most barbarous action. She has the spirit of a sanguinary coquetry, if we may be allowed the expression, and the character of the woman finds its complement in that on the tyrant:-

"E'i. O Talbot! this very day hast thou disarmed an assassin who sought my die! Why didst thou strike saide the blow? Should England hope for happier days beneate the sway of this younger, and perchance more billiant ruler, I will willingly renounce my throne, and re urn to the silent halls of my former solitude, who 3, unknown to all, my youth passed peacefully away. The first duty that stern justice hath yet required at my nands is now demanded of me, and yet am I poweric's to per-

"Cec. Eternal heaven! to hear such words, and to remain silent, would be treason to my honor, and to the Sra'e! Supreme duty, and the poneral weal, depend upon the execution of this sentence! If Taitot saved thy hie, I will save the State!

"Eli. Leave me to myse'f! In human coun-sels I no longer find either comfort or guidance. Retire now, but do thou, Cecil, remain at hand!

The death-warrant of "Mary" is signed by "Elizabeth." and, left alone with her private secretary, the woman's timidity, mingling itself with the persevering consistency of despotism, makes her desire this inferior personage to take upon himself the responsibility of the deed which she is compating. He requires a positive order for sending the warrant, which "Elizabeth" reluses, repeating that he must do his duty. She leaves this unfortunate man in a frightful state of uncertainty, out of which he is delivered by the "Coancellor" snatching from him the paper wh'ch "Elizabeth" has left in his

disposition of each, and the advice which she gives for their future conduct :-

for their future conduct:—

"Mary, Poor and despoiled as I am I possess but lift e. What still remains at my disposal I have divided among ye, and trust, at least, that my last wishes may not be violated. All that I now bear with me on my road to death is yours also. (To Melville.) I bequeath my jewels and wardrobe to Gertrude, to Alice, and to Bossmond—for youth takes pride in ornament! Thou, Margaret, hast, more than any other, a sacred claim upon my heart, for thou art the most unhappy! My will contains proof that I do not visit thy husband's faults upon thee. O my faithful Anna! 'its not the glitter of gold or jewels that can give thee pleasure! My memory will be more precious to thee than all the wealth this earth can boast. Take this poor kerchief, I myself have embroidered it for thee during the last hours of my grief, and have bathed it with my hot teals! With this I wish that thou shouldst bind mine eyes; I desire to receive the last service from the hands of my faithful Anna alone!

"Anna. O Melville! I can no longer control my grie!"

"Anna. O Meiville! I can no longer control my grie!

"Mary. Come to me, all of ye! come—and receive my last embrace! (She extends her hands to them. They each kiss them in turn sobbing.) Rosamond, in larewell! Farewell, my good Alice! I thank thee, Rosamond, for thy faithful sorvices. Thy lips are burning, my Gertrude. I have been much hated, but also much loved! May a worthy husband render thee happy, Gertrude, for thine srdent soul doth feed on love! Thine, Gilberta, is the worthier intention! Thou desirest to dedicate tayself to religion, and to become the bude of heaven! Haste thee to utter thy chaste yows, for mortal happiness is but fleeing! I hy queen's examp e should teach thee this! and now—farewell—farewell—forever! (She tears herself hastly from them. They all withdraw except Meliville.)

draw except Meliville.) "Mary" remains a'one with "Melville," and the scene which then begins is very grand. The only grief that remains to "Mary," after having provided for all her worldly cares, arises from being unable to obtain a priest of her own religion to assist her in her last moments. "Melville," her steward, after learning the secret of her pious sorrows, informs her that he has been at Rome to take orders, that he might acquire the right of absolving and comforting her; he uncovers his head to prove his assertions, and takes out of his bosom the host which the Pope himself had blessed and sent her. The beautiful, the royal "Mary," throws herself at "Melville's" feet: and her subject, invested with all the dignity of the Church, suffers her to remain in that situation while he receives her confession. The entire scene pos-

sesses great force, and should be watched with care. "Leicester" has been commanded by "Elizabeth" to lead "Mary" to the scaffold himself, in order to prove that he does not love her; and "Mary's" last greeting to him is of a dignity becoming her rank and beauty.

Goethe pronounced Mary Stuart the best of Schiller's historical p ays.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

For Additional City Intelligence see Fifth Page.

MEETING OR THE FINANCE COMMITTEE of Councils.-The Finance Communities met last evening, Mr. Joseph Marcer, of the Twentieth Ward, in the Chair.

A resolution authorizing the City Controller to transfer the sum of \$450 from item 8 (advertising tiens) to item 7 (incidentals), in the appropriation to the Receiver of Taxes, was agreed upon by the Committee. Also, a resolution approving the sureties of James Lynd, City Solicitor elect.

The following estimates for 1867, for lighting. extinguishing, cleansing, and repairing the public lamps for the city of Philadelphia, were considered:

Item 1. For furnishing gas to, and lighting and extinguishing, cleausing and repairing seven thousand six hundred and forty lamps, at \$60 each lamp, \$453,400. Item 2. For furnishing gas to and lighting, cleansing, extinguishing, and repairing the new

lamps to be erected during the year, at \$30 each lamp, \$6000. Item 3. For the election of two hundred new lamps, at \$30 each lamp, \$7000.

Item 4. For changing fluid lamps for gas, at \$7.50 each, \$112.50.

Item 5. For repairs and renewals during the vear, \$600. Item 6. For excise tax on the gas used in the public lamps during the year 1867, \$45,000. Item 7. For excise tax on the gas used in the public lamps supplied by the Trustees of the Northern Liberties Gas Works, \$2500.

Mr. Harper moved to amend the first item by striking out \$60 each lamp, and inserting \$48 a lamp, which was agreed to. The second item was amended by striking out \$30 and inserting \$24, for each new lamp. The third item was also amended by inserting \$28.40 per lamp, in-

stead of \$30. Mr. King moved another amendment to this item by striking out "two hundred new lamps," and inserting "one hundred and fifty," which

Item 5 was also amended by reducing the amount to \$4500. This was on motion of Mr. Freeman. The Chairman was instructed report an ordinance to Councils, as amended, making an appropriation.

The ordinance making an appropriation to the Fire Department for the year 1867 was post-On motion, the Committee adjourned to assemble at the call of the Chairman.

A KNOTTY POINT .- The Committee on Law of Councils was in session yesterday afternoon, and had under discussion a very important subject. The law in reference to the election of Councilmen says that they shall take their seats on the first Monday in January; members of Common Council to be elected for two years, and Select Councilmen for three years, and their term of office to expire on the last of December. It so occurs that the first Monday in January of next year comes on the 7th instant, and a Thursday (Council day) in-tervenes between the 31st of December and the first Monday in January. The question arises, whether the members of Councils, whose term expires on the last of the year can keep their seats until the new Council come in. The majority of the Committee contend that those who go out on the last of the year cannot take their seats on Thursday preceding the first Mon-day in the new year. By the law only twenty members of Common Council can resume their eats, their term of office not expiring this year. The Committee on Law intend taking action in the matter. Every six years a Council day occurs between the last of December and the first Monday in January.

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SURVEYS .stated meeting of the Board of Surveys was eld yesterday, when applications for sewers in he following-named streets were granted: Little Pine street, between Fith and Sixth streets; on Callowhill street, between Canton treet and Ridge avenue; and on south side of Washington avenue, between Front and Swanon streets. Duplicate plans of the eleventa ceticn of the Twenty-second Ward, bounded by Allen's lane on the north, and Carpenter street on the south, and between Germantown avenue and Wissahickon avenue, and of the fifth section of the late township of Bristol, were submitted,

and laid over until the next meeting. A resolution was offered that the Board recommend to Councils that the curb height, as was confirmed on Cresson street, in the Twenty-dist Ward, be raised six inches at the northeast and northwest corners of Grape street, and that the devation of the northeast corner of Cresson treet and Green lane be fixed at fifty-six and five tenths feet. Agreed to. Adjourned.

hands.

In the sixth scene of the fifth act, "Mary" is represented in all the magnificence of royal ornament, alone clad in white, in the midst of her mournial attendants, with crucifix in her hand, a crown on her head, and already irradiated in their eyes with the celestial pardon which her misfortunes have obtained for her. "Mary" comforts her nurse, whose sobs affect her with deep emotion. The Queen distributes her jowels among her temale attendants; and nothing can be more affecting than the details into which she cuters respecting the FAIR! FAIR! FAIR!-Bear, in mind that

DYE-House BURNT.- Between six and even o'clock last evening a fire broke out in the dye-house, a large one-storied brick building, attached to the extensive woollen mills of Campbell & Pollock, located at the corner of Twenty-Erst street and Washington avenue. The firemen were soon upon the ground, but, notwithstanding their efforts, the building and contents were almost entirely destroyed, involv-ing a loss of about eight thousand dollars, partly covered by insurance.

MISCHIAVOUS BOXS.—Before Alderman Beitler, yesterday, three lads were charged by Mr. Jesse Dickinson, doing business in Thirteenth street, between Race and Vine, with the nalicious breaking of his store window-glass by throwing missiles through it. He testified to having witnessed the boys in the act, and to having made complaint to their parents. One of the lads admitted having broken two of the panes, and another to the frequent throwing of stones and pieces of coal. They were held for their appearance at Court.

LIBERAL BEQUESTS .- The will of the late Elizabeth Hoge, of Philadelphia, was received at the office of the Register of Wills yesterday. It contains the following liberal bequests:— \$5000 to the Trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United State for the use of such disabled ministers and their families as the Trustees may designate; also, \$3000 to the Board of Domestic Missions connected with the same church.

ROAD JURY APPOINTED .- A road jury was drawn a short time since to assess damages to property along the line of Spring Garden street, between Sixteenth and Eighteenth streets. Potter's oil-cloth factory, Norris' locomotive works, and Matthews & Moore's machine shops extend forty-four feet upon the line of the street. The jury have visited the premises, and held several meetings to discuss the amount of damages to be awarded.

NEW PIERS.—The new pier on the Dela-ware, about one mile below the Navy Yard, will be completed in about ten days. It is 60 feet in width, and extends into the river 200 feet from he bulkhead. The pier is connected with the Pennsylvania Railroad. Piers Nos. 13 and 18, at Port Richmond, belonging to the Reading Railroad, are being widened and extended to the Port Wardens' line a distance of 280 feet.

STABLE DESTROYED BY FIRE .- About 6 o'clock last evening the stable of Jacob Tyson, at the corner of Cumberland and Armat streets, Germantown, was destroyed by fire. Two valua-ble borses were also burned to death.

AMUSEMENTS.

TICKET OFFICE. No. 630 CHESNUT St.

Remember the Little Ones. The Destitute and Orphan Children OF OUR

COUNTRY'S DEFENDERS. GRAND CHARITABLE FAIR

And Presentation Festival,

In A.l.o. the Home and School for the Maintenance and Education o. the Destitute Children of our Soldiers and Sailors. An Appeal to the American People.

We, the Officers and Managers of "The Heme an School" for the Education and Maintenance of the Destitute Children of our Soldiers and Saliors, earnestly solicit the sympathy and co-operation in our Fair and Grand Presentation Festival of all who desire with us to see "the Home and School" enabled to receive and care for all needy ones, who seek its shelter and protection. Mrs. General Ulysses S Grant President.

Mrs. Charles P. Daly, Acting President
Mrs. Major-General J. C. Fremont, First Vica-President.

Mrs. Major-General J. C. Fremont, First Vice-President.
Mrs. Robert Forster, Second Vice-President.
Mrs. John S. Voorbies, Treasurer.
Mrs. David Hoyt, Secretary.
Mrs. William S. Hillser, Corresponding Secretary.
Mrs. Hervey G. Law, Manager.
Mrs. J. J. Van Dassem, Manager.
The Fair will open on the 10th of December, and continue two weeks at the PUBLIC HALL, corner obroadback of the Wenty-Third Street, New Yorkf.
To be concluded by the
GRAND PRESENTATION FESTIVAL,
To be held at
COOPER INSTITUTE, NEW YORK,
On SATURDAY EVENING, December 22,
Under the Musical Direction of THEODORE.
THOMAS. Esq. On which occasion a Committee will be chosen by the audience to award.

\$100,000 IN PRESENTS,

in such lawful manner as they may determine. For the Festival there will be issued 260 000 TICKETS AT ONE DOLLAR EACH,

200,000 Presents, being one to each Ticket-holder. LIST OF PRESENTS TO BE AWARDED,

New York.

1 House and Lot, adjoining above.
1 House and Lot in Brooklyn, New York.
1 Carr age Horses, and Harness (complete)...
1 Grand Fiano (Steinway's)...
3 Lots in Harlem, City of New York, \$1500 Pin)...

1 Paid-up Policy of Life Insurance for...

1 "Ellis' Patent Hot Water Apparatus," for Heating Dwellings...

10 Il Painting of General U. s. Grant...

15 Gents' fine Gold Lever Watches @ \$200....

15 Ladies' fine Gold Lever Watches. @ \$125...

1 Elegant 1st Premium "Empire" Sewing-Machine.

Machine.

20 Silver plated Tea > etts, @ 875.

100 Celebrated "Empire" Sewing Machines now on exhibition at their Warerooms, No. 616 Broadway.

1000 Copies (2 vols. each), being a complete Hlustrated History of the Wag.

200 Gold Pens, Pencils, and Sieve Boctons,

150

500 Table and Tea Spoons and Napkin Rings, 500 Table and Tea Spoons and Napkin Rings, @85.

1000 Cail bells and plated: Fruit Knives. @83.

The balance to consist of the following articles, viz:—Musical Instruments Parior and Office Furniture. Writing Cares, Ladies' Work Boxes Music Boxes Kid Gloves Photograph Albums. Breast Pins and Finger Rings, Genus Fob Chains, Ladies' Go'd Watch Chains, Opera Gia: see Back Wainut Picture Frames. Gentlemen's Fashionable Silk Hats, Ladies' Kewest Style Diess Hats, American Emblem Cards for Parior Amusement, Engravings and Card Photographs of Distinguished Personages, Ladies' Mink Furs. Gents' Fur Collars and Gioves, etc. etc., amounting to...

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Doors open at 7 o'clock. Commencing at 8 o'clock. 8 30

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And EVERY NIGHT in connection with our EXCELSIOR STRING BAND, a Brass Band, comprising the pest Artists in the city, will perform.

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Subscribers desirous of relaining their seats for FRIDAY (M'MERISTORI'S BENEFIT) are requisted to call for their seats to-day.
SATUEDAY AFTER OON, FARRWELL MATINEE,
at 1 o'clock. Doors open at 12%.

SATURDAY AFIER OON, FAREWELL MATINES, at 1 o'clock. Doors open at 12%.

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Admission to the Matines to all parts of the house, at.
Reserved seats, 50 certs extra. Sale of Seats for the Matines commences to day

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SATUEDAY AFIERNOON, December 22,

LAST MCDONOUGH MATINEE.

THE LONG STEIKE.

MONDAY, December 24.

MR. AND MRS BARNEY WILLIAMS.

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AND THE TOODLES.
CHANFRAU as "LORD DUNDREARY" SAM,"
AND 'TIMOTHY TOODLES."
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Filicenth Night of the popular comedian,
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CLARKE as DR PANGLOSS

CLARKE as CHRISTOPHER COCKLES.

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TRIUMPHANT PUCCESS! GREAT
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MONDAY, DECEMBER IT, AND EVERY NIGHT,
MATINEE WEUNEADAY AND SATURDAY AFTERNOONS, AT THREE O'CLOCK.
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