ADONIS.—A drama in one act, entitled "The Baronet Abroad, and the Rustic Prima Donna," half musical, half sensational, has been produced with much success at the Crystal Palace. The chief innovation of the piece is new; but the acting and singing are both exceedingly good. Miss Constance Roden, as the musical heroine, reaps in all the masters, intimating to her guest, by her matches of song, the peril that the young lady is in. Mr. Eugene with great skill, being equally at home in Rossini, Bellini, Verdi, Mozart, Weber, Virginia Gabriel, and Ernest Gaston. This exhibition of her powers ought to benefit greatly her reputation.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSIPPING.

Mr. Danneker, whose progress as a pianist since he has been in England has been steadily on the increase, was last Thursday at the Crystal Palace, the interesting, piquant, but too long drawn 'Krakovitch,' concert rondo of Chopin. There is no music more difficult than this master's; since, after the passages, which are peculiar, not too difficult, and must be added that freshness and delicacy (both within regulated bounds) are indispensable to the effect intended. Further, a difficulty is laid on the player, by Chopin's ignorance of orchestral combination. In what he called his "full compositions," the principal instrument is perpetually hampered and interfered with. The singers were Mlle. Sinico and Mr. Hohler.—Herr Wilhelmi and Mr. Halle played once more on Monday's Popular Concert, the last in his season. Mr. Charles Bellini's c minor Quartet was his Op. 129, in a minor. Herr Wilhelmi's playing of classical music has been satisfactory in no common degree, because promising. In Beethoven's c minor Quartet on Monday week his purity of tone was so much the better that no reader, no standard of what was at the moment. This reserve may imply coldness of temperament, or, on the other hand, the modesty of one whose attention, in public at least, has till now been directed to brilliant solo display, rather. In his own playing of a Beethoven sonata, he had something more than the usual foundation of the present young artist. —Elisabeth was given by the Sacred Harmonic Society last night.—At Mr. Halle's Manchester performance of 'Judith Macabeus,' Mr. Leigh Wilson took the principal tenor part. His singing proved assured to us, the satisfaction of his audience.

Mr. A. Mellon announces an opera of his composition, 'The Tyrannic Stem,' in which Madame Martorell Garcia and Signor G. Garcia were most triumphantly success. On making up the accounts of the recent Worcester meeting of the Three Choirs, the result is "the largest surplus of receipts over expenditure ever realized," and this independently of contributions from the public. In his address, Mr. H. A. Monck, amounting to more than a thousand pounds: so that the Earl of Dudley's "move" of discomfiture has counted (every one will be glad to see) for nothing.

Our Royal Academy authorities announce that the examination for the Westminster Scholarship will be made on the 21st of the month, for the two King's Scholarships on the 22nd of December. Among the events of the week has been Madame Sainton-Dolby's Ballad Concert. The lady sticks to the old-fashioned trick of the Secret. We can ill spare so thorough a musician and so accomplished a singer from the ranks of our executants, whenever the day of her retirement shall come. But Madame Sainton-Dolby is doing her utmost to lessen our regret and our wish that the time may be long postponed—by her resolution to degrade, not to raise, the taste of her audiences, which can only be accounted for on grounds unworthy of so genuine an artist's consideration. —The 14th and 15th of the month Mr. G. Monck Mason, with Madame Schroder-Devrient as prima donna. If so, we presume, it was found an excessiveness superfluous to a tale already concluded.

M. Victorien Sardou's play, "La Maison Neuve," produced last week at the Théâtre Vaudovis, in a most of its scenes outdoes in cynicism and naked horror almost modern melodrama of the kind which has gone before it. When will writers have enough of such horcemas as Madame Bourbon and Madame and Midle. Ocelot and Miss Griffin? When will the public be sickened with the display of female coquetry, guilt and suffering, has never been better fitted with a part. The hideous story, however, for once, ends in unnatural rehabilitation and happiness, and although it may succeed for a while, because of the way in which it has excited. Madame Dubarry figures at the Porte St.-Martin in "La Reine Consolée," 'Cadet le Perle' is another novelty, in five acts, with "la vraie sensation que fait," and "la grande fureur de la foule." The little Théâtre des Nouveautés, opened not many months ago, was, the other evening, totally destroyed by a fire, which broke out at the moment when the theatre was being lighted and the audience for the opening. Another of the many new theatres which are being built in Paris, the "Salle des Menus Plaisirs," was to open a few nights ago, "Colbert et Fouquet," a three-act play, in verse, unknown to Paris, has been brought forward at the Théâtre des Célestins, Lyons, with success. Madame E. L. Grisi has been engaged near his residence in Guernsey, where two unperformed plays by him, 'Lucippia' and 'La Grande mère,' are to see the footlights.

The deaths of two more estimable professors, we are sorry to say, have been recently registered among the events of 1868. These were Herr Strauss, chapelsmaster at Carlisle, a symphony by whom was performed at one of our Philharmonic Concerts some years ago; and Herr Rink, a composer of some note.

The Olympic has, we hear, passed under a new management, that of Mr. Webster, who will conduct it on a broader principle than that adopted by the recent conductor. The star-system will be introduced, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mathews are promised to sit in an early appearance.

Mr. Toole, we are told, goes to the Holborn Theatre, and Mr. Belmore will transfer his services to the Adelphi.

MISCELLANEA.

Cut out. —I have no less than seven paper-knives to use. I don't know, in conclusion, I dare say, with many of your readers, that it happens that I am unable to lay my hands upon one when wanted. I know that to many it is a luxury to have the first read of a book, and with paper-knife in hand cut away as they read, but I don't think I am alone on the other side, and I wish to take the opportunity of the literary world as to whether a period of civilization has not arrived when the readers of books and periodicals might reasonably ask that they should be delivered from the publishers ready cut.

A GREAT READER.

Steam Whistles. —It does not seem to have been noticed that electric signals upon railways have dispensed almost entirely with the use of steam whistle, and travellers upon those lines, where this system has been carried to well-nigh perfection, are very often surprised at the absence of that demonic shriek that renders a journey so