

21 JAN '028

IN PARIS NOW.

Winter Returns . . . Novel Drawing-room
Decorations at Dramatist's At Home . . .
Moliere's Last Performance . . . Tableaux at
the Franco-American Ball.

By a London Woman.

LAST week we had a foretaste of spring; this week winter has had us in his icy grasp. We have become accustomed to quick changes and learned to adapt ourselves to a thermometer that leaps with a rapidity that is, to say the least of it, temperamental. The streets are filled with muddy slush under skies of lowering grey. Yet even in snow and slush Paris is delightful. Home comforts tempt one to ignore the call of the south. When theatres, parties, friends, favourite books and a fire are at hand, why travel?

A Playwright's Reception.

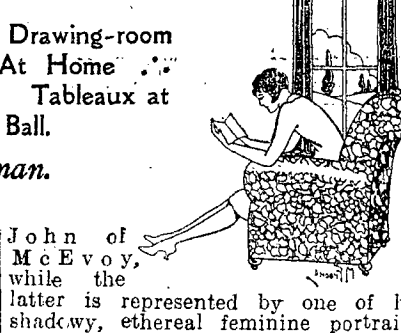
Speaking of parties, M. and Mme. Alfred Savoir gave a delightful "at home" the other day to receive their many friends. M. Savoir is the author of that successful play which had such a long run in London, "Bluebeard's Eighth Wife," and his latest work, "The Lion Tamer," is the greatest dramatic success of the present Paris season. Mme. Savoir is delightful, and their charming apartment, with a view over the Seine, is furnished in the most modern manner, with several pictures by Van Dongen decorating the walls.

The drawing-room was equipped with a bar for the occasion, in imitation of the opening scene of "The Lion Tamer," and the walls were hung with amusing paintings of scenes from the play. Leading lights of politics, art, the stage and literature filled the rooms. Spinnely was there in a Futuristic frock, Van Dongen, Jean Gabriel Domergue and his talented wife, who makes such clever porcelain statuettes, and many other well-known people were present.

Attractive Art Show.

There is an interesting exhibition of the modern foreign schools belonging to the Luxembourg Museum, held in the Musée du Jeu de Paume in the Tuileries Garden.

English and American sections are particularly well represented. There is



John of McEvoy, while the latter is represented by one of his shadowy, ethereal feminine portraits Philip de Laszlo has a striking portrait of the Comtesse de Noailles, herself a poet of considerable talent. A portrait group by Lee Hankey "Leçon de Tricot" is fresh and pleasing. Other interesting works include Orpen's "Café Royal," two Lavery portraits, and some excellent Burne-Jones drawings.

The American section includes some interiors by Walter Gay, a woman's head by Sargent, and an exquisite bronze bust by Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney.

In Memory of Moliere.

Last week a Mass was celebrated in the beautiful old church of Saint Severin for the repose of the soul of Moliere, born three hundred and four years ago. Cardinal Dubois, the Archbishop of Paris, presided. Father Gillet in a forceful sermon reminded us that we have made progress since the days of Bossuet, who stigmatised actors as sinners of the deepest dye and the stage as a pit of iniquity. Moliere himself was a striking example of the actor's traditional devotion to duty, for he died after giving a performance of "Le Malade Imaginaire," while enduring acute suffering, in order that forty-nine poor workmen might not be put out of employment by his failing to appear.

Beautiful Background for Tableaux.

The Franco-American ball at the Ministère des Affaires Etrangères was the last great charity event of the winter season. The beautiful white and gold salons of the Ministry were visited with great interest by the guests, who admired the exquisite tapestries and Louis XV. furniture very much. It formed a most attractive background to a series of tableaux organised by the Duchesse de Liancourt, representing famous pictures by David, Reynolds,