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PRIVATE THEATRICALS IN FLORENCE:—

Mrs. Ritchie, better known here as Anna Cora Mowatt, has been making a sensation in Florence lately, by the private theatricals she has got up there. The correspondent of the *London Star* of Nov. 5, says:

“Mrs. Ritchie took the old library in the Palazzo Rinuccini, once belonging to the famous old Ghibellines, the Frescobaldi so noted in the history of Florence, and has fitted up the most perfect little theatre, in white and gold, with crimson hangings, that can be imagined. The lady patronesses are Mrs. Lawrence, wife of the American Consul; and Mrs. Proby, wife of the English Consul; the ushers, Mr. Matteini, United States Vice-Consul-General; Perugi, the banker; T. A. Trollope, the author of that gem of Italian novels, ‘*La Beata*,’ and Mignaty, an artist. The audience is composed of the elite of English and American society, with a fair sprinkling of Italian. Last night *The Hunchback* was performed, and it was almost impossible to believe that all the actors and actresses, save one, were amateurs. As for Julia, she looked about five-and-twenty; and admirers of Mrs. Mowatt in her palmy days would find little to regret. Her transitions of look, and voice, and action, from the wilful maiden to the true-hearted woman—the alternations of pride and passion, wounded vanity struggling with love, and the never-failing ascendancy of the latter, were inimitable. Miss Burridge, as Helen, acted admirably with her cousin, D. B. Wylie, Messrs. Dunn and Arthur Kilson sustained the byplay between Stephen and Thomas, and Ion Perdicaris, a handsome young Greek, looked Sir Thomas Clifford to perfection. So crowded was the theatre on Saturday that last night was a repetition. Next Saturday the ‘*Swiss Cottage*’ and ‘*Used Up*’ will be performed.”