THE ALBANY CLUB

The weather has been very unfavourable to open-air entertainments, but the Albany Club, Kingston-on-Thames, had the courage to give a performance of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" on Saturday afternoon, in the beautiful grounds of the Club on the banks of the River. The representation was under the patronage of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York, the Duke of Cambridge, Princess Mary Adelaide and the Duke of Teck, who, with Prince Alexander of Teck, at-tended. Fortunately for the enjoyment of a large circle, the afternoon was fine, and the play was given on the lawn under the shade of beautiful trees, the performers using the foliage for exits and entrances instead of the painted scenes of the stage, the effect being very agreeable. The play was given under the direction of Mr. Alexander Watson, who himself played Malvolio with considerable ability. Mr. Watson displayed no little humour in the scenes with the Countess and Sir Toby Belch, a character Mr. Jowett played with the breadth of comic effect desirable. Mr. Somerset as the Duke Orsino spoke his lines well, notwithstanding the difficulty of making the sentences distinct while the wind from the river whistled in the tall trees. The birds also chimed in their simple notes as a chorus to Shakespeare. The whimsicality of Sir Andrew Aguecheek was amusingly depicted by Mr. W. E. Lincoln, and Mr. W. H. Jones was a clever and sprightly clown, employing vocal in addition to histrionic talent with success. Miss Mabel Harrison made a graceful Countess Olivia, and Miss Rosalie Whyte proved a sympathetic Viola. Miss Mary Bessle was animated as Maria. The play went with much spirit, and the proceeds were devoted to the Princess May's Ward for Children at the Royal Hospital, Richmond. Besides the natural music of the winds, waters, and birds, a small orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Gustave KrenkeI, played incidental music appropriate to the various scenes. The performer were frequently applauded cordially, and may be credited with having done ample justice to the famous comedy, the sub-ordinate parts being also efficiently played by other members of Mr. Watson's company.