

Miscellaneous Reviews (Held over from the February Number.)

A CO.—F.33072 (12in., 4s. ).—Albany Symphony Orchestra : Madame Butterfly Fantasia (Puccini) and In a Monastery Garden.

All the orchestral and band records in this list seem to me extraordinarily successful with the exception of the Aida Selection and La Bohême Fantasia which betray "lapses of intonation" ; all achieve what they apparently set out to do. But everybody has probably got adequate versions of Aida, Butterfly, La Bohême selections, and In a Monastery Garden ; and the other records, Flying Dutchman Overture and Gems of Chopin, are, to most tastes, unsuitable to military or brass bands. But they are magnificently played, and I cannot conceal my grudging admiration for the virtuosity of the Newcastle Steel Works Band under Mr. Baile's direction. Their work has often been praised in these pages, so I may leave technical criticism to the band-pundits.