

*How Sicard Exhibited his Pupils.*—Mr. Douglas Tilden sends us the following from Paris :

An article in the *Deaf-Mutes' Journal* for Nov. 27, 1890, reminds me of a conversation I had not long ago with Mr. Joseph Theobald, of Paris, on the subject of Sicard's show pupils. Mr. Theobald is quite an elderly gentleman, and used to know the old pupils (however, not Clerc and Massieu) who took part in Sicard's exercises, or at least knew how they were conducted.

One method of Sicard's was this : He beforehand coached his pupils on divers topics, such as charity, gratitude, etc., and at the exhibition he distributed sheets of paper among the audience and requested them to jot down such questions as they would like to ask the pupils. After collecting them, he would, in full view of the audience, silently read the papers one after another, and then suddenly pause and read aloud, as if from the paper, "What is charity?" and then, turning to the pupil, give him the same question in signs. There was no such question on the paper, and perhaps there was nothing on any of the papers that the pupils could write about successfully. The audience, seeing the honest priest reading aloud from the paper, concluded therefrom that somebody among them had written that question. So the delusion was complete.

For fear the papers might fall into other hands, Sicard put them, as the exhibition progressed, under the scarf that is worn around the body as we see it in the statue of the Abbe de l'Épée.