

ESTD.

1837

PRICE THREEPENCE

DECEMBER 15, 1890



No. 1,278. VOL. 53

THE  
**P**ublishers' **C**ircular  
AND

GENERAL RECORD

OF

BRITISH AND FOREIGN LITERATURE

Issued on the 1st and 15th of each Month

LONDON

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N<sup>o</sup> 1278.—Vol. LIII.

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ST. DUNSTAN'S HOUSE, E.C.,  
December 15, 1890.

**A**FTER more than half-a-century of persistent opposition to the fair claims of foreign authors, the Americans have surprised the world by a sudden resolution to be just. On December 3, the House of Representatives passed the Copyright Bill by 139 votes to 95, and those who are on the ground and best qualified to judge confidently expect the Senate to follow the laudable example set by the sister Chamber. As the President recommended the measure in his message to Congress, his signature may be regarded as certain, so that it may be reasonably assumed that at last the rights of the alien author are to be fully recognised and protected in the United States. The Bill, if matters go according to anticipation, will become law on July 1 next. On and after that date any book written by an English subject may be copyrighted in the States, and thus authors who are fortunate enough to be popular favourites on both sides of the Atlantic will probably find their bank accounts swelling agreeably. At the least they will have the satisfaction of sharing to the full in the profits that may accrue from their works. This is eminently satisfactory, and we congratulate British writers—not, indeed, on their enlarged constituency, but on the more solid returns which that constituency will shortly begin to make. That beautiful dream, which in a moment of supreme exaltation Mr. Besant dreamed, of English writers writing for hundreds of millions of people of Anglo-Saxon speech, and being paid for every book that is sold, is about to become a reality. A new era is dawning in literature—the golden era. There will be no more Grub Street, for the 'creator of literary property' will have the full market value of his wares, none daring to rob him. It is a glorious prospect, and again we congratulate English authors. We may also congratulate American authors, for the

American market will no longer be flooded with cheap unpaid reprints of foreign books to the detriment of the home industry. 'Without authorial expense' will cease to appear in advertisements, and native and foreigner will enter the lists on equal conditions. This is surely a matter for the sincerest congratulation. Finally, we congratulate the members of the Copyright League on the success that has attended their efforts to secure equitable dealing between England and America in the matter of books. The battle has been long and hard, and though the victory is not yet absolute and complete, there are, as already stated, reasonable grounds for assuming that it speedily will be.

We have said so much on the leading principle of the Bill. As it is primarily and principally meant to protect the interests of authors, it is right that it should be considered from their point of view. In that view it is, in the main, satisfactory. But there are secondary considerations of no slight importance which deserve to be noticed, and in at least one respect the Bill is open to objection. We have not yet received the full text of it, and are not, therefore, in a position to discuss its details, but, so far as can be gathered from a meagre telegraphic description, it provides that foreigners can take American copyright on the same basis as American citizens in three cases: first, when the nation of the foreigner permits copyright to American citizens on substantially the same basis as its own; second, when the nation of the foreigner gives to American citizens copyright privileges similar those provided in the Bill; third, when the nation of the foreigner is a party to an international agreement providing for reciprocity in copyright by terms by which the United States can become a party thereto at pleasure. These three main propositions are, we think, fair and reasonable; they evince a desire for equitable dealing, and when carried into force



will effectually protect English literary property in the United States. But there is one serious drawback: by a subsidiary clause it is provided that all books copyrighted under the Act shall be printed from type set within the States or from plates made therefrom. We confess that this provision somewhat sobers our joy in the promised law, for it seems to us it involves a grave injustice to the many concerned in the mechanical production and distribution of literature. To make the Bill perfectly fair to all parties there should be no limitation as to the setting of type or the casting of plates. There ought to be absolute freedom to set the type and cast the plates wherever it might chance to be most convenient. We do not object to the importation of American plates into England; why, then, should Americans object to the importation of English plates into America? Until this restriction regarding the printing be removed, the Copyright Bill cannot be accepted as wholly just and satisfactory.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

As has already been announced, in order to increase the value of the PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR as a means of bringing publishers' announcements rapidly under the notice of the whole bookselling trade at home and abroad, and to increase its usefulness as a medium for all who wish to buy or sell books, new or old, or obtain information about them, it has been decided, on and after January 1, 1891, to issue the PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR once a week instead of twice a month as at present, and to increase the size of the page (thus allowing larger illustrations to be printed than has been the case until our last special Christmas Number appeared). There will be no increase in the cost to our present subscribers, nor to any new subscribers whose names and subscriptions are sent to us on or before January 15, 1891. In the Editorial and New Book List departments no trouble or expense will be spared to make them as complete as possible. This important change has not been decided on without consulting many of our most influential subscribers among the publishers and booksellers, and is made with their almost unanimous approval. Our aim is to make this journal indispensable to the publisher and to the bookseller, and, as we have now some thousands of annual subscribers, we confidently hope the British and Irish publishing and bookselling world will support us in our endeavour to place them on the same footing as their brethren in America, France, Germany, Holland, &c., by giving them a weekly trade organ.

## Books and Rumours of Books

Mr. William Andrews' new book, 'Old-Time Punishments,' is announced by Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co.

The publication of 'The Letters of S.G.O. to the *Times*' has been postponed until the middle of January.

'Achievements in Engineering,' by Prof. Vernon Harcourt, will be published in February by Messrs. Seeley & Co.

Mr. J. J. Piatt's new book, 'The Return to Paradise, and other Fly-Leaf Essays,' will be published immediately by Mr. Elliot Stock.

A new edition of Mr. Sidney Buxton's 'Political Manual' is about to be published. There will be considerable matter not included in the previous edition.

Archdeacon Farrar has written a novel dealing with early Christianity. It is entitled 'Darkness and Dawn,' and will be published at an early date by Messrs. Longmans & Co.

Lucas Malet's new novel, 'The Wages of Sin,' which appeared serially in the *Universal Review*, is announced for publication to-day by Messrs. Swan Sonnenschein & Co.

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. have issued the works of Lord Tennyson in a handy and handsome one-volume edition for the pocket. It is a gem in the way of bookmaking.

Messrs. Burns & Oates have in the press a collection of documents edited by Father Pollen, and prefaced by Father John Morris, on the English Catholics who suffered death under Elizabeth and James.

Messrs. Morgan & Scott announce a serial issue, in thirteen monthly parts, of 'The Christian Portrait Gallery,' a collection of over 100 portraits and biographies of prominent Christian men and women of to-day.

Mr. Stanley J. Killby announces a political novel entitled 'The Flowing Tide,' by John Littlejohns. The book will be ready in about a fortnight, and will set forth the writer's impressions regarding the relation of politics to religion.

Messrs. W. & R. Chambers have just issued the following new books: 'Chambers's Encyclopædia,' Vol. VI.; 'Chambers's New Geo-

graphical Reader for Standard VI.'; 'The Night Hawks,' by the Hon. Eva Knatchbull-Hugessen.

Henrik Ibsen's new drama, about which there has been so much anticipation, is, we learn, in the printer's hands at last, and will probably be issued in Copenhagen about New Year's Day. Mr. Gosse is engaged upon an English version of it, which will be published, as nearly simultaneously as possible with the original, in London by Mr. Heinemann and in New York by Mr. Lovell.

We understand that the first two volumes of Dr. Smith's 'Dictionary of Greek and Roman Antiquities' will be published immediately by Mr. Murray. The work will contain about 800 pages more than the last edition (1848). One-third of the old articles have been re-written entirely; and about two hundred articles have been added, together with 450 new illustrations.

'The Poets, and Poetry of the Century' is the title of a voluminous work which Mr. A. H. Miles is editing for Messrs. Hutchinson & Co. Volumes I., II., and IV. will appear at once. They will contain articles on Byron by Mr. Roden Noel; on Mr. Swinburne, by Mr. Arthur Symonds; on Mr. William Morris, by Mr. Buxton Forman; and on Sir Aubrey De Vere and Mr. Theodore Watts, by Mr. Mackenzie Bell.

The poems of Mr. Ruskin written between the ages of 7 and 26, and edited by Mr. W. G. Collingwood, to which reference has already been made in these columns, will be published in two volumes early in 1891. Mr. Ruskin has placed at the editor's disposal the whole of his early manuscripts and notebooks, ranging from childhood to the time when the success of his prose-writings led him to abandon verse. Out of these materials everything that was sufficiently complete to bear publication has been extracted, and the additions of unpublished matter nearly double the bulk of the volume of 1850. The poems are all accurately or approximately dated, and arranged in chronological order, so that they form a running commentary on the author's biography, and illustrate the development of his thought and style from the age of 7 to that of 26.

Mr. Tom C. Smith, author of 'The History of Rochester,' which we had occasion to notice favourably not long ago, will shortly publish a work entitled, 'Preston Parish Church: its Records and Registers.' Although three or more 'Histories' of Preston have been written within the present century, little, if any, use have been made by the writers of the unusually full and interesting Churchwardens' Account Books, the Registers, and Minutes of the 'Gentlemen and Twenty-four' of the parish. To supply this want is the aim of Mr. Smith.

Commencing in 1644, the Minute Books of the 'Gentlemen' of Preston contain much information about the town and district during the troubled times of the Commonwealth. Preston, as is well known, was the centre of some of the most important operations of the period, and any fresh light that can be thrown upon the events of the time has more than a mere local interest. The work will be published by subscription early in 1891. Mr. Henry Gray, 47 Leicester Square, W.C., will receive subscribers' names.

The forthcoming volume of the 'Dictionary of National Biography' extends from Harris to Henry I. Mr. H. Manners Chichester writes on the first Lord Harris; Mr. Lloyd C. Sanders on James Howard Harris, third Lord Malmesbury; Canon Fremantle on Archdeacon Harrison of Canterbury; Mr. C. H. Firth on Harrison the regicide; Dr. F. J. Furnivall on William Harrison, the Elizabethan topographer; Mr. Leslie Stephen on David Hartley, the philosopher, and William Hazlitt; Mr. H. R. Tedder on John Harvard, the founder of Harvard College, and Abraham Hayward, Q.C.; Mr. J. Bass Mullinger on Gabriel Harvey; Dr. Norman Moore on Dr. William Harvey, discoverer of the circulation of the blood; Mr. Russell Barker on Francis Rawdon Hastings, first Marquis of Hastings; Canon Overton on Selina Hastings, Countess of Huntingdon, and Bishop Heber; Mr. H. G. Keene on Warren Hastings; Prof. Sanday on Edwin Hatch; Mr. J. M. Rigg on Sir Christopher Hatton and Sir John Hawkwood; Mr. Fuller Maitland on Hatton the songwriter; Col. Vetch, R.E., on Sir Henry Have-lock; Prof. Laughton on Admiral Hawke and Sir John Hawkins; Mr. W. P. Courtney on R. S. Hawker, of Morwenstow; the Rev. F. St. John Thackeray on Hawtrey, of Eton; Mr. S. R. Gardiner on James Hay, Earl of Carlisle, and Queen Henrietta Maria; Mr. Cosmo Monkhouse on Haydon the painter; Mr. Sidney Lee on Mrs. Haywood, the novelist, and Richard Head, author of the 'English Rogue'; Dr. Luard on Hearne, the Oxford antiquary; Dr. J. F. Payne on William Heberden, the physician; Mr. G. C. Boase on Sir Arthur Helps; Mr. Robert Dunlop on the Hely-Hutchinsons; Mr. C. W. Sutton on Mrs. Hemans; and the Rev. William Hunt on Henry I.

## Notes and News

Cardinal Manning will discuss 'In Darkest England' in the next number of the *Pater-noster Review*.

'Good Words' for the coming year will have serials by Mrs. Oliphant and Mr. J. M. Barrie, and 'Short Readings for every Sunday' by the Bishop of Winchester.

We learn that Mr. William White, the curator, is compiling a descriptive catalogue of the library and print room of the Ruskin Museum, Sheffield, to be published early next year.

'Captured by Indians: a Tale of the American Frontier,' is the title of a new story by Edward S. Ellis, author of the 'Boy Hunters of Kentucky,' &c., which will commence in *Little Folks* magazine for January.

Mr. J. Lash Latey has retired from the editorship of the *Illustrated London News*, with which journal he has been connected since its foundation in 1842. He has been editor of it for thirty-two years. Mr. Latey's successor is Mr. Clement King Shorter.

The first annual series of the *Art Decorator*, which is announced for immediate publication, will have an introduction by the President of the Royal Society of British Artists, and will, by special permission, be dedicated to H.R.H. the Princess Louise.

The first number of a new issue, in weekly volumes, of a selection of the most popular works in Cassell's 'National Library' will appear on Wednesday, January 7. Some new volumes will be added which have not hitherto appeared in the series, and the cloth editions will be issued in an improved style of binding.

Messrs. Cassell & Co. have entrusted Mr. Walter Paget with the preparation of an entirely new series of original drawings to illustrate 'Robinson Crusoe.' There will be in all upwards of 100 designs, and these are being reproduced by the best wood-engravers for the new edition of this work, of which the first monthly part will appear on the 18th inst.

Messrs. A. & C. Black's new premises at Nos. 4, 5, and 6 Soho Square, W., will be opened for business on January 1, to which address all communications should be sent. The new establishment is under the management of Mr. James Cannon, who was with Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co. for a number of years.

Mr. John Bassett, who has resigned his position as editor of the *Effective Advertiser* and the *Office*, will, on January 25 next, bring out a new high-class paper for printers entitled the *Printing World*. The staff of contributors comprises some of the best-known practical men both at home and abroad, and this, combined with good paper and printing, should make the venture a great success.

The Charterhouse has managed to secure a large proportion of the school sketches and manuscripts of Thackeray which were recently sold by Messrs. Sotheby. The foundation was already in possession of many interesting relics of the great novelist. The school journal, *The Greyfriar*, promises some facsimile reproductions from the newly-acquired treasures.

The January number of *Harper's Magazine* contains an article on 'The Outlook in Southern California,' by Charles Dudley Warner; a paper on 'London Music Halls,' by F. Anstey; 'Impressions of Peru,' by Theodore Child; 'How I became a Journalist,' by M. de Blowitz; and the opening chapters of a new story by that powerful and original writer, Charles Egbert Craddock. These will all be illustrated.

'Othello,' the new volume of Messrs. Cassell & Company's International Shakespeare, will be issued in a few days. It will be illustrated by twelve designs which have been reproduced by photogravure from original drawings by Frank Dicksee, A.R.A., and the work will be upon Whatman's hand-made paper. The head and tail pieces are from designs by Lewis F. Day, whilst Professor Dowden furnishes an introduction to the play.

The initial number of the new series of monthly volumes which Messrs. Henry & Co., under the general title of 'The Whitefriars Library of Wit and Humour,' begin early in the new year, will comprise a volume entitled 'Essays in Little,' by Mr. Andrew Lang. Succeeding contributors include, amongst others, Justin McCarthy, M.P., G. A. Sala, G. Manville Fenn, G. A. Henty, the author of 'Molly Bawn,' R. E. Francillon, Percy Fitzgerald, Arthur à Beckett, &c.

A new series of the *Monthly Packet* will commence in January, Miss C. R. Coleridge becoming joint editor with Miss C. M. Yonge. The main features of the magazine will remain, but its scope will be enlarged. Among those who have promised to contribute during the year are Mrs. Oliphant, Mr. Andrew Lang, the author of 'The Atelier du Lys,' Dr. Garnett, Mrs. Macquoid, Miss Peard, Professor F. T. Palgrave, Mr. W. W. Fowler, and others. Some unpublished marginalia of S. T. Coleridge and some letters by Mrs. Barbauld are to appear.

From the office of the *Publishers' Weekly*, New York, has been issued, in one bulky royal octavo volume, 'The Publishers' Trade List Annual' for 1890 (eighteenth year). To it is affixed the complete list, by author, title, and subject, of all books recorded in the *Publishers' Weekly* from January to June 1890, with corrections, changes of price and publishers, &c.; also 'The American Educational Catalogue' for 1890, and an alphabetical Directory of American Publishers, with their latest catalogues. As in former years, the volume is furnished with a duplex index.

Under the title of 'Bits of Old China,' the *Whitehall Review* will publish a series of reminiscences, by an old civil servant, relating to the China of a quarter of a century ago, and the more southerly portion of Eastern Asia in times less remote. The notes will include anecdotes of 'Chinese' Gordon, and of his companions, and of many others who laid the foundation of diplomatic intercourse between China and the Western Powers. Minister, consul, and magistrate, missionary and doctor, merchant and civil servant, with native of high and low degree, will furnish matter for the series. The opening instalment will commence in the issue of this week.

We have lately been missing the name of Joel Chandler Harris in magazine literature. We suppose that since he assumed editorial functions he is more concerned with politics than literature. However, we are glad to see that he has not altogether forgotten his first love, for in the December number of the



*Century* there is one of the most charming short stories that ever came from his pen. It is entitled 'A Conscript's Christmas,' and should be read by all who appreciate humour and delicacy and power of characterisation. The other contributions to the number are all of fair average merit, but that of 'Uncle Remus' is exquisite.

The new illustrated paper, *Black and White*, will make its appearance in January. Unlike the majority of its rivals, it will not print a serial, but it will have short stories by good writers. Among the contributors to this department will be Mr. W. Besant, Mr. Bret Harte, Mr. Justin McCarthy, Miss Broughton, Mr. James Payn, Mrs. Lynn Linton, Mrs. W. K. Clifford, Mr. Grant Allen, Mr. W. H. Pollock, Mr. Rudyard Kipling, Mr. W. E. Norris, Mr. Frank R. Stockton, Mr. William Black, and Mr. Henry James. Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson will contribute an account of his recent wanderings in the South Seas. There will likewise be a strong staff of artists.

This is emphatically the age of type-writers. A writer in the current number of *Time* declares that everybody of consequence uses a type writer now-a-days. The literary and journalistic professions, he says, 'have gone in for typing with enthusiasm and vengeance, with, as one result, the conjoint blessing of that hardly-entreated trio, the editor, the sub-editor, and the printer.' Even the blind can use the type-writer, and young writers who are for ever trying their chance with 'an article, a story, or a play,' are begged to remember that that chance becomes something less than a thousand to one if the 'copy' is typed, not written. The mechanic is clearly the ruling spirit of the day.

*Child Life* is the title of a new monthly which will appear in January. Its object will be to promote union among parents, teachers, and students interested in the philosophic principles and methods of Pestalozzi and Froebel, and other prominent educationists; to serve as an organ for the open discussion of all matters connected with kindergarten teaching; to assist teachers by means of specimen lessons, stories, &c., and to show the bearing of science, literature, and art upon this branch of education. The first number will contain 'The Reminiscences of Frau Froebel,' translated by Miss Lyschinska; 'A Simple Method of Teaching Staff-Notation Sight-Singing to Young Children,' by Mr. J. Taylor, organist at Kensington Palace; and 'Search Questions in Natural Science,' by Mrs. Fisher (Arabella Buckley). It will be published by Messrs. George Philip & Son.

An interesting relic of Sir Walter Scott has just come into the possession of Mr. John Murray, jun. This is a desk that once belonged to the author of 'Waverley,' and in which the MS. of that famous novel lay almost forgotten till Scott came upon it accidentally while searching for fishing-tackle. Here is Scott's own story of the MS.: 'This portion (the first seven chapters) of the manuscript was laid aside in the drawers of an old

writing-desk, which, on my first coming to reside at Abbotsford in 1811, was placed in a lumber garret and entirely forgotten. . . . I happened to want some fishing-tackle for the use of a guest, when it occurred to me to search the old writing-desk already mentioned, in which I used to keep articles of that nature. I got access to it with some difficulty, and in looking for lines and files the long lost manuscript presented itself.' This old receptacle of fishing-tackle and rejected manuscripts is indeed an object of interest.

'Little Folks' Magazine for January will include a new serial story of adventure by Edward S. Ellis, called 'Captured by Indians'; a second serial story, entitled 'A Pair of Pickles,' by Evelyn Everett Green; 'Young Folks' Ways in Olden Days' a series of articles by Henry Frith; a series of illustrated articles called 'How Four Busy B.'s enjoyed Six Wet Afternoons,' by Maggie Browne, in which it will be shown how, in an easy way, children may make for themselves paper toys &c. with very simple materials; 'Stories and Legends of German Castles'; a new series of Sunday Chats, by Maggie Symington; a Picture in colours, entitled 'Oranges and Lemons,' by J. Clarke; particulars of the new special Prize Competitions for 1891. To every purchaser of the January number will be presented a copy of 'The "Little Folks" Diary and Note-Book for 1891,' containing twelve large illustrations drawn by Walter Crane, and blank spaces for making notes, memoranda, &c., for each day of the year.

'I'm all right on a short course, but it has yet to be seen if I can stay on a long one,' said Mr. Kipling recently in speaking of his first long story. That work is now written, and Mr. Kipling has abundantly demonstrated that he is as sure on a long course as he is on a short one. Mark Twain has told us that the way in which Mr. Kipling 'swings nervous English is to him simply wonderful,' and in 'The Light that Failed,' which is the complete novel in *Lippincott's Magazine* for January, Mr. Kipling's 'nervous English,' his relentless realism, and his terrible truthfulness to nature, are seen at their very best. There is more stern strength in this novel than in anything which Mr. Kipling has written; and an exceptionally interesting feature is that the reader cannot help suspecting that 'The Light that Failed' is, as many early novels are, partly biographical, and that, in the relation of Dick Hilman's sudden leap into fame, Mr. Kipling is telling us something of his own story. It is a tale which is as intensely moving as it is intensely masculine.

A contributor to *Old and New London* for December gives a pleasant and vivid glimpse of Samuel Rogers as he appeared among his friends. 'It must be owned,' says the contributor, 'with every good wish to speak well of those who are gone, that Samuel Rogers was not a man gifted with such qualities as to make real friends. Acquaintances and hangers-on he numbered by scores; but of friends he had very few. He was full of spleen and



sarcasm, though the sun of fortune had smiled on him through life, and accordingly, if he had been a poor man he would have had many enemies. The following passage from Mr. William Jerdan's "Men I have Known" will serve to illustrate our meaning, though an admission to Mr. Rogers's breakfasts was one of the greatest privileges accorded to men of literary tastes and abilities who wished to get on in London: "Rogers was reputed a wit, and did say some good things; but many of the best were said by others and fathered upon him (as the use is), especially when there was any bitterness in the joke, which was his characteristic. His going to Holland House by the Hammersmith stage-coach (in the days when cabs and omnibuses were unknown), and asking the loitering driver what he called it, is not one of his worst; being answered 'The Regulator,' he observed that it was a very proper name, as all the rest go by it."

*Elzevir Illustrated Monthly* (Elzevir Publishing Company, Amsterdam). We have received the first part, dated January 1891, of this new illustrated periodical. The contents are suited to all tastes. The illustrations to the opening chapters of an historical novel by Dr. Jan Ten Brink are of a very high order of merit. The effects of light and shade in the fireside picture of 'The Card Players' and in the music scene remind one of Cruikshank or Rembrandt. The article on 'Charles Roehussen, the Dutch Water-colour Painter,' includes some capital examples; and the intelligent comparison between the Dutch and English Schools, as well as the account of the English Water-colour Societies, and of Turner and Girtin's work, show a thorough acquaintance with the subject, and will be warmly appreciated by English artists. The remaining articles, especially that entitled 'Among the Old Folk,' which describes the manners and customs of the poorer classes, the Jews, and street folk of Amsterdam, will be quite a revelation to English readers. The engravings from end to end of this part are remarkably clever and effective, and the wrapper, on which is a picturesque bit of Amsterdam emerging from a Dutch tulip bed, is very striking. We congratulate Herr Robbers and the Elzevir Company on their new enterprise, which deserves success.

## Booksellers of To-Day.

### XIII.—MR. ELLIOT STOCK.

It has been written that wherever a bibliophile lives and breathes the renown of Elliot Stock has been brought home to him. The house that he has practically built himself has earned a remarkable reputation in a comparatively short time, and this success may be entirely ascribed to the talent of the director.

The business over which Mr. Stock presides commenced as exclusively a bookselling house. In 1831 James Dinnis occupied the premises at 62 Paternoster Row, and, in accordance with the usual custom of the

time, lived in the rooms over his own shop. He devoted himself to the second-hand branch of the trade, although in his latter days he must have done some publishing, since he was the first publisher of the Royal 8vo. edition of Youngman's 'Cruden's Concordance.' Mr. Dinnis retired in due course, living to a good old age and dying only a few years ago. He sold his business to Benjamin L. Green (an apprentice of John Snow), who embarked in modern bookselling and also the publishing of works of a religious character. The present proprietor of the house was apprenticed to Mr. Green, and at the expiration of his apprenticeship he continued for a short period as manager. Mr. Stock finally bought the business in 1859, and started on his own account at the early age of twenty-two. He continued on the same lines as his predecessor, but gradually increased the publishing department until it became the chief part of the firm's responsibilities. About twenty years ago the house adjoining No. 62 was taken, having been previously occupied for over one hundred years by Dollond, optician. The two houses were thrown into one, thus creating most commodious premises, and they are now stocked with an extraordinary variety of books. It would be difficult to place in any sort of order the works that Mr. Stock has thought advisable to bring out, since they include belles-lettres, religious books, works on antiquarian study, folk-lore, natural history, bibliography, and kindred subjects. Some of the firm's greatest successes have been achieved in this latter class of work, and the tasteful appearance of such books when produced bears evidence to the strict care and ample knowledge displayed in their productions. The reproduction of first editions of English standard books, such as 'The Pilgrim's Progress,' 'The Book of St. Albans,' 'The Vicar of Wakefield,' 'Robinson Crusoe,' Herbert's 'Temple,' and other seventeenth and eighteenth century classics, has made Mr. Stock's name best known among collectors and bibliographers on both sides of the Atlantic. The 'Book-lover's Library' and the 'Gentleman's Magazine Library' have also been successful, as have likewise several periodicals which Mr. Stock has initiated and carried to successful positions. His books on the popular study of nature, mostly well illustrated, have attained an equally large sale.

In the course of a recent conversation with Mr. Stock we learned that he was educated at Amersham School, an establishment which has sent out many men who have risen to eminence in various walks of life during the last half-century. He has two sons engaged with him in the business.

Speaking of the Row, Mr. Stock casually remarked that he was now one of its oldest denizens, having been there for nearly 40 years. The changes he had seen there during that time, both in the firms and their leading men, are very great. Many of the publishers have migrated westward, and their places have become filled up by persons of other trades. This has greatly altered the aspect of the Row as compared with former

days, when Saturday half-holidays were unknown, and work was vigorously carried on till long past midnight, especially during busy seasons. Then, fewer books were sold and at much larger profits. Another of the chief changes which strike one in looking back is the great increase in the number of periodicals and the great number of cheap books issued from the press.

Asked whether he thought this a good sign, Mr. Stock replied that certainly more reading was got through than ever, but it was of a more fragmentary character, and the purchase and study of the best books had not increased in proportion with the larger population.

Turning to the subject of the new Booksellers' Society, Mr. Stock said he was a member of the Council of that body, and he regularly attended the sub-committees when special subjects were dealt with. He stated that already many evils had been checked in a quiet unobtrusive way by its action, and he believed the new *régime*, inaugurated by this new companionship, would do much towards bringing the booksellers of London into closer union on vexed questions which needed uniform action.

In a number of *Le Livre*, which appeared a year or two ago, a clever sketch of Mr. Stock's life's work was given. The author remarked that this was a firm which came entirely before men of letters and lovers of books. The publications were got up with rigorous attention to details. Consequently, no one would be astonished to find that the catalogue of this house was one of the smallest in size, but one of the most valuable, intrinsically, from the book-lover's point of view. Mr. Stock's publications were usually both rich in contents and in appearance; in fact, were born to live. The publisher's personal preference was, and always had been, to acquire and reproduce ancient literature and old books. The reproduction of old books was the characteristic of his house; it was the work of his life which he followed as a man might his love; it was that which occupied his mind day by day, and upon which he expended all his best taste and greatest energy. In one case a work was two years in the course of execution, and the paper was manufactured three times before the special result desired could be obtained. Yet, in spite of Mr. Stock's devotion to the past, he managed to keep pace with contemporary history, and had published several volumes of modern poetry, sumptuously prepared in the very best taste of the day.

#### THE MAKING OF CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

A correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* has been interviewing Mr. Charles Welsh, of Messrs. Griffith, Farran & Co., on the subject of Christmas books. Speaking of his firm's business in that line, Mr. Welsh said:—

'Not only do we ship, early in the year, large editions to Australasia and to the United States, but we make arrangements for French, German, Italian, and even Russian editions of such books as "Told by the Fireside," a five-

shilling book, with sixteen coloured and ninety black-and-white pictures.'

'Would you consider it indiscreet to tell me something of the cost and method of production of this work?'—'Not at all; this book represents an investment of considerably over one thousand pounds, for which we shall not see the return for more than two years from the date of putting it in hand.'

'I suppose such books have to be put in hand long before the time of publication?'—'Certainly: Mrs. Seymour Lucas's sixteen brilliant oil paintings for this book were begun nearly two years ago.'

'How are they reproduced?'—'By lithography. For some years we have gone to Germany for this work, and the bulk of our best work is done there. But for this book we have employed the house of Lemercier & Co., of Paris, with the excellent result you see.'

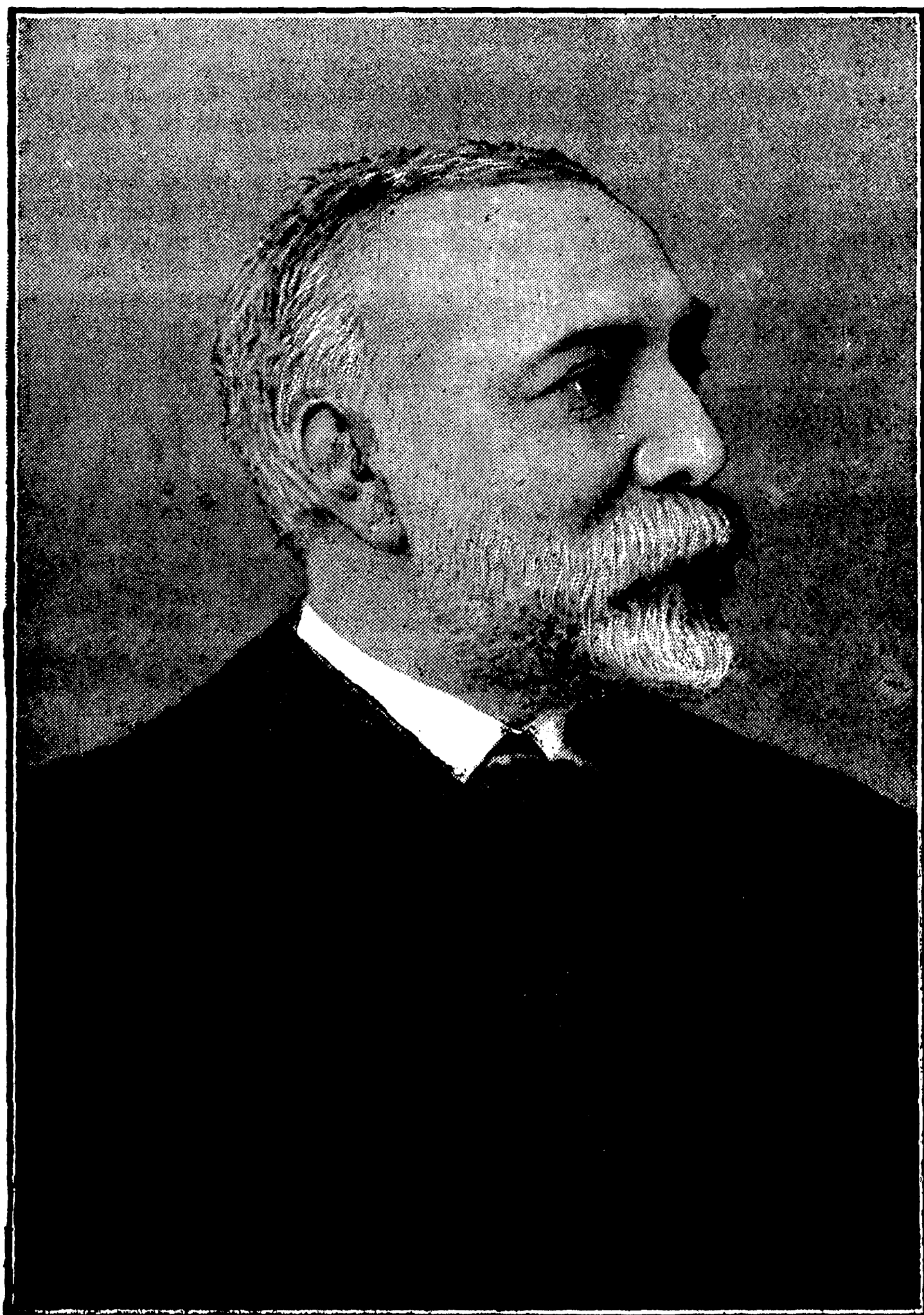
'I suppose you are something of an expert in lithography?'—'Not practically, but I can give you a general idea of the process. Lithography is simply printing from stone instead of type. A peculiar limestone, slaty, compact, and fine-grained, is prepared, and on it is traced in chalk, or with a fine pen with prepared ink, the drawing which has to be printed. In colour printing, or chromo-lithography, for every separate colour a separate stone, containing that part only of the picture to be printed in that particular tint, has to be prepared, which is done by means of transfers, although sometimes additional effects are given by the superposition of colours. In such books as those before you, fourteen to seventeen different stones have to be used for one picture, so as to produce the effect of the original drawing, and the care and the skill required to do this are well-nigh unimaginable. Here are some books of proofs and some original pictures, and if you turn them over you can see the picture grow, as it were, as the impression of each stone is added. The smaller stones—each representing, say, a page picture—being prepared, the drawings are transferred from them by a chemical process to larger ones, so as to fit the size of the sheet on which they are printed. The actual printing is, of course, done by steam, and great precision and accuracy are required in order to insure a perfect register, as it is called—that is, to secure that each colour falls into its proper place, and thus faithfully represent the artist's original.'

'Did the artist illustrate a story already written, or were the stories written to the pictures in the case of this book?'—'The stories were written to the pictures. As Mrs. Seymour Lucas finished each one, a sketch was sent to the author who wrote the story.'

'Do the authors find it difficult or disagreeable thus to write to order?'—'Some do, and some don't. But our great difficulty is to get them to write the story to the exact length so as to dovetail each in its place, and build up the book in the proper form within the prescribed limits.'

'Now, as to the black-and-white pictures, of which I see there are one or more on every page?'—'These were drawn by the artist after the story was written, and here again the

*Presented with the PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR, December 15, 1890.]*



MR. ELLIOT STOCK





fitting-in was a difficult and tedious matter. These are reproduced by one of those wonderful modern processes which have all but superseded wood engraving. They also were done in Paris.'

'In the production of your coloured books, you seem to be unable to get your work done in England. Why is this?'—'It is always the question of expense, other things being equal. Labour is cheaper abroad, hours are longer abroad; the cost of transport, if the lithographic stones are imported, is very large. It is true that in the case of *éditions de luxe* English paper at 9d. per pound is to be preferred, but foreigners have the art of printing long numbers cheaply. Then as to skill, remember that the foreigner has had technical education from his kindergarten days. However, in spite of all initial disadvantages, I believe that England is coming to the front.'

#### INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT.

On December 3, the American House of Representatives passed the Copyright Bill by 139 to 95 votes. The easy passage of the Bill caused delighted surprise in the United States, as it was not generally expected this session. Its passage by the Senate is believed certain, and the President's approval is undoubted. The Bill permits foreigners to take an American copyright on the same basis as American citizens, in three cases: first, when the nation of the foreigner permits copyright to American citizens on substantially the same basis as its own; second, when the nation of the foreigner gives to American citizens copyright privileges similar to those provided in the Bill; third, when the nation of the foreigner is a party to an international agreement providing for reciprocity in copyright by terms by which the United States can become a party thereto at pleasure. A subsidiary proposition is that all books copyrighted under the Act shall be printed from type set within the States or from plates made therefrom. The law will not come into force until July 1, 1891.

The unexpected passage of the Bill has caused a great stir in Transatlantic literary circles, and New York publishers are endeavouring to come to some arrangement in view of the changes that must inevitably take place. The representative of a news agency has been interviewing the leading publishers there, and we subjoin the opinions of a few of them on the situation. Mr. Scribner, after stating that to his mind there would be no revolution in the publishing business, added:—

'The immediate effect of the law, assuming that the Bill becomes law, will be the holding back of new works until such time as copyright can be had in Great Britain and the United States. I have personal knowledge of a number of important books which are being withheld for this reason. I do not expect to see any great noticeable change in the price of books. The day of 15 cent literature is practically over; at least publishers are finding out that it does not pay to produce books at such a price. I think we

shall still have 25 and 50 cent novels. You must have noticed that the price of cheap books has steadily advanced during the last two or three years. This may be explained on the ground of self-preservation. The publishers were not making anything out of the cheaper reprints, and there was no combination among them to raise the price. Another immediate effect of the new law will be the impetus it will give to the printing business. There will be no more shell plates, as the bill provides that books published here must be put into type here. Shell plates are simply electrotypes ready for the press, and requiring only backing to bring them to the proper height for printing. The most important operation of the Bill will be among authors, both native and foreign. We shall have a better class of literary work, because the authors will be sure of higher remuneration, and will therefore devote more time and thought to their work. The American author will be on level terms with English writers, and there will be a greater incentive to do good work. The law will benefit us all, but its operation will only be gradual.'

Mr. Henry Harper, of the firm of Messrs. Harper Brothers, who was also seen on the same subject, said: 'One of the first things the new law will do will be to check or stop absolutely the importation of cheap reprints. This business was started and largely conducted by foreign houses having branches in America and Canada. For instance, they have been flooding the country with paper editions of standard works. A day or two ago I saw a copy of "Ben Hur," published in Canada, selling at 25 cents. We don't publish cheap copies of Wallace's book. The effect of this foreign system of reprint is easily apparent, yet we are helpless. The new Bill is going to help the publishers by excluding these reprints. Authors will derive great benefit under the new law. For instance, take Black and Howells, who, we assume, were on equal terms at first. The country was flooded with cheap reprints of Black's works at 25 cents and 50 cents a copy. On the other hand, we were obliged to maintain the price of Howells' works at \$1. 50 cents. We control their publication, but have absolutely nothing to say about the publication of Black's works. Possibly readers regard Black's books as being as good as Howells', and therefore, in order to save \$1. 25 cents, will buy Black's and leave Howells' alone; in which case Howells is the sufferer. It is our rule to remunerate authors on the royalty plan. I think that is now the custom of American publishers, so that the larger the sale the greater the remuneration.'

Mr. George Haven Putnam, on being interviewed, said: 'It looks as if we were going to have international copyright after fifty-three years of effort. The first Bill on the subject was introduced by Henry Clay at the request of the Copyright League, of which William Cullen Bryant was president, and G. P. Putnam secretary. I feel sure the Senate will pass Mr. Simmonds' Bill, and of course the President will sign it immediately, as he advocates the measure in his Message to Congress.'

I can only guess the effect of the new law ; but I believe I can guess it pretty closely. As regards authors, I do not mean that they, either American or English, need look for a sudden great increase of their income. I am a little nervous about possible inundation of the book market. Some time ago I abandoned the publication of American fiction, being driven thereto by the ruinous competition of cheap reprints of foreign works. Whenever we received such manuscript we returned it unopened, accompanied by a circular letter informing the author that "we do not publish fiction," and inviting him to write to the representative of his district in Congress, urging him to support a copyright measure. When the Bill becomes law I suppose these hundreds of authors will return to me their stories. What can I do? I think the Bill will cause *rapprochement* between British and American publishers, redounding to the benefit of both. There will be planning among them for the control of the larger markets, which will help authors, publishers, and the reading public. The authors will receive higher remuneration and do better work, because they can devote more time to preparing their manuscript. Publishers will sell a thousand books where they now sell a hundred, and the public will get those books at a reduced price. Publications of all kinds will be better executed. Nowadays, most of the cheap work produced is only half done, and we are obliged to hurry the production in order to beat the pirates, who depend upon our judgment and try to get on the market with our wares before we are able to do so. The new law will stop this scrambling.

THE FORTHCOMING 'WORK' EXHIBITION.—The Exhibition of Art, Industry, and Invention, which is being organised in connection with the weekly journal *Work*, is to be opened by Sir John Lubbock, M.P., chairman of the London County Council, at the Polytechnic Institution, Regent Street, on December 29. This exhibition will bring together an exceedingly interesting collection of articles made by professionals and amateurs, and will illustrate in a very marked manner how entirely a man's hobby may differ from the occupation in which he is engaged. Thus, a letter-carrier will send an exhibit in shoe-making, a weaving overlooker will contribute a medical coil and battery, a bookbinder's apprentice will forward a cabinet in fret-work, a member of the London Salvage Corps will exhibit a pair of netted curtains, tablecloth, and woollen shawl, a caretaker sends 'The Charge of the Light Brigade' in coloured needlework, a seaman and dock labourer will send a working model locomotive, and a solicitor will send a banjo. A porter, having lost the fingers of one hand, has yet been able to make a series of five needlework pictures in coloured wool, 'not for sale.' In musical instruments there are at least some distinct novelties—a piano, made by a moulder in an iron foundry from the instructions appearing in *Work*; a violin, the

breast of which is made from wood that has been seasoned for over 100 years. A chromatic double-slide trumpet is a distinct achievement, and permits of playing, as written in any key, a piece as though transposed into any other key, and provides a means of accompaniment to the human voice, string bands, or military brass bands, without other trouble than changing a crook. This will be the first exhibition ever held where the exhibits will be judged comparatively—that is to say, where any distinction will be made, taking into consideration the facilities of the exhibitor as amateur, apprentice, or journeyman; where his technical shortcomings as an amateur, his want of theoretical knowledge as an apprentice, and all other circumstances will be fairly weighed, and due allowance made. Perhaps no finer collection of fret-work was ever brought together—even portraiture being attempted by some ambitious amateurs—and every conceivable variety of this fashionable amusement has its counterfeit presentment in the catalogue.

### Sale Jottings

On Saturday, the 6th inst., Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge concluded at their rooms, Wellington Street, Strand, the sale of several private libraries, including a number of first editions of Molière's works, important French books, and the library of the late Mr. John Gregory Crace, who, however, bequeathed most of his books to the British Museum. The most noticeable prices were as follows:—*'Premier Etablissement de la Foy dans la Nouvelle France,'* 2 vols., large folding map, Paris, 1691, rare—£16. 15s.; Beaumarchais, *'La Folle Journée, ou le Mariage de Figaro,'* large paper, with plates of St. Quentin in four states, Paris, 1785—£14. 15s.; De Favre's *'Les Quatre Heures de la Toilette des Dames,'* plates, 1779—£10. 10s.; La Fontaine's *'Contes et Nouvelles,'* the Fermiers-Généraux edition, with the suppressed plates—£26. 10s.; Molière's *'Works,'* 8 vols., plates, Paris, 1682—£16; Montesquieu, *'Le Temple de Gnide,'* with medal portrait of Montesquieu and plates by Eisen—£10. 10s.; first edition of Goldsmith's *'Deserted Village'*—£5. 10s.; John Keats' *'Endymion,'* first edition—£6. 15s.; Jonathan Swift's *'Gulliver's Travels,'* and the continuation, first editions, the six parts paged separately—£12. 10s.; *'Aberdeen Horn Book'* (an A B C), in black letter, in good preservation, printed in Aberdeen, 1625, curious and rare—£26. 10s. (Bain); Burton's *'Anatomy of Melancholy,'* first edition, with rare leaf of errata—£22. 10s.; *'The Poeticall Essayes of Sam Danyel,'* rare, quarto, 1599—£23; Davenant (Sir W.) *'First Day's Entertainment at Rutland House,'* 1657, unknown to Lowndes—£9. 5s.; Thomas Gray's *'Poems,'* first edition, with two contemporary portraits inserted—£12; *'La Voye de Laict, ou le Chemin des Héros au Palais de la Gloire ouvert à l'entrée de Louis XIII. en la Cité d'Avignon,'* portrait and plates, unknown to Brunet and Grasse—

£10. 10s. ; John Milton's 'Poems,' both English and Latin, with rare portrait, by Marshall, fine copy, measuring 6½ in. by 3¼ in., in the original sheepskin binding, 1645—£65. 10s. ; Lynton (Anthonie), 'Newes of the Complement of the Art of Navigation and of the Mightie Empire of Cataia,' 1609, rare book on navigation—£12. 15s. ; 'Les Métamorphoses d'Ovide,' plates by Boucher, Eisen, Gravelot, &c.—£15 ; 'Sir Hugh the Heron, a Legendary Tale,' by D. G. Rossetti, first edition, printed privately, 1843—£16 ; first edition of Charles Lamb's 'Tales from Shakespeare,' designed for the use of young persons, plates by Blake—£18. 15s. ; first edition of Shelley's 'Queen Mab,' with genuine title and suppressed last leaf with imprint—£12. 12s. ; James Shirley's 'Poems,' three volumes in one, 1646—£19. 10s. ; Israel Silvestre's 'Veues de Maisons Royales et de Villes de France,' Louis XIV.'s copy, with the king's arms and his crowned cypher—£14 ; Whitney (Geffrey), 'A Choice of Emblems, and other Devises, for the Moste Parte Gathered out of Sundrie Writers,' 1586—£26. A remarkable collection of first editions of Molière's works included the following :—'Amphitryon,' 1668, with many curious variations in orthography and punctuation, due to Molière and not to the printer—£13 ; 'L'Avare,' 1669, prepared for binding—£23 ; 'L'Escole des Femmes,' 1663—£30 ; 'L'Estourdy, ou les Contretemps,' 1663—£26 ; 'Le Mariage Forcé,' 1668—£35 ; 'Le Misanthrope,' frontispiece, by Chauveau, represents Molière in the character of the Misanthrope, 1667—£50 ; 'Le Sicilien, ou l'Amour Peintre,' 1668—£15 ; 'Les Femmes Sçavantes,' 1673, published only a month before Molière's death—£42 ; 'Les Fourberies de Scapin,' 1671—£32. Spenser's 'Faërie Queen,' with autograph of Sir Everard Digby on title—£7. 7s. ; 'Anselme de Sainte Marie (P. de Guibours, P.), Histoire Généalogique et Chronologique de la Maison Royale de France'—£12. 15s. ; 'Heures à l'Usage de Rome,' MS. on vellum, miniatures and illuminations, 15th century—£20.

### Trade Changes

Mr. W. T. Stead has transferred the advertising agency for the *Review of Reviews* from Mr. T. B. Browne, 161 and 163 Queen Victoria Street to Messrs. John Haddon & Co., 3 and 4 Bouverie Street, Fleet Street.

Mr. W. A. Hinch is opening an establishment as English and foreign new and second-hand bookseller at 36 Wicklow Street, Dublin, off Grafton Street, and will trade as W. A. Hinch & Son, from which address second-hand catalogues will be issued occasionally.

### In Memoriam

DEAN CHURCH.

We greatly regret to record the death of the Very Rev. R. W. Church, D.C.L., Dean of St. Paul's. Dr. Church had been in ill-health for some time, and early in November

went to Dover, where he died on the 9th inst. Dr. Church was born in 1815. After a distinguished University career, he took his degree in first-class honours, and shortly afterwards became a fellow of Oriel College. He was rector of Whatley, near Frome Selwood, from 1853 to 1871, when he was appointed to the Deanery of St. Paul's. The salary attaching to the post is £2,000, with residence. Dean Church's essays and lectures stamp him as one of the most graceful and penetrating of recent critics.

### MR. WILLIAM BELL SCOTT.

We also regret to record the death of Mr. William Bell Scott on November 22 at the ripe age of 79. Mr. Scott was born at Edinburgh in 1811, and was educated at the High School in that city. He early began to write, and was a contributor to *Tait's Magazine*. In 1836 he settled in London, and in 1840 began to send pictures to London exhibitions. His literary labours were various, and included both poetry and prose. For some years he was on the staff of the *Academy*.

### Reviews, &c.

From Mr. Edward Arnold.—'David Copperfield,' 'Dombey & Son,' and 'The Old Curiosity Shop,' by Charles Dickens, abridged and edited by J. H. Yoxall (Arnold's English Literature Series). As a general thing, we do not like to see the masterpieces of English literature tampered with. We believe they ought to be given to the public as they left their authors' hands or not at all, for it is to be presumed that an author himself knows best what he wants to say, how much he wants to say, and how to put it. It was a bold enterprise on the part of Mr. Arnold and his editor to take liberties with so popular favourite as Dickens, who understood as well as any man who ever lived precisely what his readers desired to have. He we have three of his best works cut down to the dimensions of a 'shilling shocker' so that school children may have something entertaining to read. We quite concur in the opinion that young people ought to be brought into touch with the great popular authors of England, but we must ask, in the interests of literature, whether it is well that readers of a tender age should get their first impressions of those authors from garbled or imperfect editions. Assuming, however, that it is proper to abridge well-known works, then this series may be heartily commended. Mr. Yoxall has retained what is most essential to a perfect understanding of the several stories. He has not, like the progressive gentleman in 'Rasselas,' 'left out all the moral reflections.' On the contrary, the moral reflections trip each other up, if we may so speak. If these reading-books beget a taste in young readers for healthy literature, Mr. Arnold will deserve well of his generation. The results of his experiment will be watched with interest by all friends of education.

From Mr. J. W. Arrowsmith, Bristol.—'Murdered or ——,' by Mrs. Boyse. Lady Eileen Ronayne goes to a ball with her sister, Lady Morna Delmore, and in the course of the night,



is found in a small apartment off the ball room in a fainting condition. She dies, and it is discovered that her skull has been fractured. Her lover, Lord Beaumanoir, being the last who was known to have been with her, is arrested on suspicion of causing her death, tried and found guilty. But in the nick of time he is cleared, in a manner which we need not indicate. This story is not of surpassing interest, though it is only fair to say that Lord Beaumanoir is a capital drawn character.

**From Messrs. George Bell & Sons.**—'The Poetical Works of Thomas Chatterton,' with an Essay on the Rowley Poems by the Rev. Walter W. Skeat, and a Memoir by Edward Bell. (2 vols.) Whether or not Chatterton's works will ever become popular, it is certain that a strong tragical interest will ever attach to his name. His history will be fascinating to many who do not care a rush for poetry. By literary students, however, his poems will be prized for more reasons than one. These two handsome volumes, therefore, have a value both to the general reader and the student. Mr. Skeat's Essay and Mr. Bell's Memoir are alike admirable, and there is throughout abundance of notes to elucidate the text.

**From Messrs. A. & C. Black.**—'Memorials of Edinburgh in the Olden Time,' by Sir Daniel Wilson. Illustrated. We are heartily glad to see that Messrs. Black are re-issuing in monthly parts Sir Daniel Wilson's charming work, 'Memorials of Edinburgh in the Olden Time.' Part I., which lies before us, contains the following chapters: 'Earliest Traditions of Edinburgh,' 'Accession of the Stuarts to Death of James III,' 'From the Accession of James IV. to the Battle of Flodden,' and 'From the Battle of Flodden to the Death of James V.' This new and revised edition embodies the results of careful study and correspondence on the part of the author, with the ablest authorities on the history and local antiquities of Edinburgh. In fact, the alterations on the original text are so numerous as to render it to a large extent a new work. It need hardly be said that paper, print, and illustrations are good. Messrs. Black have also sent us 'Guy Mannering,' which makes the second volume in the excellent sixpenny edition of Scott's works which they are bringing out.

**From Mr. Spencer Blackett.**—'The Philosopher in Slippers: Zigzag Views of Life and Society,' by the Author of 'Three-Cornered Essays.' The Philosopher in Slippers is not a very profound philosopher nor a very pungent writer. He knows a little Greek, but is hardly master of English. But if he does not give the least evidence of genius he is on the whole an extremely agreeable companion, which he might not be if he were one of the favourites of the gods. Without Dr. Holmes's humour or penetration, or daintiness of style, he has something of the doctor's geniality, and discourses pleasantly, and at times even profitably, on many of the more serious problems of life. He is never 'dreadfully in earnest,' for it is evident that he wishes to avoid being a bore. Being of Montaigne's opinion that 'the most manifest sign of wisdom is a continual cheerfulness,' he is ever bright; not even a London fog can depress him. Of his subjects it is sufficient to say that he discusses such interesting matters as 'Heiress - Hunting,' 'Boarding - Houses,' 'Visits and Revisits,' 'The Theory and Practice of Recreation,' 'Woods and Wolds,' 'Luncheon

Bars,' and 'Turning-points in Life.' The book is one by all means to be read.

**From Messrs. Blackie & Son, Limited.**—'Blackie's Modern Cyclopaedia of Universal Information.' Edited by Charles Annandale, M.A., LL.D. Vol. 8. This volume completes Messrs. Blackie's highly useful Cyclopaedia, which, while a work of moderate dimensions, is a veritable storehouse of general information. Of this there is ample proof when we say that the eight volumes contain something like 28,000 articles. So far as we have been able to apply tests, the information given is entirely reliable, which indeed is no more than might be expected from the reputation of the editor. The work is really what it pretends to be, 'a handy work of reference on all subjects and for all readers, in moderate compass and at a moderate price.' Higher praise than this could not be given.

**From Messrs. Cassell & Co., Limited.**—'Letts's Diaries.' Messrs. Cassell & Co. send us specimens of these diaries for 1891, varying in size and price, and without exception useful and handy. The Pocket Diaries can be carried without inconvenience, are tastefully got up, and contain calendars. The Scribbling Diaries, besides calendars, have postal tables, tables of weights and measures, interest tables, &c., and the paper is marvellously good. The Office Diary and Almanac contains a vast mass of information which merchants and those engaged in offices will find of the highest use. In addition to the features contained in the other diaries it gives a Colonial and Foreign Banking, Postal and Telegraph Directory, a County Banking, Postal, Population, and Market Table, a Parliamentary Guide, a List of Government Offices and Foreign Representatives in London, much information concerning the Church, the law, and other matters of importance, and finally a concise business directory for the use of people residing in the country and abroad. Better diaries than these could hardly be.

**From Messrs. William Clowes & Sons, Limited.**—'The Law of Copyright,' by Thomas Edward Scrutton, of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at Law. Second Edition. This work, as originally published, was, as the author informs us, a revised and enlarged edition of the York Prize Essay of the University of Cambridge for the year 1882. Since then it has been carefully revised and an annotated text of the Copyright Statutes has been added. All in any way interested in questions of Copyright will find it useful and reliable, though the comments on International Copyright with America are happily no longer to be accepted. The 'dream of the future' promises very speedily to become a solid reality.

**From Mr. David Douglas, Edinburgh.**—'The shadow of a Dream,' by W. D. Howells. We do not think Mr. Howells has ever written anything better than 'The Shadow of a Dream.' Chaste and delicate in style, deliciously humorous in parts as all his works are, it yet sounds depths into which Mr. Howells had not previously ventured. The characters are drawn with the truth and reticence of a master hand. We do not so much seem to be reading about fictitious personages as to be looking on a drama in real life; and, as life is on the whole sad, so this story is on the whole tragic. Very affecting are the relations of Faulkner and Hermia, and in the close of Nevil's career there is a touch of strong, if subdued, tragedy. While the book reveals all



Mr. Howells' usual freshness and brilliancy, it shows an unexpected power, a depth and earnestness that ought to gain him many fresh readers.

**From Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode.**—'The Foundations of the Bible: Studies in Old Testament Criticism,' by R. B. Girdlestone, M.A. Canon Girdlestone, in the book before us, makes an attempt 'to set forth the literary claims of the Pentateuch and the later historical books of the Old Testament in the light of such critical principles as we should naturally apply to all other ancient historical literature.' The author traces back the writings to the period of their original composition, and after a close scrutiny his conclusion is that 'we may still read our Bible as in the ancient days. When it tells us of the dealings and manifestations of God in Creation, in Providence, and in History, we may still take its record as true.' In the present ferment of Biblical controversy and criticism this conclusion will be consoling to not a few. Canon Girdlestone has rendered a great service to the cause of orthodoxy in writing this volume.

**From the same.**—'A Select Glossary of Bible Words; also a Glossary of Important Words and Phrases in the Prayer Book,' by Rev. A. L. Mayhew. The object of this Glossary is to give an account of the more important words and phrases in the Bible, including the Apocryphal books, and especially of those expressions which are now obsolete in literary English, or which are used in the Bible in senses different from their present. References to the text are given, together with a brief etymology and illustrative passages. The student of English and the student of the Bible may consult the work with equal profit and advantage.

**From Messrs. Griffith, Farran, Okeden & Welsh.**—'Lay Sermons for Practical People,' edited by the Rev. Freeman Wills. These addresses, first delivered to mixed audiences in Lambeth Polytechnic Institute on Sunday afternoons, are well worth the trouble and cost of having them published in book form. They are all good, and some of them are really excellent, as, indeed, they could hardly fail to be when we mention that among the contributors are Sir John Lubbock, Dr. B. W. Richardson, Edward Terry, Herbert Gladstone, Arnold White, Rev. Arthur Mursell, Henry Arthur Jones, and the Rev. H. C. Shuttleworth. It is a promising sign of the times to come across such a book as this.

**From the same.**—'Political and Social Letters of a Lady of the Eighteenth Century,' edited by Emily F. D. Osborn. It is sometimes said that we have lost the art of letter-writing, and certainly, with these specimens of the last century before us, we are more than half inclined to believe it. No doubt the world was less hurried in preceding generations than in this epoch of steam and electricity. We have no time to write letters now, we write notes, or what Byron called letterettes. To be sure, the telegraph, the penny post, and the newspaper have rendered it less necessary to be elaborate in our correspondence; we need not chronicle all that goes on about us for the benefit of distant friends, for distant friends are put in possession of most of the important news by much speedier means than the private letter-writer can employ; and, the necessity to write news-letters being removed, we have ceased to write letters

altogether in the old sense. On that very account, perhaps, we relish all the more the sprightly narratives and piquant comments which we find in the pages of the old letter-writers. These letters by a 'Lady of the Eighteenth Century,' if not precisely 'amongst the best in the language,' are yet capital reading, and give many a vivid and interesting glimpse of the life and manners of the past. We think Thackeray would have sat up all night to read this book.

**From the same.**—Messrs. Griffith, Farran & Co send us some really excellent diaries for the year 1891. Blackwood's Pocket Diary for Ladies contains a great deal of information of special interest to the fair sex—thus it has 'Useful Recipes,' 'Things to be Remembered,' 'Hints on Emergencies,' 'Legal Hints,' 'Gardening for the Year,' &c. Blackwood's No. 7 Diary, besides the usual postal and other information, has good maps of London, Liverpool, Manchester, and Edinburgh. Pettitt's Octavo Diary is conveniently arranged and has an almanac, banking and mercantile memoranda, epitome of new Bankruptcy Act, London banking directory, &c. The scribbling diaries are made of good paper, contain handy and complete ready reckoners, with all the necessary information in regard to postal arrangements, stamp duties, &c. We warmly recommend these diaries.

**From Messrs. Hazell, Watson & Viney, Limited.**—'Hazell's Annual for 1891,' edited by E. D. Price. This is described on the title-page as 'A Cyclopædic Record of Men and Topics of the Day.' It contains above 3,500 articles on every topic of current interest. Merchants, Lawyers, Military and Naval Officers, Men of Letters, Men of Science, and our friend the general reader, will all find their interests taken into account. As a work of reference regarding subjects of the day, the book is indispensable to all who wish to keep step with current events. We should add that it is revised to November 20 last.

**From Messrs. Hurst & Blackett, Limited.**—'Bench and Bar: Reminiscences of One of the Last of an Ancient Race,' by Mr. Serjeant Robinson. Third edition. For some time previous to his decease in January last, Mr. Serjeant Robinson had been engaged upon the preparation of a second series of reminiscences. He had written a good deal of matter, but failing health prevented him from finishing his task. As the new matter was not in itself sufficient to form a volume, most of it has been added in the form of an appendix to the present edition of the original work. It is quite as entertaining as the first series of recollections were, which is saying not a little; and readers who love to hear stories of eminent men will give the book a fresh welcome. Nothing more entertaining is likely to find its way to the circulating libraries.

**From the same.**—'A Line of Her Own,' by Mrs. Conney. (3 vols.) We fail to perceive why Mrs. Conney should have gone to the trouble of writing three substantial volumes to tell the story given in 'A Line of Her Own.' Some sporting scenes described in slangy language, a few unexciting country dances—at which the invariable mischief-making widow turns up—and a misunderstanding—not too skilfully managed—between the heroine and the man she loves, make up the bill of fare. Had the story been condensed into one volume it might

be passable, but in three volumes it is a trifle too much of an affliction.

From **Wm. Isbister, Limited.**—'The Impregnable Rock of Holy Scripture,' by the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P. Our readers will doubtless remember the striking series of articles which Mr. Gladstone contributed to *Good Words* during the earlier part of the present year. They attracted wide attention, as was to be expected, and gave rise to a good deal of criticism, as was also to be expected. But friends and foes alike admitted that they were written with great fervour and power, and, for one who has all his life been so variously engaged as Mr. Gladstone, with a marvellous grasp of the subject. Those articles, revised and enlarged, are now before us in a handsomely-printed volume, and will, no doubt, have a wider circulation than was possible in the pages of a magazine. Mr. Gladstone's aim is to reconcile the teachings of the Bible with the teachings of science and history. These papers, he tells us, 'are intended to meet, as far as they go, a state of things peculiar and perhaps without example, in which multitudes of men call in question the foundations of our religion and the prerogatives of our sacred books, without any reference to either their capacity or their opportunities for so grave an undertaking. In other matters qualifications must be known and shown; in religion it is taken for granted.' This will show the tenor of the book and the attitude Mr. Gladstone assumes towards some of the later of Biblical critics. From the orthodox point of view the work is a triumphant vindication of the authenticity of the Scriptures.

From the **Leadenhall Press.**—'Oxford to Palestine: being Notes of a Tour made in the Autumn of 1889,' by the Rev. Joseph L. Thomas. The letters which make up this volume originally appeared in the *Oxford Times*, and are now reprinted 'at the instance and request of friends in whose kindly judgment they deserve to appear in a more permanent form.' And this notwithstanding that 'they [the letters] do not profess to tell anything new, nor do they attempt to give more than passing impressions of the interesting places visited.' After perusing the book the critic is bound to say that the too amiable friends have incurred a heavy responsibility.

From the same.—'A Week in a Wherry on the Norfolk Broads,' by 'Blue Peter.' Illustrated by the Purser. 'Blue Peter' has some humour, a good knowledge of human nature, a pretty knack of description, and the pleasantest temper in the world. From this it will be judged that his book is agreeable reading, and, in truth, it is very agreeable indeed. Unhappily it is not now the season of the year to go jaunting in a wherry; if it were we should be disposed to be off at once to the Norfolk Broads, where 'Blue Peter' and Purser had such a fine time of it. That is, perhaps, the best compliment we can pay the book. The Purser, we should add, has done well with the illustrations.

From **Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, Searle & Rivington, Limited.**—'Port Tarascon: the Last Adventures of the Illustrious Tartarin,' by Alphonse Daudet. Translated by Henry James. Not long ago Mr. Andrew Lang gave it as his deliberate opinion that Daudet is the first of living stylists. From such a quarter this was high praise. But those who are able

to judge for themselves will not be disposed to call it extravagant. Such as are in ignorance or in doubt had better read this delightful volume at once and be convinced. The art of 'Port Tarascon' is exquisite, and the interest unflagging. The character of the hero is a delicious compound of oddity and sound common-sense. He says himself that he is Don Quixote in the skin of Sancho Panza. This well describes him. He is full of contradictions, yet most engagingly human. However extravagant his conduct or outrageous his mendacity, one cannot be angry with him, so adroitly does he establish his kinship to the world at large, so perfect is his serenity, so urbane his manners. He is a companion to live with, and his adventures, as related by M. Daudet, are not soon to be forgotten. To some the book may prove a trifle ambiguous, particularly at the start. If there are baffling allusions, then the reader had better follow Mr. James's advice and turn back to 'Tartarin of Tarascon,' where the allusions to 'the baobab and the camel, the lion-skins, the poisoned arrows, the alpenstock of honour, the critical hours passed in a deep dungeon in the Chateau de Chillon' are all explained. We need hardly say that the translation is perfect.

From the same.—'Lord Melbourne,' by Henry Dunckley, M.A., LL.D. ('The Prime Ministers of Queen Victoria' Series, edited by Stuart J. Reid.) Such has been the rush of political events during the last half-century, so great and momentous have been the changes that to the present generation we fear Lord Melbourne is scarcely more than a name. He had none of the brilliant qualities that stir the imagination and ensure fame. He was not a Pitt, nor a Fox, nor a Burke, nor a Beaconsfield. He was simply an English gentleman who took to politics, and whom the exigencies of the times placed for a while at the head of the affairs of his country. Nowadays he is perhaps best remembered as the political tutor of the Queen. In that relation he is interesting, and, moreover, he has a peculiar interest as a man, though the historian will deny him a conspicuous place as a statesman. Mr. Dunckley has not the most picturesque or striking of Queen Victoria's Prime Ministers to delineate, but we feel that he has done himself and his subject justice, and it is certain he has produced an eminently readable biography. The highest praise that can be given to a biographer is that he makes his subject's character known to his reader, and this praise may be unreservedly given to Mr. Dunckley.

From **Messrs. William Paterson & Co.**—'Tales and Sketches by the Right Hon. Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield,' with a Prefatory Memoir by J. Logie Robertson. 'Tales by Douglas Jerrold' with a biographical notice by J. Logie Robertson ('Treasure House of Tales' Series.) One series succeeds another so rapidly nowadays that we have barely time to note their appearance. We have sometimes doubted whether the public appetite was sufficiently keen for the many reprints that are being issued at present. Our doubt, however, must be groundless. We are glad to think it is, and we cannot help regarding it as a hopeful sign that readers have a desire to turn aside from the productions of the day to fortify themselves by a re-perusal of the best writings of the past. Messrs. Patterson's 'Treasure House of Tales' Series

seems to us to embody a very happy idea. In the two volumes before us we have selections from the fugitive writings of two extremely brilliant men, selections which we fancy will not fail to commend themselves to all who have literary tastes or take an interest in the minor performances of eminent characters. The volume on Beaconsfield includes such once-famous sketches and skits as 'Ixion in Heaven,' 'Popanilla,' 'The Infernal Marriage,' and many more with which Disraeli was wont to set the town in a roar. In the Jerrold volume, too, we have some of the most characteristic pieces of its author, such as 'The Major in the Black Hole,' 'Pope Gregory and the Pear Tree,' 'An Old House in the City,' &c. The prefaces, contributed by Mr. Robertson, are appreciative and well written, but why does he credit the phrase 'Peace with Honour' to Beaconsfield when the honour of coining it belongs to Burke? and does he really believe that Carlyle lacked sympathy with the poor?

From **Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co., Limited.**—'A Vision of Saints,' by Lewis Morris. We have seldom been more acutely sensible of the disadvantages of limited space than in attempting to deal with 'A Vision of Saints.' It is so superb a thing, so rich, so full, so strong, so stimulating and elevating in thought, so fine in imagery, so exquisite in execution, so admirably balanced and rounded that we feel guilty of something like sacrilege in dismissing it with a few brief and hasty comments. It is a work to be criticised at leisure and at length, and were the space at present available the exercise would be as pleasant as it would be profitable. But, seeing we cannot consider its merits in detail, we must say in a sentence that it is a long time since we were made glad by so genuine a contribution to English poetic literature—that is, a contribution showing so many of the perennial elements of poetry. Every page is a study in itself, and contains lines that the critic would fain treasure up. The book is a casket of gems and a triumphant answer to such as aver that the present epoch has no poets worth taking note of. The aim of the poem is a noble one, being, in Mr. Morris's own words, that of doing for 'the beautiful Christian legends and records that which has so often been done for the mythology of Greece.' The author has not confined himself to the saints of any one Church or creed but appeals to 'the spirit common to them all, which in all ages, and through every form of belief, has animated the whole company of faithful men.' A poem of such scope, it need hardly be said, affords Mr. Morris an opportunity to exercise his great and peculiar powers to the full. We are especially pleased with the parts relating to Bunyan and Father Damien.

From the **Religious Tract Society.**—'The English Reformation of the Sixteenth Century,' by W. H. Beckett. Illustrated. (Church History Series.) This work is divided into three parts, the first being 'Monastic England,' the second, 'The Wycliffian Reformation,' and the third 'The Great Reformation of the Sixteenth Century.' The three memorable periods included under these headings are vividly depicted, and, considering the extent of the subjects, with wonderful fulness. There are maps showing where the powerful English monastic institutions were situated, over what districts Lollardy spread, and where the martyrs were burned in

the persecution under Mary Tudor. There are also portraits of Cranmer, Wycliffe, Erasmus, Wolsey, Tyndale, More, Latimer, Coverdale, and Mary Tudor. The volume is not only supremely interesting, but highly valuable as a contribution to Church History.

From **Mr. Walter Scott.**—'The Essays of Elia,' by Charles Lamb. With an introduction by Ernest Rhys. Lamb's charm does not diminish as time passes. Nay, if popularity be any sign of real appreciation, the gentle Elia was never so much thought of as now. Certainly critics and biographers never at any previous time took so much notice of him. It was proper, therefore, that the 'Camelot Series,' which has already been the means of bringing so many good books within the reach of those who have little money to spend, should be enriched by the addition of these incomparable Essays. The book includes nearly all Lamb's Essays. A few of the minor ones have been omitted. Ardent admirers may say that there ought to be no omissions; that all Lamb's writings are well worth reading; but what has been left out is not really characteristic. The 'Popular Fallacies' and 'The Confessions of a Drunkard' do not, as Mr. Rhys remarks, show Lamb at his best, and those who most truly honour his memory will not be sorry that these pieces have been excluded from the present collection. The volume is well printed, and of a convenient size for the pocket. The introduction is an admirable piece of writing.

From **Messrs. Frederick Warne & Co.**—'Barker's Facts and Figures for the Year 1891,' edited by Thomas P. Whittaker. In the compass of 328 not very large pages, Mr. Whittaker has contrived to give a mass of information on subjects of current importance that may well be described as prodigious. Regarding commerce, agriculture, finance, population, insurance, education, religion, and many other things, full statistics are given, and, the items being arranged alphabetically, any subject on which information is desired can be turned up almost as easily as a word in a dictionary. To busy people, this concise and handy reference book will be a great boon.

From **Messrs. F. V. White & Co.**—'A Homburg Beauty,' by Mrs. Edward Kennard. (3 vols.) In 'A Homburg Beauty' Mrs. Kennard has written a capital story. The style might, indeed, be improved, but then she ever remembers Scott's advice to writers of fiction and is interesting, often absorbingly so. Nor is the interest merely a superficial one. Without assuming any airs whatever, Mrs. Kennard preaches a powerful and convincing sermon against the sin and folly of perpetual worldliness. Her characters, too, are drawn with skill and force, and a quite rare fidelity to nature. Mrs. Davidson, if very disagreeable, is very natural. We fear there are too many in the world like her, and that they are the cause of much wretchedness to those about them. Mr. and Mrs. Davidson are wealthy, and lead a cat-and-dog life that destroys the happiness of their only child Hetty. They meant Hetty to make a fine match, but her whole life is mismanaged, and she marries a man who is both poor and cruel. Forced to leave her husband, she returns to her father's house, but is refused admittance, and dies miserably in the lodge-keeper's cottage. The story is deeply interesting, and carries a weighty moral.



## Index to the Books published between December 1 and 15.

*The Words in Italics are those under which the Titles are given Alphabetically in full, with the Publisher's Name.*

- Acts, Pictures from the, *Buxton* (H. J. Wilmot) 2s.  
 Adventures of Jack Pomeroy, *Darnton*, 6d.  
 Æschylus and Euripides, *Newman* (F. W.) 6s.  
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 Algiers, Practical Guide, *Harris* (G. W.) 3s. 6d.  
 Alice's Victory, *Ferry* (Mrs. J.) 6d.  
 Almanack, *Catholic*, for 1891, 1d.  
 Almanack, *Queen*, 1891, 1s.  
 A.L.O.E., *Blacksmith* of Boniface Lane, 2s. 6d.  
 Amy's Married Life, *Follen* (Mrs.) 1s. 6d.  
 Andy's Friend, *Henderson* (Florence L.) 1s. 6d.  
 Animal Life and Intelligence, *Morgan*, 16s.  
 Annual, *Engineers' Gazette*, 1891, 1s.  
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 Annual, *Hazell's*, for 1891, 3s. 6d.  
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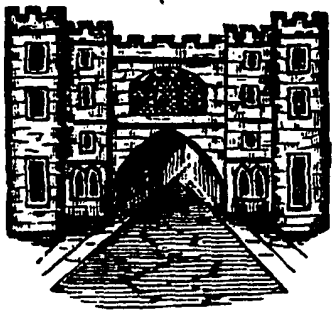


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