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AND

GENERAL RECORD

OF

BRITISH AND FOREIGN LITERATURE

Issued on the 1st and 15th of each Month

LONDON

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CHRISTMAS, GIFT, AND PRESENTATION BOOKS.

It will, as usual, form a Summary of the PRESENTATION BOOKS of the YEAR, and will be embellished with some of the choicest Illustrations, over 300 in number.

☞ The Editor will be greatly obliged if all Books, &c., intended for review in the Christmas number, are forwarded as early as possible, as much inconvenience arises through late arrivals. Any inquiries respecting the Christmas number will be answered with pleasure by the Editor.

BRITISH MUSEUM

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ST. DUNSTAN'S HOUSE, E.C. :
November 1, 1888.

WE hardly know whether to congratulate Mr. Vizetelly or sympathise with him. It is difficult, very difficult indeed, to give a legal definition of obscene literature. Some of the brightest gems of thought are set in the foulest of literary pinchbeck. The law, therefore, can never finally determine what is healthy food for the mind, or, in other words, what will or will not in literature of this kind corrupt or deprave mankind. It is the unlettered classes that have to be protected, and their thoughts turned to a wiser direction. The cultured man or woman could read 'La Terre' without harm resulting; indeed, the objectionable passages might create a strong feeling of repugnance and disgust that without doubt would materially interfere with any admiration which might be felt for the acknowledged ability of the writer.

Mr. Vizetelly, however, has been fined heavily and bound over to keep the peace for publishing M. Zola's work. Why he has been bound over to keep the peace is one of the mysteries of English law. We are not aware that he has developed any pugilistic tendencies, or has any ideas of breaking street-lamps, wrenching off door-knockers, or any of those mischievous freaks which usually call for 'binding over to keep the peace.'

The decision, however, is a warning to the trade. There must be many copies of M. Zola's works in our booksellers' shops, and it is not improbable that the selling of these may result in punishment. What will be done in the case of copies in the original? In order that a proper idea may be formed regarding the position and arguments of the authorities, we give in this number as full an account as possible of the proceedings in Court. While speaking of impure literature, either classical or vulgar, it must be remembered that the dissemination of good, wholesome books is increasing at a rapid rate, and the general desires of the British public may, in this respect, be gauged by the quality of the books which flow daily from the presses of the publishers.

That the London Literary Society should have come to grief will not surprise those who were acquainted with its mode of procedure. 'It' was Mr. John Playster Steeds, who went up for examination in the Bankruptcy Court on the 30th ult., and modestly stated that 'the Society consisted of himself alone.' In a word, it was autocephalous. We do not wish to rejoice over the collapse of the 'Society,' but we cannot help hoping that it will not display the recuperativeness of the phœnix. Let even the ashes be buried and forgotten. There are one or two other companies and societies of a like nature which might well be dispensed with.

'Societies' of this kind prey upon the credulity of a very sanguine class of people, namely, those who are strong in the faith that their talents would be recognised provided their works were placed before the public. Disappointed, they pass from publisher to publisher, finding their compositions or compilations unsuitable. Seldom, indeed, do they take into account that publishers of standing invariably submit the work of untried writers to authorities of repute before rejecting or accepting. It is true that these authorities—readers, critics, 'tasters,' or whatever they may be called—are sometimes in the wrong and find an adverse verdict to a book which the public may ultimately applaud. But sudden flashes of success are rare. The publisher is usually on the right side. Conscious, however, of inward power, the author discredits the judgment and falls a willing victim to some 'society,' subscribes his guinea a year for which he gets nothing, and is induced to publish at a ruinous expense, not to the society, but to himself.

To exemplify this, one has only to look at

the character of the books that are issued by some of these societies. We question whether two in a hundred are worth the paper of the 'copy.' The fate of the London Literary Society ought not to be without its lesson to young authors. The exposure is complete and the warning impressive. Of course it is impossible not to sympathise with the sufferers, but at the same time compassion is qualified by the knowledge that they have themselves to blame.

BOOKSELLERS' PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.—The usual monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of this Institution was held at the offices, 56 Old Bailey, on Thursday, Oct. 18, at 7 o'clock in the evening, Charles James Longman, Esq., presiding, and there were 16 directors present. The sum of £117. 14*s.* 2*d.* was voted in assistance for distribution among 65 members and widows of members.

NEW POPULAR EDUCATOR.—Messrs. Cassell & Co. (Limited) have begun the publication of an entirely revised edition of this deserving work. For about five-and-twenty years this work has been before the public, so that its educational merits are very well understood. The new edition should amplify the claims of the work to widespread notice as one of our best educational mediums for private study.

GUSTAVE DORÉ'S ILLUSTRATED BIBLE.—A noteworthy instance of what enterprise can effect is shown in the appearance, from the firm of Messrs. Cassell & Co., of a new edition of this celebrated work, in weekly numbers, at one halfpenny, monthly numbers threepence. Originally the work cost the subscriber as much as eight guineas, and was indeed thought cheap at the price; it can now be acquired for something like eight shillings. In face of a fact such as this further comment is superfluous; but we may at any rate again remark on the beauty and picturesque effect of Gustave Doré's illustrations, which in the new edition seem to have lost none of their charm.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—Publishers who desire to exhibit in the British section of the book department at this Exhibition should place themselves in communication with the proprietors of the Galignani Library, Rue de Rivoli, Paris, who are taking charge of this matter. Several English publishers have already intimated their intention to become exhibitors.

*MR. BLACK'S NEW NOVEL.**

In this, his latest novel, Mr. Black has gone back to the style of his earlier days, with the result that though some readers may complain of the want of originality and see in Alison Blair, Agnes, and Ludovick Macdonell a distinct resemblance to some of the characters in 'Three Feathers' and 'A Princess of Thule,' the majority, we are sure, will be very well pleased. Again we have those exquisite descriptions of Highland scenery—the changing lights of an early sunrise as they gorgeously illume the tips of the distant hills; the coming storm as it gradually sweeps over the loch and all nature grows wild and turbulent—the soothing awe of the lambent twilight, the stillness unbroken save by voices singing in charming unison an old Gaelic air and the measured plash of the oars. And certainly for character study Mr. Black's new work is quite if not more than equal to any of his previous novels. Ebenezer Blair, the 'meenister,' with his sturdy if restricted mind, his reverence for the stern religion of his forefathers and lofty contempt for the judges of this earth, is a grand character, finely contrasted with the wayward, crotchety disposition of Aunt Gilchrist. And then Johnny—the 'boy John,' who wages perpetual and cunning warfare on the animal creation, firmly believing that each specimen, from a pony downwards, is possessed of a 'duffle'; his curious notions about witches who are able in the evening light to turn themselves into hares; his assault on the helpless James Cowan and fearful scrimmage with that gentleman's mother whom he 'wass giffing something'—how we lean back in our chair and shake with suppressed merriment as we read of these things! The reader who is appreciative of the beauties of nature and loves quiet touches of character has indeed a rare treat before him in the perusal of Mr. Black's delightful work.

* *In Far Lochaber.* By William Black. London: Sampson Low & Co.

Notes and News

For the first edition of Sir Morell Mackenzie's great book, 'The Fatal Illness of Frederick the Noble,' 28 tons of paper were used; the printers used 4 cwt. of printing ink, and the binders 3½ miles of cloth. These figures are, perhaps, unprecedented in connection with the first issue of any book.

It has often been observed that although the spirit of journalism shows enlightened and healthy vitality in Scotland, that country possesses no weekly journal of a high class resembling the great reviews of London. The vacancy, we are pleased to hear, is about to be filled by the appearance of *The Scots Observer*, which is expected to occupy a high position. Mr. J. N. Dunn is the managing editor, and the journal will be printed and published at the Edinburgh University Press by Messrs. T. & A. Constable.

Information is the title of a new instructive weekly which will begin its career on the 8th inst. Messrs. Merritt & Hatcher are the publishers.

Few periodicals can now equal for usefulness and practical value *The World of Fashion*, published by E. Marlborough & Co. The magazine has lately undergone extensive and permanent improvement, and the number for November presents an admirable array, pictorially and practically, of all that should interest the dress-loving Englishwoman.

Three volumes of great interest for the students of Church history are announced for early production by Messrs. Longmans & Co. These are 'The English Church in the Middle Ages,' by Rev. W. Hunt, M.A. Trinity College, Oxford; 'The Arian Controversy,' by H. M. Gwatkin, M.A., Lecturer and late Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge; and 'The Counter-Reformation,' by Professor A. W. Ward.

No one need now be without a neat and serviceable Prayer-book, purchased at an unusually low price. The new pearl 32mo. issued from the Cambridge University Press (London: C. J. Clay & Sons) answers all requirements for ordinary use, the type, though small, being well cut and clean.

Messrs. Longmans & Co. will publish early in the new year a collection of 'Letters on Literature' from the cultivated pen of Mr. Andrew Lang. The volume will consist for the most part of reprints of letters contributed to the *New York Independent*.

Among the announcements of books for early production by Messrs. Longmans & Co. are 'The Last Journals of Lady Brassey, 1886–7,' with forty illustrations in monotone, and upwards of one hundred illustrations in the text from drawings by R. T. Pritchett, in addition to maps and charts. The same publishers will also issue a new work by Thomas Case, M.A., Fellow and Senior Tutor of Christ Church, Oxford, entitled 'Physical Realism; being an Analytical Philosophy from the Physical Objects of Science to the Physical Data of Sense;' a new volume on 'The Diseases of Children, Medical and Surgical,' by Henry Ashby, M.D., and George A. Wright, B.A., F.R.C.S. The forthcoming volume of the 'Badminton Library' will treat of the subject of 'Driving,' the Duke of Beaufort on this occasion handling the reins.

Messrs. J. S. Virtue & Co., Limited, announce for publication, about the middle of the month, a new work by Mr. Walter Armstrong on 'Celebrated Pictures at the Glasgow Exhibition,' with nearly one hundred illustrations. The same firm will also issue for Mr. Raffles Davison 'Pen and Ink Notes at the Glasgow Exhibition,' with about a hundred and fifty illustrations.

Mr. Walter Crane's new coloured picture-book will be published by Messrs. Cassell & Co. early this month under the title of 'Flora's Feast: a Masque of Flowers.'

The first instalment of Mr. Frederick G. Kitton's 'Charles Dickens,' in the preparation of which the author has been engaged for more than two years, is announced for immediate publication. The work will be issued in twelve parts, and among the list of contributors are Miss Dickens, Mr. G. A. Sala, Mr. Edmund Yates, Mr. Luke Fildes, R.A., Mr. Percy Fitzgerald, Lady Theodore Martin, Mr. W. P. Frith, R.A., Mr. G. D. Leslie, R.A., Mr. Arthur Locker, Mr. Charles Mackay, Sir Richard Owen, and others.

Messrs. Hurst & Blackett write:—'We are informed that an impostor has lately visited Ceylon, and has passed herself off as Edna Lyall, the author of "Donovan," &c. Possibly this person may have something to do with the very extraordinary reports which for some time have been afloat with regard to Miss Lyall; and since these reports are of a very annoying nature, and have been extensively circulated, the Press would be doing Miss Lyall a service by promulgating the following facts:—Edna Lyall (Miss Ada Ellen Bayly) is the youngest daughter of the late Robert Bayly, of the Inner Temple, barrister-at-law. She was brought up as, and has always remained, a member of the Church of England; and for the last few years has resided at Eastbourne. We are happy to say that Miss Lyall has always enjoyed excellent health, both mental and physical.'

Messrs. S. W. Partridge have secured for 'A 1' the following new serial stories:—'"N. B." on His Responsibility,' by Agnes Giberne; 'Eagle Cliff,' by R. M. Ballantyne; 'The White Lady of Hazelwood,' by Emily S. Holt. These will appear in the second volume of 'A 1,' the first number of which will be issued on November 3.

A new and cheap edition of 'Les Misérables' has been issued by the publishing firms of Hetzel and Quantin. It is in 18mo., and in eight volumes. The paper is good, and the printing beautifully clear. The price is 1s. 8*d.* a volume. It is a remarkable fact that while the wealthy are eager to read a new work of Zola, the struggling population of France go on buying Victor Hugo's political and Socialist works in prose and verse, and do not care for Zola or any of the Realist school of authors. 'Les Châtiments' is still one of the most popular books in France.

'The Letters from Dorothy Osborne to Sir William Temple, 1652–54,' published by Messrs. Griffith, Farran & Co., which have had such a striking success since their first appearance six months ago, will be issued immediately by the same house in a new and cheaper edition. The new edition will contain the portraits and autographs.

The publishers (Messrs. Nimmo, Hay & Mitchell) of Mr. Tirebuck's story, 'Saint Margaret,' already announce a second edition of that little book. It has met with a considerable share of kindly notice and public favour.

Messrs. Iliffe & Son are about to publish 'The Indispensable Handbook to the Optical Lantern,' being a complete encyclopædia on the subject of Optical Lanterns, Slides, and accessory apparatus. A specially useful feature will be a *catalogue raisonné*, descriptive of all the different sets of slides now on sale.

Messrs. Grant & Co.'s annual will be published in a day or two under the title 'A Christmas Rose: a Blossom in Seven Petals.' The author is Mr. R. E. Francillon.

'Jolts and Jingles: Pastime Rhymes principally for Children,' is the title of a new

work by Mr. Thomas Hutchinson, author of 'Ballades of a Country Bookworm,' which will shortly be published in an edition limited to 185 copies (52 of which will be on large paper), by Mr. Frank Murray, of Derby and Nottingham. It is dedicated to Mr. Oscar Wilde.

Mr. J. E. Muddock, F.R.G.S., is contributing to a number of provincial papers a series of articles under the attractive heading 'Stories Weird and Wonderful.'

Among Messrs. J. Walker & Co.'s novelties for the coming season is a series of illuminated texts, which are quite a fresh departure as compared with the printed pieces of cardboard which one has been accustomed to see on the walls of bedrooms. Messrs. Walker's texts are produced in several colours on a coloured ground, with an initial letter in gold; in fact, they are illuminated texts. The colours are arranged with great taste, the ground adds effect to them, the edges of the boards are bevelled and gilt, and when complete they are set in cardinal plush border, which makes them an ornament to a room. They are provided with 'struts,' which enables them to stand on any article of furniture. An important point is that the texts themselves have been selected with great care, with a view of avoiding the somewhat repellent inscriptions that have been common.

'The Goodchild Family at Home' is the name of a new pastime for children which Messrs. Walker & Co. have invented. It is the plan of a house in three floors. Each of the floors is represented by a coloured sheet which exhibits the furniture, fittings, doors, stairs, &c. Separately, in a pocket-book, are figures of the inhabitants, men, women, and children, who, by an ingenious contrivance, may be made to stand, sit, go to bed, occupy a perambulator, &c. The figures are well drawn, coloured, and cut round. They are saved from being torn or too soon spoiled by mounting on linen, which again is covered by paper. A key, printed on a separate sheet of paper, shows what can be done with the figures, and the whole goes into an illuminated box.

Continental Notes

M. Ludovic Halévy, author of the 'Abbé Constantin,' the dramatic version of which has been recently performed in London, gave on Friday last, at the annual public meeting of the Institute of France, an interesting account of the first public meeting of the French Academy, held on January 12, 1673, on the occasion of the reception of three new members: Fléchier, the celebrated preacher, afterwards bishop; Racine, the dramatist and historiographer to Louis XIV.; and the Abbé Gallois, a classical scholar, who used to give Latin lessons to the great Finance Minister Colbert, as he rode in his carriage between Paris and Versailles.

M. Halévy quoted from Fléchier's speech, in which he somewhat strangely contrasted the position of literary men in France under Louis XIV. with that which they formerly occupied:—

'What a happy change in the fortune of men of letters! Formerly they reverenced afar off the greatness and the majesty of kings whom they knew only on the faith of their renown. They sometimes entered the cabinet of some Mæcenas, but never approached the palace of Augustus . . . It was reserved for the greatest of kings to open to them his own palace . . . For the first time, in fact, you might see seated side by side, having the same rank and title in one assembly, very great lords, poets more or less distinguished, prelates, grammarians, royal counsellors, dramatic authors, and gentlemen of the Chamber(!) . . . It is true that the great Colbert occupied an armchair, and the great Corneille had only a chair without arms; but Louis XIV. soon established the equality of academic seats by sending forty fauteuils to the Academy. He did more: he ordered that at the Court theatricals six places were to be reserved for the Academicians; and when MM. Charpentier, Benserade, Rose, Furetière, Quinault, and Racine occupied these seats for the first time not only were they installed with honour, but—what was the astonishment at this soirée!—the officers of the tankard received orders to offer them refreshments between the acts, just like the most qualified persons of the court.' (!)

MM. Boussod, Valadon & Co. have just completed the publication of that magnificent work 'L'Armée Française, Types et Uniformes,' par Edouard Détaille, texte par Jules Richard. The illustrations comprise 60 engravings in colours, printed separately from the text, and 288 black and white pictures in the text. The work forms two large folio volumes.

The same firm announces for this month 'Quatre Contes de Perrault,' illustrated by Edouard de Beaumont. The four tales are our old friends, 'Bluebeard,' 'The Sleeping Beauty,' 'Cinderella,' and 'Les Fées' (the Fairies). The plates, sixty-eight in number, have been executed by the photogravure process of Goupil & Co.

They will also publish Guy de Maupassant's 'Pierre et Jean,' with 36 illustrations by Ernest Duez and Albert Lynch, in one vol. 4to., uniform with the illustrated edition of that popular novel the 'Abbé Constantin.'

Bibliothèque Charpentier publishes on the 5th inst. the new romance of M. Hector Malot, which has formed a prominent feature of the recent issues of *L'Illustration*, entitled 'Mondaine.' Of Émile Zola's new and strikingly original story 'Le Rêve' the Librairie is already selling the fifty-fifth thousand!

M. Alphonse Lemerre has just issued in his charming series 'Petite Bibliothèque Littéraire' yet another new edition of that amusing production of Alphonse Daudet, 'Tartarin sur les Alpes.' He has also published 'Le Jargon et Jobelin de François Villon suivi du Jargon au

Théâtre,' par Lucien Schöne. The author's name is appropriate, for nothing can be more beautiful as regards paper and print than this tastefully got-up volume. M. Lemerre also publishes on the 2nd inst. the first volume of a new work by that striking writer, Paul Bourget, 'Etudes et Portraits,' which will form two volumes.

Librairie de l'Art has just issued 'Hector Berlioz, sa Vie et ses Œuvres,' par Adolphe Jullien, with 14 lithographs by Fantin Latour.

M. Damascène Morgand is publishing a series of illustrations from 'Le Théâtre de Molière,' designed and engraved on steel by M. Edmond Hédouin. The set consists of a frontispiece, an engraved title, and 34 engravings.

The *Figaro Illustré* 1888–89 will be a very attractive number, containing contributions by Henri Meilhac, Paul Bourget, Vicomte de Vogüé, Jules Claretie, and Vice-Admiral Jurien de la Gravière, with illustrations in colours by Edouard Détaille, Ch. Delon, Kämmerer, Henner, Marcheur, and Caran d'Ache.

M. Calmann Lévy has just published 'La Vie Littéraire,' by M. Anatole France, the clever dramatic and literary critic of *Le Temps*, and 'Le Mari de Lucienne,' par Yves de Noly. To the excellent 'Nouvelle Collection Michel Lévy' has just been added 'Mademoiselle Merquem,' by George Sand.

M. Paul Ollendorff has just published 'Autour d'une Révolution, 1788–1799,' par le Cte. d'Hérisson. Of Sir Morell Mackenzie's 'La Dernière Maladie de Frédéric le Noble,' the twenty-second edition has just been published by M. Ollendorff, who will shortly issue 'A Outrance,' a new romance by Quatrelles; 'Un Complot sous la Terreur,' par Paul Ganlot, 'Les Confessions d'une Abbesse au XVI^me^ Siècle,' and 'Souvenirs Intimes sur la Cour de Tuileries,' par Mme. Carette.

MM. Plon, Nourrit & Co. published the other day 'Journal des Prisons de mon Père de ma Mère et des miennes,' par Madame la Duchesse de Duras.

We have received from M. Léon Techener, of 219 Rue St.-Honoré, No. XV. of *Bibliopoliana*, a monthly catalogue of old, rare, and curious books. This catalogue is a model of what a good second-hand catalogue should be, containing accurate descriptions of books worth cataloguing. It is beautifully printed. We cite one title, a French chap-book: 'Histoire prodigieuse d'un gentilhomme auquel le diable s'est apparu, et avec lequel il a conversé, soubs le corps d'une femme morte, advenué à Paris le premier de Janvier 1613: à Paris, chez François du Carroy 1613.'

'Die Gred' is the title of a new novel by Georg Ebers, the author of so many picturesque romances. 'Die Gred' is a story of old Nuremberg. Ebers, who was so much at home when writing of ancient Egypt, is even more so when writing of Nuremberg in the fifteenth century. His new story is full of life and action, and gives a vivid representation of the picturesque old city in its palmy days.

The admirers of the Buchholz family will welcome 'Frau Buchholz im Orient,' which Herren Freund and Jeckel, of Berlin, will publish at the middle of the current month.

Herr W. Spemann, the enterprising publisher of 'Vom Fels zum Meer,' announces, as a sequel to Paul Lindau's novels of Berlin life, a new story by the same popular author, entitled 'Spitzen,' in two volumes.

Herr Wilhelm Koebner, in Breslau, announces 'Francis Bacon und seine Geschichtliche Stellung,' von Dr. Hans Heussler.

The publication of a portion of the so-called 'Diary of the Emperor Frederick III.' in the *Deutsche Rundschau* is certainly not yet forgotten, and the fate of Dr. Geffcken, who communicated the manuscript to the editor of the *Rundschau* (Dr. Julius Rodenberg) excites the liveliest interest in many persons. It may therefore be assumed that 'Das Recht und die Stadts-raison im Process Geffcken,' just published by the Helwing'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung, in Hanover, will find many purchasers.

A book full of interest for admirers of the German romantic school of fiction will be 'Johann Georg Zimmer und die Romantiker,' with letters from Arnim, Brentano, Fr. Perthes, Brothers Schlegel, Ludwig Tieck, F. C. von Savigny, and others, edited by H. Zimmer.

Herr Friedrich Pfeilstücker, in Berlin, sends us a prospectus of an illustrated family Bible ('Illustrirte Hausbibel') containing the Old and New Testaments and the Apocrypha. The translation is that of Luther, and the illustrations, exceeding one thousand, consist of views of scenes and places in the Holy Land, and representations of plants, animals, and antiquities.

We have received from Herr Otto Harrassowitz, of Leipzig, the third part of the supplementary issue of the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*. In this part Dr. Hartwig, the Librarian of the Royal University at Halle, describes the plan of the new catalogue of the University Library, which has just been completed under his superintendence. Dr. Hartwig's preface gives an account of the formidable task of cataloguing the 250,000 volumes forming the library, and of the difficulties which attended it, and of his expedients for overcoming them. This is followed by the detailed plan of cataloguing, which is most thorough and elaborate, filling about 300 pages, offering many points of interest to librarians.

Herr Richard Bong has forwarded to us the September part of *Moderne Kunst und Meister Holzschnitter*. This publication maintains its reputation for the admirable selection of subjects, the excellence of the woodcutting, the beauty of the paper on which the engravings are printed, and the great care in working off. The largest and most striking picture in the number is the 'Holländische Kermes' by Otto Kirberg, to which higher praise perhaps cannot be conceded than to say it is a worthy representative of the Dutch school of painting. Emanuel Spilzer's 'Heim-

liche Lektüre' is an excellent genre picture, and Fred. Vezin's (brother of the actor Hermann Vezin, we believe) 'Regatta on the Thames' will be as much admired here as in Germany. Eight folio pages of such engravings for one Mark seems fabulous.

In this connection we note the forthcoming publication of a new illustrated edition of the works of E. T. A. Hoffmann. Of Hoffmann's writings it may safely be said that they are unrivalled as examples of what the Germans call 'Schicksalstragödie,' or, as we should say, weird stories. Several of Hoffmann's tales have appeared in English. 'The Devil's Elixir,' one of his more striking productions, was published here very many years ago, and has long been out of print. Carlyle translated his 'Golden Pot,' and the late Major Ewing (husband of the lamented authoress) Englished some of the shorter tales. Many of Hoffmann's stories are unsurpassed for the fascinating interest with which the reader is hurried breathlessly onwards to the dramatic conclusion. We can quite believe the statement that Hoffmann was really as much afraid of his own creations as was Frankenstein of the monster in Mrs. Shelley's enthralling romance. Although by profession a lawyer, Hoffmann was not only a writer, but also a composer, an operatic manager, and an artist. But he has left it for Herr C. Köystrand to illustrate his writings, in an edition which will be published by Herr Franz Bondy, of Vienna, and we look forward to its appearance with interest.

American News and Notes

Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, have in press, as a companion to their sumptuous editions of Alexander Hamilton's and Benjamin Franklin's works, a collection of the 'Writings of George Washington,' carefully prepared and edited by the Hon. John Bigelow, of which there will be fourteen volumes, published, however, only to subscribers. The Life and Letters of Dr. S. Wells Williams, author of 'The Middle Kingdom,' by Frederick Wells Williams, will also be issued by the same firm.

It is possible that the Hon. Carl Schurz will write the life of Abraham Lincoln for the 'American Statesmen Series,' issued by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston. One of the most valued contributions yet made to this series has already been made by Mr. Schurz in his life of Henry Clay. A new edition of the poetical works of the late gifted poet Emma Lazarus, in two volumes, will be published soon by the same firm, who will also bring out a new comparative edition of 'The Rubaiyát of Omar Khayyám.' The special interest of this edition consists in the fact that the first translation of these celebrated quatrains by Edward Fitzgerald is printed in the same volume with the fourth edition, which contained the latest revisions and additions by this translator.

Messrs. Robert Clarke & Co., Cincinnati, have in press a book of interest to students of Virgil. The author is Joseph S. Tunison, and its title 'Master Vergil: a Series of Studies upon the Mediæval Reputation of the Author of the "Æneid."' Mr. Tunison, it is said, has devoted many years to the study of Virgil, and with much diligence has brought together not merely a *résumé* of the many anecdotes popular during the Middle Ages, which present Virgil in the light of poet, mechanical inventor, lover, magician and what not, but has subjected them to searching critical study for the purpose of showing the relation of the legends to Virgil as poet and man.

Messrs. D. Appleton & Co.'s (New York), further list of announcements of books for the present season contains as follows: 'From Flag to Flag: Experiences and Adventures in the South during the War in Mexico; and in Cuba;' and 'Florida of To-day,' a guide for tourists and settlers, by James Wood Davidson.

There have been so many conflicting statements about the publication of a biography of Harriet Beecher Stowe that the following letter, sent to a contemporary by Mr. Kirk Munroe, from Cambridge, Mass., will be read with interest: 'In collaboration with my brother-in-law, the Rev. Charles E. Stowe, Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe's only living son, I am preparing for early publication a life of the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin." We are greatly annoyed by the persistent publication of notices to the effect that other persons are working in the same direction, and, with the authorisation of Mrs. Stowe, or aided by members of her family, are preparing "biographies" or "literary lives" of the distinguished authoress. Such statements, so far as they refer to Mrs. Stowe or any member of her family, are absolutely false. Any such book can only be collated from material already published in biographical encyclopædias, the "Autobiography and Correspondence of Lyman Beecher," the "Life of Henry Ward Beecher, &c."; for every original document and letter belonging to Mrs. Stowe is now in our possession, and no fragment of these writings has been allowed at any time to pass into other hands. Among the vast accumulation of this original material already examined, we find the MS. of the first essay ever written by Mrs. Stowe, her diaries covering the most interesting period of her life, criticisms of her own and other works in MS., copies of her own letters to the most notable personages of her time both at home and abroad with their replies, letters that relate the whole inner history of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," the causes that led to its production, and the sources of information from which she drew her facts, and letters filled with praise, criticism, and rabid abuse of this and others of her works, beside a quantity of other extremely valuable matter. With such a wealth of material to draw from, it will be impossible to produce anything else than a book of surpassing interest. This authorised and only accurate life of the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" will be ready for the press early in 1889.' The English copyright edition of this work will be published by Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, Searle & Rivington, Limited.

THE SALE OF ZOLA'S BOOKS.

On October 31, before the Recorder, Mr. Henry Vizetelly surrendered to his recognisances to answer an indictment charging him with publishing an obscene libel. The book which formed the subject-matter of the indictment was an English translation of a French novel, and entitled 'The Soil.'

The Solicitor-General, Mr. Poland, and Mr. Asquith conducted the prosecution; Mr. B. F. Williams, Q.C., and Mr. Cluer were counsel for the defence.

The Solicitor-General, in opening the case, referred to the case of 'The Queen *v.* Hicklin,' in which Lord Chief Justice Cockburn laid it down that the test of obscenity was whether the tendency of the matter charged as obscenity was to deprave and corrupt those whose minds were open to such immoral influences and into whose hands the publication might fall. In that case a Protestant society had collected and published certain passages from Roman Catholic books, with the object of calling attention to the supposed errors of the Romish Church; but it was held that the object of the publication had nothing to do with the matter. The Solicitor-General pointed out also that it had been held that if anyone published a report of the case containing the passages complained of he would be liable to be proceeded against, and the fact that it was merely the report of the case would not be a justification. He would read the extracts from the book complained of, and if anyone took the opportunity of publishing the passages in a report of the case, or otherwise, the person doing so would be plainly liable to the same penalty as the defendant if the verdict should be adverse to him. It was for the jury to look at the passages complained of. He did not say that if they saw in a volume one isolated passage of an immoral tendency that would be a sufficient justification for indicting the publisher of the book as being guilty of a misdemeanour. Undoubtedly there might be passages in works of a medical kind, intended for perusal of medical men and students, which would not be subject to a prosecution, but if the passages were collected in a book and published for the purpose of ministering to the depraved taste of casual readers they would undoubtedly be subject to an indictment. It had been suggested that in our literature and in that of other countries there were great works whose authors were recognised as being kings in literature, which works contained certain immoral and indecent expressions. It was true that in our literature, especially in that of two or three hundred years ago, there were passages which might conflict with their judgment as to what was fit for circulation, but that was entirely a different question, and one which had been dealt with in the case of 'The Queen *v.* Hicklin,' where the suggestion was dismissed as being no excuse. If there was anything in the objection, it would not in the least degree be applicable to the filthy book which he held in his hand. It was not one, two, or three passages which had been chosen, but they had 21 passages, taken from different parts of the work in question, some of them long passages, extending over several of its pages. There was no question before them of a book written with a wholesome purpose of teaching or with an innocent purpose of amusing, but this book was filthy from beginning to end. He did not believe there was ever collected between the covers of a book so much bestial obscenity as was found in the pages of this book, and after he had read the passages complained of, he thought the jury would be of opinion that every syllable of what he had said was justified. There was not a passage in it which contained any literary genius or the expression of any elevated thought. There was not a single scene described which could be pointed to as being free from vicious suggestions and obscene expressions.

Mr. Williams said that his client, acting upon his advice, desired to withdraw his plea of 'Not guilty,' and to plead 'Guilty' to having published these books. There was no doubt that the work which formed the subject-matter of the indictment contained passages which the jury had intimated were very disgusting and unpleasant even in the discharge of a public duty to have to listen to. He would remind his Lordship that these works were works of a great French author.

The Solicitor-General: A voluminous French author.

The Recorder: A popular French author.

Mr. Williams: Of an author who ranks high among the literary men of France. Mr. Vizetelly had pleaded guilty to this charge, and therefore it was not for him to contend that these works were not obscene. That being so, Mr. Vizetelly would undertake at once to withdraw all those translations of M. Zola's works from circulation. For a long time these works had been published—one of them had been published for four years without any intimation that there was any objection to it. This book, 'The Soil,' had been published for a year or more, and until this prosecution was instituted no exception was taken to the publication of it. He understood that the Solicitor-General did not ask that any imprisonment should be inflicted.

The Solicitor-General was very glad that a course had been taken which not only would result in stopping the circulation of the books in question, but which carried with it an undertaking that Mr. Vizetelly would be no party to the circulation of other works of M. Zola. He would like to point out that after this warning proceedings under the Act of Parliament would be taken in the event of any other person attempting to circulate these books. The question of punishment was for the Court, but he did not ask that Mr. Vizetelly should be sent to prison.

Mr. Vizetelly asked that witnesses might be called to speak to his character, but

The Recorder said it was not necessary.

The Recorder, addressing Mr. Vizetelly, said: There is a great distinction between this case and 'The Queen *v.* Hicklin.' There the object of the publication was no doubt extremely good, but it was held, and very properly so, to be no answer. This book has been published for the sake of gain, and it is not necessary for me to say that it was deliberately done in order to deprave the minds of persons who might read the books. In my opinion they are of the most repulsive description. They are not of a seductive or a fanciful character, but repulsive and revolting to the last degree. Therefore, when a man who has a good character—which you say and which I am quite prepared to admit you deserve—finds that the opinion is entertained by the authorities that they are of this description, he could not do otherwise than express himself as you have done and undertake to withdraw them from circulation. That is the great object of such an inquiry as this. The sentence is that you be fined £100 and enter into your own recognisances in £200 to keep the peace and to be of good behaviour for 12 months.

THE LONDON LITERARY SOCIETY.

BANKRUPTCY OF JOHN PLAYSTER STEEDS—AN EXTRAORDINARY STORY.

The public examination of this bankrupt was resumed before Mr. Registrar Linklater at the London Bankruptcy Court on the 30th inst.

Mr. Howell appeared for the Official Receiver.

Mr. Sidney Woolf appeared to examine the bankrupt on behalf of creditors.

The bankrupt presented his own petition on June 21 last, describing himself as 'of 376 Strand, publisher, carrying on business as the "London Literary Society,"' and adjudication followed on the 25th of the same month. Accounts were presented, in which the bankrupt estimated his debts at 'about £1,500' and assets at 'about £200,' no particulars or items being given. At the first meeting of creditors, held on June 25, no resolution was passed, and the estate was left in the hands of the Official Receiver to be wound up.

Upon the case being called on, Mr. Woolf said he appeared for the creditors, and desired to examine the bankrupt. The bankrupt was then called and examined. He said he was formerly a traveller in the employment of Messrs. Boord & Sons, distillers, whom he left in 1879. He then took an office and started a wine agency, which failing, he commenced business as the 'London Literary Society' in 1880 at 376 Strand. He had then £100 capital, which he had derived from the lease of Westfield House, Hampstead Heath, which formerly belonged to him. He owed then about £20. No one was interested in the 'Society' but himself. An advertisement and the 'blue book' (produced) were issued by him. The object of the 'Society' was to publish the works of the members and to advise them as to the expediency of placing their books before the public. There were no less than six systems of publishing to meet the requirements of all members. By the advertisements he issued he set out the advantage of the systems and invited subscribers to the Society, and 2,000 persons responded to his invitation. The subscription fee was one guinea, so that his income from that source was over £2,000 a year. That was of course during the latter part of his trading. He had no interest in the business carried on by Digby & Long. Long was formerly a clerk in his employ and after he left and started business on his own account he sometimes referred budding authors to him for advice. With reference to the systems, one of them was to secure all profits and losses to the authors, they to receive the whole profits of the sales after deducting commission. That was the usual system. He also published under a system to secure all profits and rights to authors. The different systems would be seen by referring to his circulars. Under his sixth system he published several books, amongst them being 'Darius the Median Identified,' 'Sketches of Celibate Worthies,' 'Jack Hardy,' and others. These books were reviewed, and he printed a portion of reviews from the *Saturday Review* and circulated them. He quite admitted that he did not publish all the review, but picked the best words for his purpose. He knew a Miss Pocklington, and had published several works for her. He published a book for her called 'Until Death,' but he could not say how many copies of it were printed. It might be 500, 1,000, or 2,000. His ledger did not say how many were printed, but it showed that 500 copies were received from the binders. He could not say that more than 500 were printed unless he saw the invoices. The arrangement with Miss Pocklington was that he was to print and publish 2,000 copies of the work for £60. That £60 was paid, and after the book had been put upon the market quarterly accounts were rendered to her. The book had not been published so soon as was first arranged because he thought it better to bring it out with the Christmas books. It was a fact that he wrote to Miss Pocklington telling her that the book was moving well, and having sent out 500 copies he thought he was justified in telling her so. The books were sent out on sale or return. Up to March 1887 he had received £7. 10*s.* from Messrs. Smith & Sons for the sale of the book, but shortly after that they returned the copies they had, finding no demand for them. He had not given Miss Pocklington credit for the £7. 10*s.* received because he had not settled up with her. With regard to his not printing so many as 2,000 copies of the book, he contended that he was not legally bound to print more than were required by the trade. The demand rested entirely with the trade, and if they did not require more than 50 copies he was not bound to publish more. If, however, there was a demand for them he would, of course, have had to print the whole 2,000. He should not, of course, keep the type up of any book unless it sold well, owing to the great expense of doing so, but it might be stereotyped. He could not recollect whether this particular book of 'Until Death' was 'stereo'd.' He had, he admitted, written to Miss Pocklington saying that if the book sold it would realise a good profit; but as a fact it was a shilling book selling to the trade at 8*d.* a copy, and if the whole 2,000 copies had been sold it would only have realised £60. 18*s.*, and inasmuch as Miss Pocklington had paid £60 for the publishing &c., and £6 for the binding, there would have been no profit coming to her after deducting commission. He also published a book for Mrs. Roe called the 'Secret Chamber,' for which he received from her two sums of £20 and £5. He could not, however, find any reference in his stock book to the book, and he could not give the name of the printers who printed it. He would, however, swear that the book was printed, and was held by Fisher, a bookbinder. He knew that the sheets were sent to Fisher direct from the printers, and no record of it would be kept at his office. The sheets of books were never sent to the office, but were always sent direct to the binders. He could not tell who printed the book by searching the invoices, as it was not always the practice of printers to render accounts. He had received the £20 from Mrs. Roe early in the transaction with her, and afterwards he wrote for a further £5 for additional expenses. She afterwards demanded the repayment of the £5. In reply to that demand he wrote telling her how the book was getting on, and that a cheque would be sent by the same post for the £5.

By the Court—The cheque was not inclosed because the secretary had been away for his holiday and could not attend to the matter.

The Registrar—Whose handwriting is the letter in?

The Bankrupt—Mine.

The Registrar—Well, are you not the secretary of the Society?

The Bankrupt—Yes, your Honour.

The Registrar—Then you must give us a better reason for not sending the cheque than that the secretary had been away for his holiday and could not attend to it.

By Mr. Woolf—He did not think that he did not send the cheque because he had not got the money. He thought he must have had £5. He could not give any explanation of why he wrote as he did, or why the cheque was not sent with the letter. Both Miss Pocklington and Mrs. Roe were members of the Society. He admitted that he had written to two members to the effect that letters written to him had gone astray in the post when such was not the case. He could not explain the reason for that move; but no doubt he had a reason at the time.

By the Court—The printed book always went to the bookbinder and did not come back to himself.

After some further examination, Mr. Howell pointed out that the accounts filed by the bankrupt were very deficient notwithstanding the order which his Honour had made on the former occasion when the bankrupt was before the Court. It would be seen that no items whatever appeared in the front sheet of the statement, but simply a lump sum was put at the end of the respective columns. He asked that the bankrupt might be further ordered to comply with his Honour's former direction to prepare and file a proper statement.

The Registrar—Certainly. The further examination of the bankrupt will be adjourned to November 27, and he must amend the statement in such manner as is required by the Official Receiver.

The sitting was accordingly adjourned to November 27 next.

Obituary

ROBERT YOUNG.—On October 14, at his residence in Edinburgh, died Dr. Robert Young, the scholarly author of the 'Analytical Bible Concordance,' and other Biblical and Oriental works. The deceased was a scholar of the old standard, working more with a love and enthusiasm for learning than with any desire for personal advancement or pecuniary profit.

GILBERT VENABLES.—After an illness of several months Mr. Gilbert Venables died recently. He was born in 1845, and was educated at St. Paul's School and Wadham College, Oxford, where he took his degree in 1868. On coming to London he began his journalistic career on the *Echo* newspaper, which he left some three years later on to join the staff of the *Standard*. Mr. Venables possessed wide culture, and was a competent critic, as well as a lover of good books. He was an excellent journalist, and found in journalism full scope for his extensive knowledge and good natural abilities.

JAMES SHARPE.—At his residence, Handsforth, Mr. James Sharpe, who during more than half a century acted as editor of various county papers at Shrewsbury, Chester, Leamington, Leicester, and Oxford. Mr. Sharpe was one of the oldest contributors to the *Field*. On archery he was a recognised authority, and he wrote the article on the subject for the new edition of the 'Encyclopædia Britannica.' His 'Archers' Register' was a well-known and popular work both in this country and America.

OLIVE LASBURY.—Many who had a long, close, and pleasurable association with Mr. Olive Lasbury, Bristol, during the many years he held a prominent position as one of the oldest booksellers of the city, will regret to learn that he died on October 24. He had retired from business some time ago, and his death occurred at his residence, Portland Villa, Cotham. He was, says the *Bristol Mercury*, not only one of the oldest, but also one of the most successful booksellers of the city, where his face was familiar to many. By steady application to business, skilful judgment, combined with integrity and unfailing courtesy, he won his success. He was of retiring habits and most unassuming in disposition, with always a kind word for everyone at home and abroad, and many can testify to unobtrusive acts of kindness and benevolence at his hands. He had suffered for many years from weakness of the heart, and recently from paralysis. Mr. Lasbury was 65 years of age.

THOMAS STEVENS.—We are sorry to intimate the death of Mr. Thomas Stevens, of the Stevengraph Works, Coventry, which occurred on October 24. The house of which the deceased was the head has a world-wide celebrity. The news of Mr. Stevens's death will be read with regret by many friends.

H. W. STACY.—On September 26, at Earl's Court, London, Henry W. Stacy, late of the Haymarket, Norwich, where he had carried on business honourably for over thirty years. He was a well-informed bookseller of a type now rare, and was deeply read in history. He never took much part in the public affairs of his native city, but the things he did take up were carried out with great energy. The restoration of the grand old church of St. Peter Mancroft was in a great measure due to his initiation and indefatigable zeal. It was his own parish, and his father's arms were in the east chancel window. His first situation was with Simms & Dinham, Manchester; thence he went to Lowestoft in partnership with Mr. T. Colman, and after the sale of Muskett's famous stock, the desire to own a business that had been his father's tempted him to Norwich, where he took the old printing-office and a smaller shop adjoining Muskett's. After thirty years' hard work he sold his business and took a holiday—a rare thing with him—during which he visited the scenes of his apprenticeship and early business life, and was staying with an old friend for a few days, previous to his intended return to Norwich, when he was knocked down by a cab in Piccadilly, and died within a week. Numerous letters of sympathy from all parts of the country showed the respect in which he was held.

Trade Changes

Mr. Edward Stanford announces that he has been compelled to remove from Nos. 54, 55, and 56 Charing Cross, and 17 Spring Gardens, to new and extensive premises at 26 and 27 Cockspur Street, twenty doors westward from his former house.

Mr. Young J. Pentland, bookseller and publisher, of 11 Teviot Place, Edinburgh, will early this month open a branch business in London at 38 West Smithfield, E.C., next to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

We hear that Mr. Charles M. Wellsman has purchased the Liverpool business of Mr. John Esson, printers' engineer. It will be carried on at Manesty Lane, as before. Mr. C. M. Wellsman is the eldest son of Mr. Wellsman (C. Mitchell & Co.), the well-known editor of the 'Newspaper Press Directory.'

Mr. James Blackwood informs us that by arrangement and consent of Mr. Paterson he has retaken possession of the business at 8 Lovell's Court, Paternoster Row. The business will again be carried on under the name of James Blackwood & Co.

Mr. F. H. Hutt has started business at 10 Clement's Inn Passage.

Messrs. Hirschfeld Bros., of Bream's Buildings, Fetter Lane, have taken the adjoining premises, where a large stock of educational works, in modern and classical languages, will be kept.

The firm of Charles Eason & Son, of Dublin, booksellers, newsagents, manufacturing stationers, &c., is now changed to Eason & Son, Limited. No shares are offered to the public.

Announcements

Messrs. Dean & Son.

The Little One's Own Coloured Picture Annual, containing over 500 stories in prose and verse, and 200 full-page fresh novel pictures in chromo colours, besides Kindergarten lessons, riddles, and puzzles.

The Little One's Own Souvenir, and the Little One's Own Treasury, each containing over 300 chromo pictures, and numerous tales in prose and verse.

A Christmas Kiss, the Christmas part of the Little One's Own Coloured Picture Paper, containing 16 full pages of chromo pictures, with over 40 pages of illustrated letterpress by Irving Montagu and others; and a large coloured presentation plate.

To the Chorister Series are added four new volumes: (1) The Adventures of a Dear Old Doggie, (2) Grandpapa's Christmas Box, (3) Full of Wonders and Pictures, (4) Barbara's Stocking.

Four panoramic toy books, opening out to 8 feet, 6 inches in length, viz.: The Imperial Panorama Entertainment, Panorama of Wild Animals, Visit to the Farmyard, Grand Circus Panorama.

Two new panoramic toy books, each 12½ feet long, from drawings by Harry Payne, Naval Panorama, Military Panorama.

Two new movable picture books, Funny Pictures, Playmates.

Two new books in Dean's Gold Medal Series, Visit to the Zoo, The Circus.

Object Pictures and Thought Telling, by Walter Stranders, with Kindergarten lessons by Madame Toselli.

Messrs. David Bryce & Son, Glasgow.

Books suitable as gifts for birthday, New-Year, or other remembrances; gilt bevelled edge cardboard binding with gilt lettering on side, in neat white cardboard box. Wrapper 'With best wishes.' Goldsmith's 'The Deserted Village,' Goldsmith's 'The Traveller.' Hood's poems, serious and comic, a choice selection from his works. Moore's Irish Melodies and Songs, a choice selection from his works. Macaulay's 'Lays of Ancient Rome.' The Pocket Text-Book. The Pocket Birthday Text-Book.

Our Children: How to Keep them Well, and Treat them when they are Ill: a Guide to Mothers, by Robert Bell, M.D., crown 8vo.

Woman in Health and Sickness, by Robert Bell, M.D., crown 8vo.

Mr. Murray.

The Principal Public Speeches and Addresses of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales during 25 years—1863–88, edited by Dr. Macaulay, author of 'Victoria R. I., her Life and Reign,' with portrait, 8vo.

Notes of Conversations of the Duke of Wellington with Philip Henry, fifth Earl Stanhope, 1831–51, crown 8vo.

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The Invisible Powers of Nature, some Elementary Lessons in Physical Science for Young Beginners, by E. M. Caillard, post 8vo.

The Land of Manfred, Prince of Tarentum and King of Sicily, Picturesque Excursions in Apulia and other little visited parts of Southern Italy, with special reference to their historical associations, by Janet Ross (*née* Duff Gordon), author of 'Three Generations of Englishwomen,' with map and illustrations, crown 8vo.

A Selection from the Scientific Papers of the late Sir William Siemens, F.R.S., with illustrations, 3 vols. 8vo.

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Mr. Murray—continued.

English Fans and Fan Leaves, in the collection of Lady Charlotte Schreiber, 150 illustrations, folio.

Life of Alexander Pope, by W. J. Courthope, M.A., forming the completing volume of the Works of Pope, by Croker, Elwin, and Courthope, with copious index to the whole work, 8vo.

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A Dictionary of Hymnology, setting forth the origin and history of the Christian hymns of all ages and nations, with special reference to those contained in the hymn books of English-speaking countries, and now in common use, edited by John Julian, M.A., Vicar of Wincobank, Sheffield, 1 vol. medium 8vo.

London; Its Historical Associations, Antiquarian and Modern, originally compiled by the late Peter Cunningham, F.S.A., a library edition, by James Thorne and H. B. Wheatley, F.S.A., 3 vols. medium 8vo.

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A Portable Handbook to the English Cathedrals, with a Concise Description of each, with plans and illustrations, 1 vol. crown 8vo.

'LORD BACON.'

To the Editor of the PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR.

SIR,—I trust to your fairness for an opportunity of reply to your reviewer, who objects to my calling the great philosopher 'Lord Bacon.' I maintain that I am right.

The case is not before a court of British law, but before the world-wide tribunal of letters.

The works of the philosopher are published with the title the 'Works of Lord Bacon'; in catalogues of literature they appear as the 'Works of Lord Bacon.' Our great English writers concern themselves little about Verulam and St. Albans. Pope writes 'Lord Bacon'; so does Hume ('Hist. England'); so does Mr. Burke (Speech on the Impeachment of Warren Hastings); so do others without number. Macaulay entitles his Essay 'Lord Bacon,' and writes thus: 'Posterity has felt that the greatest of English philosophers could derive no accession of dignity from any title which James could bestow, and, in defiance of the royal letters patent, has obstinately refused to degrade Francis Bacon into Viscount St. Albans.'

I adhere to the obstinacy of posterity.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A. NICHOLSON.

Leamington: October 17, 1888.

[Our reverend correspondent may be excused for 'adhering to the obstinacy of posterity.' The reviewer merely drew attention to a common error. Bacon himself begins one of his introductions thus: 'Francis of Verulam's GREAT INSTAURATION.' Surely the words of 'Francis of Verulam' should be listened to.—ED. *P.C.*]

BOOKSELLERS' CATALOGUES.

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M. PAUL FONTAINE, Passage des Panoramas, Paris.—Monthly catalogue of old and new books. These lists quietly show the superior care in description which our French neighbours bestow on their books; which, of course, implies an expenditure of time and space that might be grudged in England.

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Messrs. GEORGE & SONS, Park Street, Bristol.—'Selected books'; theology, &c., in groups, according to their nature.

Mr. W. Glaisher, 265 High Holborn.—Supplementary list of remainders, including many illustrated books and 'juveniles,' railway novels and toy books; also a November supplement, partially classed, which has the convenience of an index. Attaching the names of the various publishers makes these catalogues additionally interesting and useful to booksellers.

Mr. Charles Golding, Colchester.—Old broadsides, ballads, newspapers, songs, &c., and books on Kent, Norfolk, Suffolk, &c.

Mr. John Grant, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh.—'Superior second-hand books,' autographs, manuscripts, and some remainders.

Messrs. George P. Johnston, Edinburgh.—'Curious, old and rare books,' with portraits of Mary Queen of Scots, Shakspeariana, &c.

Mr. Leo Liepmannsohn, Charlottenstrasse, Berlin.—German language and literature, a catalogue of 93 pages. Its scope may be inferred from the fact that the Goethe articles occupy more than nine pages, and the notes are a contribution to the history of Goethe literature.

Mr. C. Lowe, New Street, Birmingham.—'Curious and out-of-the-way books,' and various 'Catalogues of books.'

Mr. Georg Nauck, Berlin.—Philology and literary history; and books in the French, Italian, Spanish, English, Northern, Slavonic, and various languages. German language and literature, a separate catalogue.

Messrs. E. A. Petherick & Co.—The *Torch*, September 29, containing Bibliography of Australasia; lists of English and American publications, classified, with notes and contents of collections; titles of recent colonial publications and books relating to the colonies; also of English and American magazines.

Messrs. Reeves & Turner, 196 Strand.—Second-hand books, remainders, books on dialects, books on the Domesday Book; also an enumeration of Messrs. Reeves & Turner's own publications. We have also received Messrs. Reeves & Turner's catalogue of miscellaneous second-hand books, dated Oct. 13, which quotes, *inter alia*, long sets at unusually reduced prices.

Mr. E. Sausset, Boulevard Saint-Martin, Paris.—Catalogue trimestriel; the books carefully described, with bibliographical notes.

Mr. J. Scheible, Buchhandlung in Stuttgart.—Copperplates, costume; French comic and satiric literature, three catalogues; the famous *Das Kloster*, a detailed prospectus, with reduced prices; miscellanea; military, riding; music, drama, the ballet; Russia, Poland, &c.; prints; twelve catalogues in all, elegantly and effectively printed.

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MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

The **Magazine of Art** (Cassell & Co.) well maintains its high reputation, both for the beauty and exquisite finish of its engravings, and the interesting and appropriate nature of the contents. The principal plate in this month's number is an etching by Gery-Richard from J. L. E. Meissonier's well-known picture 'The Painter.' Among the articles are 'Alfred Gilbert, A.R.A.,' by W. Cosmo Monkhouse (with four typical illustrations of the sculptor's skill); 'Realism *versus* Sloppiness,' a characteristically outspoken contribution from W. P. Frith, R.A.; 'The Liverpool Corporation Collection: the Walker Art Gallery,' by E. Rimbault Dibdin (with examples of John Philip, R.A., J. C. Dolman, R.I., Sir J. E. Millais, Bart., R.A., Phil R. Morris, A.R.A., and Solomon J. Solomon); 'The Portraits of Dante Gabriel Rossetti—I.,' by William M. Rossetti; and 'Old Arts and Modern Thoughts,' by J. E. Hodgson, R.A., illustrated by the author. Mr. Lewis F. Day at an opportune moment discourses of the 'Insignia of Mayoralty.' This number of the *Magazine of Art* forms the first of a new volume, and is highly promising of the wealth of art material that may be disclosed to the reader in future issues.

Other magazines published by Messrs. Cassell & Co. that with the October number enter upon a new year of their career are the **Quiver**, varied in its contents as ever, and extensively illustrated; **Cassell's Family Magazine**, a perfect compendium of everything that appertains to useful knowledge, with a fair proportion of entertaining literature as well; and the **Woman's World**, now enlarged, and, with its increase in size, exhibiting fresh attractions of illustration and literary fare. **Little Folks**, deservedly ever popular with youthful minds, by reason of its attractive illustrations and excellently selected articles, pursues the successful tenour of its way; while that admirable publication the **Encyclopædic Dictionary**, which embraces all the words in the English language, and gives a full account of their origin, meaning, pronunciation, history, and use, has now been brought down as far as *pre*.

In **Cornhill** (Smith, Elder & Co.) the concluding portion is given of 'A Coach Drive at the Lakes,' and further 'Notes by a Naturalist' are included. 'Not understanded of the People' furnishes some curious instances of the way in which the Book of Common Prayer is distorted in its meaning by the poorer classes. 'Chaloner's Best Man' is a bright little story, handled with considerable dexterity and suggestive skill. Additional instalments of the serials 'French Janet' and Mr. George Gissing's interesting story 'A Life's Morning' make up a number that is quite up to the average of this popular magazine.

The **English Illustrated** (Macmillan & Co.) presents a very fascinating series of contents, but the illustrations scarcely seem up to the usual standard of this entertaining magazine. The articles that will principally attract notice are 'Chiswick House,' by Elizabeth Balch, and 'Charles Dickens in Southwark,' by J. Ashby-Sterry. Both are subjects around which a very host of pleasant reminiscences lie. The *English Illustrated* just now is particularly strong in fiction, the leading serial being from the graphic pen of Mr. Marion Crawford, while 'The House of the Wolf,' by Stanley J. Weyman, so far as it has gone, promises to be a story of more than ordinary interest. The frontispiece to the number is an engraving by O. Lacour of Sir Joshua Reynolds's picture of the Duchess of Devonshire at Chiswick House.

The articles in **Time** (Swan Sonnenschein & Co.) are well selected, varied in character, and smartly written In the series of papers entitled 'Work and Workers' the Rev. Harry Jones treats of 'Church Changes and Church Workers' in a way that will carry conviction to many minds. Consideration of the drama has its place in L. F. Austin's vigorous reply to Mr. George Moore's strictures on 'Mummer Worship,' and the article of W. G. Elliot on 'The American Stage of To-day.' Mr. Henry Pottinger Stephens contributes a poem entitled 'Words and Music.' The remaining contents are interesting, but an especial word of commendation may be given to 'The Novelists of the Restoration,' by W. H. Hudson. 'Kophetua the Thirteenth,' the serial story by Julian Corbett, is a very effective piece of work.

The **Century** (Mr. T. Fisher Unwin) opens with a peculiarly interesting article on 'The Guilds of the City of London,' from the pen of Norman Moore, who has been pictorially assisted by Joseph Pennell. Some unpublished letters of Lord Nelson to Sir Thomas Troubridge are given in this number, and among the many readable papers we may mention 'Political Exiles and Common Convicts at Tomsk,' by George Kennan; 'Cole and His Work,' by W. J. Stillman; 'The New Reformation,' by Lyman Abbott; 'Where was the "Place called Calvary"?' by Charles S. Robinson, D.D.; 'Gravelotte Witnessed and Revisited,' by Murat Halstead; and an article in President Lincoln's history entitled 'Jackson's Valley Campaign—The Seven Days' Battles,' by John G. Nicolay and John Hay. Fiction is forcibly represented by a complete story, 'Mistaken Premises,' by Julia Schayer, and the opening chapters of a new serial, 'The Romance of Dollard,' contributed by Mary Hartwell Catherwood. In addition, George W. Cable, whose name is chiefly identified in the minds of readers with pictures of Creole life, writes after his own interesting fashion of 'Strange True Stories of Louisiana.' Several verses of more than ordinary merit are included in the number, which is profusely illustrated throughout; and as this is the first of a new volume an excellent opportunity is afforded to readers to become supporters of this popular magazine.

Household Words (Charles Dickens & Evans) as usual is principally remarkable for its powerful array of fiction, there being no fewer than eight complete stories in the number and a serial of much character and intensity. But in addition to the fiction there is a mine of useful information to be explored in this magazine—stray bits on natural history, household gardening, cookery, health matters, fashions, and the like, not to mention the many interesting articles on topics of general and curious import. Nor should we omit to allude to the Editor's 'Note-book on Current Topics,' wherein with gravity and judicious impartiality he passes comment on subjects of the time.

Harper's Magazine (Sampson Low & Co.) has a charming array of contents, exquisitely illustrated and produced with great care. Among the articles of more than ordinary attraction are 'The Lower St. Lawrence,' by C. H. Farnham; 'A Museum of the History of Paris,' by Theodore Child; 'Elk-Hunting in the Rocky Mountains,' by G. O. Shields; 'The New Orleans Bench and Bar in 1823,' by Charles Gayarré; 'Invalidism as a Fine Art,' by A. B. Ward; 'The New York Real Estate Exchange,' by Richard Wheatley, and a continuation of 'Our Journey to the Hebrides,' by Elizabeth Robins Pennell. William Black's charming novel 'In Far Lochaber' (of which a notice will be found in another column), and William Dean Howells' serial fiction, 'Annie Kilburn,' are now brought to a conclusion. Constance Fennimore Woolson contributes a short story of agreeable interest entitled 'A Pink Villa'; while with this, one or two poems, the usual editorial papers, and several articles of minor importance, a number of more than average interest is made up. The frontispiece consists of a drawing by Edwin A. Abbey, designed after the characteristic ability of that talented artist.

Reviews, &c.

From **Messrs. W. H. Allen & Co.**—'Kaye's and Malleson's History of the Indian Mutiny of 1857-8.' Edited by Colonel Malleson, C.S.I. The first volume of this new edition, wherein the work of two writers is so judiciously linked together as to form one continuous whole, has now appeared. This is by Sir John Kaye, whose second volume will also be included in the work; but for the third Colonel Malleson's first volume will be substituted, the whole history, with an index, being comprised in six volumes. The chief reason for the substitution is that Kaye's third volume would not fit in with Malleson's second volume, as it concludes with the storming of Delhi, which forms the first chapter of Malleson's second volume, whilst it omits the relief of Lakhnao, the account of which concludes Malleson's first volume. The only change made in Sir John Kaye's narrative is the alteration in spelling of Indian proper names, these being adapted to the present tone of thought on the subject. In all other respects the account remains precisely as written. We anticipate for this neatly bound and excellently printed cabinet edition a well-assured success, and when completed it should present to the owners of libraries an admirable form in which to possess a work that, dealing with an important event in history, could scarcely be excelled for its interest and information.

From **Messrs. Samuel Bagster & Co., Limited.** A new edition of the 'Scripture Treasury' is welcome at a moderate price. In typography and general appearance it shows all the good qualities which might be expected in the publications of this old and familiar house.

From **Messrs. Richard Bentley & Son.**—'John Francis and the *Athenæum*,' by John C. Francis. This literary chronicle of half a century must

at once, or in course of a short time, take a place as a permanent work of reference. It is undisturbed by the expression of opinion, or the narrow gossip of Society, and stands on its merits as a trustworthy chronicle of fifty years' development of literature, art, science, music, and the drama. The author's work has the fascination springing from a dutiful and affectionate regard to his father's memory, John Francis having been publisher of the *Athenæum* for fifty years. The history of that great critical journal is well described in the pages of these volumes, but for ordinary readers the charm of the book is to be found in its *extra-mural* information. Many will be thankful for so concise a compendium of the events in the world of letters, art, and science during the period referred to.

From **Messrs. Gilbert & Rivington.**—'Victoria Colonna,' by the Hon. Alethea Lawley. The life of this wonderful woman of the Reformation has often been presented to English readers, but never in a more attractive form. Born in 1490, she saw the fierce and unholy strifes waged by popes, kings, and sovereign princes for temporal and spiritual power. She saw the birth and progress of the Reformation, and from her lofty position as scion of the mighty Colonna, and wife of the brilliant Pescara, she was brought into the hottest part of the conflict between Papacy and Protestantism. Her cultivated mind favoured the *via media*, and she rendered that party powerful support. She will also be remembered as the poetess of the period, as well as the close friend of Michelangelo.

From **Messrs. Hurst & Blackett.**—'The Track of the Storm,' by Dora Russell. Readers of fiction are pretty well accustomed to the wayward actions of luckless heroines; but even the most experienced, we venture to think, will regard with astonishment the indiscretions of Miss Lucy King, daughter of a somewhat improvident clergyman in the north of England. This young lady, having learnt of the death of her lover, Jack Munsters, during a storm at sea, is persuaded, under the plea of helping her parents, into marrying a man very much older than herself, and for whom she has no real attachment. This is a state of affairs that very frequently happens in fiction, and we are now quite prepared for the reappearance of the supposed dead lover, with all the interesting complications that must necessarily ensue. But for so bold and imprudent a step as the separation of Lady Harley, *née* King, from her husband and her secret departure to Hampstead, where she holds frequent meetings with her old lover, and finally, on his being wounded by a jealous rival, receives him into the same house, we were scarcely prepared, nor do we think very much of Mr. Jack Munsters' conduct in thus exposing his love to the chance of adverse criticism. Perhaps it would have been as well if Lady Harley had paid more attention to the counsel of her aunt, Mrs. Cranley Forbes, worldly-wise and objectionable in many ways as that lady was. For the rest, 'The Track of the Storm,' if not a story of remarkable character or intensity, has the merit of pleasantly interesting the reader, without raising any turbulent passions; and in many respects it appeals to poor humanity with no slight force.

From **Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited,** Shanghai (London: Sampson Low & Co., Limited).—'Chinese Account of the Opium War,' by E. H. Parker. This neat, well-printed little volume forms No. 1 of the Pagoda Library. The subject of which it treats is exceptionally interesting. In its main lines the story is practically a translation of the last two chapters of the 'Shêng Wu-hi,' or 'Military Operations of the Present Dynasty,' but for the benefit of European readers the dates have in some instances been altered, while the wearisome portions have either been entirely omitted or cleverly summarised. The author very truly remarks on the powerful testimony afforded by the story to the marvellous faithfulness with which the Chinese endeavour to perfect their histories; and from this point of view alone, as well as for other reasons, Mr. Parker's work is deeply attractive.

From **Messrs. Sampson Low & Co., Limited.**—'The Tyranny of Mormonism,' by Fanny Stenhouse. This, the autobiography of the wife of a Mormon missionary and elder who for many years lived in Utah, is keenly attractive as furnishing a closer scrutiny into the inner life of the community than we previously possessed. The story Mrs. Stenhouse tells gains force and graphic power from its very realism. Her account of the sad pilgrimage to Zion, with the many bitter disappointments and sad revelations—dimly foreshadowed, but scarcely realised before—that awaited her there, is told with almost painful intensity. The volume contains several illustrations.

From the same.—'The Walks Abroad of Two Young Naturalists,' translated from the French of Charles Beaugrand, by David Sharp, M.B., F.L.S., F.Z.S. In this volume, which has attained wide success in the land of its birth, an attempt is made to combine the more popular facts of natural history with some amount of human character study. In this way it is hoped to initiate an interest in zoology which shall eventually lead the reader to consult the more weighty and scientific works. From this point of view the book is worthy of very high commendation. The style is readable and light, without being in the slightest degree flippant; and the information is deftly and unobtrusively interwoven with the narrative. The volume contains upwards of one hundred beautiful illustrations, which serve very effectively to bring out the meaning of the text. As a gift-book it should be particularly worthy of attention; and we can well imagine the happy faces of the young lads into whose hands it should chance to fall. Dr. Sharp's labour as translator has been performed with excellent choice of language and a thorough appreciation of the original.

From the same.—'Science and Geology in relation to the Universal Deluge,' by the Rev. W. B. Galloway, M.A. The author of this work presents much valuable and instructive information in favour of the belief in the Universal Deluge as opposed to the opinions of some modern geologists who are inclined to substitute what is known as the Glacial Theory. Mr. Galloway reasons out his subject with conspicuous clearness and ability, and though many readers may not agree with his deductions, the majority will certainly be impressed by the deep thought and extensive reading the volume displays. Where necessary a number of descriptive diagrams are included.

From the same.—'The Dramatic Year (1887–88),' edited by Edward Fuller. The principal contents of this volume relate to plays produced on the American stage, of which many comprehensive and admirably written notices are given, but in order to impart special interest to it on this side of the Atlantic, Mr. William Archer contributes a judicious and accurate *résumé* of 'The Season in London.' It is particularly instructive to contrast the American expression of opinion, in the case of several well-known actors and plays, with the views entertained by the English critics. As instances of this we may note Mr. Irving's portrayal of several characters, and the respective impersonations of Mr. Richard Mansfield and Mr. Bandmann in 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.' The contributors, in addition to Mr. Archer and the Editor, are Mr. H. M. Ticknor, Mr. G. E. Montgomery, Mr. C. T. Copeland, Mr. J. Ranken Towse, and Mr. Lyman H. Weeks.

From **Messrs. Macmillan & Co.**—The second volume of the neatly bound edition of Charles Kingsley's works that these publishers are now issuing consists of 'Hypatia,' which, in many people's opinion, is equal to any of the deceased novelist's creations. The printers are Messrs. R. & R. Clark, of Edinburgh, who have turned out their work with a high degree of typographical excellence.

From **Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.**—'On the Senses, Instincts, and Intelligence of Animals, with special reference to Insects,' by Sir John Lubbock, Bart. This, the latest volume of the 'International Scientific Series,' can fairly be said to be unsurpassed in interest by any of its predecessors. Though the author has here gone out of his ordinary path, and it may even gently be hinted has strayed into others with which he is scarcely so well acquainted, the ability and steadfast purpose he has brought to bear upon his work have smoothed away difficulties that to a writer of less exact energy would have appeared insurmountable. Sir John Lubbock very frankly acknowledges that his description of 'the mechanism of the senses, and the organs by means of which sensations are transmitted,' has been derived from a close study of various works and memoirs bearing on this subject, and it is partly with the intention of saving others interested in the matter the labour of searching out the same information that he has written a portion of this book. Coming to his own observation of animals, the author is on familiar ground, and the result of his inquiries will ever be welcome. We pay him no slight compliment when we say that chapters of this volume are as interesting from the naturalist's point of view as anything he has ever written, and the entire volume will enhance the popularity of a series which has already gained a wide reputation for the accuracy and originality of its work. Over a hundred illustrations are included in the text, and afford clearness and realistic force to its meaning.

From **Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons.**—In the delightful series of 'Knickerbocker Nuggets,' so elegantly 'got up' and so beautifully bound, the first volume of the 'Essays of Elia' has been issued. The refined genius of Lamb seems peculiarly appropriate to so dainty a production, and in their new setting we can confidently recommend the 'Essays' to all admirers of the deceased author.

From **Mr. William Reeves.**—'The Book of Erin,' by J[illegible]n Davidson. A useful book in many respects. It opens with 'Primitive Ireland,' travels on step by step, until we are brought up to our own times. A copious list of authorities is given, while in an appendix we have a list of 'Original Planters,' followed by (in Appendix C) 'The Coercion Acts of the Century,' numbering 78, and in another appendix we get the cost of coercion. The author, however, makes a curious mistake. He says in a note, 'N.B.—For contents, &c., see end of book,' whereas they are placed at the beginning. The book is addressed to the democracy of the United Kingdom, but though it is excellently arranged, and full of useful information, it will scarcely recommend itself to them by reason of its being marred with numerous doggerel rhymes.

From **Messrs. Walter Smith & Innes.**—'Pen,' by the author of 'Tip Cat.' This is a pleasantly woven story, in which an agreeable unaffected style does much to cloak over the shortcomings of a well-worn plot. Many of the characters are excellently drawn, and the author, by her delicate perception of the more touching phases of life, has rendered all interesting. The story closes amid an absorbing amount of misunderstanding, but luckily this is all cleared away, and Pen is left, as she should be, perfectly contented and happy.

From **Mr. Elliot Stock.**—'The Dramatic Works of Edwin Atherstone,' edited by his daughter, Mary Elizabeth Atherstone. These consist of 'Pelopidas; or, The Deliverance of Thebes,' a play in five acts; 'Philip,' a tragedy in five acts; and 'A Farci-Comedy,' also in five acts. Miss Atherstone naïvely tells us that these works were offered to many managers, who unanimously returned them; some of the rejecting managers, however, had the courtesy to send letters commending them. The editress may console herself with the undoubted fact that a manager's refusal of a piece does not necessarily stamp it as worthless. Undiscerning managers have often, afterwards to their sorrow, sent back plays which ultimately have produced colossal fortunes.

From **Messrs. Marcus Ward & Co.**—'Garry's Elocutionist: Selections in Prose and Verse adapted for Recitation and Reading,' edited by Rupert Garry. The author, with the insight that comes to him from long experience in the teaching of the elocutionary art, has made his selections with great care, and his little work should undoubtedly prove useful to those who purpose giving recitations. In a short introduction Mr. Garry considers some of the leading features of his subject.

From **Messrs. Ward, Lock & Co.**—'The Illustrated History of England, from the Earliest Times to the year 1887,' edited by H. W. Dulcken, Ph.D. Occupying a handsome volume of over one thousand pages, and profusely illustrated with varied woodcuts, descriptive of the different people, places, and events that are alluded to, this is a record that should justly take a high place among the popular chronicles of our time. In addition to the 'History of England,' an excellent summary is given of the history of the nations of Europe, arranged in divisions corresponding with the periods of English history. Much attention has evidently been devoted to the work, which is in many respects worthy of high commendation.

Index to the Books published between October 16 and 31.

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

Act, *Local* Government, 1d.
Actors, Our Recent, *Marston* (Westland) 2 vols. 21s.
Adam Dickson, *Mason* (Thomas) 3s. 6d.
Adventures of a Three-Guinea Watch, *Reed*, new edit. 3s. 6d.
Alchymistical Philosophers. *Waite*, Lives, 10s. 6d.
Algebraic Factors, *Knight* (W. T.) 2s.
Alina Ryan, *Mason* (Charlotte) 3s. 6d.
Allen, J., Vicar of Prees, 12s. 6d.
All on a Summer's Day, a Tale, *Davies* (Mrs.) 2s. 6d.
All the Fun of the Fair, *Rainey* (W.) 1s.
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