

ESTD.

1837

PRICE THREEPENCE

JANUARY 15, 1889



No. 1,232, VOL. 52

THE
Publishers' **C**ircular
AND

GENERAL RECORD

OF

BRITISH AND FOREIGN LITERATURE

Issued on the 1st and 15th of each Month

EDUCATIONAL NUMBER

LONDON

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ST. DUNSTON'S HOUSE, FETTER LANE, FLEET STREET, E.C.

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ST. DUNSTAN'S HOUSE, E.C.

January 15, 1889.

OUR first number for the New Year has for a considerable time been devoted to the books which are offered to the public for educational purposes. The educational publishing lists contained in these pages specially twice a year show the wonderful extent of the system as it is compared with what it was under former conditions. An instance of book multiplication may be gathered from the useful Classified Catalogue of Educational Works, published about a year ago. The compiler of that work compares the statistics of books in use in the United Kingdom and its dependencies. About sixteen years ago when the first edition of the catalogue was published the contents embraced about eight or nine thousand books. That was about the time when national elementary education was getting its first fair start. Five years later the second edition of the same work contained the titles of some fifteen thousand books; while the latest edition published, as we said, about a year ago contains no fewer than twenty-five thousand names. Possibly fifteen hundred titles of new books and new editions have been added since then.

Statistics such as we quote tell their own story. Even allowing for natural discrepancies, which in such circumstances must underestimate rather than over-estimate the actual facts, we are confronted by a remarkable instance of the growing educational power of the nation. We have before stated that all this work of catering for the wants of the public is the result of private enterprise in the publishing world, stimulated by open and healthy competition. For this reason publishers deserve more thanks than they get. It is a good sign, however, that they continue to understand and even anticipate what the education of their countrymen demands.

—♦—
'An English Author' who wrote to the Editor of the *Times*, and whose letter appeared

in that journal on the 15th inst., on the subject of Anglo-American copyright, must have failed to notice the progress of events in that particular channel. He comes upon us like a veritable Rip van Winkle. Only now has he discovered that many of the men in Congress assembled speak of copyright as a 'tax on knowledge'; only now has he realised the import of the fact that 'American authors are being ruined by our unwilling competition'; only now does he anticipate the effects of the 'printing clause' in the Chace-Breckinridge International Copyright Bill! It would have been better had this 'English Author' kept his pen dry. The progress of copyright matters is being watched by keen eyes that are more accustomed to business matters—and copyright is in a large degree business—than are the eyes of authors generally. Authors should write less to the newspapers on this subject. They should confine their efforts to the support of the Copyright Association, a sufficiently influential and diplomatic body to look after the interests of all concerned.

These words appropriately introduce a recent American opinion on the present state of affairs. The *Nation* (N. Y.) says:—'The American Copyright League is about to make an effort to have the Chace-Breckinridge International Copyright Bill taken up again in the present session of Congress. It has issued a deadly parallel, showing who are the principal supporters and who the principal opponents of the bill. The showing is rather a poor one for the latter. We have before us an anonymous circular, probably issued by some one of the parties of the second part in the parallel, dated December 4, containing a characteristic appeal to the working printers against the bill. We do not know where to look for such direct incitements to dishonesty as are to be found in documents of this character. In our day, incitements to theft or fraud are all given orally, except among the opponents of international copyright. They now monopolise the

discredit of issuing printed arguments in support of the doctrine that dishonesty is the best policy. The paper before us shows how much money working printers make, and how much American readers save, by robbing foreign authors. Almost every word of it, however, could be used in support of a well-conceived plan for swindling clothiers, supposing there were no legal penalty for such an offence. That is, the clothiers are a small body, while the wearers of the clothing are an immense body. Men must have clothing, they cannot go naked; and the practice of charging money for clothes puts an impediment in the way of the satisfaction of an absolutely necessary and most salutary want on the part of people of small means. One of the funniest parts of the circular is that which pleads against depriving the foreign author of the "popularity" he now enjoys through the cheapness of his printed books. If he were paid for his copyright, says the pamphleteer, fewer of his books would be read, and then where would be his "popularity"? This argument might also be turned against the clothier. A clothier who got nothing for his goods would, if he stayed in the business, soon be the most popular man in the United States. The practice of paying for them necessarily limits the extent to which he is known and admired, and exposes him to the charge of selfishness.

We have taken the liberty of quoting in *extenso* the most interesting article on the 'Mystery of the Christmas Book,' which Mr. O. B. Bunce contributed lately to the *New York Critic*. Publishers will find much to interest them in this contribution. A long time has passed since the leading producers in this country gave up the general practice of issuing elaborate books at the season of the year when the appearing of such books was considered appropriate. English publishers now devote their Christmas aspirations wholly to 'juvenile' books, for the habit of seasonable gifts is here confined mostly to the nursery, the school, and the 'lasses and lads.'

It is different in America, where presents are looked for among all ages, conditions, and classes. But big volumes seem to be failing even there. Sumptuous volumes are now rarely produced in this country purely as gift-books. Generally speaking, their preparation has been a labour of love unattached to season or opportunity. Some old classic sometimes animates the veneration of an admirer, who hastens to give the public his favourite work in the finest garb that modern talent can devise.

The result in such cases is pleasing, as a rule, and will always command respect, but there can be little doubt that the elaborate original Christmas gift-book, with all its wealth of art if not of imagery, has gone the way of the 'Keepsake' and the 'Book of Beauty.'

THE PATENT SYSTEMS OF THE WORLD.—Under the title of 'The True Position of Patentees,' Mr. Henry Moy Thomas has contrived to explain within the limits of a shilling book the patent laws and regulations of Great Britain and her colonies and possessions as well of all other countries which are sufficiently civilised to afford protection to inventors. The leading idea of the treatise is that of showing the combined effect of home, colonial, and foreign regulations from the point of view of the interests of British inventors. The little book is published by Messrs. Simpkin & Marshall, and Messrs. Ayrton & Thomas, of 59 and 60 Chancery Lane.

THE CLERGY LIST.—This important annual will in future be published by Hamilton, Adams & Co.

AN ENGLISH LIBRARY IN VIENNA.—The *Vienna Weekly News* recently contained the following remarks from 'A Grumbling Briton': 'I have lately come from St. Moritz, where, being a man of literary habits, I passed many a desultory hour in the perusal of the English books in the English library there. I have found libraries of a similar kind to exist at other fashionable continental resorts besides St. Moritz, and they were everywhere much appreciated both by the English and American travellers and residents. I was not a little surprised, on asking my way to the English Library or English Reading-room at Vienna, to be told that no institution of the kind existed here. The hotel porter had not the remotest idea where I could find any of the well-known English and American monthly publications, which elsewhere are considered indispensable to the happiness of the reading world, and went so far as to suggest that I should order them at a neighbouring bookseller's. It so happens I am interested in seventeen monthlies, British and Transatlantic, and the idea of postponing my departure from Vienna till the new cargo arrives is not without its shady and not without its humorous side.'

DR. GEFFCKEN.—Dr. Geffcken, whose name has of late been so prominently before the public in connection with the publication in the *Deutsche Rundschau* of the late Emperor Frederick's Diary, first saw the light one day in December, 1830. A scion of an old family of Hamburg merchant princes, Dr. Geffcken entered the diplomatic service in 1854, and became Secretary of Legation at Paris for the Hanseatic League, which came to an end last year with the absorption of the last remaining independent Hanse Town of Hamburg into the new German Empire. In 1856 Dr. Geffcken was appointed Chargé d'Affaires at Berlin, and three years later he became Resident Minister at the Prussian Court, where he remained

until the establishment of the North German Confederation. Foreseeing the turn affairs were about to take, he applied for some other diplomatic post, and was sent to London, where his house became a centre of attraction. After the Franco-German war the whilom free City of Hamburg lost its independence, and Dr. Geffcken his diplomatic appointment. Returning to his native city he soon became Syndic of the Senate. He had now plenty of leisure time, which he employed to useful purpose in writing numerous pamphlets on questions of international law. These gained for him the appointment of Professor of International Law at the University of Strasburg; but the state of his health obliged him to resign his professorship in 1881. Since that date Dr. Geffcken has led a retired life at Hamburg, occupying his time in writing books and articles in English, French, and German, for he is equally master of all three languages. Although certain papers of the so-called Reptile Press have tried to brand Dr. Geffcken as a traitor to his country and an incendiary in politics, he is nothing of the kind, his leanings being towards the Conservative rather than to the Radical school of politicians. But he is not a servile follower of the Imperial Chancellor. On the contrary, he always opposed Prince Bismarck's drastic treatment of the Church and State question. The *Athenæum* states that a new work by Dr. Geffcken will shortly be published by Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, Searle & Rivington, Limited.

DICTIONARY OF NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY.*

The present volume of Mr. Leslie Stephen's Dictionary extends from Edward, called the Elder (d. 924), to William Erskine, friend of Sir Walter Scott (1769-1822). As regards the great names represented it is a very fair average volume. The editor himself contributes nothing of special moment to the book, the reason being that the great names aforesaid are for the most part those of history and not of literature. Thus we have all the Edwards that were kings, and all the Elizabeths that were queens. The Edwards are for the most part the work of that sound and acute specialist in English history, the Rev. William Hunt. The lives of the first and the third Edward are specially good. After reading them, one is tempted to ask, What more could one learn from the most extended history? We certainly think, however, that Mr. Hunt, as well as a good many other writers, somewhat overdoes the practice of interspersing his narrative with authorities. Here is a passage taken quite at random from Edward I. (at p. 27):—"In the same month the king and his privy council ordered that all Jews should be banished from the kingdom. In making this decree Edward was influenced by "economical as well as religious" motives ("Const. Hist." ii. 123); it was highly popular, and in return he received grants from the clergy and laity

(Hemingburgh, ii. 22). Earlier in the month he celebrated the marriage of his daughter Margaret to John of Brabant with great magnificence. While he was holding the autumn parliament at Clipstone in Sherwood Forest, the queen lay sick at Hardeby, or Harby, in Nottinghamshire ("English Historical Review" 1888, x. 315). He remained in the immediate neighbourhood until 20 Nov., and then went to her, and was present at her death on the 28th ("Archæologia," xxix. 169). He felt her death very deeply, and is said to have mourned for her all the rest of his life ("Opus Chron.," p. 50), and so on. Now, none of the statements here made are specially remarkable, and if it be necessary to support them by authorities it must be necessary to support every statement in the article by an authority, which is very nearly a *reductio ad absurdum* of the system. We think that only specially noteworthy and remarkable statements should be so distinguished. To do otherwise is to make the page difficult to read, and to encumber it with a mass of useless verbiage. To turn to the Elizabeths. Here the most noteworthy article is that on the Virgin Queen, by Dr. Jessopp. This is the best article in the volume. It is full and accurate; its columns are free from those too frequent brackets which disfigure so many of the other articles; it is admirably written, and is full of life and human interest. The account of the Armada is sufficient to show that comparative brevity of treatment need not rob a subject of interest. The last two columns of summing up are a real acquisition to our knowledge of Elizabeth; they are much more worthy of careful attention than the brilliant series of paradoxes which, as if to perplex the student, are set forth as the character of Elizabeth in Green's history. The 'Erskines,' Earls of Mar, are contributed by Mr. T. F. Henderson, who also writes a number of the other Scotch lives. Without exception his articles are very well done. Another writer on Scotch subjects is the Rev. Alexander Gordon; he contributes a very admirable article on Ebenezer Erskine (1680-1754), in which he takes what seems to us a very good measure of that divine's merits and defects.

We notice that the number of contributors to this volume is 68, which is rather less than usual. We imagine the whole number of present working contributors is about 100. They are a very carefully picked little army of research, and it is not the least of the editor's merits that he has known how to select and keep them together.

TWO SHAKSPEAREAN STUDIES.

The production of *Macbeth* at the Lyceum, and the excitement engendered by comparatively new readings of the principal parts, has produced from a well-known and scholarly author* a treatise as to what Shakspeare meant when he wrote his drama, and what different and highly contrasted forms of character he intended to display. For ourselves, we are

* *The Dictionary of National Biography*. Edited by Leslie Stephen. Vol. xvii. London: Smith, Elder & Co.

* *Macbeth and Lady Macbeth: an Essay*. By J. Comyns Carr. (London: Bickers & Son.)

inclined to think that subtle intentions are often attributed to writers and playwrights of which their minds at the time of conception were totally innocent, and that Shakspeare, when he wrote his weirdsome tragedy, was chiefly concerned in producing a dramatic piece of work, with strongly marked contrasts and vivid, darkling effects. According to Mr. Comyns Carr, however, we now learn that it was the poet's desire to present us with a finely conceived picture of sexual contrast, Lady Macbeth and her husband being placed in such a position as would best exhibit the respective characteristics of their sex. Accept, Mr. Carr says, the popular view of the play—uphold the traditional reading of the character of Lady Macbeth, as derived, not from the text itself, but from the tragic rendering of Mrs. Siddons—and there is scarcely a line of the work that can rightly be understood; and then, taking this as his theme, he proceeds very dexterously to pass along the course of the play, citing here and there such passages as, with a little ingenuity, can be made to bear out his view of the ideal motive of the tragedy. All this, we must confess, is very interesting, and we admire the neatness with which Mr. Carr has dovetailed the various portions of his argument together, and what a fine appearance of artistic finish he has given to his production as a whole, but we look upon his eloquence as the eloquence of the special pleader, and remain unconvinced after all. The idea he puts forth, that the 'motive of the drama lies in its contrast of the distinctive qualities of sex, as these are developed under the pressure of a continued purpose and a common experience,' is undoubtedly very effective, and Mr. Carr has argued his case with great plausibility and shrewdness; but, despite all his ingenuity, we are scarcely carried away. Tradition with us has the stronger sway; and it may be remarked, that though Mrs. Siddons undoubtedly by her powerful conception did much to create the popular impression of 'Lady Macbeth,' Mrs. Pritchard, who preceded her in the rôle, took a very similar view of the part. We wonder what that ripe Shakspearean scholar, Mr. Halliwell-Phillips, whose death we have had reason to deplore within the last few days, would have said to Mr. Carr's æsthetic theory!

We should scarcely be surprised if before long the character of 'Lady Macbeth' became as much a topic of discussion in Shakspearean circles as the state of mind of the unfortunate Hamlet. In regard to the latter play, we have lately had pleasure in reading an especially interesting little work of Transatlantic origin.* The author, without perhaps throwing any fresh light on the character of 'Hamlet'—which, indeed, at the present day, would be difficult—goes over the old ground with pleasurable vivacity, and here and there reveals attractive powers of penetration and thoughtful criticism. The poet's intention in this case, Mr. Cooke thinks, was to present

'the internal spiritual struggle between the higher elements of man's nature and the lower—the constant and continuous state of man in this world. The warfare is principally in skirmishes and in sallies, but is constant, bitter, and uncompromising. Hamlet's sanity or insanity is not a question to be argued. He is an actor. Shakspeare created him and taught him how to act. He did not take a player and make of him a prince, but he took a prince and made of him an actor. The hero might truthfully say with Clarice in the play of "Comedy and Tragedy": "I am everybody—I am nobody." He who best plays the part impersonates most accurately Shakspeare's player—Hamlet.'

CURRENT EDUCATIONAL LITERATURE.

Messrs. G. W. BACON & Co.—The 'Excel-sior' School Maps' seem still to maintain a well-merited popularity. A new idea of this firm is seen in a series of 'Memory Maps.' These are printed in different colours, and serve to impress names and forms on the observer's mind.

Messrs. BLACKIE & SON.—Few new books of an educational character have been issued lately by this firm. But the few are good. Of the 'Century Readers' we cannot speak too highly. They are just the books wanted for elementary schools, artistic, well compiled and graduated, cheap, and strongly bound. Though these form the chief novelty in Messrs. Blackie's list, many old and tried friends will be recognised in their copious and varied lists, which comprise nearly every branch of knowledge.

Messrs. WILLIAM BLACKWOOD & SONS.—The list of these publishers embrace, exceedingly useful books on geography, geology, zoology, and English literature—these being in such form and at such price as shall commend themselves to the notice of students and teachers. The names of Dr. Mackay, Professors Page, Lapworth, Nicholson, and Minto, are ample guarantees of the way in which such work is performed. The list, in addition, contains several works on the cultivation of Greek and Latin, and in Stormonth's Dictionaries volumes of this character that are worthy of more than ordinary notice.

Messrs. BURNS & OATES, Limited.—This firm issue a number of works excellently adapted for educational purposes. 'The Granville Reading Books' and 'Granville History Readers' may in particular be mentioned as conveying the necessary instruction in such form as shall readily be grasped by the pupil, and prove of lasting and beneficial influence. A commendable feature in connection with these publications is their moderate price. 'The Granville Reading Books,' 'Granville Poetry Books,' and the 'Practical Geometry for Science and Art Students,' we may also add, were adopted some time ago by the London School Board.

The CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS (C. J. Clay & Sons).—In the educational list of the Cambridge University Press, the various

* *The Human Mystery in 'Hamlet': an attempt to say an unsaid word. With suggestive parallelisms from the Elder Poets.* By Martin W. Cooke. New York: Fords, Howard & Hulbert.

volumes of the 'Pitt Press Series' occupy a prominent position. The latest volume is 'Elementary Commercial Geography: a Sketch of the Commodities and the Countries of the World,' by Hugh Robert Mill, D.Sc., while new additions are promised in the 'Hippolytus' of Euripides, by W. S. Hadley, M.A.; Livy, Book XXII., with notes and introduction by M. S. Dimsdale, M.A.; and Thucydides, Book VII., the notes and introduction to which are by H. K. Tottenham, M.A. Many of the volumes in the 'Pitt Press Series' may be especially recommended as suitable for candidates preparing for the Cambridge Local Examinations, 1889.

Messrs. CASSELL & Co., Limited.—Among the more notable publications recently issued by Messrs. Cassell & Co. we have special pleasure in mentioning the following:—*English History Cartoons*, a series of large and beautifully coloured pictures, designed to illustrate leading events in English History, and to impress upon youthful minds not only the event itself, but all the details of dress, features, and surroundings, as well as other matters relating to the history of the period. Mr. Herbert Bone, the designer to the Royal Windsor Tapestry Works, has prepared these drawings from original designs by leading artists, and has produced a series of Cartoons, which will aid the teaching of history in an intelligent and striking manner. No school should be without some of these historical landmarks, especially when we consider the low rate at which they are issued. *The Laws of Every-Day Life*, written by the same author, and with the same intention as he produced the 'Citizen Reader.'—With books of this description the teaching of reading should not only be pleasant, but profitable to children whose teachers are wise enough to adopt them instead of mere books of extracts. This book, too, possesses the strong recommendation, so noticeable in the 'Citizen Reader,' of being written in very simple language, which can be well grasped by ordinary children, even in the Fourth Standard. We can most highly recommend this work. *First Elements of Experimental Geometry*, translated from the French of Paul Bert by Mrs. H. O. Arnold Forster. As the author truly says, this is not only a preparation for more regular and more advanced study, but it also constitutes in itself a definite and complete work suitable for the great bulk of the pupils in our elementary schools. The popularity obtained by the scientific primers of the late Paul Bert in France was, unquestionably, well deserved, and should be an omen of the reception they should receive here. It is impossible to speak too highly of this book, written, as it is, in a style that cannot fail to interest children, and interspersed so plentifully with excellent and appropriate engravings. It should find a place in the upper divisions of all good day schools and in night classes, mechanics' institutes, &c. We note that it has been most highly spoken of by several well-known inspectors, teachers, and members of school boards. *Higher Class Readers*.—Under this title has been issued

a series of most interesting and beautifully illustrated works containing matter of a more useful and profitable character than is usually to be found in ordinary class-books. They are intended for the higher classes of elementary schools and for middle and upper schools. Two of the series, 'The World's Lumber Room' and 'Short Stories from Nature,' treat in a simple gossiping manner on various branches of natural science, many of the writers being eminent scientific men, who are well able to speak with authority. Among them may be mentioned Dr. Robert Brown, Mr. W. S. Dallas, Dr. Buchanan White, Mr. G. M. Seabrook, &c. These books are veritable storehouses of interest and attraction for boys and girls. The other ten volumes really form a series in themselves, under the title of 'The World in Pictures,' a comprehensive and happy designation, as the books truly give us graphic studies in the geography, manners and customs of most of those countries of the world in which English boys and girls are most interested, and form a capital and interesting library. The titles, too, are suggestive and pleasing. 'A Ramble Round France,' 'Chats About Germany,' 'Peeps into China,' 'Glimpses of South America,' are among the series. We heartily recommend the books of this series to teachers of all classes of schools, for they are not only calculated to develop their powers of observation and reflection, but also aid materially in assisting the young readers to obtain correct and graphic ideas of the countries they read about. They are splendid geographical readers on a truly common-sense plan, and we should not wonder at inspectors recommending and teachers adopting them for this purpose.

Messrs. W. & R. CHAMBERS.—There is no little difficulty in choosing a title nowadays for any series of elementary 'Readers.' The designation 'Expressive Readers' is about as good as any that is in vogue. That the books are carefully prepared may be taken for granted when we remember the name and fame of the firm. Lessons, illustrations, graduation, &c., are attended to with care. Type, binding, and price also call for notice on account of excellence and economy.

Messrs. CHARLES GRIFFIN & Co.—The recently published scientific works from the press of this firm include Professor Jamieson's 'Steam and the Steam Engine,' forming an introduction to the larger work by the same author; 'Electrical Rules and Tables' (a pocket-book of), for the use of electricians and engineers, by J. Munro, C.E., and A. Jamieson, C.E., F.R.S.E.; 'Mine Surveying' (a text-book of), for the use of students at the Royal School of Mines, City and Guilds of London Institute, &c., by Bennett H. Brough, F.G.S., associate and demonstrator of mine surveying, Royal School of Mines; 'A Short Manual of Inorganic Chemistry,' by A. Dupré, Ph.D., F.R.S., F.C.S., and H. Wilson Hake, Ph.D., F.I.C., F.C.S., with a coloured table of spectra; 'Quantitative Analysis' (outlines of), for the use of students, with numerous illustrations, by Professor A. Humboldt

Sexton; 'Embryology,' for the use of students, by A. C. Haddon, M.A., professor of zoology in the Royal College of Science, Dublin; 'Biology' (a text-book of), comprising vegetable and animal morphology and physiology, by J. R. Ainsworth Davis, B.A., lecturer on biology in the University College of Wales, Aberystwith; and 'Practical Physiology' including experimental and chemical physiology, with reference to practical medicine (a laboratory handbook for the use of students), by Prof. Stirling, M.D., Sc.D., Owens College, Manchester.

Messrs. J. HALL & SON.—Dr. Pinnock's 'College and School Analyses' are still vitally before the educational world. They are enumerated in the publishers' list, which likewise includes the theological analyses by the Rev. J. Gorle, and the liturgical studies from the pen of the Rev. W. Trollope.

W. & A. K. JOHNSTON.—Wall maps, atlases, and educational illustrations are conspicuous, in fact pre-eminent, in the list of Messrs. Johnston's publications. No geographical publishing-house in the country has had such a long and well-deserved course of success. Their catalogue is full of interesting items for the teacher. Conception, accuracy of detail and workmanship are the prominent recommendations.

Messrs. CROSBY LOCKWOOD & SON.—Among the numerous works issued by this firm are many of great educational importance. To draw attention to the wealth of instruction in 'Weale's Educational Series' would be superfluous—as class-books, conveying in small compass the essential details of the respective subjects dealt with, they are unsurpassed. Messrs. Crosby Lockwood & Son also issue a number of books that should prove exceedingly useful to students of French. 'De Fivas' French Class Books' are exceptional in arrangement and practical method, and a good word may also be said for the French lessons for the young, by the same author. 'Every Man's Own Lawyer' remains, as heretofore, an excellent manual for consultation on all matters connected with law and equity, and the twenty-sixth edition, which in many ways has been improved, increases the popular value of the work.

Messrs. LONGMANS & Co.—Mr. G. G. Chisholm, whose geographical manuals have been already so successful, is at present editing an entirely new Atlas, political and physical. The work has not yet been published, but it promises to be something more than the usual form of reproduction: it will be new and will contain plates. Mr. E. Stanford is the engraver and lithographer. Attention should be directed to the Science Manuals and the Drawing Series issued by Messrs. Longmans, which are in accordance with the requirements of the Syllabus issued by the Science and Art Department.

Messrs. SAMPSON LOW, MARSTON & Co.—The famous Tauchnitz books need no word of introduction. British and German authors are well represented in the list offered for the cognisance of teachers. The volumes are

cheap, handy in form, and most excellently printed. Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. give pre-eminence to Mr. Pulling's manuals on 'Foreign Countries and British Colonies,' which are of a very high educative value. The 'Great Musicians,' edited by that accomplished critic, Dr. Francis Hueffer, is very happily adapted for private schools, or higher class public schools. This is a most interesting series of books, which meet the demands of a large section of educationists who labour in that field of tuition, the fruits of which go towards enlivening the leisure hours of life. Low's 'German Series' comprises manuals, which, in themselves, are sufficiently educative in the hands of a good master, though we believe in the employment of a diversity of books in any linguistic study.

Penmanship has a never-failing claim upon the attention of tutors. Clearness is undeniably its greatest virtue. Many a good candidate in Government examinations is 'plucked' ignominiously through indistinct caligraphy. A good, sound course through the St. Dunstan's Series of 'Vertical Writing Copy-Books' may ensure success in this department, and we must congratulate Mr. Jackson, who has revived this method, on the practical objects of his work.

Mr. JOHN MURRAY.—The new Eton 'Latin Grammar' by Mr. Rawlins and Mr. Inge is the most important new educational work in Mr. Murray's list, which it is needless to say contains the best of standard classical and historical class-books. We are pleased to see that Miss Blackie's 'Dictionary of Place Names' has now taken the position it ought to have taken years ago. As a book of derivations, at once compact, accurate, and interesting, it is unsurpassed.

Messrs. THOMAS NELSON & SONS.—Messrs. Nelson have several new volumes of 'The Royal School Series,' exactly meeting the requirements of the Education Department, in reading, writing, and English; 'The Queen Primer Series,' containing a complete course of reading, spelling, writing, and tables, is an entirely new set for infants; 'The Royal Object Lesson Series,' reading sheets and books, has just been published.

Mr. DAVID NUTT.—The educational list of this publisher contains many books of well-known and recognised value. 'The Wellington College Series,' for the study of French and German, possesses many advantages that will forcibly commend it to the attention of all teachers, and the same may be said of other works in the list. The volumes dealing with English History call for a special word of commendation.

Messrs. KEGAN PAUL, TRENCH & Co.—'The Education Library,' edited by Sir Philip Magnus, contains books which seem almost indispensable to tutors of all classes. The works on educational discipline are to be strongly commended.

The RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.—Among the announcements of this Society appear a number of 'Coloured Scripture Cartoons,' intended to improve the appearance of school-

room walls. They are designed not only to brighten the rooms but also to convey wholesome instruction to the children. Vigorously drawn and large in size—45 inches by 35 inches—they are well adapted for the purpose described. A number of excellent volumes is included in the series known as 'By-Paths of Biblical Knowledge,' and the 'Present Day Tracts' and 'Christian Classics Series' contain an admirable selection of subjects.

Messrs. SULLIVAN BROTHERS, DUBLIN.—The educational books of this firm, which are of admirable kind, chiefly comprise the subjects of Geography and English Grammar. Most of them have run through a large number of editions, and at this date it is scarcely necessary to speak of their value and educational importance.

Notes and News

Messrs. Dean & Son are about to issue the 1889 edition of 'Debrett's Peerage, Baronetage, Knightage, and Companionage.' It appears that 17 Peers, 12 Peeresses, 37 Baronets, 34 Knights, and 47 Companions, died in 1888; also, that the oldest Peer of the Realm is Baron Cottesloe, aged 90, whilst the youngest is H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, aged 4; that Sir Henry Chudleigh Oxenden, aged 93, is the oldest Baronet, the youngest being Sir Stewkley Frederick Draycott Shuckburgh, aged 8; and that Admiral of the Fleet Sir Provo William Parry Wallis, G.C.B. (cr. K.C.B. 1860, G.C.B. 1873), aged 97, is the oldest, while Sir Edgar Vincent, K.C.M.G. (cr. 1887), aged 31, is the youngest Knight.

The same publishers announce 'The Dog-Owner's Kennel Companion and Referee,' from the pen of Dr. Gordon Stables, as the next volume of 'Dean's Practical Guide Books.' This will be profusely illustrated with portraits of the latest champion dogs.

Mr. Murray promises a collection of the scientific papers and discourses of the late Sir William Siemens, F.R.S., edited by Mr. E. F. Bramber, C.E., in three volumes. Vol. I. will be devoted to Sir William's writings on heat and metallurgy, Vol. II. to his writings on electricity and miscellaneous subjects, and Vol. III. to his addresses and lectures.

Among the announcements of Messrs. Routledge & Sons are English translations of M. Guy de Maupassant's 'Sur l'Eau' and of M. Alphonse Daudet's 'Souvenirs d'un Homme de Lettres.'

In consequence of the success attending the issue of Mr. Harry Jones' 'Holiday Papers,' a collection of essays published some years ago, the author has prepared a second series, which will be published by Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co.

A collection of colonial stories by colonial authors is about to appear under the title of 'In Australian Wilds.' Among the contributors are Mr. B. L. Farjeon and Mr. Jenkins, the author of 'Ginx's Baby.' The editor is the London representative of the Melbourne Age.

The will and codicil of the late Mr. Olive Lasbury, for many years bookseller of Park Street, Bristol, was proved in the District Registry at Bristol, on December 5, 1888, by the executors, Mr. William Wise, Solicitor, Nicholas Street, and Mr. Thomas Thatcher, Bookseller and Stationer, College Green, Bristol. Personalty sworn under £25,000.

Professor Gairdner, of Glasgow, is about to print in a volume various addresses and memoirs, prepared during more than thirty years, as illustrating the progress of the healing art, and also papers already published in various journals on the limits of alcoholic stimulation in typhus fever and other acute diseases. The book will be published by Messrs. James MacLehose & Sons, of Glasgow.

Mr. Murray promises a work on 'The Foundations of the Creed,' by Dr. Harvey Goodwin, the Bishop of Carlisle. The same publisher announces 'Occasional Thoughts of an Astronomer on the Subjects of the Day,' by the Rev. Prof. Pritchard, of Oxford. Among the topics handled are the 'Continuity of the Schemes of Nature and Revelation,' 'Natural Science and Natural Religion,' 'On the Relations of Miracles to the Laws of Nature,' 'The Great Miracle in Joshua,' 'A Solution of the Difficulties in Genesis,' 'The Slowness of the Divine Proceedings in Nature and in Grace,' and 'The Star and the Magi.'

At a meeting of the Manchester City Council last week it was resolved that a sum of 250 guineas should be expended on a portrait of Mr. Alderman Abel Heywood, the well-known Manchester publisher, the portrait to be the property of the city.

A writer to the *Standard* complains of our Christmas cards being printed in Germany. The fact is we are not yet able to equal the Saxon and Bavarian colour printers in excellence of workmanship, and if we were it would be difficult to compete with them in the matter of price. German workmen labour many more hours for a much lower wage than English artisans, and consequently the work can be turned out very cheaply. The writer, however, should have noted that under the recent Act all cards of foreign manufacture had to be marked as such.

The present number of the *Universal Review* contains, among other articles, a story by André Theuriet, entitled 'Le Trésor du Lac,' illustrated by W. R. Bunny, and Guy de Maupassant's latest nouvelle, 'Un Soir,' both of these are in French. There is also an article on 'Orators in the House,' by H. W. Lucy ('Toby, M.P.').

Miss Braddon has published through Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co., an 'Autographic Edition' of her works. They commence with 'Lady Audley's Secret,' and end, for the present, with the forty-eighth of the series, 'Like and Unlike,' while another, 'The Fatal Three,' will be out on February 7.

The first number of *Tinsley's Journal* (Tinsley Brothers) is not only highly interesting in itself, but reveals—if the present standard be kept up—promise of excellent

entertainment, to the grave and gay, in future issues. 'The Random Recollections of an Old Publisher,' by William Tinsley, is replete with good things of such a character and nature as will readily recommend them to the public taste. Among other contents of the magazine are an essay on 'Samuel Richardson,' by the late E. S. Dallas; 'Seeing Oneself in Print,' by Percy Fitzgerald; Part I. of a vigorous article entitled, 'What is a Bishop?' 'A Word of Warning,' by T. Fordyce, M.A.; and the opening chapters of Miss Lily Tinsley's new serial novel called 'The Child of the Shadow: a Story of the House.' The number in its entirety constitutes a capital sixpenny-worth.

Continental Notes

Just now, when the Winter Exhibition at the Royal Academy is once more directing the attention of amateurs to the Old Masters, the 7th number [December] of last year's issue of the Viennese *Chronik für vervielfältigende Kunst*, completing the annual series of 1888, comes appropriately to hand. The *Chronik* is perhaps not so well known here as its merits deserve. The Society for Reproductive Art of Vienna has done much since its foundation in 1879 to popularise a taste for art, and to promote the study of the various processes by which works of art may be reproduced. It issues two periodicals, *Die graphischen Künste*, of which six parts, containing two or three sheets of letterpress and numerous text and separate illustrations, consisting of copperplate engravings, etchings, helio engravings, photo engravings, and woodcuts, appear during the year; and the *Chronik*, already mentioned, which is given as a supplement to the *Graphische Künste*, but may be subscribed for separately at the low price of 4 marks per annum. The principal article in the number before us is devoted to an examination of the new illustrated books published in Vienna. The writer draws rather a gloomy picture of the unproductiveness of the winter season of 1888-9 in illustrated books, and foresees small profit resulting to artists from the new photo-mechanical means of reproduction, of which American periodicals furnish such monotonous examples. The number contains a dozen engravings of various degrees of merit, but all of undoubted interest.

M. Calmann Lévy has just published a volume of studies in parliamentary history, a subject which much exercises French public opinion just now, entitled 'Les Hommes de 1852,' par Correntin Guglio; a new edition of the celebrated drama by Alexandre Dumas père, 'Le Chevalier de Maison-Rouge.' The same publisher has some works of great importance in the press, or just ready; amongst others, the following: The fifth volume of the Duc d'Aumale's fascinating work, 'Histoire des Princes de Condé'; a volume by M. L. Thouvenel, entitled 'Le Secret de l'Empereur,' which will make a sensation in the political world, for it contains confidential correspondence between M. Thouvenel, the Duc de Grammont, and General Count de Flahault,

during the years 1860 to 1862. Another work, perhaps of greater interest on the other side of the Channel and the Atlantic than here, is 'Cent Ans de République aux États-Unis,' by the Duc de Noailles, volume ii. Then follow three authors whose writings always please, whatever their subject. First we have 'Pierre Loti,' with 'Japoneries d'Automne'; then comes the famous literary critic of *Le Temps*, Anatole France, with a new novel, 'Balthazar'; and, lastly, the musical and dramatic critic, J. J. Weiss, with a volume on a subject of daily increasing importance, 'Le Théâtre et les Mœurs,' to which M. Paul de Saint-Victor's 'Le Théâtre Contemporain' comes as in some degree a sequel. Our old friend Max O'Rell, who has on this occasion a collaborateur, Jack Allyn, winds up M. Calmann Lévy's excellent *menu* with his long-looked-for volume 'Jonathan et son Continent: la Société Américaine.'

The Bibliothèque Charpentier publishes a new novel by M. André Theuriet, one of the foremost romancists of the day, entitled 'L'Amoureux de la Préfète,' and the dramatic version of the Brothers Edmond and Jules de Goncourt's romance, 'Germinie Lacerteux,' which so lamentably failed when recently produced on the boards.

M. Paul Ollendorff has recently published 'Souvenirs Intimes de la Cour des Tuileries,' par Madame Carette, and a new historical work by M. Paul Gaulot, 'Un Complot sous la Terreur: Marie-Antoinette — Toulon — Jarjailles.'

F. A. Brockhaus, in Leipzig, calls the attention of the public to works which, although not new, should be in every one's hands just now when the complications in East Africa threaten such serious consequences. We refer to Mr. Joseph Thomson's 'Durch Masai-Land in den Jahren 1883 und 1884,' the English edition of which is published by Messrs. Sampson Low & Co., Limited; K. W. Schmidt's 'Sansibar: ein ostafrikanisches Culturbild'; and R. Böhm's 'Von Sansibar zum Tanganjika.' The same firm has recently published a second edition of that very striking production, 'Jesus Christus und die Wissenschaft der Gegenwart,' von Moritz Carrière.

Herr Julius Springer, of Berlin, has published an account of that wonderful triumph of engineering, the new railway bridge over the Firth of Forth, entitled, 'Die Forth-Brücke,' by Professor G. Barkhausen, of the Technical High School at Hanover.

Our Netherlands contemporary, *Het Nieuwsblad voor den Boekhandel*, tells us that last year 107 books were published in Constantinople in the Turkish language, 49 in Greek, 41 in Armenian, 8 in French, 3 in English, 4 in Bulgarian, 3 in Hebrew, and 1 in Volapük. Many of these were translations, mostly from the French. Constantinople possesses 40 printing and as many lithographic establishments for a population of about 700,000.

Herr Otto Harrissowitz, of Leipzig, sends us the first Heft of the sixth volume of *Central-*

blatt für Bibliothekswesen, a periodical which should be read by every good librarian. Indeed, it is almost indispensable. The number before us in no wise falls short of its predecessors, and its table of contents will sufficiently attest its value. Herr Richard Foerster contributes the first article on the 'Manuscripts and Editions of the pseudo-Aristotelian Secretum Secretorum.' This is followed by the 'Mediaeval German Translations of the Psalter: a Salzburg German Codex,' by A. J. Hummerle, which possesses a special attraction for philologists in its extraordinary orthography. The literary criticisms and even the advertisements are replete with matter of interest to book-lovers and librarians. That clever stump-orator Unsworth used to say that he purchased a certain periodical publication, not because of its news or literary contents, but for its advertisements. One of the 'bills' inserted in the January number of the *Centralblatt* tells us of the approaching publication by subscription of 'Paléographie Musicale: les Mélodies Liturgiques, ou Recueil de Fac-similés Photographiques des principaux Manuscrits de Chant liturgique Grégorien, Ambrosien, Mozarabe, Gallican, publié par les Révérends Pères Bénédictins de Solesmes,' in France. This work will be of great value to students and composers of church music, and to musical antiquarians.

Das Buchgewerbe: Berliner Blätter für der Graphischen Weltwerker, No. 1 (Berlin: Paul Hennig).—We gladly welcome this new organ of the book trade in Germany. 'The Book Trade' is not, perhaps, the precise equivalent of the title, 'Das Buchgewerbe,' which might be more strictly translated Bookcraft; for the word Gewerbe means not only Trade, but also implies the technical knowledge of a trade in all its branches—a knowledge possessed by not so very many Englishmen in this penultimate decade of the much-vaunted nineteenth century, when the binding of apprentices is as much out of date as the stocks or the pillory, and when Jack, being as good as his master, is mostly Jack of all trades and master of none. The first article in the 'Buchgewerbe' is a life of Raymund Haertel, of the world-known firm of Breitkopf & Haertel, music publishers, and, in these latter days, also book publishers, of Leipzig. From 1732 until 1867 the firm carried on business in that famous old house, the 'Golden Bear,' mentioned by Goethe in his fascinating autobiography, 'Dichtung und Wahrheit.' Hither betook themselves Mendelssohn, Schumann, Spohr, Thalberg, Berlioz, Pleyel, and Liszt; and here was born, in 1810, Raymund, the younger son of Gottfried Christopher Haertel, who may be considered the founder of the business as at present carried on by the firm, whose publication of the complete works of Beethoven should suffice to insure it a very Old Mortality, if not immortality. The second article is devoted to Herr Paul Parey, the President of the German Booksellers' Union, an institution which has done so much to stamp out in Germany that canker-worm of the book-

trade, underselling. Paul Parey, born so recently as 1842, in Berlin, has bravely served and shed his blood for the Fatherland in two campaigns, besides distinguishing himself in his university and publishing career. Other articles, of importance to all who feel the interest they should in that trade which has done so much to promote the cause of education, treat of the Berne International Copyright Convention, on Punctuation in Old Printed Books, on English Types, their Names and Origin, on French Literature in America; and a quantity of miscellaneous information completes a number which promises well for the future of an undertaking to which we cordially wish success.

A BOOKSELLERS' GRIEVANCE.

To the Editor of the PUBLISHERS' CIRCULAR.

SIR,—It is now about sixty years since the announcement of a new cheap edition of the Waverley Novels put the whole book-selling trade in a flutter of expectation. All was new—the size of the volumes, the mode of publication, and the binding. I well remember the excitement caused by the appearance of the books clothed in their bright covers. The experiment was a great success, and led the way to many similar ventures, all of which were not so fortunate. It was about this time, I think, that the grievance of which I am about to complain began. In order probably to cover the increased cost of substituting cloth for paper boards, an additional penny was levied upon the trade; and the 5s. volume, instead of being charged 3s. 9d., as heretofore, was now 3s. 10d.; and the custom, with similar irregularities, all up and down the scale, has continued to the present time.

We booksellers are, and ever have been, a patient and longsuffering tribe; and the tax was borne almost without a murmur. Besides, these were our golden days, when the general public was content to pay for their books the prices marked on the covers; and the word 'discount,' in this relation, was, as a rule, almost unknown. *Mais nous avons changé tout cela.* We have fallen upon days that are indeed anything but 'golden,' in which, if only a sixpenny magazine is wanted, a customer expects to get it, and does get it, for fourpence halfpenny. The state of things calls loudly for sympathy and help from the publishing houses to their less fortunate brethren, and I appeal to them, through a channel which cannot fail to meet their notice, to arrange their trade charges for the future so that at the very least an exact deduction of 25 per cent. shall, in every case, be made to the retail dealer. The prospects of the bookselling trade are, at the best, very far from encouraging. It matters little to those who, like the writer, are soon to lay down their arms; but for a younger generation the view of the future is one to fill them with very grave apprehensions. I am &c., S. W. S.

Bath, January 5, 1889.

MYSTERY OF THE CHRISTMAS BOOK.

By O. B. BUNCE.

(From the New York CRITIC.)

THE senior partner of one of our well-known publishing-houses said recently to his younger partners and head assistants: 'I hope I shall never see another Christmas book published by us. After I am dead, do as you please, but while I live please make no more books for the holidays.'

Inasmuch as the holidays are supposed to be the harvest-time of the book-publishers, this remark will surprise many of my readers. 'Assuredly,' it will be said, the 'holidays are the publishers' money-making season. Look at the thronged bookstores, at the counters piled with volumes prepared for it, at the busy salesmen, at the innumerable parcels ready for delivery! And do we not know that on Christmas-day countless thousands of volumes go hither and thither, making glad the hearts of their recipients? It cannot be possible that this gay and glittering season is in any form a delusion—that the sumptuous volumes that come forth with the embers of the year, with all the art, the taste, the care, the wealth, that are lavished upon them, do not bring substantial rewards to those who project them! These are natural comments, yet, strange as it may seem, it is not only possible but generally true that the making of Christmas books is not the brilliant thing financially that it seems to be.

I know how promptly my assertion will be met with the rejoinder: 'If holiday books do not pay, why do publishers produce them?' Will the logical reader who asks this question explain how it is that people persist in investing in stocks, in face of all the disastrous consequences that commonly follow an excursion into Wall Street? Will they tell how it is that the gambler, wrecked many times, still returns to the gaming-table, fascinated by its excitement, and thrilled with assurance of better luck to come? The making of Christmas books is attended with just these conditions. It is a fascinating pursuit in itself, and its victims are always allured by the hope of a brilliant success next time.

A man who has once edited an art-book has awakened in himself an appetite that will be sure to hunger for the same kind of fruit again. The hunting through poetic literature for a subject, the contact and consultation with artists, the delight experienced as the drawings are brought in, the anxieties, often painful yet absorbing, which attend watching each illustration through the hands of the engraver, the study of designs for the binding—these appeals to the imagination, these exercises of taste and invention, although usually accompanied with many disappointments and vexations, are as exhilarating as champagne. Naturally they prove inducements for new ventures in the artistic field. The book of last year had not wholly succeeded; it had been praised; it had sold moderately well, yet not well enough to yield a profit; but next time the projector is sure that all will be changed. Mistakes had been made

which he now knows how to avoid. The book came out too late; the price was too high; there were too many competitors in the field; the binding had been ineffective; the theme was not popular enough—thus the victim deludes himself with excuses and explanations, and soon plunges enthusiastically into a new venture for the next season with too much likelihood of a similar experience.

The details involved in the production of an illustrated book are many, and the pitfalls into which an unwary editor may stumble are at every hand. The artist may fail to grasp the theme, and prove to have been a wrong selection; or the drawings may be admirable in the judgment of severe critics, yet be far away from popular understanding or sympathy; or the engravers may fail to render rightly the tones of the drawings; or the paper selected may be too pink or too red in tint, or otherwise deficient; or the wood-blocks may be spoiled by the electrotyper; or the printer, the excellence of whose work depends on conditions of the atmosphere, may fail to obtain good impressions of the cuts; or the sheets may be pressed before they are sufficiently dry, causing the ink to 'offset'; or the binder's stamp for the cover, which looked so well in the coloured design, may prove to be something positively ugly. If all these dangers are successfully avoided and the perfected book equals the expectations of its planners and builders, the triumph is complete—almost. For then comes the question, will it sell? Yes, somewhat. Few holiday books fail altogether, but the active sales are crowded into three weeks' time. During this short period orders flow in for it. In the last week there are many orders from distant cities and near cities; Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Boston, demand more copies, all of which is very bustling and stimulating, and to an inexperienced observer success seems assured. But the investment in drawings and engravings requires a sale of perhaps three thousand copies before profit begins, and hence the activity, the bustle of the last week's demand may be considerable, and yet the accounts after Christmas show many copies left over and the book in debt. The unsold remainder is now packed away until the following Christmas, with the expectation that it will then be worked off and the financial scale turned. But, as an old rustic acquaintance of mine was wont to say, '*Calculisation* is one thing and realisation another.' When the next Christmas comes, it is found that everyone wants the new issues of the season, that the books of former years are an old story, out of date and out of fashion. The old king is dead; it is the new king that reigns.

Holiday books in recent years have multiplied greatly, because drawings may be reproduced by either photogravure or phototype. In the latter form the publisher makes no investment, except in the drawings. These are printed from photographic reproductions of the originals, at a rather large cost for each impression, but, there being no investment in steel-plates or wood-blocks, a small edition is sufficient to pay. The ease

and apparently little cost with which illustrations may thus be produced have led to the publication of ambitious and costly folios, many of which are very artistic, and reflect great credit upon artists and publishers. But the size is cumbersome, the prices are high, and hence, although a small sale would be sufficient, I am afraid the results in most cases have not been pecuniarily gratifying. Phototype reproductions, moreover, are not always artistically satisfactory. In some instances the artist's drawings have been admirably repeated; but great care, large experience, and exact knowledge are necessary, and hence many attempts in this direction are scarcely acceptable.

It is supposed by many people that anything, especially in the way of a poem, will do for a Christmas book. So far from this being true, all experience has shown that favourite poems only will do for the purpose—poems like 'The Deserted Village,' Gray's 'Elegy,' 'The Forest Hymn' and 'Snow-bound.' Well-established favourites, such as these, alone will justify expenditure for illustrations, unless the artist has a great reputation. Recently a number of popular hymns and short religious poems have been issued in tiny volumes invitingly illustrated, bound in a showy manner, and sold at a low price—glittering trifles that appeal to the highest religious sentiment and the smallest incomes, and hence have been successful. But pretty much everything in the language well adapted for a Christmas book has been used. People whose recollections extend back thirty years will recall the charming volumes that came from the prolific pencil of Birket Foster. But Birket Foster has left no successor in England, and only in a few instances has his success been equalled here. He fairly exhausted English poetic literature, that is, the shorter poems adapted for illustration. Artists of to-day have been compelled to travel largely over his well-beaten ground, so far as the poetry of England is concerned. I am mindful, however, of one delightful idyl of Tennyson's that has not so far stimulated the ambition of any artist. I refer to 'The Gardener's Daughter'—a poem full of enchanting pictures. A dozen years ago two attempts were made to illustrate this poem, but the preliminary drawings were so unsatisfactory that the project was abandoned. It was then proposed to the English publishers of Tennyson to produce it in conjunction with an American house. 'We should be glad to act upon the suggestion,' was the reply, 'but who can do it?' Since then a number of brilliant young artists have sprung up, and it may now be worth while to try again. Would it succeed? The chances for it would be as promising as for almost any other English subject, and this is all that can be said.

The ranks of experimenters in Christmas books, notwithstanding all these facts, are not likely to fall off in number, for a time at least. As one house gains experience and withdraws or narrows its operations, other houses eagerly enter the field. Sometimes a house makes a

hit with its first book and then confidently rushes into other ventures, only to find that victory is not always to the brave. I recall an anecdote that is applicable here. 'When I went into business,' said an old publisher to me once, 'my first book was a failure. One day a veteran of the trade walked into my office and said, "I have come to congratulate you on the failure of your book." "To congratulate me!" I exclaimed. "Yes," he interrupted, "for if your first book had been a success, you would have been sure that you knew everything, and have branched out recklessly. Now you have learned caution, and, therefore, your ultimate success is certain. So I congratulate you."'

My observations have referred exclusively to books prepared especially for holiday sales, and which are not in demand at other periods. There is a large consumption at Christmas of books of a different character—books of a class which alone, I apprehend, proves profitable. I refer to choice standard editions of favourite poets, with or without illustrations, and sets of well-known authors, put up in attractive bindings. These are asked for at all seasons, and simply enjoy a stimulated sale in December. This demand, which may be always depended upon, which cares nothing for the fashion of the hour, is what, according to my judgment, the publisher should cater for. And I am informed that it has lately much increased, which may account in part for the ill-fortune that has befallen so many ambitious tomes called forth by the magic name of Christmas.

It is a wonder that so many copies of pictorial books are sold. What satisfaction, for instance, can it be for a gentleman to present to a lady a copy of a book—other copies of which have been paraded for six weeks on every book-counter in town, and which is therefore necessarily familiar to everybody—a book which very likely the lady herself has purchased as a gift for a friend? There is no novelty, no freshness, no element of surprise, in such a gift. How much better to select in time some choice copy of an English classic, in an unduplicated binding, or some neat set of books put up by a tasteful bookseller, for just such selection!

I have made no reference to books for children—juvenile books, as the trade classifies them. The aggregate sale of books for young people is something immense and incalculable, as we all know. Innumerable houses into which a book does not enter from Christmas to Christmas open their doors at this season, if there is a child in the family, for something in the way of a book. But while the consumption of children's books is very great, the competition is intense, and in the struggle many promising works go to the wall. Very beautiful are some of the issues published for the little ones. One house in New York puts forth every season a volume for children that for artistic beauty is really captivating. This book—so choice, so charming in every feature—is, I am informed, printed in Germany, large editions being duplicated for America, for France, and for England; and by means of this great sale a return is assured, which, if the work, with its large original cost, were

made for one market alone, would be impossible to secure. Perhaps we shall in time see some such world-plan enter into the production of the Christmas book for elders. One thing to deter this, however, is that abroad, especially in England, Christmas books are almost exclusively for young people; gifts between adults are not exchanged nearly so generally as with us.

The activity in the bookstores may thus be accounted for by the purchase of children's books, of the works of poets, essayists, romancists, and historians, of Bibles, prayer-books, hymn-books, and albums, and of numerous miscellaneous selections—the gay and sumptuous volumes, which occupy so large a place on the counters, which have been produced at such great cost and with so much watchful care, filling but a small part in the general bustle.

Trade Changes

Mrs. M. L. Bennett, English and Foreign bookseller, 232 High Holborn, has very appropriately given to her establishment the title of 'The Caxton Hand.' This interesting mart of old books should certainly have a significant name.

We learn that the old-established firm of Stevens & Sons, Law Publishers and Booksellers, of 119 Chancery Lane, and 14 Bell Yard, Lincoln's Inn, has been incorporated under the Limited Liabilities Acts with the title of Stevens & Sons, Limited. The whole of the capital has been subscribed by the members of the firm, and there will be no issue to the public.

An important business change has taken place in Montreal, Canada. The old house of Dawson Brothers was, on January 1, divided into two distinct firms. Mr. Charles F. Dawson takes over the stationery branch, while the book and periodical business is continued by Messrs. William Foster Brown & Co. Mr. Foster Brown was for a good many years controller of Messrs. Dawson Brothers' extensive book and periodical business.

Obituary

JAMES ORCHARD HALLIWELL-PHILLIPPS.—The death of this distinguished Shakspearean scholar took place on January 3, at his residence, Hallingbury Copse, Brighton. Mr. Phillipps was in his 69th year. He was the son of Mr. Thomas Halliwell, of Sloane Street, Chelsea, where he was born on June 21, 1820. He received his early education under Mr. Charles Butler, author of 'The Introduction to the Mathematics.' At an early age he devoted himself to antiquarian researches, chiefly directing his attention to the literary history and antiquities of this country as embodied in the various early works of prose and verse. Many rare and curious works on these and cognate subjects were brought out under his supervision, and his name is most favourably known to Shakspearean scholars as that of the author of more than 20 original

papers and elaborate works on the writings of the great dramatist. In 1839 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society and of the Society of Antiquaries—a rare honour for one so young. His principal works were a 'Life of Shakspeare,' 1848; a sumptuous edition of the works of Shakspeare, with a revised biography, published by subscription in 16 folio volumes, 1853-65; a 'Calendar of the Records of Stratford-on-Avon,' 1863; a 'History of New Place,' 1864; and 'Outlines of the Life of Shakspeare,' fifth edition, 1885. He was mainly instrumental in the purchase of the poet's estate of New Place for the Corporation of Stratford-on-Avon, and in the formation of the Shakspeare Museum of that town. His publications, original and otherwise, amount to more than 60 volumes. He assumed the name of Phillipps by Royal licence in 1872, under a direction in the will of the late Mr. Thomas Phillipps, of Broadway, the grandfather of his first wife.

CHURCHILL BABINGTON.—The death of this well-known scholar occurred at Cockfield Rectory on the 13th inst. The Rev. Churchill Babington, D.D., F.L.S., graduated at St. John's College, Cambridge, as seventh classic, and was a senior optime in the Mathematical Tripos of the same year. Among his contemporaries were Professor Adams, who was senior wrangler, Bishop Gell, and the late Mr. Druce, Q.C., who was senior classic. He was in due course elected to a Fellowship, which he held until 1867, being appointed an Honorary Fellow of his College in 1880. He was elected Disney Professor of Archæology in 1865, and occupied that chair until 1880. He obtained the Hulsean prize essay in 1846, the subject being 'The Influence of Christianity in Promoting the Abolition of Slavery in Europe.' As a botanist he had a high reputation, and he was a contributor to Sir John Hooker's *Journal of Botany and Kew Miscellany*. He also contributed to the *Cambridge Journal of Classical and Sacred Theology*, to the *Transactions* of the Royal Society of Literature, the Cambridge Antiquarian Society, the *Numismatic Chronicle*, and 'Watson's Botanist's Guide to England and Wales.' He edited 'The Orations of Hyperides against Demosthenes,' and other classical works. He undertook the cataloguing of the classical portion of the manuscripts in Cambridge University Library, which extended to four volumes, and also compiled the catalogue of the Greek and English coins in the Fitzwilliam Museum.

JOHN FLETCHER DAVIES.—Queen's College, Galway, has sustained a heavy loss by the death of one of the most distinguished members of its teaching staff, John Fletcher Davies, Professor of Latin, which took place on January 4, at the age of 57 years. He was in the front rank of classical scholarship. His editions of the 'Choephore,' 'Agamemnon,' and 'Eumenides' of Æschylus are widely known. He was a frequent contributor to classical periodicals, and when attacked with his fatal illness he was engaged in supervising the publication of the late Dr. Henry's 'Commentary on Virgil's "Æneid."' "

HENRY N. DUNPHY.—The death is announced on January 2 of Mr. Henry M. Dunphy, a well-known London journalist. Mr. Dunphy, who was in his 68th year, had been for upwards of 40 years on the staff of the *Morning Post*. He was called to the Bar by the Middle Temple in 1861 and went the South-Eastern Circuit; but his energies were chiefly devoted to the journalistic work in which he was actively engaged up to the day of his death.

ANDREW EASTON.—On the 11th inst. died Mr. Andrew Easton, formerly bookseller in Jedburgh. Mr. Easton, who was 66 years of age, succeeded his father in business in 1854. His sons then began the business of A. & W. Easton, which is so well known in the border district, and to the trade generally.

WILLIAM MAUNSELL HENNESSY.—Mr. William Maunsell Hennessy, Deputy Keeper of the Records, a distinguished Irish scholar and *littérateur*, died January 9 at his residence, 71 Pembroke Road, Dublin, aged 60 years. Among his literary works was a treatise on the 'Ancient Irish Goddess of War.' He edited for the Rolls series the 'Chronicon Scotorum' and the 'Annals of Loch-Key,' and up to a short time before his death was engaged in editing the 'Annals of Ulster.' He was a contributor to the *Academy*, the *Revue Celtique*, and other publications. In early life he was a journalist.

JAMES MOULD.—We have to record the death of this old and well-known Parliamentary reporter. Mr. Mould had reached the ripe age of 75 years, but he was in the active and efficient discharge of his professional duties until a year and a half ago, when he retired, not from any failure in his general health, but from intermittent deafness, which had shortly before begun to afflict him. He was born at Bodmin, and took early to literary work. He came to London at the beginning of the Session of 1841 to join the Parliamentary reporting staff of the *Morning Herald*. In the service of that journal and of its successor the *Standard* he spent the remainder of his life.

ALEXANDER HEINRICH PAGENSTECHER.—Professor Dr. Heinrich Alexander Pagenstecher died at Hamburg on Saturday, the 5th inst., of heart disease. He was born at Elberfeld on March 18, 1825. Apart from medicine, in the profession of which he had attained wide distinction, the deceased had devoted great attention to the study of zoology—a subject on which he was regarded as a great authority; and in 1865 he was appointed professor of zoology at the University of Heidelberg. His great work on 'Allgemeine Zoologie,' in four volumes, the first of which appeared in 1875, was completed in 1881. In the following year Professor Pagenstecher, who had then already retired from public life, and was devoting his leisure to his favourite studies, was induced by the Hamburg Senate to accept the post of director of the Museum of Natural History of that city. This office he filled with great efficiency until his death.

Reviews, &c.

From Messrs. Samuel Bagster & Sons.—Mr. Bernhard Whishaw, the energetic secretary of the Educational Reform League, recently epitomised the evidence given before the 'Royal Commission on Elementary Education,' and under that title has published a little book of extracts with explanatory notes and tables. Mr. Whishaw has performed his work in a sensible manner, and with a marked regard to practical aims.

From Messrs. G. Charpentier & Co., Paris.—Monselet, 'De A à Z: Portraits Contemporains.' This is a series of about a hundred short biographies of modern men and women. Among the most interesting names we may mention Aimard, Arago, Alfred Assollant, Bellini, Berlioz, Lord Brougham, Phil. Chasles, Benj. Constant, Duprez, the tenor, Jules Favre, Flaubert, Gautier, Mad. H. Heine, John Lemoine, Mary Lafon, Michel Paul de Musset, Pontmartin, Edgar Quinet, Renan, Sainte-Beuve, Sardou, Soulié, Louis Veuillot, &c. In the case of literary men the notices are enriched by specimens of their verses. The biographies are written in a very incisive manner.

From the Chiswick Press.—'The Printers' Vocabulary,' by Charles Thomas Jacobi. There is hardly a printing office which has not special expressions peculiar to itself, or rather to its workers. Here we have, however, a collection of about 2,500 technical terms, phrases, abbreviations, and out-of-the-way expressions used in connection mostly with letterpress work. To 'outsiders' the work is more interesting than useful. Indeed, its usefulness is doubtful in all cases, though the author's knowledge of the subject, as well as his diligence in compilation, are not to be questioned.

From Messrs. Gall & Inglis.—A new and illustrated edition of 'Traditions of the Covenanters,' by the late Rev. Robert Simpson, D.D. The author, in this goodly-sized volume, supplies an interesting account of events happening at a most critical period of Scotch history. If occasionally during the narrative he has diverged overmuch into the by-paths of religious exhortation, thereby emphasising the moral bearing of events that might fairly be left to speak for themselves, we can readily forgive him in the pleasant, wholesome attraction that his work possesses. In its new attire it should certainly meet with a large amount of public approval.

From Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton.—No. 3 of 'The British Weekly Extras' consists of a number of light, entertaining sketches of well-known men, written by J. M. Barrie ('Gavin Ogilvy'), under the title of 'An Edinburgh Eleven.' The subjects, which are for the most part very cleverly hit off, are Lord Rosebery, Professors Masson, Blackie, Calderwood, Tait, Fraser, Chrystal, and Sellar, Mr. Joseph Thomson, Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson, and the Rev. W. C. Smith, D.D. The best article in the book is without doubt that on Robert Louis Stevenson. The other papers are amusing and piquant, and will more especially delight those who are personally acquainted with the many little oddities of the men who are here described, but in the essay on Stevenson the writer displays greater thought and shrewdness of observation. The entire volume is an entertaining little *brochure*, which will abundantly repay perusal.

From **Messrs. Jarrold & Sons.**—A work which should prove especially useful at the present time is the 'Index to the Local Government Act, 1888,' by G. Christopher Davies. As a means of saving the time of persons who may wish to consult any particular clause of the Act it is worthy of high commendation. It has been specially arranged for the County of Norfolk.

From **Messrs. Crosby Lockwood & Co.**—Farmers, surveyors, and all the multitude which has to deal with the cultivation of land in England, should be thankful to Mr. Sidney Francis for his 'Tables, Memoranda, and Calculated Results.' The little book may be carried in the waistcoat pocket. A new system of farm book-keeping is included in the scope of the work, which throughout is admirably arranged.

From the same.—'The Art of Practical Brick-cutting and Setting,' by Adam Hammond, author of 'Practical Bricklaying,' takes its place among the latest additions to the famous *Weale's Rudimentary Series*. The book treats of those problems which are generally considered most difficult by the bricklayer, such as arched work, groins, coves, domes, columns, mouldings, and so forth. Mr. Hammond's previous work guarantees the efficiency of the new manual.

From **Messrs. Sampson Low & Co.**—'The History of Portugal,' by Edward McMurdo, Vol. II. This continues the narrative from the accession of D. Diniz to the reign of D. Alfonso V. In the introduction the author briefly refers to the general character of the previous monarch, Alfonso III., and in this way, by refreshing the reader's memory, ensures that the continuity of the history shall be maintained. The reigns of the various sovereigns enumerated—D. Diniz, D. Alfonso IV., D. Pedro I., D. Ferdinand I., D. Joao I., D. Duarte, and D. Alfonso V.—are replete with interesting events, which not unfrequently throw a light on contemporary European history, and in his relation of this, which he has mainly compiled from Portuguese histories, Mr. McMurdo is never dull and often exceedingly interesting. Volume II. of his history worthily sustains the good impression created by the previous instalment of his work.

From **Messrs. Macmillan & Co.**—'Reuben Sachs,' a sketch by Amy Levy, must not be thrown aside on account of its exasperating beginning, for its closing scenes are characterised by an intensity of thought and power of delineation rarely met with in these days of ceaseless and careless writing. At the outset we are introduced to a clique of characters that is somewhat new to us in novels, namely, some of the Judaic community in London society. As a matter of fact, judging from this writer's view, these people differ in but a slight measure from their Gentile brotherhood. The Sachs, Leuningers, and Kohnthals of the inner circles of Jewish society in the modern Babylon are much the same as the Smiths, Browns, and Joneses of upper middle class life. True, they are more prone to materialism in so far as that much-abused word wrongly refers to the selfishness of individual aspirations towards worldly success. Reuben Sachs, the principal male character in this story—he cannot be called a hero—is thoroughly saturated with selfish ambition. To his vain love of political advancement he sacrifices all the cherished sentiments of humanity. The climax of his cleverly

heartless career is reached when he checks his passionate love interview with Judith on hearing the cry of news-boys in the street which tells of his chance of entering Parliament. This is the most dramatic scene in the story. The character of Judith is a vivid, lifelike, and poetic creation. Womanly dignity is shown amidst all the mental agony arising from the heartless conduct of the man she loves. The author, in painting these two characters, has given her readers some pregnant psychological studies. In their actions is centred the main interest of the story, which, brief though it be, must rank among the cleverest books of the day.

From the same.—The cheap edition of the 'English Men of Letters Series' has been augmented by the appearance of Professor Masson's 'De Quincey' and Mr. Ainger's 'Charles Lamb.'

From **Messrs. Moffatt & Paige.**—Several remarkably effective educational aids have recently been published by this enterprising firm. Among them we should give precedence to a specimen case, showing the various processes employed in manufacturing wool, or rather preparing wool for manufacture. If we mistake not, we have seen something of this kind on cards, but they were somewhat costly. This cannot be said of the box now offered for sale, which is compact, complete, and singularly cheap. The parent and the teacher will find it one of the best and most economical of educational appliances.

From the same.—We have received Moffatt's 'Euclid,' Moffatt's 'Outlines of English History,' Moffatt's 'History Readers,' Moffatt's 'Geography Readers,' 'The Art Student's Second Grade Practical Geometry.' All these works are adapted to meet modern requirements.

From **Messrs. J. Nisbet & Co.**—'The Bible in the Pacific,' by the Rev. A. W. Murray. At the first glance this book seems to promise rather 'heavy' reading. But on dipping into it one becomes more and more impressed with its store of curious information concerning a subject regarding which little has been written. The modes in which the Bible has been circulated among the nations of the distant and interesting islands of the Pacific are, in these pages, described with perspicacity and enthusiasm. The book supplies a pregnant chapter in the story of the victory of Christianity over heathenism. It should be widely read. More particularly should those take it up who have any interest in furthering Christian missions.

From the same.—'The Life and Letters of Mrs. Sewell,' by Mrs. Bayly. Uneventful though Mrs. Sewell's life undoubtedly was, the story of its quiet and pious course is full of interest. There is something pathetic in the fact of a lady of eighty-two taking up her pen to write her autobiography in the form of a letter to her grandchildren. Certainly the annals of the family are few and simple; yet they occasionally throw bright light upon the smoother channels of English social life followed in simplicity and rural seclusion. The autobiography, the writing of which occupied five years, at intervals, of Mrs. Sewell's life, occupies seventy-eight pages of the present book. Many readers will turn with more avidity to the story of the literary work accomplished by Mrs. Sewell, who did not think of writing until she was sixty years of age. Criticism of these

works is uncalled for. The popularity of some of them is perhaps unprecedented. More than a million copies of the ballad 'Mother's Last Words' have been sold, while in book form Mrs. Sewell's other works have an enduring popularity. Mrs. Bayly tells the story of this lovable life with affectionate tenderness, and a high measure of literary power, qualities which are bound to give the book a place in the affections of many readers.

From **Messrs. George Philip & Son.**—Mr. Edward Johnson has compiled 'The Educational Annual' for 1889, which is intended to be an aid to educationists, school managers, and teachers. It is just possible that teachers are already in possession of most of the information drawn from Government reports, upon which Mr. Johnson has largely relied. The summarising of these is a difficult task, but Mr. Johnson has accomplished the work very well indeed. Extra information of an unusual kind, such as that relating to teachers' salaries, &c., will be found useful by the profession. This work should grow. Some imperfections might be mentioned, which will doubtless be noted in due time by the editor. A minor example is the omission of any notice of the extensive system of education in the army. A good beginning has been made, however. It is hardly fair to cavil at first steps in a right direction.

From **Mr. Henry Sell.**—Mr. Sell is one of the most adventurous, experienced, and discriminating of London advertising agents. His 'Dictionary of the World's Press' is a marvellous book. In 1881 it started with 400 pages, it now contains 1,400. The editor has evidently done his best to make the book not only useful but exceptionally interesting, and there is hardly a branch of journalism, personal and administrative, which is not instructively spoken of in this, the ninth issue of the work. One feature of the new volume will command immediate attention. This is the collection of portraits of the editors of many metropolitan and country papers. The book is a very accurate compendium, forming an invaluable guide to those who advertise, those who wish to advertise, and those who want advertisements.

From **Messrs. Swan Sonnenschein & Co.**—'A School Arithmetic,' by G. H. Bateson Wright, M.A. The author writes his work as Head Master of the Victoria College, Hong Kong, and has prepared it with a special view to the requirements of his own school. Over two thousand examples and exercises have been introduced. Besides this the work contains some original devices which will be found effective for tuition.

From the same.—The neatly-bound and well-produced 'Parallel Grammar Series,' of which this firm has now issued several volumes, is distinguished by commendable features that should readily gain for the series a wide amount of scholastic approbation. The general aim has been to acquire thorough uniformity throughout the series—of classification and terminology, scope, and of size and type; and to speak of one advantage only in the design, its scope enables the pupil who has once mastered the arrangement of any volume in the series to possess an acquaintance with the method and principles of all the rest. The volumes lying on our table embrace 'Latin Grammar,' by the editor of the series, Professor E. A. Sonnenschein, M.A.; 'English Grammar—Analysis and Syntax,' by A. J. Cooper and E. A. Sonnenschein, M.A.; 'French Grammar,' by E. M. Moriarty, M.A.; and 'German Grammar,' by Kuno Meyer, Ph.D. The design of these useful little works, we may add, is based on the principles and requirements of the Grammatical Society.

From **Messrs. Whittaker & Co.**—We have before us, from the pen of Mr. S. R. Bottone, a work entitled 'Electric Bells, and All about Them.' The author is, in some circles, known by his previous works on cognate subjects; his work on the dynamo, for example. Electric bells, although one of the simplest of electrical contrivances, have been utilised so extensively that methods of construction have multiplied amazingly. These, and their management, Mr. Bottone aims to describe in his manual. His descriptions are scientific, but not so technical as to debar those who have a moderate knowledge of electricity from employing that knowledge profitably. The work is thorough and cheap withal.

Index to the Books published between January 1 and 15.

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

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| Acts of the Apostles, <i>Buxton</i> (H. J. W.) 1s. 4d. | <i>Baby's Museum</i> , by Uncle Charlie, 1s. 6d. |
| <i>Aeneid</i> , <i>Virgil</i> , with Notes, Book XI., <i>Wagner</i> (W.) 1s. 6d. | <i>Barker</i> (D.) Poems, 10s. 6d. and 7s. 6d. |
| <i>Agnostic</i> , <i>Why I am an</i> , 1s. 6d. | Battles for Life, <i>Hard</i> , <i>Hillocks</i> (J. I.) new edit. 3s. 6d. |
| <i>Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp</i> , <i>Whynates</i> (Amy), 1s. | Bible, <i>Arabic</i> , <i>Chrestomathy</i> , by G. Jacob, 2s. |
| Algebra, Companion to <i>Hamblin Smith's</i> , <i>Dalton</i> (W. F.) 3s. 6d. | Bible in the Pacific, <i>Murray</i> (A. W.) 6s. |
| Alloys, <i>Metallic</i> , <i>Brant</i> (W. T.) 12s. 6d. | Bible Stories, <i>Favourite</i> , 1s. 6d. |
| Almanac, <i>Oliver and Boyd's</i> , Edinburgh, for 1889, 6s. 6d. | Bible Work, Vol. 5, 3s. |
| Almanac, <i>Oxford</i> , Sheet for 1889, 4s. 6d. | Biology, <i>Elementary</i> , <i>Gibson</i> (R. J. H.) 6s. |
| Almanack, <i>Farmer's and Country Gentleman's</i> , 6d. | <i>Blue Ribbon</i> , a Novel, 2s. 6d. & 2s. |
| Almanack, <i>Licensed Victuallers' Guardian</i> , 1s. | Bookbinding, <i>Historical</i> , <i>Quartich</i> , Facsimiles, Part I. 21s. |
| Anatomy, <i>Pathological</i> , <i>Wolfenden</i> (R. N.), No. 2, 2s. 6d. | Book Buyer, Christmas, 1888, 1s. |
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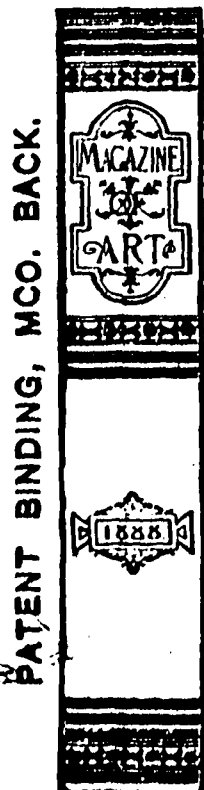
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