PRICE THREEPENCE

APRIL 1, 1890



No. 1,261. VOL. 53





GENERAL RECORD

OF

BRITISH AND FOREIGN LITERATURE

Issued on the 1st and 15th of each Month

LONDON

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PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The Publishers beg to remind the Trade that the above number will be issued on May 15. Books, Periodicals, Stationery, or Fancy Articles intended for notice or review should be sent at once, addressed to the Editor, and marked on the outside 'For Export No.'

ADVERTISERS REQUIRING MORE THAN ONE PAGE SHOULD APPLY AT ONCE FOR SPACE.

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St. Dunstan's House, E.C.,

April 1, 1890.

MR. ANDREW LANG recently took an audience assembled at the South Kensington Museum into his confidence, and in a gay humour condescended to explain to them the most approved methods involved in the solution of the problem, 'How to Fail in Literature.' His remarks on that occasion, revised, corrected, and considerably augmented, have just been printed; and some rich patron of letters ought to instruct Messrs. Field & Tuer to send a copy of the dainty booklet to amateur authors who regard Mr. Walter Beant as the doughty champion of oppressed merit and unrecognised genius. Nobody can accuse Mr. Lang of speaking on such a subject out of the fulness of actual experience. We are all aware that he is both versatile and vivacious, but, strange to relate, there are to discuss from the standpoint of personal knowledge, and this is one of them. Nevertheless, Mr. Lang's counsels are worth more attention than they are likely to receive from those who most need to consider them. Young aspirants in literature betray as a rule an abnormal love of approbation, but for advice, gratis or otherwise, they generally manifest complacent disdain. Indeed, Dr. Johnson's sense is not imperilled by the assertion that advice is seldom welcome, whilst those who need it most like it least.

The young beginner ought not to allow himself to be too easily disheartened, for it is not half such a difficult thing to fail in literature as perhaps he is inclined at first sight to suppose. Mr. Lang speaks quite cheerfully about the matter, and even if he cannot plume himself on having personally won that distinction, he has, at all events, been quite long enough behind the scenes to know, how such a result may be brought about with the utmost drivel which came out in three volumes, or the

promptitude and certainty. We wish that we could persuade all whom it may concern to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the advice on this subject which Mr. Lang has so generously placed at their disposal. however, seems a hopeless task, and therefore we must content ourselves by borrowing a few sentiments from the book which ought to convince the most despondent literary fledgling that failure is not beyond the reach of his diligent endeavours. Here, then, in a nutshell are some of Mr. Lang's hints for those who court failure in literature. They must carefully abstain from the observation of life and character; they must perfect themselves in the art of illegible caligraphy; they can hardly be too indifferent to grammar, and must never think of style. It is of advantage to cultivate 'Wardour Street English,' and mixed metaphors are also helpful, though, still a few topics which he is scarcely qualified to some people, who are adepts in the use of both, failure has somehow been denied. Nevertheless, speaking generally, it is impossible to be too obscure, unnatural, involved, vulgar, slipshod, and metaphorical. Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, and therefore one author ought never to grudge paying another such a compliment.

On this subject Mr. Lang says that nobody but a reader of manuscripts knows what well-earned reputation for shrewd common 'myriads of fiction' are written on strangely familiar lines. 'The most out-worn ideassudden loss of fortune; struggles; faithlessness of first lover; noble conduct of second lover; frivolity of younger sister; excellence of mother; naughtiness of one son, virtue of another, these are habitually served up again and again.' A man who means to fail in literature ought, according to Mr. Lang, to read very little, and to take care that all that he masters is bad; after that little more is required at his hands, except to produce something not quite equal to the 'last domestic

last analysis of the inmost self of some introspective young girl which crossed the water from the States.' In order to make assurance doubly sure, Mr. Lang gives other hints equally artless and valuable. Some of them concern the publishers, and touch gingerly on such supposed pitfalls for the unwary as 'halfprofits' and the like, but we have said enough to indicate that the tone throughout is 'childlike and bland,' and that, if the book does not point out any royal road to failure, it is an uncommonly good guide to those who wish to travel in that direction along more beaten thoroughfares. 'Nothing,' said Douglas Jerrold, 'is so beneficial to a young author as the advice of a man whose judgment stands constitutionally at the freezing-point,' and that advantage the 'young author' who is not too proud to accept judicious counsel may gain in this 'lecture' from the lips of Mr. Andrew Lang.

Books and Rumours of Books

A biography of Admiral Lord Collingwood, by Mr. Clark Russell, is in preparation.

We are informed that a work by Miss Poynter, named 'The Failure of Elizabeth,' will be ready in a few days.

It is stated that the widow of the Crown Prince Rudolph of Austria has written a book on travel, which will appear immediately.

'Havelock,' in the 'English Men of Action' series, has been entrusted to Mr. Archibald Forbes.

The next novel by Mr. Louis Stevenson is to be called 'The Wrecked.' He has resolved to take up his abode permanently in Samoa.

Messrs. Chatto & Windus are bringing out, in a new and cheap form, the first series of 'Tales of Great Families,' by Mr. Walford.

It is rumoured that Mr. Cyrus W. Field, of submarine cable fame, is likely to bring out a volume of reminiscences.

publish early in the summer a new novel by Miss Annie S. Swan, entitled 'A Vexed Inheritance.'

We hear that Mr. Marion Crawford's novels are attracting great attention in France. Some of the leading Paris newspapers are reprinting his works.

Messrs. James Nisbet & Co. have brought out a cheap edition of Dr. Cunningham Geikie's singularly able and learned book, 'The Life and Works of Christ.'

As an evidence of the great interest manifested in the Free Library movement it may be mentioned that the work of Mr. Greenwood on the subject is going into a third edition,

It is stated that Mr. William Morris is engaged on a prose romance, which will come out as a serial in a magazine. We hear its characteristic feature is that of adventure.

'George Meredith, Novelist and Poet: Some Characteristics,' by Mr. R. Le Gallienne, is now in the printers' hands, and will be published at an early date by Mr. Elkin Mathews.

It is reported that Mr. George Du Maurier is engaged on a novel. If it be true that he is also going to execute with his own hand the illustrations for the work, a fascinating book may be expected.

Mr. Elkin Mathews, Vigo Street, W., will publish in the course of this month a choice limited edition, printed on hand-made paper, of a new volume of verse, 'Corn and Poppies,' by Cosmo Monkhouse.

Mr. J. R. Elliott has written a book on 'American Farms, their Condition and Future,' which Messrs. Putnam will publish immediately in their 'Questions of the Day' series.

The Rev. W. J. Dawson, of Glasgow, a young and rising Wesleyan minister, has written a 'Handbook to the Greater Poets of the Century,' which Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton will publish.

Mr. Carl A. Thimm, late Captain in the 2nd London Rifles, has prepared 'A Complete Bibliography of the Art of Fence with Sword and Bayonet.' The book will be published shortly by Messrs. Franz Thimm & Co.

Honours thick and fast are falling to the Messrs. Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier will lot of Mr. Stanley. It appears that the great traveller is to be made the hero of a new play called after him, which is to be placed upon the boards in Paris next September.

Mr. Lawrence Gomme has written the new volume in the 'Contemporary Science' series, the subject being 'The Village Community.' It will be largely illustrated with plans and maps.

Mr John Hill has written a novel under the title of 'An Unfortunate Arrangement,' which Messrs. Ward & Downey will issue. It is understood the author illustrates some phases of the social questions of the time.

Mr. T. Fisher Unwin will shortly publish a story by Miss Rosa Mackenzie Kettle. It is named 'The Old Hall among the Water Meadows.' Irish and Wiltshire scenery will be a feature of the book.

We understand that Mr. William Black has made considerable progress with his new story, which he will name 'Stand Fast Craig-Royston.' The work portrays Scotch and American society, and some of the scenes are laid in London.

In Paris, a translation of 'Lord Beaconsfield's Letters to his Sister' has attracted some attention. La Nouvelle Revue has written very favourably of the work, which is so well translated that it is declared to have almost the attraction of the original.

The new volume in Messrs. Putnam's 'Knickerbocker Nuggets' series will be 'The Sayings of Poor Richard,' or, in other words, the prefaces, proverbs, and poems contributed to 'Poor Richard's Almanack,' by Benjamin Franklin between the years 1733-1758.

We understand that Mr. H. Herman, author of 'Claudian' and 'The Silver King,' and until recently collaborateur with Mr. Christie Murray, is about to publish, through Messrs. Trischler & Co., a new story called 'Scarlet Fortune.'

Messrs. Appleton & Co. are bringing out a new edition, with many fresh pictures, of their well-known book, 'New York Illustrated: a Pictorial Delineation of Street Scenes, Buildings, River Views, and other Picturesque Features of the great Metropolis.'

A new work that will be welcomed by many readers is nearly ready—a 'History of the Dominion of Canada,' by the Rev. W. P. Greswell. There is a growing interest in Canadian affairs, and a book of this kind will doubtless supply a felt want. It comes through the Clarendon Press.

We learn from St. Petersburg that a very comprehensive and important work has been arranged for under the editorship of General Leer. It is intended to present a thorough history of every war in which Russia has been engaged from the time of Peter the Great. The highest experts in military affairs are enrolled amongst the contributors. Several of the volumes are nearly ready.

P. Blakiston, Son & Co., of Philadelphia, have just published a new Medical Dictionary, by Dr. George M. Gould. It will be a compact one-volume book, containing several thousand new words and definitions, collected from recent medical literature, while the total number of words is beyond that in any similar book.

Mr. William O'Brien's novel is to be at once translated into French, M. Calmann Lévy being the publisher. This is an exceptional honour for Ireland, and will, no doubt, increase interest in the work. Contrary to the rumour hitherto circulated, the work is not of a party nature. The title is 'When we were Boys,' and it is to appear as a six-shilling volume.

We learn from Paris that M. Léon Say, who has been engaged in preparing for the press the autobiography of his grandfather, the well-known economist, read some extracts from the work the other day to the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences. In these extracts it was demonstrated that Jean-Baptiste Say traces his descent from an English stock.

Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston & Co. hope shortly to add to their 'Illustrated Biographies of Great Artists' volumes on 'George Cruikshank,' the 'Landscape Painters of Holland,' and 'Van Eyck, Matsys, and other Painters of the Early Flemish School.' These three volumes, and another on 'David Cox and Peter de Wint,' are in preparation.

The name of the work on which Mr. Andrew Lang and Mr. Rider Haggard are jointly engaged is 'The World's Desire.' It will run as a serial through the New Review. We hear that the editor of this journal contemplates a new weekly paper, to be published at a halfpenny. Current questions will be handled by men of skill and reputation, and a place will be found for fiction.

Messrs. Black are arranging for the issue of another edition of Sir Walter Scott's novels, the principal feature of which will be a new series of illustrations by Mr. Hugh Thomson, who has already won a high reputation as an artist. Mr. Thomson is said to have a keen sense of humour, which will, in conjunction with his other qualities, greatly help him in illustrating the creations of Sir Walter.

A lady went recently into a bookseller's shop to purchase a present for her husband. She hovered round and manifested the usual indecision, whereupon the assistant in charge, to help her out of the difficulty, suggested a set of Shakspeare. The would-be purchaser met this proposal, however, with the prompt remark, 'Oh! he read that when it first came out.' We make haste to add that this happened in America.

A clever author in the Nouvelle Revue, who writes under the name of 'Fergus,' has replied to the criticisms recently made on Rousseau by Mr. Herbert Spencer and Professor Huxley. He indicates that in his opinion the views of those writers are coloured by the fear of Socialism, which, he maintains, is now taking a deep hold of English thought and life. He contends that Professor Huxley has not dealt fairly with Rousseau.

One hundred and twenty thousand copies of Professor Drummond's booklet, 'The Greatest Thing in the World,' have already been printed, and it has been difficult to meet the rapid demand, as orders quite recently have been nearly a thousand per day. One or two imperfect editions under other titles have appeared, which Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton have suppressed, and the trade are warned not to offer the same for sale.

The Rev. J. G. Wood, the well-known naturalist, who literally died in harness last year, was the original of 'Little Mr. Bouncer' in that droll book, the 'Adventures of Mr. Verdant Green.' We make this statement on the authority of the Rev. Theodore Wood, who has written an extremely bright and vivid account of his father's life and work which Messrs. Cassell & Co. have just published.

An unpublished letter from Jonathan Swift was sold at Sotheby's the other day which bore witness to the fact that the country possessed as little attraction for the famous Dean of St. Patrick's as for Dr. Johnson himself. 'I am here,' writes Dr. Swift, 'among the beauties of nature, for which I have little taste. I envy you the dirt, hurricane, malignity in which as all London people—you live.'

Messrs. Griffith, Farran, Okeden & Welsh propose to follow up their cheap reprint of the late W. H. G. Kingston's 'The Three Midshipmen' with a uniform edition of 'Peter the Whaler,' by the same author. 'The Three Midshipmen' is having an enormous sale, and the publishers state that they are constantly receiving letters of thanks for this their latest effort to place good wholesome fiction within the reach of every English school-boy.

An interesting piece of news comes to as from India. In the literature of the Madras Presidency there is an increase in original works as opposed to translations, and considerable improvement is reported in the quality of the native literature. A very diversified range of subject has been taken up in the department of poetry, whilst there is a perceptibly growing taste for fiction, 'As You Like It' has just been translated into Tamil.

In his forthcoming new novel, 'By Order of the Czar,' Mr. Joseph Hatton deals more particularly with the Russian persecution of the Jews; but some of his most exciting scenes take place in London and Venice, in connection with a great act of Nihilistic vengeance. The book will be published immediately by Messrs. Hutchinson & Co., who have also just brought out a second edition of Mr. Hatton's 'Old Lamps and New.'

Mr. W. L. Fagan, of Alabama, U.S.A., has compiled a volume of 'Southern War Songs,' which Messrs. Richardson & Co., of New York, are about to publish, with many illustrations. Mr. Fagan was an officer in the Confederate Army, and he has made an interesting collection of camp-fire, patriotic, and sentimental songs, which, during the Civil War, were continually on the tips of the soldiers who served under commanders like General Lee and 'Stonewall' Jackson.

The widely known 'Pen and Pencil Series' of the Religious Tract Society is about to receive what should prove a valuable and interesting addition, viz., a volume entitled 'London Pictures.' It is from the pen of the Rev. R. Lovett, M.A., author of 'Norwegian Pictures,' 'Irish Pictures,' &c., and will supply a long-felt need. Multitudinous as the books on London are, there are none in existence so handy, and at the same time so well illustrated, as the average volumes of this series. The work will be ready early in May.

We learn that the Abbé Guers has completed his book, giving his recollections of 1870-1. It will be remembered that the Abbé was at Wilhelmshöhe when the Emperor Napoleon was a captive. This work will contain many very interesting reminiscences of the Emperor in exile, his pursuits in the house, and his ways in the open air, the company he met, and the talks of the social table. The volume will afford glimpses of M. Rouher, M. Paul de Cassagnac, M. Gambetta, and Prince Bismarck.

The Religious Tract Society are about to publish an important work by Sir J. William Dawson, F.R.S., on the present state of the evolution controversy. The book is entitled 'Modern Ideas of Evolution in relation to

Religion and Science.' Sir William does full justice to the upholders of evolution as collectors of facts, but he indicates the wide divergences of view as to what evolution really is among the supporters of the modern rival and mutually destructive schools of Romanes, Haeckel, Weismann, and others.

We learn that Messrs. Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier will publish shortly a story entitled 'Ruth Lavender: a Tale of the Early Friends,' by Dora M. Jones. The scene is laid partly in Hampshire and partly in London, and the drift of the story is to represent the simplicity of the doctrine of Fox as contrasted with some aspects of Calvinism. Miss Jones, who is the daughter of a Nonconformist minister, is a young lady of promising talent and skill in fiction, and has already written some essays dealing with various phases of modern life and thought.

Messrs. Trischler & Co. have in the press an illustrated work on Equatorial and South-East Africa, by Wallis Mackay. The book, a'foolscap quarto, will contain upwards of 90 illustrations by the author, and will deal in an exhaustive manner with the late difficulties between the English and the Portuguese at Delagoa Bay. The author, having been on the spot at the time, is well qualified to speak about the matter in dispute. His abilities with the pencil will be thoroughly familiar to readers of the Sporting and Dramatic News, who will probably hail the re-appearance of the 'Captious Critic' with a considerable amount of pleasure.

Robert Browning's death has unquestionably led to a vastly increased interest in his poetry, and, if we may judge from the number of biographies and promised estimates of his life and character, one may safely say that this interest is likely to be continued for a good while to come. Not long ago we announced a memoir, which is being prepared by Mr. William Sharp; now we hear of another biographical and critical account, which Mrs. Sutherland Orr is writing, with the assistance of the Browning family. We also learn that Dr. Furnivall is carrying on his researches in relation to the poet's ancestry; and Dr. Burdoe has just published, through Messrs. Swan Somenschein & Co., a critical exposition, entitled 'Browning's Message to his Time.'

A work entitled 'Semitic Philosophy, Showing the Ultimate Social and Scientific Outcome of Original Christianity in its Conflict with Surviving Ancient Heathenism,' by Philip C. Friese, will be issued immediately from the press of S. C. Griggs & Co., of Chicago. In it many interesting subjects are discussed. Beginning with instinctive thought, its etherealisation by means of language, the author treats of the social contract between God and man, the meaning of the formula 'Kingdom

of a general social reformation. He touches upon such questions as the relation of Church and State and Church and School, the purification of politics, the labour question, and the various phases of the race problem.

A work entitled 'A Digest of English and American Literature' is now in the press of S. C. Griggs & Co., of Chicago, being the last book written by the late Prof. A. H. Welsh, whose 'Development of English Literature and Language' has passed through ten The scholarly reputation attained editions. by Prof. Welsh through his other works bearing upon the same subject will cause the appearance of the new book to be anticipated with pleasure. It is peculiarly adapted for those who desire to follow the contemporaneous political and social development of the world while making a special study of England's literature. work is arranged for immediate reference, and, in a brief and yet comprehensive way, it is aimed to give the student chronologically the characteristics and chief events of any author's period, together with a crisp, critical synopsis of his life and writings.

Bret Harte was at one time employed in setting type in the composing-room of a weekly newspaper in San Francisco. He had not been long engaged in this way when he bashfully submitted to the editor of the journal which he helped to print a few literary sketches. They were accepted, and the young printer abandoned type-setting and took to the pen. He rapidly came to the front, and all his most characteristic work was done in California. The explanation of this, according to the American Book Buyer, is that Bret Harte at first 'wrote with a certain unconsciousness or non-expectancy of applause that was calculated to provoke the best work. The sources of his inspiration had begun to run low when he came to New York to be a literary lion, and to accept a contract of fabulous profitableness, as his friends then thought.' When he was in Europe, between the years 1878 and 1885, he did comparatively little to increase his reputation, but since then, and notably in his latest story—'A Waif of the Plains'—he has, to a large extent, recovered the literary strength and humour which some of his admirers were beginning to think he had permanently lost.

Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston & Co. have issued a circular about 'In Darkest Africa,' in which they state that it is almost unnecessary, in view of the 'deep and universal interest evinced by the public in Mr. Stanley's book, for his publishers to say more than that nothing which the utmost efforts on their part can effect will be wanting to make it in every way worthy of the grand story which, through its means, they will have the honour to make known to the world. Great as was the interest evoked by Mr. Stanley's fof God' as promulgated in the days of the "How I Found Livingstone," and "Through Patriarchs, applying its principles to the subject | the Dark Continent," it cannot be compared with the indescribable eagerness with which any information about this forthcoming work has been demanded, and the keenness with which it has been competed for by publishers in all the civilised countries of the world.' The book, as previously announced, will be in two volumes, and will contain thirty-three full-page and sixty-four half-page illustrations, besides forty-six vignettes, and three large and four-teen small maps. An édition de luxe, strictly limited to two hundred and fifty copies, each of which will be signed by Mr. Stanley himself, is also in preparation.

Notes and News

The forthcoming volume in the 'Minerva Library' is to be John Forster's 'Life of Oliver Goldsmith.'

Chiswick has, by a very large majority of the ratepayers, resolved to adopt the Free Libraries Act.

We are informed that the twelfth report of the Historical Manuscripts Commission is nearly ready.

We are informed that the Senate of the University of Sydney has appointed Mr. Pitt Corbett, M.A., Professor of Law in that University.

The next volume—the ninth, by the way—in the 'Carisbrooke Library' is to be Ben Jonson's 'Masques.' It will be published towards the end of May.

The Carlton Club is in a prosperous state. Not only is there a profit on the year of nearly £4,000, but there is an unusual number of candidates eagerly seeking election.

Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. have now ready their shilling edition of 'Vanity Fair,' which appears in the original yellow covers, and with the author's own illustrations.

The original Paston manuscripts, which Fenn gave to George the Third, have been recovered, having been found in the library of the late Colonel George Tomline at Orwell Park.

A portrait of Mr. H. M. Stanley, painted at Cairo by Miss Meyrick, is to be exhibited at the Royal Academy Exhibition in May, and then presented to the Royal Geographical Society.

Her Majesty the Queen has been pleased to accept a copy of Miss Lucy Thornton's 'Story of a Poodle,' a little book published by Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. in the Christmas season.

Messrs. W. H. Allen & Co. have added a most interesting volume to their 'Eminent Women Series,' dealing with the mother of the Wesleys—one of the most remarkable of women of modern times.

We hear that the plans for the French Exhibition at Earl's Court are now settled. At a recent meeting of those who are promoting the scheme a very hopeful view was taken of the coming show.

A very useful series of 'Mnemonic Charts' relating to English history has been prepared by Mr. David Ross. It shows the principal events from A.D. 449 to our own day, and will prove a useful work to students.

Cambridge has recently added to its treasures by the purchase of some valuable manuscripts, which include a ninth-century benedictional, and an example of the Norman-French style of the fourteenth century.

The Centenary of the Royal Literary Fund is to be celebrated at St. James's Hall, under the presidency of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, on Wednesday, May 14. The gathering promises to be one of exceptional interest.

Messrs. Cassell & Co. intend to bring out Part I. of the 'Dictionary of Religion' on the 24th of this month. The work is edited by the Rev. William Benham, B.D., F.S.A., and it is to be completed in eighteen sixpenny parts.

A cheap and revised edition of the Rev. Philip H. Wicksteed's 'Dante: Six Sermons' will shortly be issued by Mr. Elkin Mathews, of Vigo Street. The original edition, published in 1879, has long been out of print and difficult to obtain.

A new work, which aims at giving a thorough comprehensive statement of English law, will shortly be published by Messrs. Clowes & Sons. It is written by Mr. Thomas Brett, already known by works in a similar department of literature.

A most elaborate picture of the famous Jubilee scene in Westminster Abbey has been nearly completed by Mr. Lockhart, who undertook the work at the command of the Queen. Her Majesty has expressed a high opinion of the painting.

We hear that Mr. Felix Joseph has presented to the Nottingham Corporation a fine collection of early English drawings. His purpose is to assist in reviving the art of book illustration, which has been somewhat languid in recent years.

Under the rule of the Athenaeum Club which provides for the annual election of persons distinguished in science, art, or literature, the following gentlemen have been elected:—Sir John Kirk, Sir William Turner, and Mr. W. J. Courthope.

The following gentlemen have been elected members of the Royal Society of British Artists: Henry Zimmerman, G. Sheridan Knowles, C. E. Marshall, Leopold Rivers, J. W. Godward, E. Holmes, Albert Kinsley, and Alfred de Brianski.

By a curious slip of the pen we attributed Mr. Hall Caine's powerful novel, 'The Bondman,' in our last issue to Mr. Grant Allen. The obvious error was all the more singular, because on the previous page we had spoken of the book as the work of Mr. Caine.

Messrs. Butterworths have issued a work entitled 'Outline of Roman History from Romulus to Justinian.' It has translations of the Twelve Tables, and the Institutes of Caius

and Justinian are included. The book has been prepared by Mr. David Nasmith, Q.C.

A council of the Royal Geographical Society has elected the following gentlemen as Fellows:—Lord Kinnaird, W. H. Maw, Captain T. H. Butterworth, W. D. Coggleshall, G. M. Edwardes Jones, Inspector-General Belgrave Ninnis, W. D. Pitcairn, and Major N. Powlett, R.A.

An interesting work, bearing on Scotch University life, has just been published by Messrs. J. & R. Parlane, of Paisley. It is a series of scenes and sketches of college life in Edinburgh, by Mr. David Cuthbertson. Students will be greatly delighted by the reminiscences given in this book.

Mr. W. M. Acworth's book on the Scotch Railways is, we hear, exciting a good deal of interest. It is from several points of view a valuable work, and tourists who propose to journey north during the coming season will do well to possess themselves of a copy. John Murray is the publisher.

We are glad to be informed that Mr. Talbot Baines Reed is to read a paper before the Society of Arts on April 16, on a subject which he is exceptionally well qualified to discuss, 'Old and New Fashions in Typography.' Dr. Garnett, Keeper of the Printed Books in the British Museum, has promised to take the chair.

Mr. Gladstone states that Bishop Butler taught him, forty-five years ago, to suspend his judgment on things he knew he did not understand. 'With Butler's aid,' Mr. Gladstone adds, 'I may often have been wrong; without him I think I should never have been right. And oh that this age knew the treasures it possesses in him and neglects!

Messrs. G. W. Bacon & Co. have just brought out a reduced edition of their 'Excelsior Map of the British Isles,' by G. W. Bacon, F.R.G.S. It is coloured, mounted on cloth with rollers, and is an extremely good map, and suitable for smaller schools and class rooms. The names are boldly printed, so that the chief towns can be seen at a glance.

A series of sporting nevelettes by Mr. Finch Mason will commence publication a few weeks hence in Messrs. Tillotson & Son's series The opening story will be of newspapers. entitled 'How "Beefeater" Won the Derby.' Messrs. Tillotson have also arranged to publish a new serial work by Mr. G. Manville Fenn, entitled 'A Mint of Money.'

The historic building in Tottenham Court Road, known as Whitefield's Tabernacle, is now being pulled down. Last autumn the foundations were discovered to be giving way, and it was resolved to erect a new sanctuary. The response to the request for subscriptions has been so hearty that the work has commenced; and it may be hoped that before long a new and more splendid edifice will rise on the old site.

the Oxford House, Bethnal Green, a still the husband is to be applied to the endowment more effective and flourishing institution. It of cottage homes for destitute children, to be is the desire of the promoters to provide a named 'Jurgen Edward Pfeiffer's Homes.'

permanent home, and plans have been drawn. The object will doubtless command a ready response, as the purpose of the Oxford House is a meritorious one—to bring the religious life and high culture of the University to bear on the wretched life of the East End of London.

A most important collection of books is being prepared for sale in London, namely, the extensive library of Lord Acton. estimated that this collection embraces over 60,000 volumes, including numerous rare works from the various continental centres, It is specially rich in books bearing on religious orders, the proceedings of learned societies, and the genealogy of historic families, as well as on the general history of European States.

Mansfield College, Oxford, has, we learn, just received an interesting contribution. Several senior members of the University have presented two hundred volumes from the library of the late Dr. Hatch. It is noteworthy that in a letter accompanying the books the members express a hope that the gift will remind Mansfield students of the goodwill Dr. Hatch felt for the college. The letter is signed, amongst others, by the Master of Balliol.

The new Caxton Head 'Catalogue of Rare Books ' is issued in an extremely artistic cover, specially designed by Mr. Walter Crane, with a colophon by Mr. Selwyn Judge. For the first time this well-known catalogue appears with the names of J. & M. L. Tregaskis, and the statement is made that 'the alteration extends merely to name, the proprietorship being only altered by the introduction of a partner, who brings to the business the advantage of a quarter-of-a-century's experience in practical printing and kindred crafts.'

The Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's have refused their consent to the erection of a memorial to Mr. Wilkie Collins within the cathedral, and the committee have accordingly fallen back upon another scheme. They propose to devote the subscriptions to the purchase of a collection of books to bear the name of 'The Wilkie Collins Memorial Library,' to be placed in the People's Palace in the East End. The collection will, we believe, be made up solely of fiction, and Mr. Harry Quilter undertakes to receive gifts of volumes to add to the library, but he retains the right of selection.

The will of Mrs. Emily Pfeiffer, of West Hill, Putney, shows that the personal estate amounts to £63,000. Her husband left her all his property, and after bequeathing £500 to her sisters, Mrs. Pfeiffer leaves everything to be disposed of in accordance with her husband's wishes, as set forth in a letter, in which he indicated his desire to have the bulk of his property distributed among charitable and educational institutions for women only. It is a noteworthy circumstance that Mr. Pfeiffer in this letter expresses the opinion that boys should be brought up towork, and have nothing Special exertions are being made to render left to them. The whole of the property of

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MR. HENRY SOTHERAN

(Presented with the Publishers' Circular, April 1, 1890.)

American Notes and News

Messrs. Little, Brown & Co., of Boston, will publish soon the fifth and final volume of Prof. J. G. Palfrey's 'History of New England.' At the time of the author's death the material for this volume was in an advanced state of completion. The labour necessary to make it ready for the press has been performed by his son, Gen. Francis W. Palfrey. It brings the narrative down to July 3, 1775, which was the date fixed by the author in his original plan. An index has been added to this volume 'Myths and Folkcovering the whole work. Lore of Ireland,' by Jeremiah Curtin, which the same firm have just ready, embodies a great deal of valuable material for the student of history. The author collected these stories on a personal visit to the West of Ireland in 1887 (taking them down from the lips of persons who spoke only Gaelic or very little English), and then translated them. Thus the original character of the tales is preserved, as well as the fresh, piquant flavour which adds so much to their interest. A London edition of the latter is published by Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, Searle & Rivington, Limited.

Messrs. Harper Bros. will publish immediately, in book form, under the title of 'Two Years in the French West Indies,' written by Lafcadio Hearn, being the literary results of a voyage of nearly three thousand miles, devoted to sketches of life, manners, customs, and characteristic types.

Messrs. Ginn & Co., Boston, will publish at once 'Elements of Structural and Systematic Botany,' for high schools and elementary college courses, by Professor Douglas H. Campbell, of Indiana University.

The May number of Lippincott's Monthly Magazine will contain a complete new novel from the pen of Bret Harte, entitled 'A Sappho of Green Springs.'

Mr. James Russell Lowell, who has just celebrated his seventy-first birthday, and whose writings, if not familiar on this side of the Atlantic as household words, have long been a source of delight to a multitude of British readers, has recently been devoting much time to the biography of Nathaniel Hawthorne he has arranged to contribute to the 'American Men of Letters' series, published by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston. The English edition will be published simultaneously by Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, Searle & Rivington, Limited.

A new library edition of the works of W. H. Prescott, the historian, edited by J. Foster Kirk, printed from entirely new plates, and illustrated with portraits and maps, in twelve octavo volumes, is being issued by the J.B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia. 'The Conquest of Mexico,' 'The Conquest of Peru,' and 'Ferdinand and Isabella' are now ready.

Mr. S. E. Dawson, the well-known publisher of Montreal, has received the degree of Doctor of Letters from Laval University, Quebec. With the head of the firm, he was left for some Mr. Dawson is an author of reputation. His time to gaze at the laden shelves and show-cases

study of 'The Princess' was very cordially welcomed by scholars on its appearance a few years since. Recently Mr. Dawson has written a series of thoughtful essays in the Toronto Week on Canadian political questions.

A volume of about two hundred and fifty selected American sonnets, edited by Colonel T. W. Higginson and Mrs. S. A. Bigelow, will be published at an early date. It will also contain brief but requisite notes.

Mr. Warren Leo Goss, author of 'Jed: a Boy's Adventures in the Army of '61,' is preparing for early publication through Messrs. T. Y. Crowell & Co., Boston, his 'Recollections of a Private,' a portion of which has already appeared in the Century Magazine.

The Round Table is the name of a new weekly journal of sixteen pages just published at Nashville, Tennessee. The first number contains contributions by Maurice Thompson, George W. Cable, and other Southern writers.

Mr. Richard Malcolm Johnson, author of 'Old Mark Langston' and various tales of old Georgia life, is said to be writing a long novel.

In pursuance of their plan of providing for the present generation of Americans authoritative and carefully edited texts of the writings of the 'Fathers of the Republic,' G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, have in preparation an edition of the 'Writings of John Jay,' which will be issued in four volumes, uniform with their fine editions of the works of Hamilton, Franklin, and Washington. These writings of Chief-Justice Jay (which include a very large proportion of important material heretofore unpublished) are being prepared for the press by Prof. Henry P. Johnston, of the College of New York, with all needed assistance from the present John Jay. This set will contain, in addition to the correspondence and decisions of Jay, a selection of the more important of the letters from his contemporaries, and will therefore make a very complete presentation of the issues and opinions of the The writings of Jay will be followed by the publication, by the same firm, in the same style, probably in nine volumes, of the 'Writings of Thomas Jefferson.' Of both these sets, as of those already published, limited editions only will be issued.

Booksellers of To-Day,

I. MR. HENRY SOTHERAN.

As a class, booksellers (especially the second-hand branch of the industry) are not prone to delight in handsome premises, but Mr. Sotheran is a notable exception to the rule. His depôt in Piccadilly is a building of considerable architectural beauty. He has in addition the well-known premises in the Strand and at Manchester, the latter forming the centre of much provincial custom. Upon our representative calling at the first-named establishment for the purpose of an interview with the head of the firm, he was left for some time to gaze at the laden shelves and show-cases

museum of ancient and modern books, many clothed in rare and beautiful bindings. The floors above are also occupied in a similar way, and it would be a shrewd guess that nearly known penny magazines, including Chambers's approached the real value of this remarkable stock-in-trade. The top story of No. 36 Piccadilly is well lighted, and on a fine day commands a view of the Surrey Hills and Crystal Palace. This floor Mr. Henry Sotheran has relegated to his own uses, and it forms a commodious suite of chambers. As the occupant glances from the front windows over the surrounding roofs and chimney stacks his imagination might well bring to view the tall poplars that grow in the grounds of his private residence on Beulah Hill.

When we were ushered into the presence of Mr. Sotheran we found him seated in an inner room, busily examining some large folio editions. He readily welcomed the caller, and apparently entered with enjoyment into his own recollections of the firm's history. With his head resting upon the back of an easy chair and the expression of his face responding to thoughts of years long gone by, Mr. Sotheran presented a picture typical of an honoured class of business men who seem to be disappearing with the century. Though his hair is thinned and grey, Mr. Sotheran's eyes continue to sparkle with business energy and power, and it is hard to believe that his recollections now range considerably over half a century of continuous work. Upon being asked to give in outline some account of the business of which he longing gaze upon No. 136 Strand, then is the head Mr. Sotheran exhibited the titlepage of a small work bearing date 1765, and published by Mr. Henry Sotheran, bookseller, of the city of York. 'He may be said to have been the great railway bookstall house decided the founder of this firm,' said Mr. Sotheran, and my father (Mr. Thomas Sotheran), being his nephew, was apprenticed to him. When he | tered into negotiations with the present First had served his time my father came to London | Lord of the Treasury, and, after several interwith two letters of recommendation from his views, extending to the close of 1855, the uncle; one was to Messrs. Longman, and the transfer of the lease was effected. New Year's other to Messrs. John and Arthur Arch, the Quaker booksellers of Cornhill. When the letter of introduction was shown to John and later (Midsummer 1866) it was Sotheran only, Arthur Arch the two brothers consulted, the result being that John Arch at last came forward and said: "Thomas, thee art engaged." He remained with them for several years, until he got married in 1812. Fifty years afterwards I celebrated his golden wedding at the "Albion," in Aldersgate Street. It seems that the Quaker brothers had a great regard for my father, for when he was married one of them said: "Thomas, thee art going to be married. We don't care for our stationery business; thee art welcome to it." My father accordingly started a stationery business in Little Tower Street, and it was here, close to the Tower of London, and within the sound of Bow bells, that I was born, a citizen.'

Mr. Sotheran added that, out of respect to Messrs. Arch, and in remembrance of their liberality to him, Mr. Thomas Sotheran did not care to extend his bookselling business. It was in 1832, at the age of twelve years, that Mr. Sotheran entered into active life in his father's shop, leaving school thus early in ing of the house appearing elsewhere in this

which convert this shop into a veritable consequence of prolonged prostration by fever. (It may be noted that the year of Mr. Sotheran's induction into the trade was the year of the first publication of certain well-Journal, and also the year of the issue of the classics in cheap editions.) Thus Mr. Sotheran started with a new era in the publishing and bookselling trade, and, young as he was, took an interest in the movement. Having mastered every detail of the stationery department he entered heart and soul into the intricacies of bookselling. So rapidly did the business in this direction extend that, within a comparatively short time, the firm decided to relinquish the stationery connection in favour of a former employé, named John Draper. In 1841 Mr. Sotheran attained his majority, and was thereupon taken into partnership, the business being still conducted in Tower Many still living will remember Street. 'Sotheran's Corner,' with its display of caricatures in the window. The premises becoming so crammed with books, every floor from cellar to attic being closely shelved, additional premises had to be sought. Hearing that Mr. Stibbs, whose bookselling store faced Somerset House, was desirous of retiring from active work, the entire stock-in-trade and goodwill were purchased. This was in the year 1851. Mr. Sotheran was now over thirty years of age, and in the spring of his business career. Not satisfied with the two important depôts now in the hands of the firm, he cast a the head office and storehouse of Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son. An opportunity occurred for the purchase of these premises when upon making Arundel Street the centre of its operations. Mr. Sotheran immediately en-Day, 1856, saw the Strand house in the hands of Messrs. Willis & Sotheran, but ten years Mr. George Willis having for some time been desirous of retiring. The Tower Street shop had some time previously been demolished in the interests of City improvements, and its business connection removed to Queen Street, Cheapside. This branch, however, was subsequently handed over to Mr. Edward Jones, an old and valued assistant; thus closing the firm's relations with the City proper. From 1866 to 1871 was a period of steady growth with the house, but fears were now arising in the mind of Mr. Sotheran as to what might happen at the expiration of the Strand lease. He accordingly took the bull by the horns, and purchased the Piccadilly site, originally occupied by a pawnbroker. His capacity in matters architectural, and his knowledge of the internal requirements of a building devoted to the storing of books, shone forth in the plans that were prepared for the new building. remarked earlier, the façade is one of considerable interest, as will be seen from the engravissue. But it is the interior of the shop floor greatly extended the natural history branch of that has gained most attention, and strikes the visitor as being rather a nobleman's library than a shop; in fact, many noblemen have instructed their architects to found their plans upon the principle of arrangement here displayed.

In 1880 the goodwill and highly valuable stock of Mr. Thomas Hayes, who from ill health was anxious to quit active life (49 Cross Street, Manchester), was purchased, and has been continued by the firm since with the same energy that characterised the proprietary of

Mr. Hayes.

'Then that brings us fairly up to date?'

remarked our representative.

'Yes,' replied Mr. Sotheran, 'and you may say that during the Prince of Wales's visit to India, I had the honour of supplying his Royal Highness with all the magnificent volumes which he gave the rajahs during his tour. Since then I have been appointed bookseller to his Royal Highness. The house in the Strand is, as you know, more particularly devoted to the second-hand stock, and librarians,' added Mr. S., with an amusing smile, 'find no difficulty here in obtaining any class of work they may require. Our Price Current of Literature, now in its 492nd monthly part, is published in the Strand. It has appeared uninterruptedly for forty-one Each new part contains the latest purchases of the firm from various sales and private libraries.'

'What about Mr. Gould's great work, Mr.

Sotheran?'

'Well, it was this way. When Mr. John Gould, the great naturalist, died, his wellknown valuable property was offered to two or three leading houses for tender, and I purchased the complete plant, copyright, stock, and all the valuable lithographic stones, for upwards of £5,000. At the same time I secured the services of Mr. Gould's staff of Booksellers' Row. colourists, and was in that way enabled to will come of the agitation, said he; but if complete the works left unpublished, viz.: "The Birds of Asia," "The Humming Birds," and "The Birds of New Guinea." I have been congratulated by many upon having turned these out equal in finish and beauty to the previous works that Mr. Gould produced himself. The complete set altogether forms forty-three volumes, imperial folio.'

'Have you any complete sets for sale?'

With great difficulty we have made up one or two sets, which have been elegantly bound and fitted into carved cabinets. You will see by our catalogue that we are offering these at £1,000 per set. Two or three of the earlier works have realised at sales double their published price. The stock is rapidly diminishing, and their value will doubtless increase accordingly.'

Questioned as to his views upon Mr. Macmillan's proposals, Mr. Sotheran smilingly held up his hands in apparent fear of being again dragged into that subject. 'That miserable discount business,' said he; 'why, I | this or any other question connected with the could not get a bare living out of the sale of trade. All that would be necessary would be new books. By the way, you may say that to make application to the Council.

our business.'

It may well be assumed, considering the many years of arduous labour Mr. Sotheran has passed through, he will soon be seeking the repose which he has so well earned, though there is no reason why his guiding hand should not even then continue to sway the affairs of the house. Concerning this matter we may mention that Mr. Sotheran's only son, Mr. Henry Cecil Sotheran, has for some years past been an active worker in the business. He could not do more wisely, when his turn comes to take the helm, than to follow directly in the course which his father, as a young man, laid down for himself, and from which he never deviated.

THE DISCOUNT SYSTEM THE IN BOOK TRADE.

Mr. Frederick Macmillan's proposal is exciting a good deal of attention throughout the country. We submit to-day the views of some booksellers and publishers which will be read with interest. This we are enabled to do through the courtesy of the Pall Mall Gazette, whose representative conducted interviews with those engaged in the business.

The question, of course, has a special aspect for the country bookseller. On this point, Mr. Marshall, of Messrs. Marshall Bros., says: 'The position of the country bookseller is bad -very bad. It is simply impossible for a man in the provinces to make a living by bookselling

alone.'

Mr. Marshall, in reply to a question, admitted that Mr. Macmillan's proposal might raise the country bookseller's profit from 10 to 16 per cent. The contention of Messrs. Marshall Bros., that Mr. Macmillan's scheme would improve the country trade, received confirmation at the hands of Mr. Slatter, of 'I don't think anything some such system were adopted it would undoutedly have the effect of distributing the trade.'

The initial difficulty, according to Mr. Vickers, of the Hansard Publishing Union, lies in the fact that there was and is no union in the trade. Mr. Henry Glaisher, of the Strand, holds that Mr. Macmillan's proposal is an absurd one. What they must do, seeing the present condition of things cannot be altered. is to keep the discount system where it is. Colonel R. W. Routledge, of Messrs. Routledge & Sons, says: 'The scheme would never work, for the simple reason that you could not possibly get your booksellers to combine. Somebody would refuse to join the Union, or would break the rules after joining it, and then, in a moment, you would have the whole difficulty over again.'

Colonel Routledge recommends that some booksellers should join the London Chamber of Commerce, and then they could discuss since the publication of Gould's works we have | Charles Longman, of Messrs. Longmans,

Green & Co., thinks Mr. Macmillan's scheme is not a practicable one. He says: 'For this main reason. No matter what arrangement might be come to, booksellers would be found ready to give some discount to the public, even if their profits were limited to twopence in the shilling. These booksellers, gaining a larger sale thereby, would then bring pressure to bear upon the publishers for better terms, and we should have the whole difficulty over again.' Mr. Longman, however, said he was in favour of some such change as that proposed, and added: 'We are in no sense hostile to Mr. Macmillan, and I only wish I could think that his scheme would have the effect desired. An improvement in the condition of the retail bookseller means an improvement in the trade, and an improvement in the trade directly benefits both publisher and author. It is of paramount importance to the producers of books that the retail bookseller should be able to keep a representative selection of published works in stock; and this, under the present system, he is not able to do.'

Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton, on being asked about the proposed scheme, said: 'So far from hoping that discount will be abolished altogether, we confidently expect to see it rise to fourpence in the shilling before long. the publishers must combine, and their action will be without effect unless they can insure the hearty co-operation of the leading London

and provincial booksellers.'

Mr. T. Fisher Unwin says: 'The difficulties are insurmountable. I sincerely wish it were otherwise. I should like to see a state of things brought about which would render it possible for the retail bookseller to keep some of our volumes on his shelves for a twelvemonth or more.'

Mr. Unwin added that he thought there would be a reaction in favour of limited edi-He considered the German system excellent in its way, but it would not be possible to introduce it into this country.

THE RETAIL BOOK TRADE.—A correspondent, signing himself 'Cyclops,' who states that he has been nearly thirty years in the trade, writing to us on the subject of booksellers' prices, draws attention to what he considers the want of fair and just trading in some of the wholesale houses, which he contends has been the sole cause of many of the evils which exist. He alludes specially to the 'two-price' system, and to the flooding of the market with cheap editions of standard works without first of all 'calling in' the more expensive editions, as used formerly to be the rule. He thinks it is a mistake that more inducements are not offered to retail booksellers to deal directly with the publishers, not merely for large quantities, but also for single copies. He urges the formation of an association of retail booksellers, so that there may be a full discussion of the needs of the trade, and the best methods to increase, and, at the same time, raise the status of the business.

THE COLUMBUS LETTER.—Until 1852, it

Columbus' letter had ever been printed; all the old editions of the 'Epistola Christophori Colom cui etas nostra multum debet' having been published from a Latin translation of the original, made in April 1493. In 1852, there was added by bequest to the Ambrosian library in Milan a small 4to. of four leaves. which contained the lost Spanish text, printed probably in 1493 or 1494, no date or place being given. Not, however, till 1863 was the discovery made known, and from that time till a short while ago the Ambrosian small 4to. has enjoyed the reputation of being unique. It could not be shown to have been printed in Spain, for, although it had undoubtedly been given to the press by a Spanish editor, the compositor's work was plainly not that of a Spaniard. Moreover, the small 4to. pamphlet size seemed to bring it into nearer relation the small 4to. translations which appeared in 1493-1495, all outside Spain—in Italy, France, and Germany. last, a few months ago, the true Spanish edition was discovered in Spain. It is a large pamphlet of two leaves or four pages, in a quadrate small folio shape. The text is plainly that from which the Ambrosian small 4to. was reprinted, but there are, here and there in the folio, certain tokens of a Catalan workshop, such as magestat, venit, qualls, temporals, which the Spanish editor of the small 4to. corrected (magestad, venid, quales, temporales), and we are thus enabled to conclude that the folio was printed in Barcelona, where the court was residing when Columbus sent his letter from Palos on March 15 or 16, He waited for permission to follow it before he quitted Palos, and it was probably about April 10 when he reached Barcelona. To that date, or some time before the close of the month, we may assign the printing of the folio. The Latin translation which has so often been printed was finished on April 28, and carried abroad for publication; and it may be supposed that the Ambrosian reprint belongs to the same period—that is, to some time in the month of May or June. M. Jean Maisonneuve, of Paris, was the first purchaser of the unique Barcelona original, which is now in the possession of Mr. Quaritch.

IMPORTANT SALE OF AUTOGRAPH LETTERS. One of the most interesting and important sales of recent years has just concluded at the rooms of Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, & Hodge. The collection was one of manuscripts, autographs, letters, &c., and belonged for the most part to the late Mr. Abraham Hayward, Q.C. Great interest was taken in the sale, which lasted several days. Amongst the more important transfers effected by the dispersion we may mention the following: Letter from Napoleon Buonaparte to the Empress Josephine before his marriage, written on a small scrap of paper of irregular form and pasted on to a thicker piece, the handwriting very difficult to read, and the signature scrawled 'Buonaparte,' spelt with the 'u,' and quite unrecognisable to those who are not acquainted with the signature, which is very was unknown that the Spanish text of rarely seen. With this was a note from the

Empress Josephine to her daughter, Queen Hortense, and one from Joseph Bonaparte, brother of the Emperor, dated 1816. three were sold together for £25. 10s. final and complete proof sheets of Robert Browning's later poems, with autograph letters to Mr. Barnett Smith, and other manuscripts of the poet, realised £158. Letter of Robert Burns to Mrs. Dunlop, dated 1787, in which he says, 'I know what I may expect from the world by-and-by, illiberal abuse and perhaps contemptuous neglect, but I am resolved to study the sentiments of a very respectable personage—Milton's Satan. Hail, horrors! Hail, infernal world!'--£15. A collection of letters and MSS. of Robert Burns, bound together in one volume, an important collection -£60. An epistle from Lord Byron brought £32. Thackeray manuscripts sold well; but letters from Macaulay, Landor, Kingsley, Leigh Hunt, and Lamb were not valued so highly. A note from Longfellow was sold for £3, and one from Pope, regarding his translation of Homer, for £12. A petition in the handwriting of Jonathan Swift evoked some curiosity. It was to the House of Lords, and claimed protection from a Lord Blayney and another gentleman, who, it seems, rode the Dean down on a road near Dublin, and threw him into a ditch when he mildly expostulated with them on their conduct. Swift failed to see any reason why even a peer should be allowed to assault any of the King's loyal subjects on the public highway. The document was sold for fourteen guineas. The Nelson letters attracted a great deal of attention. Of these documents one was dated from San Josef, February 6, 1801, with franked address and seal, beginning, blows a gale of wind, but which only affects me as it may deprive me of my dear and honoured friend's letters'—further on he says, in the name of the Mr. 'Thomson' he assumed, 'He thinks it might be better to omit christening the child for the present; the clergyman would naturally ask its parents' names, which would put poor dear Mrs. Thomson in some trouble or cause suspicion, ending with 'Ever, my dear lady, yours affectionately for ever and ever, Amen.' Signed, 'Nelson and Bronte.'—£29. Another, in which he speaks of having a lady visitor on board his skip, 'She is skinny, and may be called ugly, but all womankind are so to me; but one only do I know that is all my fond heart can wish'—a very interesting letter— The letters of Shelley and Keats, which did not belong to Mr. Hayward, brought high The name of the possessor was not The total amount realised by the sale was £1,702. 18s.

Trade Changes

Messrs. Maclachlan & Stewart, 64 South Bridge, Edinburgh, have transferred their well-known medical and foreign bookselling business to Mr. James Thin, 55 South Bridge, Edinburgh.

Winter, Charing Cross Road, has been dissolved by mutual consent. Mr. Winter will continue the business at the above address, and Mr. Oliver will move to larger premises, Egmont House, Shaftesbury Avenue.

Mr. Alfred Jubb, of Huddersfield, has disposed of the bookselling and fancy goods portion of his business in Station Street to Mr. E. W. Coates, for some years managing assistant to Messrs. Whittaker & Williams, of St. Leonards-on-Sea, and son of Mr. B. W. Coates, of Warminster. Mr. Jubb retains the printing, bookbinding, and stationery departments. Messrs. Holmes & Son valued for the vendor, and Mr. John Leach, of Wisbech, for the purchaser.

The copyright of Fenland Notes and Queries, a magazine which is devoted to subjects of antiquarian interest in the Fen districts, has been purchased by Mr. George E. Caster, of Peterborough. Mr. W. H. B. Saunders, F.R.H.S., continues to act as editor.

Mr. John Galwey has just commenced business at 17 Garrick Street, Covent Garden, W.C., as a new and second-hand bookseller. Mr. Galwey has had wide experience, both in England and on the Continent, of the bookselling trade, and for the last six years has been with Messrs. Henry Sotheran & Co., 136 Strand, W.C. He means to issue a catalogue from time to time, but intends only to 'offer such books as are worthy of a place in a wellchosen library.'

Mr. Carl Tittmann, the well-known bookseller of Dresden, Germany, has, owing to the great increase of his business, removed from 9 Seestrasse to more commodious premises situated at 9 Pragerstrasse (next to Richter's art establishment).

In Memoriam

Mr. Thomas Baird.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Thomas Baird (of Messrs. W. & G. Baird, general printers, bookbinders, &c., Royal Avenue, Belfast), which took place on March 25, at the early age of forty-four. deceased gentleman will be remembered by those who came into immediate contact with him with affectionate regret; while the general public who knew him well will feel that sense of loss which always arises when such a deprivation occurs. He was connected with the firm of W. & G. Baird, and there manifested the qualities which equipped him for the tasks he undertook. Apart, however, from such considerations, we may point to the quieter qualities which endeared him to those who knew him. He was altogether unoscentatious, and cultivated intellectual and philanthropic pursuits. At one time he acted as organist in Christ Church, and in St. Andrew's also. He was always ready to assist those schemes of moral enterprise which commended themselves to his judgment. He was an energetic member The partnership between Messrs. Oliver & of St. Jude's Church, Ballynafeigh, in which during his life he occupied many important offices. His death has called forth warm expressions of regret in Ireland.

CANON BUTLER.

The death of Canon Butler, of Winchester, is announced. He passed away on March 15. Born in 1819, he was educated at Harrow, Cambridge, and Oxford. At the latter university he won the Hertford University Scholarship. He was ordained in 1854. Canon Butler was the author of 'Principles of Imitative Art,' 'Descriptio Antiqui Codicis Virgiliani,' 'Village Sermons at Tyneside,' and 'Cheltenham College Sermons' and 'Family Prayers.' He also edited the 'Public Schools Atlas of Modern Geography,' 1871, and the 'Public Schools Atlas of Ancient Geography,' 1876.

ARCHDEACON GRAY.

In the death of Archdeacon Gray at St. Leonards on March 13, a man once well-known in China has passed away. He was chaplain to the British factory in Canton, and afterwards Consular chaplain. In 1867 he was made Archdeacon of Southern China. Mrs. Gray is the author of a charming work entitled 'Walks in Canton,' while Archdeacon Gray himself published in 1878 an important work entitled 'China, a History of the Laws, Manners, and Customs of the People.' He was also the author of 'Arabia and its Faith,' and 'A Journey round the World.'

MR. J. R. HERBERT, R.A.

We are sorry to learn that Mr. J. R. Herbert, R.A., died on March 17 at his residence in London. He was a native of Maldon, in Essex, and born in 1810. At 16 he was sent as a student to the Royal Academy Schools, Sir Thomas Lawrence being then president; and Turner, Constable, Mulready, and Charles Leslie among the most active of the Academicians. On the death of his father young Herbert had to turn to portrait-painting for his livelihood, and his earliest exhibited works were portraits. Latterly he devoted himself to religious art, and he retained in a conspicuous degree a large share of the simple and reverent spirit of an earlier day.

MR. LAWRENCE KEHOE.

We regret to announce the death at New York, on February 27, of Mr. Lawrence Kehoe, who was manager of the Catholic Publication Society. He was a native of Wexford, Ireland, and born in 1832. began his apprenticeship in the work of publishing and editing in 1857, when D'Arcy McGee sold the New York Tablet to the Sadliers. In 1865 he left the Tablet to found the Catholic Publication Society Company, at the suggestion of Father Hecker. Some time ago Mr. Kehoe, in conjunction with Messrs. Burns & Oates, of London, assumed entire control of the Catholic Publication Society Company. Owing to the enormous increase of its general business, Mr. Kehoe was obliged to retire from the active management of the

Catholic World. Mr. Kehoe was a trustee of various charitable institutions, in which he took a great interest. He leaves a widow and ten children. Much sympathy has been expressed with the family, and the American Catholic papers have given notices of Mr. Kehoe's career and death that must be gratifying to his friends. The Catholic Review says he was one of the most enterprising of Catholic publishers, and the trade will suffer by his death.

DR. SCHILLER-SZINESSY.

Dr. Schiller-Szinessy, who died at Cambridge on March 18, was in some respects a remarkable man. He was reader in Rabbinic literature. He was born in Hungary and graduated at the University of Jena. He was afterwards Professor Publicus Extraordinarius of Hebrew and Archæology in the Lutheran College of Eperies, in Hungary. He came to England in search of a wider field for his talents, and was appointed Rabbi of the Manchester Synagogue. Eventually he came to Cambridge, and was for many years employed on a catalogue of the Hebrew manuscripts in the University library. This led to his getting the appointment which he held till his death.

DR. H. WYLDE.

The death of Dr. H. Wylde removes a gentleman of excellent and singularly varied gifts. A Professor of Gresham College, he was instrumental in creating the New Philharmonic Concerts, and he did much for the London Academy of Music. He was eminently successful as a conductor, lecturer, and critic. Dr. Wylde was for several years the musical critic of the Standard.

Reviews, &q.

From the Authors' Co-operative Publishing Co., Limited.—'A City Girl,' by John Law. (Second edition.) A realistic story of a White-chapel girl who has the misfortune to attract the attention of a man considerably above her in social position. The usual troubles ensue; but the story ends happily by Nellie marrying a devoted lover in humble life. The novel is well written, and is full of pathos.

From Messrs. Blackie & Son.—'Marine Painting,' by Edward Duncan, Member of the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours. This volume belongs to Vere Foster's Advanced Water-colour series. His lessons in marine drawing and painting have long enjoyed popularity, and have, without doubt, assisted in strengthening, as well as developing, an artistic taste. The advances of chromo-lithography permit coloured works to be produced in facsimile. Mr. Duncan was asked to prepare a new set of water-colour drawings more advanced than his earlier works, and the present series is the result. The book will certainly prove a valuable one to those who are cultivating the taste for this art. Practical instructions for copying Duncan's works are

supplied by an eminent water-colour painter. The specimens given embrace some of Turner's best pictures.

From Messrs. Burns & Oates, Limited.—'Life of Blessed Margaret Mary Alacoque, of the Sacred Heart,' by Rev. Albert Barry, C.S.S.R. The subject of this striking biography was born in the middle of the seventeenth century, and earned, by her devotion to the Sacred Heart, the title of 'Blessed' from Pius IX. The recital of her visions, trials, and devoted labours forms a graphic story, which ought to find a wide circle of readers amongst Catholics. The writer has executed his task in a decidedly skilful manner.

From Messrs. Digby & Sons.—'Mrs. Danby Kaufman of Bayswater, by Mrs. Mark Herbert. The characters in this entertaining novel are chiefly women, whose weaknesses and foibles the authoress skilfully depicts. Mrs. Herbert is justly severe on the heartless, self-seeking, strong-minded woman who is no match for the woman of keen sensibility and tender conscience but little mental stamina. This contrast of character is portrayed effectively in the doings of Joan Kaufman and Ethel Bright. Joan's scapegrace brother is the evil genius of the novel. After forming a bigamous marriage with Ethel he is convicted and imprisoned for forgery. On regaining his freedom he is shipped off to Australia by his family. In the meantime Ethel marries, and becomes Mrs. Bright, but unwisely conceals her past history from her husband. Thus the opportunity arises for designing Joan and her disreputable brother to levy blackmail on Ethel as the price of concealment. Ethel foolishly yields to the demands made upon her until, harassed and overwrought, she leaves her husband and goes abroad. She is at length relieved of her burden by the death of the scapegrace; and the novel ends happily as far as Ethel and her husband are concerned.

From Mr. David Douglas, Edinburgh.—'A Humble Romance'; and other Stories, by M. E. Wilkins. Brief and homely tales of New England villagers, forming an addition to Mr. Douglas' charming pocket series of 'American Authors.'

From Messrs. Field & Tuer.—'Æsop Redivivus,' by Mary Boyle. Drollery and common sense are cleverly blended in this highly entertaining volume. Although Æsop may not be outdone on the score of wisdom, he has certainly a rival here in the faculty of humour. These fables, numbering upwards of fifty, are illustrated by old woodcuts, or new ones in imitation of the old, many of which are exceedingly comic.

From 'The Field' Office.—The 'Fox-Terrier,' by Rawdon Lee. The volume before us is the second edition of a work which has proved, judging by the early demand for another issue, of no small interest to sportsman and admirers of dogs. Besides being considerably extended by several interesting additions, two of the larger engravings, representing typical varieties of terriers, have been replaced by others, which are certainly excellent portraits of the dog in question, as also are the majority of the other illustrations. With regard to the text we must remark that, whatever doubts the author entertained, as he apparently did by the observation made in his preface to the first edition, on the reader finding any novelty therein, he has said what he had to say in a pleasant chatty manner, while, at the same time, the work is so arranged for reference that it should prove a welcome addition to any library of sporting proclivities. It is with regret, however, that we find in this volume another instance of advertisement padding, from which the style of binding and general appearance ought to have saved it.

From Mr. Alexander Gardner.—'Auld Scots Ballants,' edited by Robert Ford. There is, no doubt, truth in the contention that the wide popularity which the weekly newspaper has now secured interferes to a considerable extent with the circulation of the old ballad literature of Scotland. The editor, therefore, thinks that a selection of the more popular ancient ballads would be acceptable to numerous readers, more especially if presented, as is here done, in a moderately cheap form. His compilation is an admirable one, containing a great many of the finest of those ballads that have exercised so much influence on the Scottish intellect and imagination. The pieces are prefaced by excellent explanatory notes; the type is clear, and the volume is a convenient one in every way.

From Messrs. Griffin & Co., Portsmouth.—
'Nautical Terms and Phrases in French and English,' by Ernest Picard and Sydney R. Freemantle. A vast amount of information, useful for French and English seamen, is here packed into a small compass. Many of the terms and colloquialisms in common use find no place in dictionaries, and therefore a handbook of this kind becomes a necessity. The volume needs only to be known amongst naval and mercantile officers to be widely appreciated.

From Messrs. Griffith, Farran, Okeden & Welsh.—'The Prayer Book of Queen Elizabeth, 1559.' This volume belongs to the Aucient and Modern Library of Theological Literature, and will, we doubt not, be examined with uncommon interest. To the book are appended some forms of occasional prayers used in the reign of Elizabeth; the whole being printed from originals in the British Museum and other public libraries. The forms of supplication read in Elizabeth's time will be perused with curiosity. The original order of the type is preserved.

From the same.—'The Mosaic Sacrifices in Leviticus,' by the Rev. W. M. Rodwell. The author, recognising that the essential value of the Book of Leviticus consists in the clear view it gives of the sacrifice of Christ, and that the various sacrifices mentioned in the book bring out the separate and distinctive phases of the Atonement, takes up the work of expounding these sacrifices in order to demonstrate their relationship. This he has done in an earnest and comprehensive manner, and the volume is welcome because both scholarly and devout.

From the same.—'Kindergarten Games, without Music, for the Baby Classes,' by Wilhelmina L. Rooper. The object of this useful and attractive book is to add variety to the numerous Kindergarten exercises on Fröbel's method which already exist for young children. The games are so arranged that the movements of the body 'emphasise the mental conceptions which accompany them, and increase the natural pleasure of acquiring simple information by the action of mind and body upon each other.'

From the same.—'Hymns for Elementary Schools,' arranged by Wilhelmina L. Rooper, the music edited by Duncan Hume. Considerable judgment and careful adaptation to the wants of children are shown in this admirable selection. The subjects are chiefly those dealing with the beauties of nature, the wonders of life, and the beneficence of the Divine Being. Sectarian bias is conspicuous by its absence, whilst hymn-writers of various creeds are fairly represented. In editing the music, Mr. Hume aims at supplying tunes bright, cheerful, and easy.

From the same.—'Boy,'...by Helen Milman. An exceedingly pathetic story of a lad, the son of wealthy and titled parents, who 'lived in a dream-land of his own, and was either building castles in the air or holding silent conversations with the angels, whom he felt were hovering around him.' 'Boy' makes friends with a half-starved, ragged waif, whom he teaches and reforms, and finally, at the cost of his life, saves from imprisonment on a charge of theft. Quaint humour is mingled with the pathos of the story, and the writer may be congratulated on having produced a book for young people deeply interesting and quite out of the common. Admirable illustrations by Carl Becker embellish the volume.

From the same.—'Glenathole,' by Cyril Grey. This is a well-written Scotch story, containing several character-sketches true to life, and a plot sufficiently striking to hold the reader's attention throughout. The main interest centres round the doings of Kenneth Errol, who becomes engaged to Ada Douglas, an earl's daughter. Kenneth, led into questionable courses by a man of evil reputation, loses all affection for Ada, and falls madly in love with a rising actress, whom he wishes to marry. But the actress, discovering his engagement to Ada, renounces him for ever. Owing to serious monetary peculations Kenneth abscords, and ends his folly by suicide. Though of unequal merit the novel presents ample evidence that the author possesses dramatic ability of no mean order.

From Messrs. Harrison & Sons. — 'The Colonial Office List for 1890, by John Anderson and Sidney Webb. This book, as usual, contains a vast amount of special and very useful information on all that concerns the colonial dependencies of this country. It has full historical and statistical facts, and a wellprepared account of the services of the officers in the various colonial departments; a transcript of the colonial regulations, the customs tariff of each colony, and other desirable information. The work is also furnished with valuable maps, and it possesses throughout the distinctively excellent feature of clear methodical arrangement.

From M. Calmann Lévy, l'aris.—Henry Houssaye, 'Aspasie, Cléopatre, Théodora.' In this volume M. Henry Houssaye depicts a triad of celebrated women of antiquity, together with the society of which they formed so brilliant a part, and the state of civilisation they may be said to represent. In the time of Aspasia we see Athens in the full expansion of her literature and arts, and at an epoch when her democracy was most unrestrained. In the history of Cleopatra, two worlds seem to meet

—the Egypto-Greek of Alexandria, enervated with riches and luxury, and, through her lovers, the Roman world, proud of its name and empire, while subjugated, in a sense, by contact with the peoples it had conquered. In Theodora, Mr. Houssaye gives us an essay on the Byzantine Empire in the days of Justinian. The three studies are dedicated to M. Leconte de Lisle, M. A. Dumas, and to M V. Sardou, each of whom has brilliantly illustrated one of the periods.

From Messrs. Crosby Lockwood & Son.—'The Fields of Great Britain,' by Hugh Clements, of the Board of Trade. This is a second edition, revised, with additions, of a most useful and very practical work, which, in view of the increased interest that is taken in the study of agriculture, must be a welcome one to a numerous class. It is a text-book adapted to the syllabus of the Science and Art Department, South Kensington, for elementary and advanced students. containing extra subjects of interest and utility to agriculturists and farmers. The author possesses the great merit of conveying his information in clear and precise form. Mr. H. Kains Jackson contributes an introduction which, whilst recognising the embarrassing problems confronting agriculture, takes a hopeful view of the prospects of landlords and tenants, providing they mutually agree to face the difficulties that stand in the way.

From Messrs. Macmillan & Co.—'Roman Literature,' by A.S. Wilkins, Litt. D. ('Literature Primers'). Professor Wilkins traces the growth and decline of Roman Literature from 250 B.C. down to the reigns of Trajan and Hadrian. The contents of this handy little volume, considering the limited space at the author's disposal, are a marvel of conciseness. It is a pity these useful primers are not furnished with indexes.

From the same.—'A Lover of the Beautiful,' by The scene of Lady Katherine Carmarthen. Carmarthen's graceful and well-written story is laid in Italy, and the chief actors in it are members of that cultured and artistic society which abounds in Rome. The outward incidents recorded in the book are slight and for the most part undramatic; the interest of the story gathers around the baffled quest of ideal loveliness on the part of a gifted painter, and the hunger for a gleam of human tenderness which takes possession of the gentle, troubled soul of the beautiful young wife whom Guido della Verazia utterly fails to understand. Absorbed in his art, he unconsciously neglects her, or rather grows oblivious of her unspoken needs. Amore is a singularly lovable heroine, and the story of her troubled life is told with tenderness, refinement, and imagination.

From the Religious Tract Society.—'For France and Freedom,' by Emma Leslie. This is another tale dealing with the French Revolution. The story is skilfully worked into the historic scenes of the period. Of course, the subject lends itself to good descriptive writing, and the author has given us numerous pages of graphic composition. It is a book of well-sustained interest, and is throughout marked by lofty purpose that cannot fail to have a good influence on those who read the work.

From the same publishers.—'A Chronicle of a Country Town.' This is an unpretentious story,

but a well-constructed one. It is brightened by lively and engaging dialogue, and some fascinating glimpses of country life. The chapters on 'Archery' and 'The Upland Farm' are particularly good in their way. Best of all, it is a volume likely to exert an elevating influence.

From the same.—'Electricity and its Uses,' by J. Munro. (Third edition.) Of the numerous books on the modern applications of electric force, this is certainly one of the most comprehensive and reliable for the instruction of the uninitiated. The rapid advance of the last few years in electrical science is well kept to the front, and none either of the greater or lesser discoveries are omitted.

From the same.—'How to Make Common Things.' This little volume claims to show girls how many hours can be occupied with profitable and pleasant handiwork. The first half-dozen chapters deal with dress-making and needlework of various kinds including the manufacture of numerous articles for household use, from a penwiper to a hand-screen of peacock's feathers, all of which are made by the needle. Next the reader is initiated into the art of making toys, dressing dolls, &c., while, to meet the requirements of the more ambitious, descriptions are given of frame-making, window-gardening, and how to make fire-screens and articles in bent metal, all of which processes appear to be more or less practicable, but we should draw the line at making filters, and paper-hanging, as matters which might well be left to the experience of professional hands. Plentiful illustrations and diagrams facilitate the comprehension of the various processes.

From M. Albert Savine, Paris.—'Les deux Rivales, l'Angleterre et la France,' par Léon Delbos. M. Delbos divides his book into twelve chapters, thus: I. English and French; II. Religion and Morals; III. Pauperism and Charity; IV. Comfort (le Confortable); V. Agriculture, and Colonies; VI. Government; VII. Army and Navy, Volunteers, Police; VIII. Education; 1X. Literature, Science, and Art; X. Sport; XI. Society; XII. Foreigners. His observations on the contrast between France and England in these matters have an interest for every reflecting Englishman. Mr. Delbos writes not the impressions of a hasty visit, but from long familiarity with England and with what are called the 'better classes.' He finds our aristocracy the most dissolute in the world, and our lower strata the most deprayed. At the same time he expresses his opinion that the women of the upper classes are superior to those of any nation. soldiers are not better nor worse than French soldiers; but M. Delbos considers the superior size of our men a disadvantage except on parade. He says that it would be of great use to the Parisian police if they could come over here and see how the traffic of London is regulated, and accidents prevented. M. Delbos regrets, in common with most Englishmen, that 'sport' is so degraded by association with betting. From these slight indications the reader will see that M. Delbos has written a little book whose candour is that of a friend.

From Messrs. John F. Shaw & Co.—'Before my Judges.' This is a verbatim report of Dr. Barnardo's speech on the 'Gossage Case,' which

attracted a good deal of attention recently. The pamphlet also contains a summary of the decision given by the judges. Those who wish to get a thorough understanding of this case will find the pamphlet a very convenient one.

From the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.—'Notes of Confirmation Lectures on the Church Catechism,' by R. F. L. Blunt, D.D. This little volume is intended for the use of clergymen and confirmation candidates. It contains, in a well-arranged order, all the information bearing on the subject, and is enriched by an admirable series of questions on the lectures. It may be briefly described as a useful manual on confirmation.

From Messrs. Swan Sonnenschein & Co.— 'Coins and Tokens of the English Colonies,' by Daniel F. Howorth; and 'British Fossils,' by Joseph W. Williams. ('Young Collector Series.') Great pains have been taken by the authors of these cheap and useful handbooks to render the information presented both comprehensive and accurate. Mr. Howorth prefaces his description of the coins by short historical statements of facts relating to the various countries, and makes the most of an interesting and instructive subject. Mr. Williams collects the salient facts about 'British Fossils,' with a due regard to the capacities of the young students for whom he writes. His information is drawn from leading authorities, as well as from personal research. Both volumes are profusely and admirably illustrated.

From Messrs. R. Sutton & Co.—'Standard Drawing Cards,' by T. N. Andrews, F.S.Sc., &c. These cards embrace four standards, relating to freehand, and drawing to scale, geometrical figures with rulers, the simplest right-lined forms, &c., &c. They are prepared to meet Government requirements, and also the drawing syllabus of the Science and Art Department. They are got up, not only with clearness, but with great taste and utility.

From Messrs. Truslove & Shirley .- 'Introduction to the Treatment of Disease by Galvanism,' by Skene Keith, M.B., F.R.C.S. Ed. The author devotes the greater portion of his treatise to defining the leading terms used in electrical science and describing some of the principal batteries. He then proceeds to explain the mode of applying the galvanic current for the arrest and cure of disease. Taking the method employed by Dr. Apostoli, of Paris, in the treatment of tumours as his model, he gives particulars of the apparatus required, and the rules to be observed in passing the current through the human body. Without any attempt at elaboration Mr. Keith supplies sufficient information for those who have no time to consult larger works on the subject.

G. Manville Fenn furnishes us with another capital story from his prolific pen, in 'The Mynns' Mystery.' The character of Dick Portway, who impersonates George Harrington, the rightful heir to the Mynns property, is well drawn; so also are those of Saul Harrington and Gertrude. The volume commences with an exciting bear encounter in the Rockies, and closes with a tragedy, which is well described.

Index to the Books published between March 17 and 31.

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

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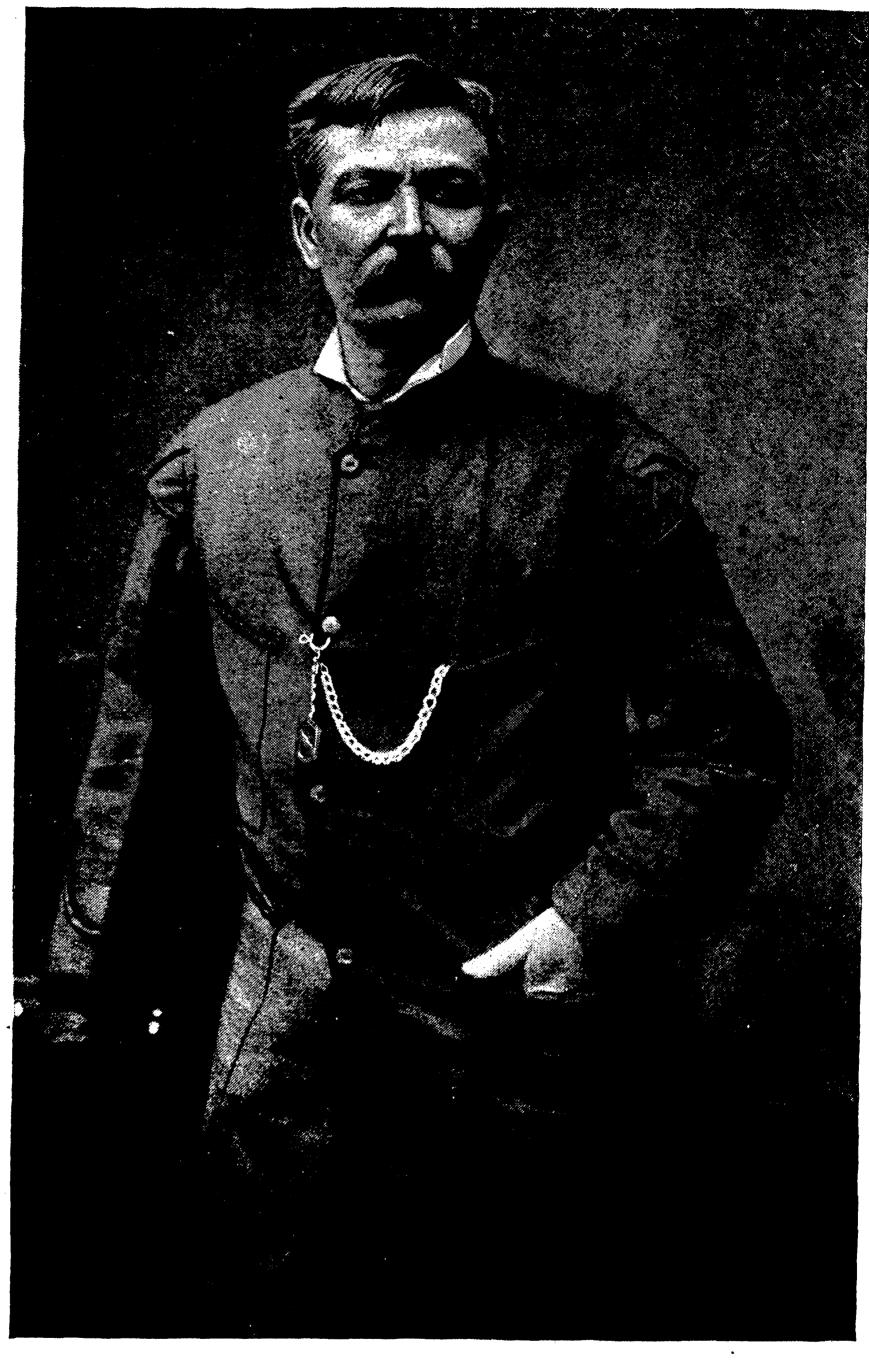
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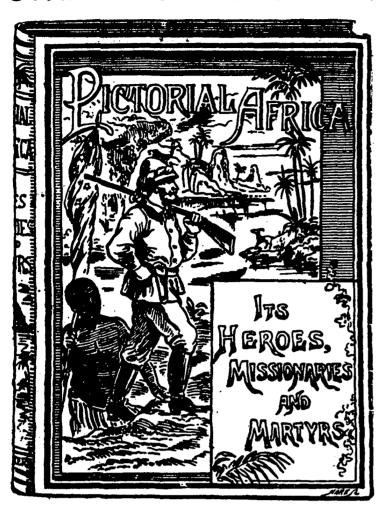
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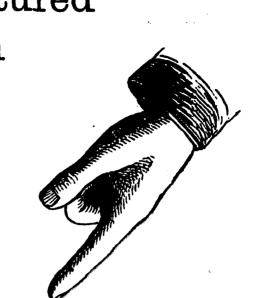
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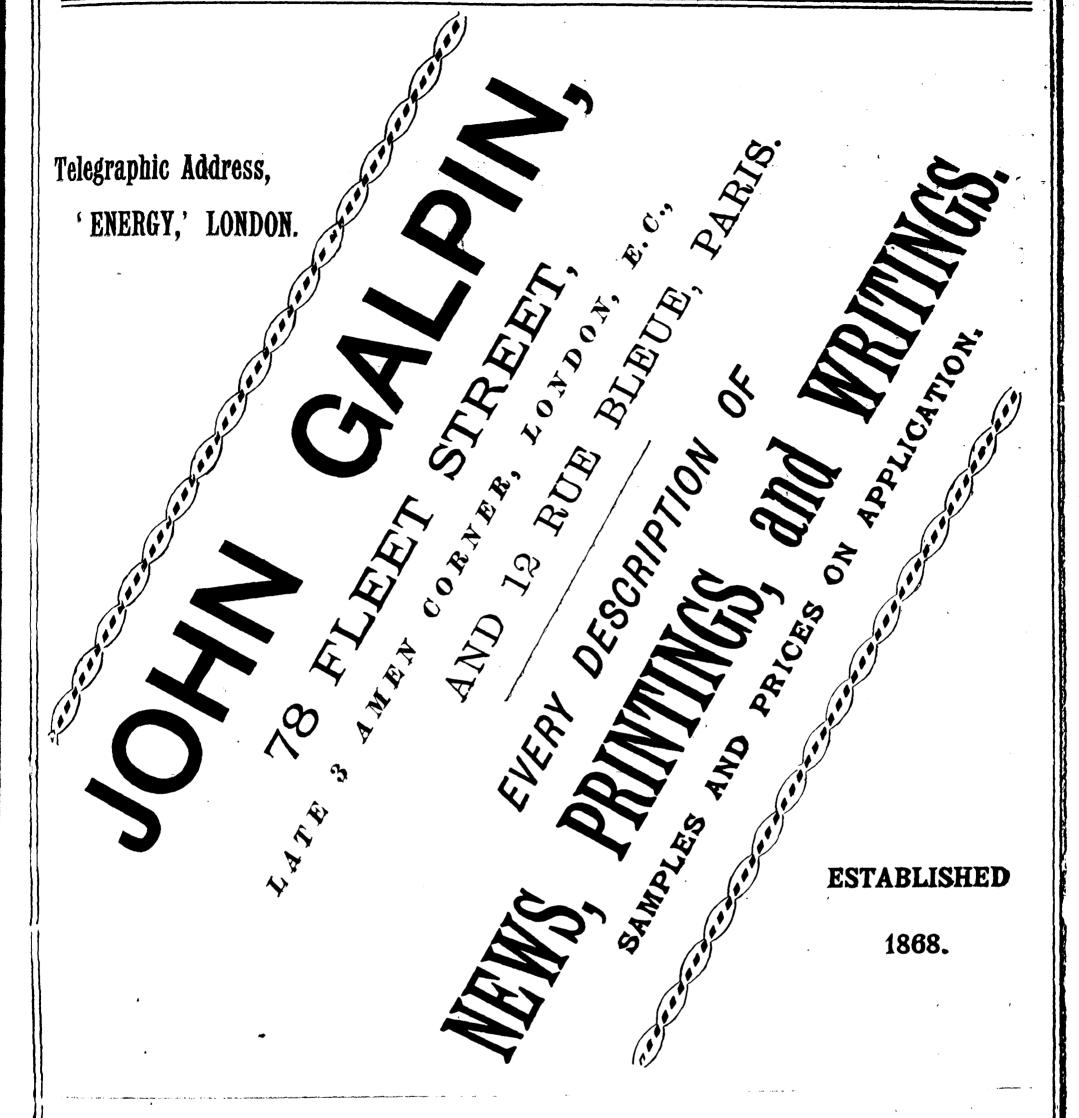
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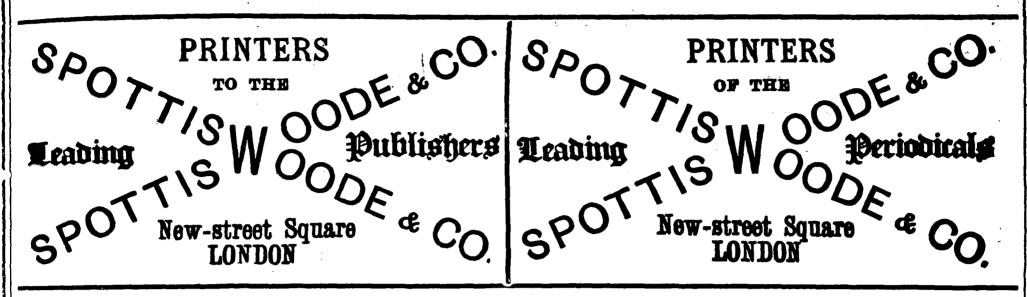
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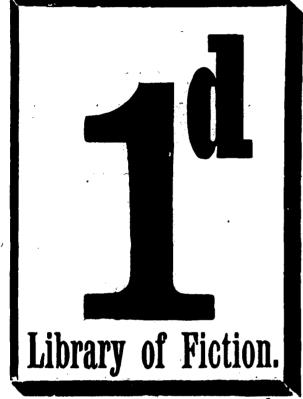
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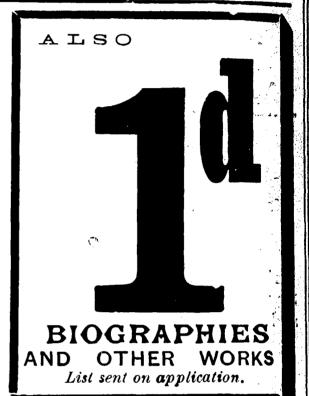


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