

THE numbers of *The Living Age* for July 26th and August 2nd contain "With Baker and Graham in the Eastern Soudan," and "The Federal States of the World," "Sophocles, and Princess Alice," "The Proto-Helveticans," "The Unlucky Dukedom of Albany," "Wordsworth's Relations to Science," "Madame de Krudener, and Wallenstein," "Tame Snakes," "Texas as a Career," "Popular Cookery," "Prayers for the Dead," "Pathology in History," "The Extinct Lakes of the Great Basin," "Habits of Burrowing Crayfishes," "Algernon Sydney, and The Prince of Orange," with instalments of "Beauty and the Beast," "The Baby's Grandmother," the conclusion of "Magda's Cow," and poetry.

THE current *Literary Life* has for a frontispiece a portrait of Mrs. Sarah R. Bolton, a Cleveland *litterateur*, whose career is sketched in an accompanying paper. Will M. Clemens gives a few interesting particulars about "Some Early Magazines," and there are some well-selected cuttings from contemporary literature, notably those under the heading "Anecdotes of Authors."

THE *Southern Planter* is devoted to agriculture, horticulture, live stock, and the household, and prominent amongst papers treating on these subjects are several communications on chess in wheat, its cause, effects, and cure.

BOOK NOTICES.

SONG AND STORY. Later Poems. By Edgar Fawcett. Boston: J. R. Osgoode and Co.

This has been called an ungrateful age in which to write poetry, and only those behind the scenes know how small the demand is for this class of literary work. It is not an uncommon thing for three-fourths of a small edition to be thrown upon the hands of some aspirant for poetic renown; and yet the same work may probably have been highly eulogised by portions of the press. The latter fact is explained by the laborious and tortuous manner in which authors "get at" the newspaper critic (*sic*!), and probably obtain permission to write the fulsome notices themselves. Vanity, not success, it is which stimulates the misguided author to repeat such experiments, and at infinite cost he may eventually accustom those in his own little world to think of him as a poet, and he lives in a fool's paradise ever after. All this, of course, has nothing to do with Mr. Fawcett's "Later Poems," some of which are, indeed, of very good class. He, however, is stricken by the same madness that has caused so many modern writers to publish stuff that can by no possibility live: a clever jingling of out-of-the-way words and phrases, reading smoothly, apropos of nothing. Sensuousness is substituted for pathos, eccentricity for incident, and the result is a marrowless Swinburnianism, sans morality, sans vigour, sans anything worthy. Mr. Fawcett occasionally breaks away from this enthrallment and gives us good work, specimens of which we hope to give on another occasion. The book is charmingly gotten up on hand-made paper, printed and bound in elegant taste.

ROUND THE WORLD. By Andrew Carnegie. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

A handsome book from the jovial author of "An American Four-in-hand in Britain." Just the book for the dog-days; that is, the book is full of easy, entertaining reading, in good open type; is free from all conventionality or buccam, and yet is not flippant or nonsensical. Mr. Carnegie plunges at once into the middle of things, without contents, and tells his story with a supreme disdain for chapters or any other formality. He occasionally pulls up, as it were, and throws out words of wisdom, and intersperses anecdote and humour, when the spirit so moves him. He is a living exemplification of the difference between "eyes and no eyes," but is evidently at one with Artemus Ward on prophecy—that it is safe only after the event. Withal, he is a man of strong convictions, as is seen in some of his criticisms on England's policy abroad. If every man could profit himself as much as Mr. Carnegie has done by his trip "Round the World," it would be safe to say, "go thou and do likewise," next vacation.

STORIES BY AMERICAN AUTHORS. Vol. IV. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

A fourth of these tastefully-attired little volumes of holiday reading contains the following six stories: "Miss Grief," by Constance Fenimore Woolson; "Love in Old Clothes," by H. C. Bonner; "Two Buckets in a Well," by N. P. Willis; "Friend Barton's Concern," by May Hallock Foote; "An Inspired Lobbyist," by J. W. De Forest; and "Lost in the Fog," by Noah Brooks.

ARCHIBALD MALMAISON. By Julian Hawthorne. New York: Funk and Wagnalls.

This exceptionally popular book has now been published in the "Standard Library" series, in paper covers, and will probably become still more well known. Those who have not yet read the novel may be interested to know that it is a story of aristocratic life in England in the first part of the century.

THE POETICAL WORKS OF JOHN MILTON. In two volumes. New York: John B. Alden.

These dainty little volumes are published in the "Elzevir Classics" of the popular book-house, and reflect great credit upon that firm. Neatly bound in cloth, with red edges, published at a very low figure, they are sure to

be appreciated, and we hope will assist in that "Literary Revolution" Mr. Alden has set about so vigorously.

A CONCISE POETICAL CONCORDANCE TO THE PRINCIPAL POETS OF THE WORLD. By Charles A. Durfee. New York: John B. Alden.

An exceedingly useful book, and of infinite value to literary men, giving titles, first lines, characters, subjects, and quotations.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

MR. BURNE-JONES, the English artist, has completed a design of a religious allegory for the decoration of the American Protestant church in Rome.

THE *Canadian Dairyman* is the latest journalistic applicant for the favour and support of the Canadian public. Its vocation is embraced in the title, and our contemporary, which dates from Montreal, will be published monthly.

PROFESSOR THOROLD ROGERS, M.P., is writing an article for one of the magazines on the constitution and character of the House of Lords. It may safely be predicted that whatever magazine his contribution appears in will at least contain one lively article.

HENRY A. ELKINS, the Chicago artist, who has just died from exposure in Colorado, will be remembered by his "Crown of the Continent," "Storm of the Rockies," and other mountain paintings. He was not a prolific artist, but his close and life-long study of mountains made what he did paint all the more notable.

"LE PRINTEMPS," by Alfred Stevens, an exquisite picture, is offered as a supplement to the *Art Interchange* of July 31. It shows a landscape, in the foreground of which is the full-length figure of a girl leaning against one of two trees which rise straight, tall and bare behind her. The immediate foreground is filled with grasses and wild flowers and birds, while a little to the left is a small tree in full blossom.

A QUARTETTE comprised of Mrs. Agnes Corlett-Thomson, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Bryce, and Mr. J. F. Thomson, sang at the Island church last Sunday, and will furnish the musical part of the service each Sunday hereafter during August. One is led to wonder, when listening to the beauty of quartette music, why our city churches do not adopt something of that kind instead of the choir which appears to be universal.

T. B. PETERSON AND BROTHERS, Philadelphia, have in press and will issue in a few days a cheap edition in book form, of Mrs. Emma D. E. N. Southworth's last work, "Self-Raised, or, From the Depths," originally printed in weekly instalments in the *New York Ledger*, where it proved to be the most popular story ever issued in that paper. It will be in a large duodecimo volume of 658 pages, with a picture of the home of Mrs. Southworth, on the Potomac, on the cover, and at the unprecedentedly low price at which it is published it will be the largest as well as the cheapest copyright novel ever issued in book form.

MR JOHN INGRAM's new edition of "Poe's Tales and Poems" will be published by Scribner and Welford in September. The edition will be in four volumes, introduced by a biographical essay by Mr. Ingram, and illustrated with fourteen etchings, three photogravures, and a portrait newly etched from a daguerreotype said to be exceedingly life-like. An important feature of this edition is the fragment, "The Journal of Julius Rodman," which has not appeared in any previous collection of Poe's works. Some new poems are said to have been found, and altogether the edition will be one well worth possessing.

THE suggestion of Julian Hawthorne for the Yale professorship of literature is certainly worthy of respect. His academic culture has been considerable; his reading evidently wide, though one would not suppose it systematic or comprehensive; and for sheer literary ability he holds high rank among our younger authors. He far excels the favourite American writers of fiction by virtue of a sort of demoniac power of creation, and lately develops a talent for philosophic consideration of literary art in his magazine papers. Yet whether the peculiar bent of his genius, the audacious quality of his criticism, and above all, the absence of moral purpose from his work, make him an ideal teacher of literature, may well be questioned.

NOT inappropriately, Mr. John B. Alden, the enterprising New York publisher, has named his endeavours to flood the country with cheap and good books a "Literary Revolution." Amongst the many remarkable examples of nominal-priced volumes already published is Vol. IV. of the "Elzevir Library," about which the following particulars are interesting as showing how much is offered for so little. This dainty little book contains the two famous lectures by Matthew Arnold, on "Emerson" and "Numbers"; George William Curtis' splendid Eulogy on "Wendell Phillips," and Phillips' own grand oration on "The War for the Union," also Herbert Spencer's "Philosophy of Style," and "The Coming Slavery," besides contributions from Professors Tyndall, Huxley, and Orton, and Robert Giffen. The volume includes 366 pages, neatly bound in cloth, and is sold at the low price of 35 cents. In satisfaction of the querulous who cannot understand how such low prices can be afforded, Mr. Alden states the actual cost of paper, printing and binding of this handsome volume is less than 15 cents. Lovers of good books will certainly be glad of the assurance that there is such a foundation of solid "profit" to sustain "The Literary Revolution." The publisher sends free on application, a hundred-page descriptive catalogue.