

Hill appeared to much greater advantage, but the part contains but few opportunities for the employment of artistic ability. As the unfortunate convict boy Josephs, Miss Lizzie Maddern, acted as naturally and pathetically as possible, in delineating an originally over-drawn and unnaturally saint-like character. Miss Emma Maddern played with her usual ability as Susan Merton; this lady's style is occasionally a little too jerky, but there is an amount of ability and power to please shown in all her endeavours, that give good promise of future success. The greatest feature of the performance, was undoubtedly "Mr. Peter Crawley, attorney," as played by Mr. Vining Bowers. It was the most artistically humorous impersonation, we remember to have witnessed by this gentleman; the make-up was most excellent; the seedy black professional tailcoat, with the thin sleeves and shabby cuffs, the limp and untidy white necktie, the characteristic hat, tight and too short inexpressible, to say nothing of the brushed up, poky, iron-grey hair and bushy eyebrows, and the half-drunken yet thoroughly wide-awake expression of the whole countenance, were very characteristic of that peculiar, gone to seed, class of men, who revel in doing dirty work for others, and will put conscience in their pocket, to serve any customer—for a consideration. All through the drama the character was well maintained, but the most laughter-moving "bits" were, we think, the interview with Meadows in the second act, prior to Crawley's departure for Australia, and the scene in the last act, where he betrays his foiled employer, and very much to his own disgust, is himself literally carried off to prison. As Jacky, the Australian savage, Mr. Barth's performance would not have been devoid of humour, had he been representing an Ethiopian serenader upon the spree, but to a native Australian we could see in it but little resemblance, while one very coarse bit of bye-play was introduced, that was an offence against good taste,—we allude to Jacky's attempts to rid himself of the troublesome companions that seemingly infested his limbs, in which he was made to assume the attitude and manner of one of Mr. Guilbault's monkeys, engaged in the same occupation so agreeable to witness. Mr. Barth is not at all wanting in humour and is a great favourite with Montreal audiences, but he should certainly seek to develop it, in a more refined and artistic manner, if he wishes to rise in his profession above the rank of a mere pleaser of the groundlings. Mr. Carden acted in his usual efficient style as George Fielding, but with the exceptions of "Peter Crawley" and Jacky, none of the parts in this play are capable of being made much of—as in most sensation dramas, the characters seem to be merely introduced as an excuse for the scenery. Mr. Giles, as Mr. Eden the clergyman, was altogether too stiff and melodramatic. The other characters were as creditably performed as could be expected. Mr. Halford as Mr. Meadows acted with much discretion, but was altogether too good looking to be an entirely satisfactory theatrical representative of such a morally unprepossessing villain.

As regards scenery and properties, the managers very creditably exerted themselves. The opening farm scene with the real live horse and pigeons and "the descent church that topped the neighbouring hill," was very pretty; and there was a degree of care expended upon the prison with its cells and corridors, and also upon the Australian glen with the waterfall of "real water!" that was very praiseworthy.

We trust, that when Mr. Reade, so deservedly celebrated, next attempts to influence the public mind, by writing a novel, touching upon any great social question, he will remember, "It is never too late to mend!" JOHN QUILL.

HARPER'S HAND-BOOK FOR TRAVELLERS IN EUROPE AND THE EAST. By W. P. Fetridge. New York: Harper & Bros. Montreal: Dawson Bros.

This is the fifth year's issue of Messrs. Harper's well-known European Guide-Book. The greater portion of the text has been re-written for the

present volume, which is corrected up to July, 1866—two years later, the publishers claim, than any European Hand-Book published. The work before us is convenient in form, and will prove a very useful companion to tourists, whilst dwellers at home may discover in its pages occasional scraps of pleasant gossip, and much valuable information respecting the chief points of interest in the old world.

ENGLISH TRAVELLERS AND ITALIAN BRIGANDS: A Narrative of Capture and Captivity. By W. J. C. Moens. New York: Harper & Bros. Montreal: Dawson Bros.

In the spring of 1865, a small party, composed of two English gentlemen and their wives, started from Salerno to pay a visit to the renowned ruins of Paestum. They were assured that the road was perfectly safe, and guarded by soldiers throughout; but notwithstanding these assurances, on the return of the party, their carriage was surrounded in broad daylight by a band of brigands, and whilst at least fifty persons were looking on, the two gentlemen were seized and carried off by their captors. A heavy ransom was demanded by the brigands, and as neither of the gentlemen had the requisite sum at his command in Italy, it was arranged that lots should be drawn to determine which of the two should be set free, in order to procure the ransom necessary to effect the release of his less fortunate friend. The gentleman whose ill fortune it was to remain in captivity was Mr. W. J. C. Moens, and the work before us is a narrative of his adventures, whilst in the custody of the brigands; and also of the exertions made by his friends to procure his release.

The book possesses in an eminent degree the charm of novelty, for it is but rarely in the present day that we can obtain a glimpse of the domestic life of brigands. Mr. Moens effectually sweeps away the halo of romance which is supposed to surround the career of these reckless men. During the two months he was a captive he endured hardships and privations of no ordinary character; but these were equally shared by his captors, who had, moreover, to bear the brunt of almost incessant skirmishes with Italian soldiers. Nevertheless, to the disgrace of the Italian Government, immense sums are paid to brigands for the release of captives held to ransom. Our author informs us that during the year 1865 the captains of two bands, whose headquarters were in the province of Salerno, received in the aggregate a sum equivalent to twenty-two thousand pounds sterling, and this for the release of only eight captives. Mr. Moens' own ransom was originally fixed at £17,000 sterling; but on his declaring his inability to pay that amount, it was reduced one-half, and finally to £5100, which sum was paid. A *fac simile* of the captain's receipts is given in the appendix.

The concluding chapter of the book is devoted to "Reflections on Brigandage in Southern Italy," and our author gives it as his deliberate opinion that the interests of the country people are concerned in its maintenance. He calculates that a band of from twenty-five to thirty men would not pay less than £4000 a year for absolute necessities, and that five-sixths of the money received, in the shape of ransoms, by the brigands, go to the peasants. The usual price paid to the country people for a loaf of bread is three shillings and fourpence (actual value in the town, threepence to sixpence); a like sum is paid for washing a shirt, and everything else in proportion. It will be seen at once how difficult the capture of these men must be, whilst the peasantry of the country have such substantial reasons for aiding and abetting their escape.

We commend Mr. Moens' graphic narrative to the attention of our friends. It is a faithful photograph of actual life among strange men, and in strange scenes, and cannot fail to secure the interest of the reader.

MAGAZINES.—We have received from Messrs. Dawson Bros. "Temple Bar," "Frazers," "The Dublin University," and "The Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine," for August.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- In Press, and nearly ready! The Two Wives of the King, translated from the French of Paul Féval. Paper, 50c. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- A New Novel by Miss Braddon! will be published shortly! What is My Wife's Secret? By Miss M. E. Braddon. R. Worthington, publisher, Montreal.
- Vol. II. of Napoleon's Life of Julius Caesar. Fine Library edition. In cloth \$2.50. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- The Albert N'Yanza, Great Basin of the Nile, and explorations of the Nile Sources. By Samuel White Baker. With Maps, Illustrations, and Portraits. Cloth. Price \$4.50. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- Mistress and Maid. A Household Story. By Miss Muloch, author of "John Halifax, Gentleman," &c., &c. Price 40c. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- Sans Merci, or Kestrels and Falcons. A Novel. By the author of "Guy Livingstone," &c., &c. Price 40c. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- Agnes. A Novel. By Mrs. Oliphant, author of "Chronicles of Carlingford," &c., &c. Price 60c. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- Maxwell Drevitt. A Novel. By F. G. Trafford, author of "George Geith," "Phemie Keller," &c. Price 60c. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- Miss Carew A Novel By Amelia B. Edwards, author of "Barbara's History," &c., &c. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- Phemie Keller. A Novel. By F. G. Trafford, author of "Maxwell Drevitt," &c., &c. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- The Lost Tales of Miletus. By Sir E. Bulwer Lytton. Cloth. Price 90c. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- Armada. A Novel. By Wilkie Collins. A new supply, just received. Price \$1.12½. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- Chandos: A Novel. By "Ouida," author of "Strathmore," "Held in Bondage," &c., &c. Price \$1.50. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- Eccentric Personages: By W. Russell, LL.D. R. Worthington, 30 Great St. James Street.
- Gilbert Ruggie. A Novel. By the author of "A First Friendship." Montreal: R. Worthington. Price 80c.
- Miss Majoribanks. A Novel. By Mrs. Oliphant, author of "Chronicles of Carlingford," "The Perpetual Curate," &c., &c. Montreal: R. Worthington. Price 60c.
- The Toilers of the Sea. A Novel by Victor Hugo, author of "Les Misérables," &c., &c. Montreal: R. Worthington. Price 60c.
- Boyminstro: A Novel. By the author of "The Silent Woman," &c., &c. Montreal: R. Worthington. Price \$1.25.
- The Game-Birds of the Coasts and Lakes of the Northern States of America, &c. By Robert B. Roosevelt. Montreal: R. Worthington. Price \$1.40.
- Every-Day Cookery; for Every Family: containing nearly 1000 Receipts, adapted to moderate incomes; with Illustrations. Montreal: R. Worthington. Price \$1.
- Broken to Harness. A Story of English Domestic Life. By Edmund Yates. Second edition. Montreal: R. Worthington. Price \$1.75.
- Only a Woman's Heart. By Ada Clare. Montreal: R. Worthington. Price \$1.25.
- Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary in North America. By the Rev. Xavier Donald Macleod, Professor of Rhetoric and Belles Lettres in St. Mary's College, Cincinnati, with a Memoir of the Author. By the Most Rev. John B. Purcell, D.D., Archbishop of Cincinnati. New York: Virtue & Yorstan. Montreal: R. Worthington. Price \$3.
- Eccs Homo: A Survey of the Life and Work of Jesus Christ. R. Worthington, Montreal. Price \$1.
- Betsy Jane Ward, Her Book of Goaks, just published. Price \$1. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- Mrs. L. H. Sigourney's Letters of Life. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- Hidden Depths: a new Novel. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- Jargal: a Novel. By Victor Hugo. Illustrated. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- The True History of a Little Ragamuffin. By the author of "Reuben Davidger." R. Worthington, Montreal. Price 40c.
- Epidemic Cholera: Its Mission and Mystery, Haunts and Havocs, Pathology and Treatment, with remarks on the question of Contagion, the Influence of Fear, and Hurried and Delayed Interments. By a former Surgeon in the service of the Honourable East India Company. Pp. 120. Price 80c. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- On Cholera. A New Treatise on Asiatic Cholera. By F. A. Burrall, M.D. 16mo. Price \$1.20. R. Worthington, Montreal.
- Diarrhoea and Cholera: Their Origin, Proximate Cause and Cure. By John Chapman, M.D., M.R.C.P., M.R.O.S. Reprinted, with additions, from the "Medical Times and Gazette" of July 29th, 1865. Price 25 cents. R. Worthington, Montreal.

The above prices include postage to any part of Canada.

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