

THE WORLD OF BOOKS.

The Christmas number of *Scribner's Magazine* would be as wonderful a literary treat as was that of last year, but for the fact that it has no such poem as the haunting *Tic-toc-toc* of Mr. Stevenson. It has, however, a strong and impressive piece of blank verse by some singer who conceals his identity. This poem is entitled *The Lion of the Nile*, and is accompanied by illustrations from the pencil of Mr. Elibu Vedder, whom we cannot but regard as the boldest and most original genius that American art has yet produced. The breadth, solidity and tremendous impressiveness of Vedder's designs seem to give him a loftier position than that even of Lafarge. Mr. Stevenson's *The Master of Ballantrae*, is continued with deepening interest; and the *Christmas Sermon*, which this wizard of prose contributes, is no less fascinating for its style than wholesome for its manliness of tone. The short stories, in which the number is even more rich than usual, are excellently varied in mood. The choicest is perhaps that contributed by Mr. H. C. Bunner, a delicate and wholesomely tender story called *Squire Five-Fathom*. A contribution of vivid interest to art students, and of great value by reason of its moderation, sympathy, and freedom from the art-affectation of the day, is Mr. Hitchcock's paper on Botticelli. Of the many poems which the number contains there are three distinctly above the average—Miss Reese's *Tell Me Some Way*, James Jeffrey Roche's *Sir Hugo's Choice*, and A. Lampman's *Winter Evening*. This latter poem, a sonnet, is strikingly fresh and effective. Mr. Lampman is one of the foremost of rising Canadian poets; and Mr. Roche is a native of Prince Edward Island. Miss Reese, we understand, is a young Southwesterner of promise.

In a late number of the *Boston Advertiser* there is a column and a half devoted to the poetical work of Mr. Bliss Carman. The writer is a well-known Boston critic, William Morton Fullerton. The warmth of his appreciation for Mr. Carman's poetry, which he regards as displaying lyric genius of the highest order, may be accepted as a measure of the distinction which Mr. Carman has earned in Boston. Here is a specimen of the critic's commendation:

In Mr. Carman's lines, much as they suggest that his sympathy is with the school of Keats, there is a spirit so entirely his own, an infusion of new truth, new beauty so subtly original, that in an instant he is set apart in a place by himself as one who charms and soothes us in ways known to no other poet. In that great power of the interpretive imagination a poet who can write:

Was it a year or lives ago
We took the grasses in our hands,
And caught the summer flying low
Over the waving meadow lands,
And held it there between our hands?"

certainly may be said to stand among the foremost. But his marked characteristic is that all he touches is by some magic volatilized into a gaseous glow and pervasive odor which seem to be the very quintessence of poetry.

Messrs. Belford, Clarke & Co. have lately issued the sixth edition of Ella Wheeler Wilcox's *Maurine and Other Poems*. This sufficiently indicates the popularity which this forceful and sincere singer has attained. Her name first became famous through her plentifully discussed *Poems of Passion*, which were certainly somewhat audacious, but as certainly vigorous and musical. The work before us has not the ripeness and lyric fire of *Poems of Passion*, but it is by no means undeserving of its popularity. It displays the author's admirable merits of natural feeling, directness, healthy fervor and candor of utterance. The leading poem is a sort of novel in verse told in a way to hold the reader's interest. It is written in well-managed iambic pentameter verse, rhyming irregularly. In spite of its entertaining quality, and occasional felicities, it is not up to the level of this poet's best achievement. It is frequently crude both in expression and in thought. Many of the lyrics and sonnets reach a much higher level; and almost invariably, whatever their occasional shortcomings in technique, they have a solid basis of thought and feeling. Such a poem as the following sonnet on "Will" has an enduring value:

There is no chance, no destiny, no fate,
Can circumvent or hinder or control
The firm resolve of a determined soul.
Gills count for nothing; will alone is great;
All things give way before it, soon or late.
What obstacle can stay the mighty force
Of the sea-seeking river in its course,
Or cause the ascending orb of day to wait?

Each well-born soul must win what it deserves.
Let the fool prate of luck. The fortunate
Is he whose earnest purpose never swerves,
Whose slightest action or inaction serves
The one great aim. Why, even Death stands still,
And waits an hour sometimes for such a will.

The December number of the *Century* has an article of great importance and admirable temper, by Mr. George R. Parkin, on "The Reorganization of the British Empire." Mr. Parkin advocates with great force and persuasiveness the scheme of Imperial Federation, and advocates from a patriotic Canadian standpoint. Canadians who regard independence as the more national destiny of their country have no quarrel with such Federationists as Mr. Parkin, who would tolerate no scheme of Federation that did not leave to Canada the same degree of independence as it should retain for England. All true Nationalists, whether they look toward an absolute independence

or such independence as would be possible in a federal union of equals, may join hands in eternal antagonism to the ignoble alternative of annexation. As Mr. Parkin energetically puts it, "In annexation to the United States, she (Canada) could have nothing but a bastard nationality, the offspring of either meanness, selfishness, or fear."

Notes and Announcements.

Mr. William Black's new novel will be entitled *A Spring Idyll*.

Mrs. Humphrey Ward has another novel nearly ready to succeed *Robert Elsmere*.

Andrew Lang has written a fairy story for Christmas reading called *The Gold of Fairies*.

The British museum has become the owner of the collection of rare books that once belonged to Jerome Bonaparte.

A Paris correspondent says that in France the rich people buy Zola and the poor Hugo.

Mrs. Burnett's famous juvenile, *Sara Crewe*, has been brought out in Germany in the Tauschnitz series.

Mrs. Humphrey Ward's portrait has exhausted two editions of the November *Book Buyer*, with a third ready this week. *The Tale of Phoebe Dawson*, by Crabbe, is said to have been read by particular wish to both Fox and Sir Walter Scott on their death-beds.

Miss Katherine O'Meara, the author of *Madame Mohl and Her Salon* and of *Narka*, recently published as a serial in *Harper's Magazine*, has just died in Paris. The fascinating *Diaries and Letters of Gouverneur Morris* will be published by the Scribners in a few days. The work has been given a handsome setting of type and binding.

The Scribners have issued, in a dainty binding of half morocco, with parchment sides, several of their attractive books of poetry, including Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson's *Underwoods*.

Ben Hur is the most popular book at the Boston Public Library, says the *Boston Herald*, with *Little Lord Fauntleroy* and Stevens' *Around the World on a Bicycle* following in order of popularity.

John Ward, Preacher, has reached its 20th edition and there seems no falling off in the demand. This is one of the most successful books published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co. for a number of years.

The first volume of the limited edition of the *Cyclopaedia of Music and Musicians* is nearly ready for delivery with the Scribners in this country. In England the work will be published by Bernard Quaritch.

Howard Pyle's work as an illustrator and author is apparently as much appreciated in England as in America. His latest book, *Otto of the Silver Hand*, received simultaneous publication in New York and London.

In *Our Recent Actors*, by Mr. Weston Marsland, the story is told of Charles Kean that a critic having offended him, he sent for the scribe, and after scolding him like a child, locked him up in a parlor until he knew how to behave.

Owing to the vast amount of labor involved in the manufacture of Paul Du Chailu's great work, *The Viking Age*, the publication of the book has been postponed by the Scribners. The magnitude of the work may be learned from the single fact that there are to be over 1,200 illustrations.

"The American Widow—New Style," is the subject of the *Saturday Review's* treatment of *The Quick and the Dead*. Of the Widow Pomfret it agrees with Miss Squeers, who remarked of Tilda Price that it was very desirable from the very nature of her feelings that she should be married as quick as possible.

An intimate friend of Thackeray named Bolland is now said to be the original of George Warrington. He is described as a man of great ability, but one whose indolence and Bohemian tastes prevented him from making a name. Theodore Hook is claimed as the original of Wagg, Hayward of Wenham, and Maginn of Costigan.

The Scribners' illustrated catalogue of holiday books makes as tasteful and useful a guide to choice gifts for Christmas as one would wish. It contains a full list of their popular books for young people, and specimen illustrations are given from a number of the works of travel, art, biography, etc., published by them. The Scribners send this list free to any one who will write them for it.

A delightful Christmas article by Donald G. Mitchell and a Christmas poem by J. Whitcombe Riley will be the opening features of the Christmas *Book Buyer*. Sarah Orne Jewett, Octave Thanet, Geo. Parsons Lathrop, W. C. Brownell, James Baldwin, Mrs. Burton Harrison, and Hamilton W. Mabie are also among the contributors. The number will have 144 pages, with over 60 illustrations, half of which is printed in colors.

A Freak of the Sunshine.

In the photographs of buildings collected for the illustrated edition of *PROGRESS* some queer things are to be seen. In one of them, that of the Bayard building, T. McAvity & Sons' name is shown plainly. How it got there was a puzzle until it was solved by the fact that the name had been reflected upon the glass—and so sharply as to be photographed—from the large sign over their Water street factory.

MUSIC, AT HOME AND ABROAD.

I imagined that the reason for the attendance of the public at an organ recital was to hear a performer or performers play on that instrument, but after last Friday evening's experience, I have come to the conclusion that for many there is some other purpose to be attained. What that exact object is I was unable to find out, unless it was to annoy those who went to listen to the gems of the great masters admirably performed. I am not very straight-laced myself, but I must confess that I do object to loud talking, laughing and (to use slang) *carrying-on* in a sacred edifice on an evening when the proceedings are opened by a surprised clergyman with prayer, and concluded with the singing of the doxology and the benediction. It is rather trying to a lover of music to have had two persons just behind one on an occasion like this, who talked steadily the whole evening through, increasing their tone as the organ grew louder, but never ceasing for an instant. I suppose it shows how small a proportion of human beings are there who possess the real soul for music.

For myself I should like to have the church in darkness, though of course that would have been impossible with a large crowd, as there was at St. Luke's. Somewhere about 1874 I was in Geneva and went to a recital at one of the Protestant churches there, and the only lights were those in the organ loft (the organ being over the west entrance). The effect was superb, the congregation behaving noiselessly the whole evening—though of course whispers were indulged in to a certain extent. There one could sit, with the lights behind just dimly lighting up the chancel at the east and enjoy to perfection the playing by a master hand on an exceptionally fine instrument. What the name of the church was, or who played and sang, or what was the music performed, I have now forgotten; but the remembrance remains of one of the most enjoyable (musical) evenings of my life.

I was disappointed with St. Luke's organ. Taking the stops separately or as a whole, it will not compare with any of the best organs of the city, and the poor performer was met with that bane of organists, cypering, in the first piece he played and had to shut off one stop the whole evening. I wonder that the powers that be did not take advantage of an expert being in town the other day, tuning Trinity and the Stone church organs, to have theirs thoroughly overhauled.

Mr. Morley played as he only can play (at all events in Canada) and showed to special advantage in No. 3, Lott's Voluntary; No. 6, Battiste's Offertoire and No. 9, Pastorello by Zipoli and Canon by Martini.

The Oratorio society, which mustered about 60 voices, did not show to advantage at all. In the first place it was apparent that they have learned to lean too much on the conductor's baton and wanted the point for their leads and so missed them when it was not given. This is erring on the other side, as the chorus should be able to take up its lead in music that they have been drilled in so long and ought almost to know by heart. The soprano lacked tone terribly—the sustained notes in the Hallelujah chorus being feeble and barely in tune. Of course the splendid playing on the organ saved everything and it only shows what an immense power a first-rate player has in keeping a chorus from an absolute breakdown.

As to the Orpheus quartette: I think I gave them a little hint some months ago and I am afraid they have not seen their way clear to make use of it. Part of the third line of the second verse of the words they sang perfectly describes their performance, "breathless adoration." Lack of good breathing produces nervousness, and nervousness in an unaccompanied quartette is both uncomfortable for the performers and listeners. One of the necessities for quartette singing is the use of long sustained notes, using the last note especially for a crescendo, and dim., thus making an agreeable finish. But when the final note is attempted to be prolonged but fails with a sound something like the tuning of an organ pipe which hasn't a sufficiency of wind, then something is wrong. Gentlemen, practice, and also keep some reserve of wind power and then it will be pleasant to listen to you.

At the early service, last Sunday morning, at the Mission church, the choir used, with the exception of the creed, Mr. Morley's new Service in G., which was published in the *Parish Choir* some little time ago. For an initial performance the service went very well and was very much admired. I hope to be able to say something about the special beauties of this service next week.

I hear that the new music for the Minstrels has arrived this week, and that it is the intention to get to work at once. As I have said before, there is no fear but what the amateurs will be greeted with full houses.

The scores of *Athalie* having arrived the Oratorio society commenced their rehearsals on this work last Monday evening. I

HAROLD GILBERT. - - Announcements for the Holidays.

I am offering all the following goods at special prices for the HOLIDAY SEASON. Selections may be made at once and reserved until wanted. Those requiring CHAIRS, etc., cushioned or upholstered, should leave their orders early to insure prompt delivery.

Reed and Rattan Goods.

GENTS' EASY CHAIRS;
LADIES' " "
GENTS' ROCKERS;
LADIES' do;
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CARPET ROCKERS;
FANCY TABLES;
CARD do;
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PLATFORM ROCKERS;
HALL STANDS;
MANTLE MIRRORS.

HAROLD GILBERT, - - - Carpet and Furniture Warerooms,

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believe it is the intention to produce it with pure local talent, and I for one should be glad to see this happen. Mr. Morley is too old a conductor to do anything risky, and I am sure that if this is his idea, the public will have the pleasure of listening to a good performance.

Since I wrote my previous notes on the recital at St. Luke's I have been told, on good authority, that the cypering was caused by no defect in the organ, but by accident, viz., the trackers for the stops that cyphered ran closely behind a wire screen where the two men who were employed to blow the organ were placed. They knowing nothing of this, occasionally rested against the screen, which naturally gave way from the pressure, and so caused the stoppage of the proper action of the trackers. It was an unfortunate occurrence, but one that could hardly be avoided, as the men naturally were quite innocent of the harm they were doing.

FELIX.

CHOICE
NEW GOODS

Gloves and Hosiery;

LADIES' VESTS;

Scotch Underwear;

Silk Handkerchiefs;

MEN'S SCARFS;

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SAINT JOHN, N. B.

THE SCHOOL-ROOMS are now open to Pupils from 10 until 5 every day in the week, except Saturday afternoon.

The aim of the School is to give Pupils a good training in

DRAWING AND PAINTING.

The course taught consists in—
Drawing from Models and Objects;
" " the Antique;
" " Life;
" " Still Life.

Lectures on PERSPECTIVE, including Parallel, Angular and Oblique Perspective; casting Shadows by gas light and sun light; Reflections in the mirror and water.

A specialty is made of Portraiture in this School. Pupils are taught to draw them in Charcoal and Crayon, and to Paint them in Pastel and Oil.

Principal—JOHN C. MILES, A. R. C. A.
Assistant—FRED H. C. MILES
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NEW FRUIT!

Valencia Raisins;

Valencia Layer Raisins.

PRIME FRUIT.

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GILBERT BENT & SONS,
SOUTH MARKET WHARF.



Reed and Rattan Goods

ARE ALL in the newest finish and colorings, viz:

CHEERY,
ANTIQUE OAK,
MAHOAGANY,
BRONZE COPPER,
RUSTY BRONZE,
GILT, White and Gold,
Blue and Gold, etc. etc.

MY NEW

Furniture Warerooms

are now nearly completed, and will be opened at an early date with a complete assortment of

Household Furniture.

ROYAL HOTEL, ST. JOHN, N. B.

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Tea, Bed and Breakfast, 75 Cents.

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Best \$1 House in the Maritime Provinces.

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APPLES, PEARS, WALNUTS, ORANGES,
LEMONS and STRAWBERRIES. Also,
ROSES (Pale and Deep), MARGARETTES, SUNFLOWER & DAHLIAS.

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Will be sold low by the Dozen, or Box containing three cakes each.

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WITH EVERY SCHOOL BOOK.

A CHROMO GIVEN AWAY

With Every Dollar Worth Purchased.

Call while it is yet time at

MORTON L. HARRISON'S,

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Wheat, Flour, Buckwheat,

RYE, CORN, OATS, BRAN, SHORTS,

From the best mills. Always on hand.

R. & F. S. FINLEY,

Sydney Street.

NEW BRUNSWICK RAILWAY

Commencing October 22, 1888.

PASSENGER TRAINS WILL LEAVE INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY Station, St. John, at
16.40 a.m.—Fast Express for Bangor, Portland, Boston and points west; also for Fredericton, St. Andrews, St. Stephen, Houlton, Woodstock, Presque Isle, Grand Falls and Edmundston.

FULLMAN PARLOR CAR, JOINT TO BOSTON.
18.50 a.m.—For Bangor and points west, Fredericton, St. Stephen, Houlton and Woodstock.
14.45 p.m.—Express for Fredericton and intermediate stations.

18.30 p.m.—Night Express for Bangor, Portland, Boston and points west; also for St. Stephen, Houlton, Woodstock, Presque Isle.
FULLMAN SLEEPING CAR ST. JOHN TO BANGOR.

RETURNING TO ST. JOHN FROM
Bangor at 16.30 a.m., Parlor Car attached; 17.30 p.m., Sleeping Car attached.
Vassboro at 11.15; 11.30 a.m.; 12.00 p.m.
Woodstock at 6.00; 11.40 a.m.; 18.20 p.m.
Houlton at 16.00; 11.40 a.m.; 18.30 p.m.
St. Stephen at 16.55 a.m.; 11.30; 19.45 p.m.
St. Andrews at 16.50 a.m.
Fredericton at 16.25; 12 m.; 18.15 p.m.
Arriving in St. John at 16.45; 19.10 a.m.; 19.00; 17.00 p.m.

LEAVE CARLETON FOR FAIRVIEW.
18.00 a.m.—Connecting with 8.50 a.m. train from St. John.
14.30 p.m.—Connecting with 4.45 p.m. train from St. John.

EASTERN STANDARD TIME.
Trains marked * run daily except Sunday. *Daily except Saturday. *Daily except Monday.

F. W. CRAM, Gen. Manager.
H. D. McLEOD, Supt. Southern Division.
A. J. HEATH,
Gen. Pass. Agent, St. John, N. B.

Intercolonial Railway.

1888--Winter Arrangement--1889

ON and after MONDAY, November 26th, the trains of this Railway will run daily (Sunday excepted) as follows:—

TRAINS WILL LEAVE ST. JOHN.

Day Express..... 7 30
Accommodation..... 11 20
Express for Sussex..... 8 55
Express for Halifax and Quebec..... 18 00
A Sleeping Car will run daily on the 18.00 train to Halifax.

On Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, a Sleeping Car for Montreal will be attached to the Quebec Express, and on Monday, Wednesday and Friday a Sleeping Car will be attached at Montreal.

TRAINS WILL ARRIVE AT ST. JOHN.

Express from Halifax and Quebec..... 7 00
Express from Sussex..... 8 55
Accommodation..... 11 30
Day Express..... 19 20
All trains are run by Eastern Standard time.

D. POTTINGER,
Chief Superintendent.
RAILWAY OFFICE,
Moncton, N. B., November 26, 1888.

NICHOL'S

Sulphate of Lime,

FOR PRESERVING CIDER,

WILL KEEP CIDER GOOD FOR YEARS.

The genuine for sale by

C. P. CLARKE,

100 KING STREET.

TO TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBERS

AND OTHERS INTERESTED IN

CHEAP TELEPHONES.

THE ST. JOHN TELEPHONE COMPANY are about opening a Telephone Exchange in this city, and are making arrangements, which will be completed in a very short time, for giving the public telephones at much less rates than have heretofore obtained in this city.

A Company also propose starting a Factory in this city for the manufacture of Telephones and other electrical apparatus, thus starting a new industry. The ST. JOHN TELEPHONE COMPANY ask the public to wait until a representative of their company shall call upon them. This company is purely a local one, and we cordially solicit your support in our endeavor to introduce a new, better and cheaper Telephone than any yet offered the public.

ST. JOHN TELEPHONE CO.

A representative of the Company will be at the office of The Provincial Oil Co., Robeson Place, where those wishing to subscribe may sign subscribers' list.

About a paper report and the st been about there are tempers as but there through the dictated upon as fiercely were black down a c never gave me to I have me to I watch over is a more any about average lo put his hand someone n to do it to I was a stitution for opportunity ways. A on to a cer must obey can turn hi A madman wisdom, integrity and line of poli mood for e him today as obedienc o'clock d uncertainty keeps a s heard peop You might heard peop over a mad that one wi facing him, off yourgu months to not general the hour yo he catches tained by f don't believ dred who c does not so Very lew p a guard. I cludes the ide get the idea for their de they will at first year I patient was them would pression. pitions of ac course of ac actoristics, him aside a "Now, Ji it, and am move you m geon." Sometimes purpose and sometime was fully c him. If th spirit I woul "James, t "About w "Your pla Now I shan dance." "Oh, plea want to kill I was hall eighty patient assistants, I a day. I was of any sort treatment. first to do av treme cases, stitution had The first pati ing upon m Thomas, who of his three c was a well-b there three m