



The latest of the "Great Men" series, edited by Prof. Eric Robertson, are the two volumes on J. S. Mill and Frederick Schiller. The "Life of Mill" has the guarantee of Mr. W. L. Courtney's reputation for accuracy of statement, clearness and vigour of style. Nothing in the way of research into original documents was to be looked for, as Dr. Bain's Biography of James Mill and Criticism of his more famous son, had pretty well exhausted all such material. For the character of the man his own "Autobiography" must remain one of the main sources of knowledge. Mr. Courtney brings the two Mills into sharp contrast, and shows in what way the educational system of the elder man was a benefit, in what a drawback, to the younger. He found much that was valuable in the "Journal and Letters" of Caroline Fox, and consulted with advantage Mr. Minto's article in the *Encyclopædia Britannica* and Mr. Morley's contributions on the same theme to the *Fortnightly Review*. An important addition to our knowledge of Mill's parliamentary career is furnished by a letter from Mr. Gladstone. That great statesman would be able to appreciate Mill's ideas on political reform, but into the *sanctum sanctorum* of his religious convictions he would find it difficult to enter. Mill's standpoint was, indeed, *sui generis*. What stability it has lies in his conception of duty and the stress he puts upon it as a social force. "But," writes Mr. Courtney, "as we found that Mills' utilitarianism was considerably embarrassed by the want of any clear conception of what happiness is, so his discussion of the present subject is hampered by a similar obscurity in his conception of religion." The book contains in a small space a great deal that is worth knowing concerning one of the most extraordinary minds of his own or any age. The index, calendar and bibliography (this last, as usual, by Mr. John P. Anderson, of the British Museum), add considerably to its value.

If we were not justified in expecting very much that was new concerning John Stuart Mill, still less reasonable would such expectation be in the case of Schiller. Nevertheless, much depends on the point of view, and certainly staleness is not a characteristic of Mr. Nevinson's book. It is a volume from which the student of literature may obtain wholesome suggestion and occasionally wise guidance. There is much in it that derives significance from the great anniversary, so variously regarded, of the present year. Schiller was accepted, especially after the appearance of "The Robbers," as one of the inspired apostles of the new era of human liberty and progress. He was just thirty in that *annus mirabilis* for France and Europe, 1789, and in August, 1792, his name figured in a list of foreign candidates for French citizenship on the ground of his services in the cause of freedom. Whoever put it down (it is said to have been Anacharsis Clootz) cannot have been very intimately acquainted with the young poet or his works, if we may judge by the spelling. "Gilleers" for "Schiller" is even worse than "Heavysides" for the author of "Saul," which is extant in a published lecture on Canadian literature. The "enthusiasm of humanity" did not, however, lessen Schiller's native aversion to any close contact with the *profanum vulgus*. "Though he has had the fortune," said Goethe to Eckermann, "to pass for a special friend of the people, he was in reality far more of an aristocrat than I." In that respect, however, he was not alone, and, Mr. Nevinson thinks, the apparent contradiction need not surprise those who have known "so many true champions of the people who have preferred to carry on the contest at a comfortable distance from their clients." Schiller's lack of sympathy with ordinary people was, Mr. Nevinson adds, "the price he paid for the elevation and tension of a mind occupied habitually with interests remote from the common world." As to his

intellectual range the biographer says: "Though his mind never attained the grandeur of Goethe's, nor the keen temper of Lessing's, he was, in all essential points, as sane as either; and though he had no touch of Jean Paul's extravagant humour, nor of his loving pity for things of low estate, he was at bottom as simple and warm-hearted. After his marriage his family life presents a picture of unselfishness and peace too rare in the biographies of men of letters." Mr. Anderson's bibliography of Schiller will be as welcome as it is comprehensive and careful.

The unceasing stream of fiction has brought to our table a volume of tales by Julian Hawthorne. The titles are "Constance" and "Calbot's Rival." They are both highly spiced with that peculiar phase of the horrible which is associated with the exercise of demoniac influence. The utter improbability—not to say impossibility—of the scenes described, which are out of harmony with the realities of daily life, robs such stories of any interest for common humanity.

Miss Edna Lyall has won deserved popularity by the clearness, truthfulness and vigour of her portrayals of character. Whether she takes her hero from some stirring time in the centuries that are gone, or chooses him from the "living present," she has always that creative touch which gives life and thought and movement. "In the Golden Days," which has Algernon Sidney for its central figure, is one of the best historical romances of the day. "Donovan"—the first of her creations that we had the pleasure of becoming acquainted with—could not fail to win the sympathies of any healthy reader. "Knight Errant" and "Won by Waiting" are also marked by her characteristic merits. But of all her books there is none that we prefer to "We Two." It is original, interesting, wholesome, and has enough of plot and incident to keep the reader's attention awake till he shares the hero's and the heroine's supreme contentment at the close. Both these last works form part of Appleton's "Town and Country Library."

MILITIA NOTES.

News comes from Toronto that A company, of the Royal Grenadiers, wants to challenge any other company in Canada to a team rifle match. Montreal might supply some very fair company teams should A company come out with its challenge.

The city corps throughout Canada are tackling the new drill books, getting ready for their spring drill. Some old hands find it harder to forget the old ways than to learn the new, and, doubtless, the "mark-times," while the instructing officer is figuring out his next commands, will be more frequent and prolonged than of yore.

Several Ontario corps—the Queen's Own and 10th Royal Grenadiers, of Toronto; the 13th Battalion, Hamilton, and the Dufferin Rifles, of Brantford—have been petitioning the Government for transport and subsistence allowance, to enable them to form a camp, on Niagara Common, for four days, to perfect themselves in the new infantry drill. The men are willing to give their time for nothing, if the Government would pay transport and subsistence. The amount required would be about \$3,500. Though reasonable enough, the petition will probably not be granted on account of the expense.

At the annual meeting of the Council of the Ontario Rifle Association, on Saturday, 16th inst., at Toronto, Col. Gzowski proposed, that, in order to bring out the rank and file of the force to their prize meetings, a special match be fired, open to teams of eight men, from each battalion in Ontario, the teams to be composed of men who had never fired in any match previous to the annual matches in August; the attendance of such a team to be made obligatory by the Government who would pay the transport expenses. Col. Gzowski offered to contribute half of a \$100 prize for such a competition. This suggestion was received with much favour, and is one which might well be taken up by the other Provincial Rifle Associations.

The annual report on the Regiment of Canadian Artillery shows that from a total strength of 25 officers and 367 non-commissioned officers and gunners, there were 97 desertions in the year. The commanders of the different schools seem to attribute this very large percentage mainly to the fact that, owing to the very small number of men in each different battery, the fatigues are very onerous; the daily routine of barrack duties of one corps—the Royal School of Cavalry, in Quebec—having actually prevented the men from going through their annual target practice. An increase in the number of men allowed each company is strongly urged by almost all the commanders of the different schools, as, without a great increase of expenditure, it would materially improve the efficiency of the force.

commenced to subside and the Exposition did not seriously suffer. For some days, however, it was noticed that the scaffolding which had been reared for the repairs to "le Pont d'Arcole" had been seriously shaken by the water, and a number of poles and planks were carried away. On Monday morning (February 25th) this enormous piece of scaffold work was completely swept off, falling with a terrible crash. Our illustration, from a photograph taken at the Hotel de Ville, shows what has been left of that immense piece of scaffolding.

LOADING FISH FOR MARKET.—Our sketch presents a scene highly characteristic of St. John's, Nfld., and Harbor Grace. The Banks and the Fisheries of Newfoundland are expressions of which no one can be ignorant. In a recent issue was presented a fishing sketch near Gaspé. There the fish were being handled and put in pickle. Now we take the reader to St. John's, Nfld., and give an idea of how the fish are handled during the process of being placed on ship-board. There are two descriptions of pickled codfish, the dry and the green. The latter are packed in barrels in brine, the former being bundled up in quintals of 112 pounds. In order to give the dry fish the best possible appearance, it is loaded only on fine, bright days, as the least fog or atmospheric dampness darkens the fish and detracts from its quality and value. The large and small merchantable fish are considered to be the best, other grades being reckoned as cullage. It may be mentioned that seldom does anything reach Canada which is not of this inferior quality, no matter how it may be classed by the dealer. On fine, bright days all is hurry and bustle among the Newfoundland fishermen, and, as is shown in the engraving, every available spot is covered with the damp fish, which is spread out to dry and in order that it may obtain a bright, crisp appearance. What is termed the merchantable quality is very white, hard and dry. The weighing operation is clearly depicted. Each handbarrow holds exactly two quintals, or 224 pounds, and, when the fish is loaded in bulk, the contents, as rapidly as they are made up, are carried on board and dumped into the hold, the men and boys engaged for the purpose quickly disposing of it, placing it in layers, back up. Ordinarily, from 2,000 to 5,000 quintals are thus shipped in one cargo to Spain and Portugal, while that for Brazil, being of inferior quality and broken, is packed in drums or small casks.

THE HOROSCOPE.

FROM FRANÇOIS COPPÉE.

Two sisters there—whose arms were interlaced—
Stood to consult a fortune-telling hag:
While she, with wrinkled fingers slowly placed
The fatal cards upon an outspread rag.

Brunette and blonde, both fresh as morning's hour—
A poppy brown, a white anemone—
One, like a May-bud; one, an Autumn flower;
Both yearned alike their destiny to see.

"Sorrow, alas! my child, thy life must fill,"
The old witch murmured to the proud brunette:
The girl enquired: "But will he love me still?"
"Yes," "Then I care not—life is happy yet."

"Thou wilt not own thy lover's heart, sweet maid!"
This to the second sister, white as snow:
"But shall I love him?" tearfully she said—
"Yes," "That is bliss enough for me to know."

GEO. MURRAY.

We are glad to see that the *Educational Record* of the Province of Quebec finds room for articles on literary subjects. The editor, Dr. J. M. Harper, is himself a man of letters as well as a distinguished educationist. He held for many years the important position of Rector of the Quebec High School, and, while thus engaged, he was ever among the first to give a helping hand to the literary movement in the provincial capital. He took an active interest in the work of the Literary and Historical Society, for which he lectured more than once, and of which he was a delegate to the Royal Society of Canada. His present position of Inspector of Superior Schools and editor of the *Record* gives him extended opportunities for lending encouragement to the cause of letters.

The March issue of the *Canada Educational Monthly* is, in many respects, of exceptional interest. It contains a calm and well-reasoned explanation, by Sir Daniel Wilson, of the position that he has taken on the question of "English at Junior Matriculation"—an article which college and professional examiners would do well to study and profit by. From the pen of "Fidelis" (Miss Machar) we have an excellent historical sketch of Queen's University, showing what it has done for Canada in the past. The "Eskimos, their Habits and Customs," by W. A. Ashe, F.R.S.—a paper of much interest to ethnologists—is concluded. Mr. W. H. C. Kerr, who is no stranger to our readers, gives a Greek translation of "Jesus, lover of my soul," which is a credit to Canadian scholarship. The Rev. Professor W. Clark has an article on "Books and Reading," characterized by sense and taste and manifold suggestiveness. "A known and highly esteemed public man, tells of his journey to Santa Barbara, and what he saw by the way and at his destination. Altogether, a capital number. The publisher is Mr. C. Blackett Robinson, 5 Jordan St., Toronto.