

man who could get the position by holding up his little finger is Mr. Chapleau; and there is without doubt much truth in the reports in the newspapers that he is being strongly urged to again join the Cabinet. Indeed, ever since the formation of the Bowell Government there have been constant attempts to induce him to return to Ottawa. They have failed in the past; nor is it probable that they will succeed now. It is no secret that Mr. Chapleau left the Government and went into Spencerwood because he was chagrined and angered at his failure to get the Railways and Canals portfolio. He is very comfortably situated where he is; his term has but two years to run; and he can then step into public life again and take the leadership of the Quebec Conservatives. Sir Mackenzie Bowell shows excellent judgment in his desire to get Mr. Chapleau in harness again; for he is the only man who, in popularity and influence, can cope with Mr. Laurier in Quebec. If he is in Spencerwood on election day the Liberals in this province will win not a few seats that they could never capture were he leading the Conservative hosts.

The date of the Centre Montreal election for the Legislature has been fixed for October 15th, and both parties are diligently at work. But the contest scarcely excites a ripple of interest. The Conservative candidate, Mr. McDonnell, has repudiated the Government's policy of taxation and its French record; but has nevertheless been accepted by it as its candidate. A member of the Government at one of the meetings called on Mr. McDonnell's behalf made the announcement on the authority of the Premier that the taxes levied on the Montreal business men which have been very unpopular, will be repealed at the next session of the Legislature. Just at present, however, the Inland Revenue officers are making the merchants pay up these taxes for the past year; and it is a nice question, on which Mr. McDonnell's fate rests, whether resentment at the receipt of the hated tax-bills or joy at the promise of relief now made, will predominate in the hearts of the merchants. Political lies rest very lightly on the voters' shoulders in provincial issues; and the election of the Liberal candidate, Dr. Guerin, is regarded as probable.

Arthur Weir, the poet, leaves for California shortly, and will spend the winter there for the benefit of his health which has not been very good lately.

### Some Medical Books.\*

THE first book in this list is a new and greatly enlarged edition just published. It is addressed to the popular rather than to the professional reader, as are indeed all the books at present before us. We believe that this is the first attempt to popularize, in a scientific work, the subject of sexual physiology. It embraces all the discoveries of this rapidly advancing age, and can be commended as a careful and valuable work on the important subject with which it deals. The illustrations are numerous and accurate.

"Talks to my Patients" is a book addressed to young wives and mothers, to help them to understand and meet the infirmities and functions peculiar to womanhood. The book offers no new theory as to the cause or cure of diseases, but it does offer many good and useful suggestions which are characterized by sound philosophy and common sense. The chapter, "Confidential to Mothers," is an admirable one, and should be widely read. This new edition contains nineteen "Letters to Ladies" on health, education, society, etc., which are well worth study.

- \* "Sexual Physiology and Hygiene." By R. T. Trall, M.D. New York: M. L. Holbrook & Co. London: L. N. Fowler & Co.
- "Talks to my Patients." By Rachel B. Gleason, M.D. New York: M. L. Holbrook & Co. London: L. N. Fowler & Co.
- "Marriage and Parentage." By M. L. Holbrook, M.D. New York: M. L. Holbrook & Co.
- "The Relation of the Sexes." By Mrs. E. B. Duffey. New York: M. L. Holbrook & Co.
- "Advantages of Chastity." By M. L. Holbrook M.D. New York: M. L. Holbrook & Co. London: L. N. Fowler & Co.
- "Hygiene of the Brain." By M. L. Holbrook, M.D. New York: John W. Lovell Co.
- "Food and Work." By M. L. Holbrook, M.D. New York: M. L. Holbrook & Co.

Books on the subject of "Marriage and Parentage" are usually written by cranks, as the Scientific American remarks. But this book of Dr. Holbrook's is an exception. We have read it with interest, and though the author seems to us to take rather severe views occasionally its influence can be only beneficial. He treats of the obligations of husbands and wives in relation to each other and their children. In sanitary marriages and parentage, he shows with ability, lies the secret of the improvement of the race.

"Relations of the Sexes" is another book for women, written by a woman, and, whilst a trifle extravagant and pretentious, is yet not without considerable value.

The author of "The Advantages of Chastity" believes that the reading of good books on chastity and allied subjects will eventually do for the cause of social purity what the reading of works on agriculture, or education, or science, or art is doing for those who follow these occupations. This little book, written with wisdom and moderation, presents more the great advantages of chastity rather than the evils of unchastity. It is worthy a wide circulation. The desirableness of a clean life is made abundantly manifest.

"Hygiene of the Brain" is full of beneficial hints, suggestions, and thoughts as to how the brain may be used to the best advantage. It is shown how it requires to be properly exercised, rested, fed, and trained. The book is divided into two parts: the first deals with the brain, spinal chord, craniel and spinal nerves, the sympathetic nervous system, the action of the nerves, the cure of nervousness, etc., etc. The second part contains a number of interesting letters on the physical and intellectual habits of distinguished men and women as described by themselves for this book.

"Food and Work, or Eating for Strength" is an eminently practical and useful book, and is one of the best contributions to "hygienic literature" we have ever seen. It contains a mass of information about a subject of the highest importance. There are tables showing what articles contain "the elements of food demanded and their proportions to the bodily needs, in work or in rest." The chapters on fruit and its uses, especially the apple and grape and the grape cure, are of much interest. There are also several hundred recipes for wholesome foods and drinks which all housekeepers can consult with profit. The chapters on food for different ages, conditions, and seasons, and for various diseases, is one of the best in this altogether admirable book.

### Novels Old and New.\*

THE "Lovely Malincourt" may be described as a young lady's novel. The personages are placed in the highest circles of London Society. They might just as well have been labelled with less ambitious names. There does not seem to be anything new in the plot nor is there any very striking character. One reason why apparently the characters are taken from low life instead of high life is that a very estimable gentleman of the name of "Bob," who appears to

\* "The Lovely Malincourt." By Helen Mathers. London and New York: Macmillan & Co. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co. Ltd. 1895. Macmillan's Colonial Library.

"Comrades in Arms." By Arthur Amyand. London and New York: Macmillan & Co. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co. Ltd. 1895. Macmillan's Colonial Library.

"The Salt of the Earth." By Philip Lafargue, author of "The New Judgment of Paris." London and New York: Macmillan & Co. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co. Ltd. Macmillan's Colonial Library.

"Alton Locke, Tailor and Poet." By Charles Kingsley. With a Prefatory Memoir by Thomas Hughes, Q.C. London and New York: Macmillan & Co. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co. Ltd. 1895.

"Castle Rackrent" and "The Absentee." By Maria Edgeworth. Illustrated by Chris. Hammond, with an introduction by Anne Thackeray Ritchie. London and New York: Macmillan & Co. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co. Ltd.

"Annals of the Parish" and "The Ayrshire Legatees" By John Galt. Illustrated by Charles E. Brock, with an introduction by Alfred Ainger. London and New York: Macmillan & Co. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co. Ltd.

"Tom Cringle's Log." By Michael Scott. Illustrated by J. Ayton Symington, with an introduction by Mowbray Morris. London and New York: Macmillan & Co.

"Hajji Baba of Ispahan." By James Morier. Illustrated by H. R. Millar, with an introduction by Hon. George Curzon, M.P. London and New York: Macmillan & Co. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co. Ltd.

"Maid Marion" and "Crotchet Castle." By Thomas Love Peacock. Illustrated by F. H. Townsend, with an introduction by George Saintsbury. London and New York: Macmillan & Co. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co. Ltd.