

## THE RIVER.

EDDIED or oily smooth with circles faint,  
Flows on the river to its deep still pools  
Of dusky blue, and as a mirror clear,  
Reflecting all the quiet of the sky,  
But when a hawking swallow dips, or fish  
Leaps in the air, then plumps into the stream,  
Launching the tiny foam bells on their track,  
On mimic voyage, quickly lost to view.  
The streaming tresses of the water-weeds  
Wave with the restless current, while near shore  
Green cresses crown the margin of the stream,  
Hawthorns and hazels on the hither bank  
All intertwined with straggling blackberry briers,  
Dog-roses fanged with thorns, and reddening hips  
Just forming, loosely thrown o'er all the bine  
Of white convolvulus with crumpled flowers,  
Cover the slope. A fleet of ducks appear  
In noisy colloquy, with yellow bills  
Fishing neck-deep. The water-hens slip forth  
Out of its wilderness of quivering sedge,  
Blue haze of rushes stretching towards the sun.  
In the low murmur of the drowsy noon  
Comes there a deeper hush. The sweeping wind  
Drops its light freight, bird songs and low of kine;  
Alone is heard the low faint water lapse,  
A querulous sound made where the moving reeds,  
Down-pointing, dip their slender trembling lines,  
Feeling the current, for a while submerged,  
Then to the surface rising.

—JOHN WATKINS PITCHFORD: *Bramble Cloisters.*

## LITERARY GOSSIP.

LIEUTENANT GREELY'S book is about to be published in Paris in a French edition, fully illustrated.

THE title of Professor A. S. Hardy's new novel will be "A Wind of Destiny," and it is to be published by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin, and Company on the 15th of this month.

MR. HENRY BACON, the artist, has been writing a novel, occupying his spare moments from his easel for some months past. The scene is laid at his beloved Etretat, and will be freely illustrated by his own drawings.

MRS. HAWES, the wife of Mr. H. R. Hawes, has written a little book giving her experiences in flower growing in town, entitled "Rus in Urbe; or, Flowers that Thrive in London Gardens and Smoky Towns." It will be fully illustrated and published by Messrs. Fields and Teur of the Leadenhall Press.

MANY readers of Mrs. Schuyler Van Rensselaer's papers on "American Etchers" will be glad to know that they will be republished, with many illustrations, and with new matter added by the author, by Messrs. Frederick Keppel and Company. A sketch of the life of Charles Meryon, by Mr. Keppel, will be appended.

WHAT will doubtless be a charming paper, by Mr. Austin Dobson, is to form the opening article of the *Century* for June. It is entitled "A Literary Ramble." The paper which will be copiously illustrated, is descriptive of a journey made by the writer along the Thames from Fulham to Chiswick, and forms a running commentary of the intervening places visited by Mr. Dobson.

DESPITE the enormous amount of gratuitous advertising given Mr. Howell's novel, "The Rise of Silas Lapham," few works of a similar character having, perhaps, ever been so materially aided into popularity by editorial and ceaseless conversational comment—only about 7,000 copies of the book have been sold, a fact which gives abundant opportunity for a discussion of the oft-considered question whether the magazine publication of a novel aids or injures its subsequent sales in book form.

AN inquiry made of the editor of the *Atlantic Monthly* fails to elicit any definite information concerning Mr. Lowell's promised series of papers to that magazine. The editor, however, practically denies the report that the poet has retracted his promise to write the articles announced, and says that Mr. Lowell's time is more than occupied with his work on the Hawthorne biography, which may be accepted as the reason for the non-appearance, up to this time, of the contributions in the *Atlantic*.

THE credit of making a translation of Balzac's novels which has met with the hearty favour of American readers must be given to Miss Wormley, of Newport, who has rendered into English the series of the great Frenchman's writings now being published by Messrs. Roberts Brothers, of Boston. Miss Wormley, whose name has not hitherto been known in connection with the work, has now just completed the translation of "Eugenie Graudet," and it is now in Messrs. Roberts's press. The same firm are preparing an edition of Mrs. Ewing's original books and Dr. Hedge's "Hours with German Lassies."

MESSRS. TICKNOR AND COMPANY recently accepted for publication a translation of a famous Russian poem called "Red-Noted Frost." On one side of the page were the original lines in Russian and on the other the translation. However, when the firm came to give the book to the printer they had difficulty in getting it put into type. They finally took it to the University Press in Cambridge, Mass., the only printing house in the country which could do the composition for a Russian book. The volume will be ready in a few days. The frontispiece will be a fine portrait of N. A. Nekvasov, the author.

THE enterprising editor of *Lippincott's Magazine* has apparently found it a more difficult task than he at first anticipated to continue the publication of the "Experiences" of prominent authors in his new department of "Our Experience Meetings," since in the forthcoming June issue the department will entirely lose its literary colour, and be given over to the narratives of anonymous contributors in the more modest walks of life. These papers will be entitled "My Experience in the Labour Movement," "Some Experiences of a Working Girl," and the third will tell of the "Experiences of a Street-Car Conductor." Other papers in the same number will treat of "The Poet as a Business Man," "The Mormon Question," and "A Plea for the Spoils System."

AN interesting series of industrial and social studies will be commenced in the July number of *Harper's Magazine*. The papers will be by Dr. Richard T. Ely, of the Johns Hopkins University, and promise to discuss more especially the railroad problem from the social point of view. The articles will be extended into several numbers of the magazine.

THE more cordial reception accorded Mr. Henry James's "The Bostonians" in England than in America has encouraged the Messrs. Macmillan to issue the novelist's works in cheap paper edition at two shillings. "The Portrait of a Lady" will be the initial work in the series, in three volumes, after which publication will be given to "Roderick Hudson" and "The American," each in two volumes. "Washington Square," "The Europeans," and Mr. James's other works, with the exception of "The Bostonians," will follow, each in separate volumes. Owing to an existing agreement between the novelist and Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin, and Company, the same series cannot be brought out in America.

AN important feature of the June *Century* will be the publication of a greater part of the collection of letters written by Benjamin Franklin, purchased by Congress some two years ago and which are now in the Department of State. The letters are written for the most part from London and Paris between 1772 and 1786. An explanatory article will accompany the letters, written by Hon. John Bigelow. An especially interesting and valuable letter is that written by Franklin to George Washington, requesting the latter to take charge of the money of Lafayette during his visit to America, and give him such funds as his necessities called for. This Franklin counsels because of Lafayette's generosity and his inability to keep his hands from his purse string whenever anybody or any object appealed to him.

MESSRS. HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN, AND COMPANY'S Riverside Paper Series, issued in weekly volumes during the summer months last year, proved to be so successful that another set of novels has been prepared for publication this coming season. The first number will be Miss Elizabeth Stuart Phelps' "Burglars in Paradise," which we have already announced to appear on May 15. It will be followed by three new stories, "Not in the Prospectus," by Park Danforth; "The Man who was Guilty," by Flora H. Longhead, and "The Cruise of the *Alabama*," a semi-historical narrative by Mr. P. D. Haywood. Other stories to be included are by Mrs. Miriam Coles Harris, Mr. H. E. Scudder, Mrs. A. D. F. Whitney, Dr. O. W. Holmes, T. B. Aldrich, J. Emerson Smith, William Henry Bishop, Mrs. H. B. Stowe, and W. D. Howells.

SEVERAL newspapers have reported that Mr. W. W. Astor had been invited to become a member of the Authors' Club of New York, having by his novel, "Valentino," become a successful man of letters. The report is untrue, Mr. Astor's name never having come up in the club. The announcement of a new novel by this author is also without foundation, Mr. Astor not having written a new book. In the new edition of "Valentino" the author has taken advantage of the opportunity to make several changes suggested by his critics. By substituting "onions" for "potatoes," and "coffee" for "chocolate," he has made his text more historically accurate, but we still find mention of snuff taken before snuff was made, and on page thirty-six we learn that Ginevra "sank back upon the canopy, and Cesare, emboldened, seated himself by her side."

A FEW weeks ago when Canon Farrar was in this country, tens of thousands paid as much as one dollar each to hear a single lecture delivered by him, and were well pleased with what they got for their money. Several of the most important of those lectures and addresses with other papers are now published by John B. Alden, of New York, and can be had in a very handsome cloth-bound volume for the price of 40 cents. Some of the lectures are also published separately in his *Elzevir Library*, in which form the lecture on Dante sells for 3 cents; on Temperance, 2 cents; on Ideals of Nations, 2 cents; Thoughts on America, 3 cents. The millions of intelligent people who admire Canon Farrar, and who were not able to hear him lecture, will be delighted to find his brilliant, scholarly and eloquent thoughts placed in this handsome form within their reach.

THE American edition of the April number of the superb French magazine, *Les Lettres et les Arts*, is now ready and in the hands of the Scribners. This issue begins a new volume, it having been wisely decided to make four volumes a year of the twelve numbers, instead of two, the usual division. The frontispiece is an exceptionally good photograph of one of Hemmer's nude figures, full of colour; other very charming pictures are reproduced from paintings or drawings by Grasset, Mme. Leonaire, Aublet, Duez, Emile Levy, Lambert and Gautier. Perhaps the most satisfactory of the illustrations are the small photogravures which are printed in the text pages. The literary contributions are not so notable as usual, but a periodical can hardly be called dull which contains the names of Georges Ohnet, Th. Bentzon, Pierre de Nolhac, and Jules Zeller among its writers.

FOR the new weekly publication, "The Summer Reading Series," which the Messrs. Macmillan are just starting, cheap editions of novels by Marion Crawford ("Mr. Isaacs" and "Dr. Claudius"), Charles Kingsley, and Mr. Shorthouse are already in press. In "The Riverside Paper Series," which Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin, and Company have begun, is to be a new story by Flora Haines Longhead, entitled "The Man Who Was Guilty." The author is a Western lady, and her book was accepted entirely upon what seemed to be unusual merit. The central figure of the tale is a man who is courageously endeavouring to outlive a crime of which, under the laws, he is guilty. His struggles to redeem his past and his striving to regain the confidence of his fellowmen offer, one readily sees, admirable opportunities for a strong and dramatic narrative. It will be ready in June. Mr. P. D. Haywood's volume, "The Cruise of the *Alabama*," which will appear in the same series, will contain a clever account of the experiences of the men on the *Alabama*, Mr. Haywood writing from his own personal knowledge, having himself been one of the crew. Mr. Parke Danforth's "Not in the Prospectus," which will be ready in July, recounts a love episode of two of "Cook's Tourists."

HOW curiously the public will sometimes be misled by the title of a book is illustrated in the case of a bright little story entitled "Modern Fishers of Men," published by the Appletons in 1879, and of which they will shortly issue a cheap paper edition. A rather unfortunate choice of title, together with the representation of a fish hook on the cover and the singular headings of every chapter, led every one who gave the book no more than a cursory look to believe it to be a work on fish culture, and even a few critics spoke of the little work as a "clever and useful aid to the devotees of Isak Walton!" In reality, however, the work is an exceedingly brilliant picture of American village life, "a story of the missions, omissions, and commissions of various characters" in a village church and community. The public misconception of the nature of the book proved fatal to its success, but the publishers are hopeful that its true character may now be seen and be accorded the reception of which it is deserving. At the time of its previous publication it was issued anonymously; the new edition will, however, bear the name of the author, who, we learn, is Professor George L. Raymond, author of the recently published work on "Poetry as a Representative Art," and who holds the professorship of literature at Princeton College.