

Reviews of New Books.

The Art Bible.

A new edition of the Bible requires only a descriptive notice to indicate its special features and show in what respects it differs from other editions. The "Family Bible," so misnamed, is usually a great, unwieldy volume, too heavy to handle, kept on a special stand or table, and the only care bestowed on it is an occasional dusting of its thick, gilt-decorated, unopened covers. "The Art Bible" is really a family Bible and in time must become the "Family Bible" in every household where the Sacred Word is read and revered. In one volume it has 1,360 pages, super-royal octavo, printed in entirely new type, selected for its sharpness and clearness of outline. Its typography is beautiful and thoroughly artistic; but what gives it title of "The Art Bible" is the wealth of illustration with which it is embellished. There are altogether 850 illustrations, maps, etc., and these are not inserted, or placed indiscriminately, but on the page or opposite the page the text of which they are intended to illustrate. These illustrations are not conventional ones, but are careful reproductions of the famous paintings of British and foreign artists and drawings of some of the chief artists in "Black and White" of the present day. Among them are reproductions of pictures by Rubens, Raphael, Murillo, Guido, De la Roche, Ary Scheffer, Da Vinci, Eastlake, John Martin, Holman Hunt and others of world-wide fame, with new pictures of historic incidents, manners, customs, costumes and ceremonies, by George Tinworth, Paul Hardy, J. Finemore, Alfred Pearce, J. S. Crompton, C. J. Staneland and others. There are also a number of illustrations of the Natural History of the Holy Land, carefully drawn from nature by P. J. Smit; photographic pictures of scenery and a great many views from drawings made on the spot by that well known traveller in the East, Henry A. Harper. The fidelity and accuracy of the illustrations are testified to by the Chief Rabbi, Dr. H. Adler; and by Dr. Thain Davidson, who speaks from personal observation of the scenes depicted. The work has received the commendation of the Archbishop of Armagh, the Bishop of Ripon, Mr. Gladstone, Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, Canon, Wilberforce and Pastor G. Monod. The last mentioned says: "A French Bible with those pictures would be a real help for the reading of the Scriptures and consequently further the propagation of the Gospel." The paper is necessarily thin, but it is white, strong, and so opaque that the illustrations do not show through the leaf unless held up to the light. The copy before us is strongly and handsomely bound in brown cloth, gilt leaves, and sold at the phenomenally low price of \$3.00. [London: Georges Newnes, Limited; Toronto: Williamson & Co.]

Briefer Notices.

"Teddy and Carrots." By James Otis. [Boston: Estes & Lauriat. \$1.15.] This capital story of newsboy-life in New York appeared last year as a serial in *St. Nicholas* and was deservedly popular. It is now published in a handsome, well printed volume, with a number of excellent illustrations by W. A. Rogers. No one who has seen anything of large cities can doubt that this is a true and vivid representation of street Arab life in some of the great centres of population.

"A Puritan's Wife," By Max Pemberton. [New York: Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.25.] Love and war are blended in this charming story. Beginning with the battle of Worcester—Cromwell's "Crowning Mercy"—Master Hugh Peters, "nephew of that Hugh Peters who was chaplain to the Lord General Cromwell," relates his perils and adventures until after the Restoration; and his love throughout them all for the gentle Lady Marjory, to whom at last he was happily married. The story is as tender as it is stirring.

"A Genuine Girl." By Jeanie Gould Lincoln. [Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.25.] Readers of "Marjorie's Quest" will welcome another story by the same author on the same lines. Indeed "A Genuine Girl" is a continuation of "Marjorie's Quest," as most of the principal characters reappear in it; but it is in every other respect a separate and distinct story. The scene is partly in the city of Washington, and the novel, like its predecessor, is entertaining, stimulating and thoroughly wholesome.

"Cricket at the Seashore." By Elizabeth W. Timlow. [Boston: Estes & Lauriat. \$1.] This prettily bound book with its attractive illustration tells about Cricket's experiences at the sea shore. Cricket is a little girl, some of whose earlier experiences have been recounted by the author in a previous work. This one will be found of equal if not surpassing interest, for naturally, Cricket, as she grows older, says more, attempts more, and accomplishes more than in her earlier years. It is a thoroughly wholesome and attractive delineation of child-life and should have many readers. The pictures are by Harriet Roosevelt Richards.

"Gold." By Annie Linden. [New York: The Century Company. \$1.25.] The opening chapter of this story gives no indication of the stirring incidents to follow before the last chapter is told. The only son of a retired Dutch-Indian merchant is sent out to Java to look after business interests there. At Genoa he meets a beautiful young lady who is a passenger on the same vessel bound for the same destination. Of course they fall in love with each other, but the hero, instead of securing his happiness

goes off on a mad expedition in search of a mountain of gold described in some ancient native manuscript. The author is evidently familiar with life in the Dutch-Indies and gives us some glimpses of it that are by no means attractive.

"The South Seas." By Robert Louis Stevenson. [New York: Charles Scribner's Sons; Toronto: William Briggs.] Before Mr. Stevenson settled down in Samoa he spent a portion of several years cruising among the many island groups of the South Seas. Although undertaken mainly in search of health these voyages could not but result in literary fruitage to a man like Stevenson. His observations, studies and deductions were published serially, and most of them, but not all, are now collected in this volume. It gives his experiences and observations in the Marquesas, Paumotu and the Gilbert Islands; and, apart from their value as literature, they are a substantial contribution to our knowledge of places little known and of peoples rapidly dying away under new and fatal conditions.

"A Girl's Kingdom." By M. Corbet-Seymour. [London: Blackie & Son; Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co.] Blackie & Son's name on the title page of a book for young people may generally be taken as a guarantee of the quality of the book. This is not a very strong story, but it is pleasantly told, and the purpose of it is to show that a girl's "kingdom" is the home and her "mission" to do the work she finds at her hand. The same publishers send us also "Highways and High Seas: Cyril Harley's Adventures on Both," by F. Frankport Moore, and "The Loss of John Humble, What Led to it and What Came of it," by G. Norway. These are stories of a more stirring nature which we noticed favorably on their first appearance. Their deserved popularity with readers young and old have called for these new editions. All these books have full-page illustrations.

"The Metropolitans." By Jeanie Drake. [New York: The Century Company. \$1.25.] We must confess that Jeanie Drake is a writer with whom we had no acquaintance until she introduced herself to us in this book. Whether or not this is her first appearance as a novelist we cannot say, but this much we are bound to say: she has a clear head, a good eye, a copious if not too discriminating vocabulary, and a pen that dances along unhesitatingly whether it describes social events in New York, scenes of gipsy life, or adventures of Arctic exploration. Primarily "The Metropolitans" is intended to be a good-natured satire on New York society, of which we do not know much except that it is very mixed and very exclusive if this story represents it truly. It is a book worth reading and would be a better one if the author had limited herself within narrower bounds.

"My Village." By E. Boyd Smith. [New York: Charles Scribner's Sons; Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co.] This book is beautifully printed, richly illustrated and charmingly written. The author, a native of Boston, has spent many years in France, his winters in Paris and his summers in Vallombre, or some other quaint and picturesque sea-coast village. He has thus had every opportunity to make himself thoroughly acquainted with every type of French village life. He describes the people around him, their habits, and modes of life in a very simple, unaffected and attractive style, while he is equally facile with his pencil. The pictures, of which there are nearly one hundred and fifty, are very effective and truly illustrate the text. We are grateful that the author does not, as many would, burden his book with untranslated French *faux*.

"The Rogues March." By E. W. Horning. [New York: Charles Scribner's Sons; Toronto: William Briggs.] This is a story of sixty years ago, the scene of which is partly in England and partly in Australia. "Transportation" was then a part of the criminal code of Britain, and in this book we are given a graphic and substantially faithful account of the conduct of criminal prosecutions and the treatment of convicts in the penal settlements more than half a century ago. There is much that is shocking and even horrible in the story—as there is in "Uncle Tom's Cabin"—but not more than seems necessary for the author's purpose which was to give faithful representation of a system now happily obsolete and which many would suppose impossible within so recent a period. The story is vigorously told and the author exhibits considerable art in concealing the identity of the real murderer for whose crime Tom Erichsen suffered the horrors of the condemned cell and the still greater horrors of the "chain gang" in Australia.

"Manual of the Law of Landlord and Tenant, for Use in the Province of Ontario." [By R. E. Kingsford, M.A., LL.B., Barrister. Toronto: The Carswell Co., Ltd. \$1.00.] The relation of Landlord and Tenant is a very old one and one which, at an early period, was subjected to authoritative regulation, legislative or otherwise. In these days, notwithstanding legislative enactments, judicial decisions and innumerable text-books it is still imperfectly understood and is the fruitful source, not only of much litigation but of many hardships and injustices of which the courts of law have never heard. Common law and statute law are so inextricably mixed up in the popular mind that neither landlord nor tenant knows what his rights, powers and liabilities exactly are. In this little volume Mr. Kingsford does not profess to give a manual by which every man may be his own lawyer; but he does give a very clear, concise, intelligible statement of what the law of Landlord and Tenant now is in the Province of Ontario. While intended both for the layman and the professional man, and will doubtless prove beneficial to both, it will be especially helpful to a large class of people

in the country who are asked for advice, and very properly hesitate to give advice, about matters they imperfectly understand. This manual, like the "Household Physician," does not preclude the necessity for skilled aid where skill and knowledge are required.

"Proceedings of the Sixth General Council of the Alliance of the Reformed Churches Holding the Presbyterian System," held at Glasgow 1896. Edited by Rev. G. D. Matthews, D.D., General Secretary of the Alliance. [London: James Nesbit & Co., Limited, 21 Berners Street; Wm. Tyrrell & Co., 12 King Street West, Toronto, 1896.] This report of the Sixth General Presbyterian Council of the Alliance of the Reformed Churches makes a goodly volume of 710 pp., attractive in external appearance, and equally so within in paper, printing and general make-up. For frontispiece it has a picture of that noble ecclesiastical structure, Glasgow Cathedral, and on page 35 is a cut of St. Andrew's Hall where the regular meetings of the Council were held. After a preface by the editor, Rev. Dr. Matthews, referring in general terms to Glasgow, incidents connected with the Council, and character and objects of the Alliance, there comes the report of the Council arranged according to days. The papers read and addresses given are presented entire or in their substance, and the discussions which followed them are briefly reported. It would be invidious, and our space will not allow us, to notice specially any paper or address, but the importance of the subjects presented and the eminence and ability of the writers and speakers give most of them a permanent value. The subjects treated, speaking of them in a general way, may be classified under the heads of "The Church," different views of it held by the Reformed, the Roman Catholic and the Anglican Churches; next, Presbyterianism considered in many different aspects and relations. Missions, foreign and home, with papers and addresses occupied an important place; the Sunday School Committee's report, and addresses "on Great Cities" afforded a wide scope for the consideration of Christianity in its practical working. Papers were read by able and distinguished men in the higher walks of learning, philosophy, and criticism in their relation to the Scriptures and the Church, and they may be read in full here. The state of Protestantism on the continent of Europe, a most important subject in many respects, was very fully considered and may be learned from this volume, together with much on other subjects of a miscellaneous kind. After the report of the proceedings of the Council comes an appendix of 208 pages, giving statistics, reports and detailed information on many subjects all interesting to the Christian student and minister, more especially if they are Presbyterians. Last of all, and not least, comes an index rendering reference to any subject quick and easy. Great credit is due to the editor for the manner in which he has performed what must have been a work of no little difficulty, and altogether as a contemporary record and presentation of the standing and work of the Reformed Churches bearing the Presbyterian name, the volume is one of great interest and value.

"Mrs. Cliff's Yacht." By Frank R. Stockton. Illustrated by A. Forester. [New York: Charles Scribner's Sons; Toronto: William Briggs.] Sequels are generally disappointing and we approach them with hesitation, if not with absolute distrust; but we have a great deal of confidence in Mr. Stockton, and although this story is a sequel to "The Adventures of Captain Horn," we are glad to say we have not found it disappointing, and our hesitation, if we had any, was quite uncalled for. Mrs. Cliff, be it remembered, had a prominent part in Captain Horn's adventures and a large share of the treasure obtained in the course of these adventures. Now she is alone in a great New York hotel, the mistress of millions, a widow, without near relatives, and perplexed how to spend her rapidly accumulating income. Thinking about her great wealth, planning vaguely how she should use it, wishing to test its power that very moment, wanting with all her heart to want something, yet not knowing what to want, she touched the electric bell, and when a servant entered, ordered—a cup of tea. Next day she returned to her old New England home, where she intended to spend the rest of her life and be the Lady Bountiful in a modest way to her old friends. There she found no way of checking her income, growing unceasingly at the rate of two dollars every five minutes, until the arrival of Mr. Burke, formerly an able seaman, and also a sharer in the wealth of the Incas. His happy suggestions enabled Mrs. Cliff to spend some money sensibly, and without feeling that she was wasting it; but still the rapid accumulation of income was almost an intolerable burden on her mind and conscience. It then occurred to Mr. Burke that a yacht would be just the thing for Mrs. Cliff; and to this idea she yielded on condition that the yacht should not be merely for her own pleasure, but for the health, comfort and pleasure of poor and deserving people, especially children. A fine yacht was bought, fitted and equipped, and christened the "Summer Shelter." This was all a great satisfaction to Mrs. Cliff. "A great deal of money had been paid for that yacht, and it had relieved, as scarcely any other expenditure she would be likely to make could have relieved, the strain upon her mind occasioned by the pressure of her income. Even after the building of her new apartments her money had been getting the better of her. Now she felt she was getting the better of her money." On her way home, after deciding to make a trial trip on the *Summer Shelter*, Mrs. Cliff stopped in at a Brooklyn church, where a meeting of Synod was in session, and it occurred to her that it would be a good thing to invite some of the hard-worked, weary ministers to accompany her on the trip. A number accepted the invitation and betook themselves, with their grips, on board the evening before the yacht was to start. We cannot follow the story any further, except to say that when the crew desert the yacht the ministers volunteer to man her and "stick to the ship" bravely as long as their services are required. Mr. Stockton makes the most of the unusual situations he ingeniously contrives. His quaint, buoyant humour never flags; and he takes his readers back from the cruise cheered and invigorated.