

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

FIFTY POUNDS FOR A WIFE. By A. L. Glyn. New York: Henry Holt and Company. 50 cents.

A somewhat haughty story, very full of deep-laid villainous plots and designs, all happily frustrated in the end. An enthusiastic and philanthropic young man, Gerald Daubeny, rescues the heroine when a child from her brutal father by paying fifty pounds for her. After being tenderly brought up by her new friends, Winnifred's cruel parent reappears on the scene when she is at a marriageable age and obtains possession of her. She is brought through trials sufficient to kill half a dozen ordinary girls, and is once more restored to her friends by the extraordinary fact being brought to light that her tormentor is not her father after all—the real parent arriving most opportunely from Australia. Again among her friends, one would think that the poor girl might be allowed to marry her guardian in peace and quietness, but an anti-climax is reached, as the readers of this not uninteresting but decidedly sensational story will discover.

THE HAUNTED POOL (LA MARE AU DIABLE). By George Sand. Translated by Frank Hunter Potter, illustrated with fourteen etchings by Rudeaux. New York: Dodd, Mead and Company; Toronto: Hart and Riddell.

In beautiful type on beautiful paper this exquisite prose pastoral of George Sand's is made accessible to the English reader. Much thanks are due the translator, the illustrator, and the publishers for thus putting into such attractive form a little work which by its simple depiction of simple manners must and will serve as excellent antidote to many a sensational production of the modern press. It is a peculiarly opportune moment for the issue of this favourite little work of Mme. Dudevant's. And the fact that it has been issued, and issued in so taking a form, may perhaps be interpreted as showing that the taste of readers has not been altogether vitiated by the plethora of writings of a totally different stamp which weekly by hundreds everywhere make their appearance. To comment on *La Mare au Diable* as a portion of French literature is, at this date, of course wholly superfluous. We can only express pleasure at its reappearance in English in the attractive dress the publishers have designed for it.

THE GOVERNOR AND OTHER STORIES. By George A. Hibbard. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Toronto: Rev. Wm. Briggs. 1892.

Mr. Hibbard presents the reading public with six short stories in this quiet readable volume. Perhaps the opening story, which begins the title of the book, may be called the strongest of the collection which includes as well "A Dead-end Drama"; "As the Sparks Fly Upward"; "A Matter of Fact"; "A Fresh Water Romance"; and "The End of the Beginning." There is an air of realism in the story of "The Governor" which sets before us the hard resolute figure of "the Governor of a pivotal state" who after a life of inordinate money-making and political success takes his first holiday "in forty years." An unmarried man, he visits his early home alone and without ceremony. Arrives there he becomes the guest of the rival and object of his envy in boyish days whose wife was his early and only love. The home of his host Joliffe is the scene of busy preparations for the marriage of Joliffe's eldest daughter. The part played by the Governor in this festive scene, the solemn reflections which it suggests to him and his tragic exit from the story are by no means badly told. The style of the writer is ambitious, his description at times exaggerated, but his stories are by no means unpleasant reading and they will be found soothing, if not exhilarating, during the hot weather.

A MONOGRAPH ON PRIVATELY ILLUSTRATED BOOKS: A PLEA FOR BIBLIOMANIA. By Daniel M. Tredwell, Lincoln Road, Flatbush, Long Island. Privately Printed. 1892.

This handsome five-hundred-paged octavo is in many ways a curiosity, but, we hasten to say, a curiosity well worth both possession and perusal. In typography, paper, and binding it is in appearance one of the chastest books we have seen for many a long day—after all it is the true bibliophile who manifests the best taste in such matters, and Mr. Daniel Tredwell is no exception to the rule. His work originated, he tells us, in a lecture delivered before the Rembrandt Club of Brooklyn in 1880. But the lecture furnishes only the initiatory chapter, to such dimensions did the work grow. Mr. Tredwell's method was to visit as many collections of books as was possible, only relying upon second-hand information when his own personal observation was out of the question. In his descriptions of libraries and of individual books there are scattered stores of knowledge of all descriptions; and what with the numerous notes, anecdotes, quotations, and portions of historic, bibliolatrous, narrative, and other matter, this monograph is a highly fascinating work. Even the style in which it is written is curiously attractive: it makes no attempt at correctness or felicity of diction: Mr. Tredwell passes from the first person singular to the first person plural in contiguous sentences with the utmost nonchalance; coins words *ad libitum*; cares nothing for the strictures of the purist; and indeed pursues his course independent of any hard and fast rules of literary accuracy. And naturally, where the

graces of scriptorial art are neither required nor sought for, this method, containing as it does a flavour of the careless ease of one whose thoughts are wholly taken up with his own hobby, and to whom, therefore, much is forgiven, forms an added charm rather than a detracting blemish. A thoroughly useful and practical feature of Mr. Tredwell's book is seen in the copious alphabetical lists of names and of books mentioned in the text. Though privately printed, the work is procurable, and every librarian, and indeed every lover of books, should put himself in possession of a copy. And to such as are not readers, but merely collectors, of books, Mr. Tredwell's monograph can be heartily recommended, not only because it deals with an interesting feature of bibliothecal history, but because it will be an ornament to any shelves—no small matter, as every bibliophile will grant.

THE *Bookman* for July has a number of interesting notes; two poems; an interesting instalment of the Carlyle sketches—this one dealing with "Emerson in England"; portraits of Augustine Birrell and Hall Caine, with accompanying articles on the one by William Watson and on the other by Raymond Blathwoyt. The usual departments are well filled.

THE *Illustrated London News* celebrates its jubilee in a manner worthy of the occasion. "Peer and Heiress," by Walter Besant, is a charming story. A. Conner Doyle contributes an interesting tale entitled "A Question of Diplomacy." The number is in all respects an excellent issue, the coloured plates "Who Are You"; "My Pretty Maid"; "Violets"; and "An April Fool," are quite captivating.

W. S. CAINE, M.P., continues his interesting work entitled "India; its Temples, its Palaces, and its People" in the July number of the *Methodist Magazine*. Amy Parkinson contributes some good lines under the title of "Best." C. B. Adams writes on "A Recent Visit to Peking"; P. H. Burton on "Co-operative Industry." The serial "A Woman's Fight With the Monster," by Julia McNair Wright, is continued in this issue. "Miracles of Missions," by Arthur T. Pierson, brings a very fair number of the *Methodist Magazine* to a close.

*Poet Lore* devotes its first article to Shelley, and in "Shelley's Faith: its Development and Relativity," Kinton Parkes shows that this great poet was something more than what men are accustomed to call an "atheist." William G. Kingsford comes next with "Shelley's Letters to Elizabeth Hitchener," and is followed by G. W. Alger's "In Memoriam Shelley, 1792-1892." This number also contains the last acts of "A Glove," a prose drama by Björnstjerne Björnson, while "Early Mutilators of Shakespeare," by Prof. William H. Hudson, is a paper of real interest to Shakespearian students.

THE *Magazine of Poetry* opens with a portrait of Charles Warren Stoddard, and a sketch of this gentleman from the pen of Nellie Leila Michel. T. A. H. Eyles writes a short notice on that well-known *littérateur*, Mr. Edmund Gosse. Hon. Horace P. Biddle is taken up by Eva Peters Reynolds, while John D. Ross gives a short biography of Alexander McLachlan, so well known in Canada, and who came out to farm in this country fifty-two years ago. George R. Cathcart brings the series to a close with the well-written review of Oliver Wendell Holmes' poetry. The number is well illustrated.

*Blackwood's* for July opens with "The Prospective Decline of Lancashire," by W. A. Abram; Andrew Lang follows with "The Jacobite Lord Ailesbury." "Why was Lord Ailesbury a Jacobite?" asks Andrew Lang, and then he answers his own question. "He was loyal, as Falstaff was cowardly, 'on instinct'—by sheer force of sentiment, of that sentiment which history can scarcely destroy, which yet wins our hearts, if not our heads, to the forlorn cause—the impossible, undesirable venture—the cause of the White Rose." The author of "Scenes From the Silent World" writes a paper entitled "The Treatment of Criminals in Modern Greece," in which he alludes to the fact that England might learn a lesson even from modern Greece. "Diana: The History of a Great Mistake" is concluded in this number. H. O. Forbes, F.R.G.S., A.L.S., contributes an interesting paper on "British New Guinea as a Colony."

THE word "Ethics" to-day covers large ground, and the *International Journal of Ethics* takes excellent advantage of the fact. The July number, for example, contains articles—and admirable ones—upon such subjects as "What Should be the Attitude of the Pulpit to the Labour Problem?" "Machiavelli's 'Prince,'" the "Ethics of the Jewish Question," "An Analysis of the Idea of Obligation," together with criticisms of such books as Rae's "Contemporary Socialism," Mr. Henry George's "The Condition of Labour," Guyan's "L'Art au Point de vue Sociologique," Mr. Knight's "The Philosophy of the Beautiful," Schultze's "Das Christenthum Christi und die Religion der Liebe." It would be interesting to discuss at length some of the topics here handled, but space forbids. Mr. Zeublin's article on the Jewish question, however, claims a word. His object is to "show the irresponsibility of the Jew for his 'peculiarities.'" What Mr. Zeublin means by "irresponsible" here is that the peculiarities of the Jew are accretions formed by environment, and the writer traverses all history to prove his point. But surely the peculiarities are anterior to history.

LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

SHELLEY was expelled from Oxford in 1811. The literary world is wondering if the coming centenary of the poet's birth, next month, will be honoured by the University.

A WORK on which Count Tolstoi is now engaged is called "War and Government." He contends that "war between nations is ridiculous and illogical."

MR. WALTER BESANT has written about an out-of-the-way London "Riverside Parish" for "The Poor in Great Cities" series in the August *Scribner*. The very numerous illustrations are by Hugh Thomson, and are studies from life.

MR. W. M. KINGSFORD, the well-known historian, will shortly issue a volume on the early Bibliography of the Province of Ontario. The book will be of special interest, as this year is the centennial of representative government in Canada.

MESSRS. WORTHINGTON COMPANY, 747 Broadway, New York, announce for immediate publication as No. 28 in their International Library "The Heiress," by Henri Greville; translated by Emma C. Hewitt and Julien Colmar. The same firm also announce as No. 2 in their Fair Library "The Hand of Destiny," by Ossip Schubin; translated by Mary A. Robinson.

A CURIOUS book, in which the text is neither written nor printed, but woven, has lately been published at Lyons. It is made of silk, and was published in twenty-five parts. Each part consists of two leaves, so that the entire volume contains only fifty leaves, inscribed with the service of the mass and several prayers. Both the letters and the border are in black silk on a white background.—*Boston Globe*.

THE *Midsummer Holiday Century* will contain a story by Honoré Beaugrand, of Montreal, founded upon a popular superstition among the voyageurs in the North-West. M. Beaugrand has made a special study of the folk-lore of Canada, and is now president of the Montreal branch of the American Folk-lore Society. He is the editor of *La Patrie*, the leading Liberal French paper, and a strong advocate of annexation. He is a member of the Canadian Parliament and ex mayor of Montreal.

MAURICE DE GUÉRIN'S beautiful prose poem "The Centaur," which Matthew Arnold introduced to the English-reading public a number of years ago in a delightful essay on Eugénie and Maurice de Guérin, appears in a complete and charming English version in the fiction number (August) of *Scribner's*. The translation and the introduction, which gives an outline of the brief life of the author, are by Mrs. James T. Fields. The illustrations, sure to attract special attention, are by C. Delort, the famous French painter.

MR. JAMES BAIN, Public Librarian, Toronto, we are pleased to observe, has been appointed a member of the International Committee of the American Library Association for the World's Fair at Chicago. The committee is organized for the purpose of securing the co-operation of foreign libraries in the exhibit at Chicago. The committee now stands: England, Justin Winsor; Canada, James Bain; Italy, Horace Kephart; Germany, C. H. Hull; France, Belgium and Holland, E. C. Richardson; Scandinavia, Torwald Solberg. Australia is yet to have a representative appointed.

A WEALTHY member of the Parliament of Hungary has set aside 150,000 gulden, the income from which, together with a handsome villa in Budapesth, is to be the property of the "best living Hungarian author" until his death, when the jury selected for that purpose will decide upon his successor. It is generally understood that the donor has taken this delicate way of making Moritz Yokai, the Hungarian poet, historian and statesman, comfortable for his remaining days, as there is not the least doubt that he will be the first one to benefit by this gift.

VICOMTE DE GROUCHY, formerly a member of the diplomatic corps of France, while examining the papers of a dead notary in Paris recently, found some valuable documents relating to Racine. The documents give new information regarding the poet's private life, his fortune and his library. They show that, contrary to general belief, Racine possessed a comfortable fortune. Among other things it was found that he had once loaned 20,000 francs to an impecunious prince. The papers contain a list of many books possessed by the author at the time of his death, but strange to say this list does not include a single copy of his own works. It is also said that the papers describe the house where Racine lived; something that it has been impossible to discover heretofore. The Vicomte will publish the interesting documents as soon as possible.—*New York Tribune*.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

- Burgess, Edwin H. Loyalty. 25c. New York: Anson D. F. Randolph & Co.
- Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth. Evangeline. New York: Jno. B. Alden.
- Pierson, Arthur T. The Heart of the Gospel. New York: The Baker & Taylor Co.
- Swan, Annie S. A Bachelor in Search of a Wife. Edinburgh: Olliphant, Anderson & Ferrier; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.