

eray, which resulted in the resignation of the decedent and of Charles Dickens and Wilkie Collins from the Garrick Club, was probably one of the most notable quarrels among authors during the recent history of English literature. Mr. Yates was a ready and clever writer; and his intimacy with many social and literary celebrities of his time makes his 'Personal Reminiscence and Experiences,' published some years ago, a rich mine of anecdotal history of modern England.

"The Right Hon. John Duke Coleridge, F.R.S., was born in 1821, and was educated at Eton and Balliol College, Oxford, where he graduated B.A. in 1842. In 1855 he was appointed recorder at Portsmouth, and was created a Queen's Counsel in 1861; soon after he was nominated a bencher of the Little Temple. On the formation of Mr. Gladstone's Government in December, 1868, he was appointed Solicitor-General, and received the honour of knighthood. On Sir Robert Collier being appointed to a judgeship in the Judicial Department of the Privy Council in November, 1871, Sir John Coleridge was appointed to succeed him as Attorney-General. Upon the death of Sir William Bovill, Sir John Coleridge was appointed Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas in 1873, and soon afterwards he was raised to the peerage by the title of Baron Coleridge of Ottery, St. Mary, in the County of Devon. On the death of Sir Alexander Cockburn, in November, 1880, Sir John Coleridge was appointed Lord Chief Justice of England."

#### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

- Chas. Egbert Craddock: His Vanished Star. New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Cambridge: Riverside Press. \$1.25.
- S. B. Crockett: The Raiders. New York: Macmillan & Co. Toronto: Copp, Clark & Co.
- Right Hon. G. O. Trevelyan, M.P.: Cawn-pore. New York: Macmillan & Co. Toronto: Copp, Clark & Co.
- Proceedings and Transactions Royal Society of Canada, Vol. XI. Ottawa: Durie & Son. Montreal: Foster, Brown & Co.
- Major-Gen. T. Bland Strange: Gunner Jingo's Jubilee. 2nd Edition. London: Remington & Co., Ltd.
- Florence Trail: Under the second Renaissance. Buffalo: Chas. Wells Moulton.
- Wm. Canniff, M.D., M.R.C.S., Eng.: The Medical Profession in Upper Canada. Toronto: Wm. Briggs.

#### READINGS FROM CURRENT LITERATURE.

##### COUSINS FROM THE WORKHOUSE.

Here is an amusing story of Messrs. Toole and Brough, which appeared some years ago, but is worth re-telling. Having appeared conjointly in a drama, "Dearer than Life," in which they wore very ragged, woe-begone costumes, they visited the well-known artists, Fradelle and Marshall, to be photographed in their rags. While waiting "between the plates," Toole, who is very fond of a lark, suggested to his brother comedian to sally out and call upon a certain mutual acquaintance, who would be horribly shocked at receiving visitors in such a garb. Brough at once assented, and

popping on their battered hats, out into the street the pair slipped, and made for the house of their friend. Of course the neat housemaid and the neater buttons were horrified, and declined, even without being asked, to purchase matches or the like.

"I axes your pardon," said Toole, in an assumed tone; you're making a slight mistake. We want to see your master," and he mentioned the gentleman's Christian name and that of his wife.

"We have important business with him," chimed in Brough.

The girl's face wore a dazed aspect, and she said, "Master never sees the likes of you at his house. He's most partickler, ain't he Charles?" appealing to the page.

"You must be making a mistake,"

"Oh, no, we ain't," responded Toole, with supreme gravity. "But I'm sorry William (the Christian name of the gentleman) is out. I haven't got a card about me (pretended to fumble among his rags); but tell your master that his two cousins from the workhouse called as they were passing through London."

#### THE METHODS OF ZOLA.

No space at command here would suffice to criticise these books in detail, or to set forth, except in shorthand, the objections which have been taken to them, and the replies which have been made to the objections. We must content ourselves with the "heads" of both. The panegyrists of M. Zola say that convention had reigned long enough in literature; that it was time for an uncompromising and scientific view of human nature to take the place of superficial observation and romantic idealism; and that M. Zola has heralded and led this transformation with extraordinary vigour and skill. The adversary has urged from the beginning (and, while fully admitting the immense industry and remarkable power of the novelist, continues to urge) that his whole conception of art and nature is radically wrong. It is pointed out that M. Zola in the first place seems to confine his attention, by preference and deliberation, to sides of human nature which, though admittedly existent, are intermittent and exceptional; that where he attempts other sides, as in *La Réve*, he is more conventional and unreal than the most *clair-de-lune* sentimentalist; that he has no notion or grasp of human nature as a whole. It is further urged that his attempt to turn the encyclopædia into a novel, and to load his books with technical information, leads occasionally to blunders which do not very much matter, and constantly to a stiff and inartistic presentment which matters very much. It is said (to take two instances out of many) that the horticulture in that very moving and passionate book, *La Faute de l'Abbe Mouret*, is an intolerable bore; and that in its twenty years younger brother, *La Débacle*, the masterly demonstration of the faults of the French army is hindered, not helped, by the over-minuteness of the accounts of marches and bivouacs, while in certain other instances, the superfluous matter is not only specify, the superfluous matter is not only dull, but utterly disgusting. M. Zola is undoubtedly a strong man, who has not yet run his full race, and it is perhaps too soon to give or refuse him the crown. But if the opinion of the present writer is asked for, or has any value, it is that he has

hopelessly mistaken the course, has gone on the wrong side of the flags, and must almost certainly be disqualified at the finish. —George Saintsbury, in *Chambers' Encyclopædia*.

#### COLLEGES AND NOVELISTS.

Neither Oxford nor Cambridge is strong in fiction, but Cambridge possesses two names of the first rank, Sterne and Thackeray. The majority of our great novelists graduated in the rougher schools of the world, and probably acquired there a better equipment for their work than any university could give them.

Defoe (1661-1731) received the rudiments of education at an academy at Newington Green, and was successively rebel merchant, manufacturer, satirist in verse, bankrupt, political secretary, pamphleteer, and journalist, before he wrote, at the age of sixty, the immortal "Robinson Crusoe;" Fielding (1707-1754) was at Eton until eighteen, then travelled for a short time and began his literary career as a writer for the stage, living a Bohemian sort of life; and was a magistrate at Bow Street, and a terror to evil-doers, when he wrote "Tom Jones" and "Amelia."

Richardson (1689-1761) was the son of a joiner, whose means were inadequate to carry out his intention of educating his son for the church, who forthwith became a printer, and died one. Smollet (1721-1771) came of a good Scotch family, and, of course, received a sound education; went up to London at eighteen, with a tragedy in his pocket, which was to bring him fame and fortune, but, his hopes being blighted, became surgeon's mate on board a man-of-war during the Carthage expedition in 1741, a post abandoned in disgust on his return, but one, nevertheless, which proved of inestimable service to him in his new career as author of providing material for those inimitable sketches of naval life and character with which his novels abound.

Scott (1771-1832) was brought up to the law, and during the long vacations went on those expeditions to Liddesdale and elsewhere, which, together with his legal experiences, were to be turned to account for the delight of thousands in the years to come. Dickens (1812-1870) was sent to a school at Chatham, kept by a Baptist minister, until the age of ten, when began that vagrant existence of which no reader of "David Copperfield" needs to be told, and during which, to use Dickens's own words, "but for the mercy of God he might easily have become, for any care that was taken of him, a little robber or a little vagabond." —Temple Bar.

#### LAW AND LAUGHTER.

Perhaps it is because law seems rather alien to laughter, and a law court the last place where one expects to be merry, that a joke goes so far with, and is made so much of by, all who are connected with the legal profession.

The following amiable contest occurred in Westminster Hall between Lord Campbell and an eminent Queen's Counsel. The action was one brought to recover for damages done to a carriage which the Q.C. repeatedly called a brougham, pronouncing both syllables of the word *brougham*. Whereupon Lord Campbell pompously observed, "Broom is the more usual pronunciation; a carriage of the kind you