

ONE of the important novelties of the present dramatic season is the new and intensely funny comedy, entitled "The Shatchen," which begins a week's engagement at the Academy of Music next Monday evening, the 6th instant. The comedy will introduce the well-known dialect comedian, M. B. Curtis, and a fine comedy company, which has been specially engaged to support him. The play has been written to present the Hebrew as he really is, and not as he is caricatured in many of the comedies and dramas of the present day. The production here marks the return to the stage after an absence of three years, of M. B. Curtis, the original "Sam'l of Posen." His portrayal of the jolly, light-hearted drummer is well known throughout the country. The Shatchen, literally translated, means match-making, a character who makes it a business to bring about marriages for a commission. Mr. Curtis in this play enacts the role of "Meyer Petowsky," the Shatchen, and the possibilities for a humorous creation are said to be as good as in "Sam'l of Posen."

At a choral festival at Vienna there was on Aug. 17 an audience of 20,000 persons who joined in singing "Das Deutsche Lied," and "Die Wacht am Rhein."

THE production of Sullivan's grand opera, "Ivanhoe," has raised the hopes of various artists, who wish to take part in it. The latest report is that Nordica will be the "Rebecca," although this distinction was claimed by Miss Palliser.

MANAGER D'OYLEY CARTE has engaged Oudin and his wife for the Savoy Theatre. American singers keep up their popularity abroad, especially in England. Zelle de Lussan, for instance, is a prime favourite there, as she deserves to be.

MISS AGNES HUNTINGTON has arrived, has been interviewed, and has told a marvellous story how Joachim applauded her so vigorously at a concert that he strained his hands so that he could not play his violin solo! Lovely are the uses of advertisement!

CAMPANINI has been passing the summer at Lake Hopatcong. The other night he sang at a concert at Breslin's Hotel, winning the usual applause and encores. His friends claim that his voice is entirely restored. A number of amateurs took part in the entertainment.

A CARL ROSA MEMORIAL FUND is in formation in England, with the object of affording weekly allowance during sickness, a pension after the age of sixty, and a sum of money at time of death, to the members of the Carl Rosa Grand Opera Company, the staff of the Royal Court, Liverpool, the members of the Carl Rosa Light Opera Company, in London, and the members of the Provincial Company.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

SONGS OF ALL SEASONS, Climes and Times. By Mrs. John Crawford. Rose Publishing Company, Toronto.

An ambitious title for a book of poetry of not more than ordinary merit. There is disclosed in the poems a love for nature and their moral and religious tone is pure, but they are often deficient in literary execution.

THE FEAST OF ST. ANNE, and other poems. By Pierce Stevens, Hamilton. Montreal: John Lovell and Son, 1890.

This volume of poems shows a wealth of imagination combined with a poverty of rhyme. We gladly give the author credit for a warm patriotic spirit which takes its best literary form, perhaps, in the song "Hurra! Hurra! for Norland." But even our patriotism cannot pass by in silence such rhymes as the following which appear in the poem "Canada,"

No burden impedes thy triumphant career,
All, all of thy Mother's that thou mayest share.

and again,

Is thy Crown not already irradiated
By the beams from the sun of futurity shed?

We may say that such rhythmic attempts are not exceptional but appear too frequently throughout the volume. "The Shanty in the Wood" is a pleasant little Idyll, and some very interesting information relating to primitive aboriginal scenes and customs is imparted in a romantic form in the poem "The Feast of Saint Anne," and in prose in the historical notes appended to it.

ON THE HILLS. A Series of Geological Talks. By Professor Frederick Starr. Boston: D. Lothrop Company.

Fully illustrated and described in a chatty pleasant style, the tramps taken by the author and his companions in search of fossil remains in various parts of the country will be interesting to the most unscientific of readers, even among the young. The physical formation of the earth is a subject attractive enough to each and all, and as it is said "when the scope of this branch of natural science is enlarged by studying the extinct forms of life whose traces are found in the later geological strata, it becomes still more fascinating." The opening chapter treats of the formation of glaciers, and of the moraines that mark their path, and after a talk called "A Queer Bundle of Sticks," which treats of some fossil discoveries near New York, follow chapters on extinct fish and reptilian forms, earthquakes, mountain-making, erosion, etc., etc.

CASSELL'S *Art Magazine* for October is full of good matter, illustrations and letter-press. The photogravure which forms the frontispiece is "The Stone Age," the painting by Fernand Cormon. George du Maurier has an article on the illustrating of books, and C. N. Williamson continues his series on "Illustrated Journalism" in New England, dealing this time with its development. The usual departments close the number.

The Overland Monthly for September opens with an article on "The Boom in Western Washington," by John S. Hittell, which is accompanied by a capital map. This number has a large collection of articles bearing on early Western history, such as "Who Was the Pathfinder," by Harry L. Wells, which deals with the earliest attempts at the overland journey and pays a tribute to the late General Fremont. "Fort Bridger," by Emily S. Loud, is the graphic story of a wild Western fort, and of the mountain trapper, "Old Jim Bridger," from whom it took its name. "A Woman's Log of 1849," is from the diary of a passenger on the return trip of the *California*, the first steamship that entered the Bay of San Francisco. "The Beginnings of California," by F. T. Vassault, and "The Bears and The Historians," by M. W. Shinn. There is other interesting matter and the great Cardinal Newman is remembered in a poem by William H. McDougall.

Lippincott's for October engages the attention at once with a long and interesting sea story by that Prince of Modern story-tellers of the sea, W. Clark Russell, called "A Marriage at Sea." Then follow "Tartuffe in Ebony," a negro character sketch by Jeanie Drake. A sonnet "Envy of Grief," by Bessie Chandler. "A Eulogy of Florida as a Health Resort," by Rose Elizabeth Cleveland. A popular presentation of "Electric Lighting," by David Salomons. "Roses of Love," a poem by Julian Hawthorne. The clever and entertaining "Round Robin Talks" are continued by J. M. Stoddart. Sydney T. Skidmore has a thoughtful article on "University Extension." M. G. McClelland's sonnet introduces to the world a new derivative of self, "Selflessness." In "Le Prix de Rome," L. R. McCabe urges the benefits derived from the great French Prix as a reason for the creation of a similar foundation in the United States. In "Book Talk," Julian Hawthorne gives a brilliant critical estimate of Rudyard Kipling's literary work and promise.

"YOUTH AND AGE" is the subject of the frontispiece in *The Quiver* for October, and it illustrates a poem by that title written by J. R. Eastwood. "Men Who Have Stuck to Their Post" is the opening article, and it has for its illustration a clergyman preaching to a congregation of one. "The Children's Hymn," by J. R. Eastwood, will no doubt be lisped by infant lips throughout the land. "With the Halt and the Maimed" is what its title indicates. "Luminous Bodies" is the not altogether descriptive title of a sermon preached by the Rev. J. R. Macduff. "Joyce Halliday's Mistake" is a story that young girls will enjoy, and "Little Sallie Lunn" will interest the children of the household. In the series of "Bright Examples," contributed by Professor Blaikie, "Mrs. Augustus Hare" is this month's subject. This lady was the mother, by adoption, of the well-known writer, Augustus Julius Charles Hare, who has taken so many thousand people on his "walks." Mrs. L. T. Meade's clever story, "In the Second Place," is continued. There are articles designed especially for Sunday reading and others in lighter vein, but there is never anything in the pages of *The Quiver* that might not be read with perfect propriety on any day in the week.

LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

DANTE GABRIEL ROSSETTI left some unpublished MSS. which may sometime, perhaps, see the light; one of these is a ballad of a burlesque kind, which he wrote on the famous Buchanan affair.

MRS. DELAND's serial story, "Sidney," will end in the October *Atlantic* and be published at an early day in this country by Houghton, Mifflin and Company, and in London by Messrs. Longmans, Green and Company.

THE remarkable career of Dorothea Lynde Dix, the world-famous philanthropist, has been written by Rev. Francis Tiffany, of Cambridge, and will be published immediately by Houghton, Mifflin and Company.

W. CLARK RUSSELL, the famous English writer of sea stories, and author of "The Wreck of the Grosvenor," "Marooned," etc., has contributed a novel entitled "A Marriage at Sea" to the October number of *Lippincott's Magazine*.

HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND COMPANY, Boston, have issued in their pretty Riverside Paper Series, the novel by Thomas Bailey Aldrich, entitled, "Prudence Palfrey." It is one of this gifted and genial writer's most delightful stories.

HERBERT LAWS WEBB, who will contribute an article on "Life on Board a Cable Ship" to the October *Scribner's*, is a son of F. C. Webb, C.E., who, in company with Cyrus W. Field, selected the landing place at Valentia for the first Atlantic cable.

The Century during the coming year, among its other Art features, will aim to present in every number some striking example of the best contemporary work of American artists—engraved by the leading American wood-engravers after the originals. The first of this series will be Mr. Will Low's oil-painting, exhibited at the Society of American Artists, and entitled "The Portrait."

RUFUS F. ZOGBAUM, in the second of his "White Squadron" articles in the October *Scribner's*, will describe harbour life as seen from an American man-of-war in the ports of Lisbon, Gibraltar, Tangier and Port Mahon. The illustrations are all from the author's drawings.

RUDYARD KIPLING was in this country about two months last year accumulating material for a book to bear the title "From Shore to Shore." An American who met him describes him as "a short, broad-chested man, a brilliant talker, and an interesting person generally."

T. B. PETERSON AND BROTHERS, Philadelphia, have published in cheap form a pleasing and interesting society novel by Cara Camara, entitled "Sifting Matrimony." The scene is laid by turns in New York, Washington and the South. It is a love story, with many effective dramatic scenes.

THE October *Atlantic* will have, among other noteworthy papers, a strong, indeed trenchant, article on Fremont, by Josiah Royce; a very interesting chapter on Benedict Arnold's treason, by John Fiske; and one of Sarah Orne Jewett's exquisite short stories, "By the Morning Boat."

ROSE ELIZABETH CLEVELAND has prepared an article upon Florida as a pleasure and a health resort for the October number of *Lippincott's Magazine*. A feature of the same number will be an article upon "Electric Lighting" by the well-known English scientist, Sir David Salomons.

MACMILLAN AND COMPANY will publish early this month in their "Adventure" Series "The Buccaneers and Marooners of America," being an account of the famous adventures and daring deeds of certain notorious freebooters of the Spanish Main. Edited and illustrated by Howard Pyle.

MR. GLADSTONE's new book, entitled "Landmarks of Homeric Study" will be issued immediately by Macmillan and Company. The author says in a recent letter: "Please to bear in mind that this little work was planned for America. The form of it seemed to me more suited for an American public."

THE J. B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY, Philadelphia, have issued in their neat and cheap series of select novels, a new English novel by B. M. Crocker, author of several popular stories, entitled "Two Masters." It is a story of remarkable interest, with an ingenious plot which is powerfully worked out.

"It seems to be understood," says the Boston *Transcript*, "that the heirs of John Boyle O'Reilly will sell his interest in the Boston *Pilot*. His partner was Archbishop Williams, who owns three-fourths of the property and will probably retain his interest. James Jeffrey Roche, Mr. O'Reilly's assistant, is the new editor."

THE success of the small cameo edition of "Reveries of a Bachelor" and "Dream Life," issued by the Scribners last fall, has warranted them in bringing out Thomas Nelson Page's "In Ole Virginia," and George W. Cable's "Old Creole Days," in the same dainty and attractive form. The volumes will contain etchings, and are printed from new plates on a fine quality of paper.

GUY DE MAUPASSANT was Gustave Flaubert's favourite pupil, and for seven years studied writing at the feet of his master; each week Flaubert would give his young disciple a subject for an essay or a piece of descriptive writing, and when the work was done it was submitted to Flaubert, who would then criticize and tear the style to pieces, and frequently rewrite the whole thing.

SINCE completing their elaborate historical work on Abraham Lincoln, Messrs. Nicolay and Hay have undertaken to write for *The Century* several papers of a more intimate character on "Lincoln's Personal Traits." These papers will differ from the "Life" in being signed by their respective authors. They will be supplemented by a remarkable posthumous essay on Lincoln by Horace Greeley, written in the form of a lecture, which, as is believed, was not only never published, but was never even delivered.

ROBERT BREWSTER STANTON, chief engineer of the party which last winter made a perilous survey for a railway through the entire length of the cañons of the Colorado, will describe the adventures of that journey in an early number of *Scribner's Magazine*. No party has ever before traversed these cañons except that of Major J. W. Powell in 1869, and Mr. Stanton's expedition is the first that has ever made a continuous trip along the waters of this river from its head to its mouth.

THE latest of the volumes treating of the "Famous Women of the French Court," translated from the French of Imbert de Saint-Amand by T. S. Perry, and issued by the Scribners, is entitled "Citizeness Bonaparte." It sketches the career of Josephine from the time of her marriage to the period of Napoleon's consulship, covering the most romantic and happy portion of her life; and includes the campaign in Italy, the expedition to Egypt and Napoleon's subsequent personal success and triumph at Paris.

MISS JULIET CORSON, the well-known professor of cooking and domestic science at Rutgers Female College, New York city, is so confirmed an invalid that her lectures are read at her dictation by her secretary, and she illustrates her ideas of cooking while seated in an invalid's chair. She has large and interested classes, and it is a belief of the college-girls, that Miss Corson could produce a first-class soup with a wish-bone, a quart of water, a water-cress, a pinch of salt, and a match.