

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Sebastine. Buffalo: Chas. Wells, Moulton.
E. M. Hardinge. With the Wild Flowers.
New York: The Baker and Taylor Co.
Robert Bridges. Overhead in Arcady. New
York: Chas. Scribner's Sons. Toronto:
Wm. Briggs. \$1.25.
Geo. H. Hepworth. Hiram Golf's Religion.
New York: E. P. Dutton Company.
City: Copp, Clark & Co.
Geo. H. Hepworth. They Met in Heaven.
New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. City:
Copp, Clark & Co.
Olive Phillips, Wolley. Big Game Shooting,
Vols. 1 and 2. London: Longmans,
Green & Co. \$2.50.

READINGS FROM CURRENT LITERATURE.

JERUSALEM AND THE JEWS.

The Anglican Bishop of Jerusalem, in a letter to Friday's *Times*, gives some facts which show that the Jews are pouring into Palestine. About one hundred thousand Jews have entered the Holy Land during the last few years, and "the arrival of a vaster host is imminent." "No one," he goes on, "can possibly forecast the next seven years of Jewish immigration." If the Bishop's view of what is going on is correct, we are face to face with a fact that may revolutionize the politics of Mediterranean Asia. Already the railways are opening up the country between the coast and Jerusalem and Damascus, and if a Jewish immigration on a large scale is added to this, Syria may become once more one of the most important places in the East. The idea of the Jews again possessing a country is a very curious one.—*Spectator*.

SIR CHARLES RUSSELL'S PROMOTION.

The promotion of Sir Charles Russell to the supreme tribunal as a Lord Ordinary of Appeal in succession to Lord Bowen, while it is a gain to the House of Lords, is a loss to English advocacy and, we may also say, to English political life that will not readily be made up. Since the days of Erskine there have risen few, if any, more powerful masters of the forensic art than Sir Charles Russell. Holker and Scarlett were as great verdict winners, Follett was a greater lawyer, Cockburn was Sir Charles Russell's superior in style and expository power, and the Attorney-General would be the first to admit the inimitable gifts of his friend Mr. Justice Hawkins as a cross-examiner. But in forensic tactics, in *verve*, in profound insight into human character and motives, in cogent reasoning power—in all these things combined Sir Charles Russell is *primus inter pares*, and will take rank with the supreme advocates of all time.—*Manchester Guardian*.

SUBURBS OF ANCIENT ROME.

There were great obstacles to the extension of the suburbs of Rome. The roadsides were occupied with sepulchres of twenty-five generations, and it was forbidden by feeling as well as by law to dwell within a certain prescribed distance of the remains of mortality. The performance indeed of certain ceremonies sufficed to desecrate these hallowed spots, but if we may judge from the well-known monuments of the dead which have been discovered even within the Porta Appia, and still more numerous in quite recent times beyond it, it would seem that on this, the most frequented

of all the Roman ways there was little use made of such a privilege. When two centuries after our era Caracalla proposed to erect his vast public baths, he found, we may suppose, little impediment from private buildings at only half a mile's distance from the Porta Capena. The Grotto of Egeria, almost immediately under the Servian walls, continued in the time of Juvenal to be surrounded with a grove, the resort of beggars, idlers, and the lowest classes of the people. There was a distinct village at the Milvian Bridge, about three miles from the Capitol, but in the immediate neighborhood we read of rural villas and pastures. That there was no suburb below the city on the river banks may be proved from the absence of any trace or record of a bridge across it. It is remarkable, again, that our accounts of various events which took place a little outside the walls indicate the solitude of the country rather than the character of populous suburbs.—*Scientific American*.

THE PROMPT ACTION OF A HOME COMPANY APPRECIATED.

In the hour of trouble, when the head of the family is taken away by death, it is absolutely essential in the best interests of the bereaved (in moderate circumstances) to secure whatever financial assistance is due them immediately.

Life insurance in a responsible company provides absolute guaranteed assistance in case of the death of the insured while the policy is in force.

The pioneer company to introduce the prompt payment of death claims immediately upon satisfactory completion of proofs of death was the North American Life Assurance Company, Toronto, Ontario. It still continues to adhere to that sound practice, as will be seen by a perusal of the following letter lately received from the beneficiary of a deceased policy-holder:—

Toronto, May 16th, 1894.

Wm. McCabe, Managing Director, North American Life, Toronto:

Dear Sir,—I am this day in receipt of your cheque numbered 262, on the Union Bank of Canada, for \$2,000, being the full amount of policy No. 3,085, on the life of the late Wm. A. Pamphilon. It was only yesterday afternoon that the claim papers were handed into your office, and in less than twenty-four hours after the receipt by you the cheque for the full amount of the claim was received. Although Mr. Pamphilon was insured in other companies and societies, thus far I have not heard from any of them in respect to the claims made upon them. This exceedingly prompt action on the part of your company is highly appreciated, and is another illustration of the advantage of Canadians dealing with home companies rather than with foreign corporations. Yours truly,

ELLEN F. PAMPHILON.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.

Mr. E. S. Willard opened a week's engagement at the Grand Opera House on Monday evening last, in the role of Cyrus Blenkarn in "The Middleman," which was repeated on Tuesday night. On Wednesday evening and Thursday matinee Grundy's drama "A Fool's Paradise" was presented, and on Thursday night and for remainder of the week Barrie's exquisite play "The Professor's Love Story" will be the attraction.

ters around them, and added to the notes anything M. Bourget might have missed. New York, Newport, Chicago and Washington may all expect to see themselves as this *fin de siècle* Frenchman saw them—and may not feel flattered in the pictures."

Messrs. Ward, Lock & Bowden, it is announced, will publish immediately a new edition of Mr. Mackenzie Bell's monograph on Charles Whitehead, containing a new preface, an "Appreciation" of Whitehead by Mr. Hall Caine, and a good deal of remarkably interesting supplementary matter about Whitehead which has come to light since the first edition was issued, as well as facsimiles of a letter and a MS. in Whitehead's handwriting. Mr. Hall Caine's "Appreciation," included in the new edition, appeared originally in the pages of *Temple Bar* as a review of Mr. Bell's book, and has been entirely revised. Whitehead, who, by-the-bye, was Mrs. Bernard Beere's uncle, was held in the highest estimation by Dickens, Rossetti, Christopher North, and many other authorities, and it was by his suggestion that Dickens undertook "The Pickwick Papers."

"Thomas Hardy used to live in London," says the *Boston Home Journal*, "but he now spends most of his time at Max Gate, near Dorchester, where he lived when a child, and where he has built a house after his own planning on a hill from whose brow can be seen many of the places and landscape features described in his stories. Walter Besant's home is a pleasant brick villa at Hampstead Heath, while James Payn lives in a pretty gray house in Maida Vale, but does his literary and newspaper work in apartments overlooking Waterloo Place. Richard D. Blackmore lives not far from London in the valley of the Thames, in an ancient house set in a great walled garden, where he devotes his days to market gardening, with an occasional outing on the Thames, and his evenings to novel writing. Those who know him say that it is in his garden rather than in his study that he finds the greatest pleasure."

The death of Professor Henry Morley removes from the scene of his labors a most prolific and diligent worker in the field of English literature. Professor Morley's works were marked by sound scholarship and painstaking care, and were of a kind that are at once helpful and stimulating to the student of literature. The following is a synopsis of his life: Professor Morley was born in London on September 15th, 1822. He was educated at the Moravian school on the Rhine and at King's College, London, of which college he was made an honorary Fellow. He practised medicine a short time in his early life, and was later editor of the *Examiner* in London. He was the author of a large number of works on various subjects. He was English lecturer at King's College from 1857 to 1865; professor of English language and literature at University College, London, from 1865 to 1889, and upon his retirement to Carlsbrooke in 1889, he was made emeritus professor.

Though an inheritance of acres may be bequeathed, an inheritance of knowledge cannot. The wealthy man may pay others for doing his work for him; but it is impossible to get his thinking done for him by another, or to purchase any kind of self-culture.—*Samuel Smiles*.