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## Literary Notes.

Last week Messrs. Blackwood & Sons published a new edition of Kinglake's "Eothen," with a portrait and biographical sketch of the author. The book was originally published in 1844. It was reprinted in 1878, and its author died early in 1891.

Mr. E. F. Knight's new book, "Madagascar in War Time: the Experiences of The Times Special Correspondent with the Hovas during the French Invasion of 1895," was published last week by Messrs. Longmans, Green & Co., with a map and numerous illustrations.

A week or two ago in London The Vagabonds flocked to the Holborn Restaurant to do honour to Mr. Linley Sambourne—and to be photographed. Mr. a Becket introduced his colleague on Punch in a witty and charming little speech, and Mr. Sambourne replied with a short but eloquent description of the changes in "black and white" art since he began his career.

Mr. J. M. Barrie has written a pleasant and appreciative letter to Mr. Gabriel Setoun over the publication of the last-named gentleman's new story, "Robert Urquhart." Mr. Barrie is rejoiced at having at last encountered a thoroughly Scotch story without the old dominie in it! "The dominie," said Mr. Barrie, "had such a way of marching into the story as soon as he heard there was one on hand that I think Mr. Setoun must have gone about his work on tiptoe."

Under the caption "Great Occasions of 1896," The Review of Reviews for May masses the preliminary announcements of more than sixty great conventions and other noteworthy gatherings of the coming six months at home and abroad. In many features this prospectus offers a remarkable exhibit of the varied activities of modern humankind—intellectual, moral, and physical. The Review's enterprise in gathering, digesting, and presenting this vast range of useful and interesting information is to be commended.

The new number of The Review of Reviews contains a witty article on M. de Blowitz and Mr. Henry Norman, who are styled "Ambassadors of the People." The London Literary World says that the writer, who can hardly be other than Mr. Stead himself, deals some back-handed hits at The Daily Chronicle's special commissioner, which will probably provoke reprisals. The Americans are bluntly told that they have been gulled by the pretended discovery of secret documents in "the Aberdeen mare's nest," and we are then assured, "nor is there much fear that they will find out the innocent trick that has been played upon them!"

Du Maurier and Felix Moscheles were chums and art students together, and the former first practised his gifts of caricature upon the latter. Moscheles has written for the May Century a paper entitled "In Bohemia with Du Maurier; Recollections of Artist Life in the Fifties." This is illustrated with seventeen sketches by Du Maurier, and contains a number of his letters and poems. At the very beginning of his art studies Du Maurier was threatened with blindness and had to give up painting, but the intimacy between the two men continued. The first real heroine that Du Maurier had, a pretty tobaccoconist at Mechlin, figures in the reminiscences and sketches.

Mr. Rudyard Kipling has replied to an offer he received from The World, of New York, as follows:

Dear Sir,—Your suggestion that I should write one thousand words for one thousand dollars on the text "Why America Could Not Conquer England," has been laid before me.

It is impossible that I should accept the commission, as it would involve discussing the armed strength of the Empire, a question on which no British subject has any information for sale.—Yours sincerely, R. KIPLING.

The last sentence disposes effectually of the rumour, says the Literary World, that Mr. Kipling intended to become naturalized in the United States, and gives colour perhaps to the later rumour that he is returning to take up his permanent abode in England.

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