

One of the few passable characters depicted has imbibed scepticism at college, and he reasons with his father and mother—nominal Christians—who have not a single answer to offer to their beloved son's crude infidelity. It is no surprise to find in such a book that religion is made a target for cheap ridicule. Whatever way it is looked at, it is a poor book, obviously destined to an early and unhonoured grave. We found our waste paper basket the most convenient receptacle for its fragments.

**MESSIANIC PROPHECY:** Its Origin, Historical Growth and Relation to New Testament Fulfilment. By Dr. Edward Riehm. Price 7s. 6d. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark; Toronto: McAlinsh. 1891.

This is a new translation of a new edition of Dr. Riehm's already standard work. It is a book which responds admirably to the need of the present day, and which will quiet the apprehensions aroused in some minds by some recent methods of dealing with the subject of prophecy. Many of our readers are probably aware that the somewhat mechanical method of exposition which was defended by writers like Newton and Keith has fallen a good deal into disrepute. Even in England a freer method has been prevalent, especially since the publication of the very able and thoughtful book of "Davison of Oriel." Dr. A. B. Davidson, in a very interesting Introduction, sets forth the central thought in this mode of exposition in the following words: "Every prophet speaks of the perfection of the Kingdom of God, looks for it, and constructs an ideal of it. We are still looking for it. The fundamental conceptions in these constructions are always the same—the presence of God with men, righteousness, peace, and the like—but the fabrics reared by different prophets differ. They differ because each prophet seeing the perfect future issue out of the movements and conditions of his own present time constructs his ideal of the new world out of the materials lying around him: the state of his people; the condition of the heathen world in his day." Here is the key to Riehm's exposition. Here and there he is slightly obscure; now and then we might desire a more frank recognition of the distinctly predictive character of some of the prophecies. But no one will study the book with care without gaining insight into the meaning of prophecy.

**FURTHER RECORDS:** A Series of Letters by Frances Anne Kemble. New York: Holt and Company. 1891.

The generation which knew Fanny Kemble, even in her last appearances, must be passing away. But the great name which she first bore, and by which she was always best known, can never be without interest to those who study the history of the English stage. Although two considerable volumes have already been given to her life, yet we are persuaded that these letters, mostly written from the United States to friends in England, will be read with no ordinary pleasure. The letters are not merely bright and sparkling in style, they give evidence of great powers of observation and keen insight into character, personal and national. We could easily quote whole pages, but some brief specimens must be given. There is a description of a piano which tells its own tale. This is what she found in her lodgings at Philadelphia: "It is of extremely handsome and expensive wood, very elaborately carved, and must have been very costly, merely as a piece of ornamental furniture; as a musical instrument it is one of the poorest and most miserable that are manufactured, being quite contemptible in tone and power—in short, as bad as a piano can be. Moreover, I found it in such a hopeless state of discord that it is hardly possible to bring it into tune at all. The tuner whom I sent for to put it to rights pointed contemptuously to the carved wood of the case and said: 'This is what this piano was bought for.'" Speaking of a ritualistic church which she visited she says she "saw the altar a blaze of wax candles, heard Handel murdered, and a gentleman trying to intone, who was rather funny, as he did not know how to do it. You see I have plenty of church privileges." Speaking of the difference between England and the States she says: "Our people are essentially aristocratic, and like gentlemen for their leaders; here they do not want any leaders at all, and wish the public services to be discharged by men who are their paid servants, for whom they have no sort of respect or reverence, but whose business they conceive it to be so to manage the 'machine' of the Government as to get along without let, hindrance, or impediment to the private affairs and interests of the individual citizens." In another place she tells of a New York lady, "not a duchess, you know, but plain Mrs. So and So," whose means had been greatly reduced. Still "she was tolerably well off, for she could afford to keep her carriage and her opera box, and to give quiet little dinner-parties (not expensive ones, of course), but that would not cost her more than a thousand dollars." At p. 53 she has some excellent remarks on the Bacon-Shakespeare controversy. Speaking of English and French manners (and her mother was French), she says: "I do not agree with your admiration of French manners. . . . A Frenchman always thinks that he does and says the right thing, and is unpleasantly self-assured; an Englishman never thinks that he does or says the right thing, and is unpleasantly self-diffident; a simple person never thinks the one or the other, and is agreeable in consequence of self-forgetfulness." We had marked many other passages, but we think our readers will make acquaintance with the volume.

Fanny Kemble was born in 1811, and these letters go down to 1883. There is a charming likeness of her mother, Mrs. Charles Kemble, *née* Decamp, given as a frontispiece.

**MONEY.** By Emile Zola. Translated and Published by Benj. R. Tucker, Boston.

In this dull and disgusting book the characters are Zola's usual Parisian lot, the men satyrs, the women without any virtue or even the consciousness that there is any except thrift, the children simply immature beasts. The whole picture is about as much like human life as would be a photograph of a cage full of lecherous and greedy monkeys. Zola's method is always the same. For the subject of each book he chooses a passion and exhibits a great number of puppets as either dominated by it or controlled by its devotees. By giving many instances of the effects of the selected passion he impresses with cumulative force upon the reader a sense that the passion is strong upon the world. This trick is called realism, vaunted as productive of true pictures of life, the truth being that life is no more faithfully represented than it would be by reports of the acts and conversation of an asylum full of lunatics all possessed by the same delusion. As Howells, who is, however, a consummate artist, seems to have adopted for his formula "the flavour of the commonplace is the flavour for art," so Zola has adopted for his formula "the flavour of the nasty is the flavour for art." Inevitably his books are nasty, and Zola's nastiness is the most wearisome of dullness. It is dullness with superadditions of the odour of onions, whiffs from the sewer, smells of decayed vegetables, marks of beer glasses on the tables, greasy table napkins, inane conversation, stupid ribaldry. No undegraded person with a nose, ears and eyes voluntarily lives in such an environment, or voluntarily reads one of Zola's books. They are the worst garbage of modern literature, wholly inartistic, essentially false as descriptions of life, and to be avoided not because of their immorality (for who calls putridity immoral?) but because they are emetic in an excessively nauseating way.

Canada for April comes to us in a new spring dress. Its cover is, like its contents, chaste and attractive.

*Onward and Upward* for April has a charmingly written article by the Countess of Aberdeen, the editor, on "Through Canada with a Kodak," which is capitally illustrated.

THE *Writer* for April has the usual number of suggestive articles. "Evening Papers in England and their Sub-editing," by C. Watson, is interesting. The editorials deal with the new International Copyright Bill.

In the *Home-Maker Magazine* for April is an article by Mary De Morgan on "Thomas Carlyle's Home and Home Life." The pages of this bright and readable number are full of matter that will interest the class of readers for whom it is designed, and who are evidenced in its attractive title, the *Home-Maker*.

THE last number of the *Dominion Illustrated* has a forcible letter from Mr. J. Castell Hopkins, the indefatigable advocate of Imperial Federation, under the caption of "Mr. J. W. Longley's views." Mr. Hopkins puts in striking contrast certain published views of Mr. Longley and his expressions used in a recent letter to that journal.

THERE are many taking features in the April *Wide Awake*, with its frontispiece of White Lilies: "Chollemys' Afflicted Holiday," by the author of "Cape Cod Folks"; "Egg-rolling at the White House" on Easter Monday, by Prof. Mason of the Smithsonian Institution; a quintette of admirable short stories and other matter of lively interest to the expectant juvenile.

THAT neat and well-edited journal, the *Rural Canadian*, is a credit to its class. The April number with its terse, pithy editorials, its well-judged selections and clear-cut illustrations is well up to its ordinary standard. It is not without literary merit as well, and we are sure that it must be winning for itself an ever-widening circle of friends in the happy homes of our prosperous Canadian farmers.

THE *Monist* (April) continues its course with considerable ability in its own line. Professor Cesare Lombroso continues his studies in criminal anthropology, not a very cheerful subject, and with a conclusion from which we dissent. Dr. George M. Gould argues against immortality, and, we are happy to say, he does not convince us. As this quarterly magazine is the organ of the Open Court, we may hope hereafter to meet in its pages with articles on the other side.

WE have received from Mr. A. F. Chamberlain, M.A., the following excellent contributions to the branch of scientific investigation in which he is achieving distinction; we refer to anthropology: "African and American: the Contact of Negro and Indian," which appeared in the issue of *Science* of 13th February last; "The Maple amongst the Algonquin Tribes," from the *American Anthropologist* for January of this year; and "The Aryan Element in Indian Dialects," from the *Canadian Indian* for February.

*Belford's Magazine* for April has a delightful descriptive article on "The Carnival at Nice" (1889), by Col. J. Howard Cowperthwait. It would be well if the United States were more frequently represented in travel and literature by such men as Colonel Cowperthwait. The assault of Henry Clewes the well-known New York

broker on "the humanities" in his article on "The University versus the Counting House" reminds us of Robert Lowe's famous philippic of other days. Arthur Gundry, of Ottawa, has a wise little poem entitled "Show Us What You Are."

THE *Westminster Review* for April opens with an article by Geoffrey Mortimer on "The Rear Guard of the Christian Army." Mr. Mortimer keenly criticizes evangelicism, though he qualifies his estimate of it by the admission that "it is the intellect and not the heart of evangelicism that is at fault." This is a very dubious compliment it must be confessed. The Rev. Richard Armstrong has an able article on Ibsen's "Brand," and in the Independent section Mr. D. M. Stevenson pleads strongly for General Booth's scheme under the heading "In Darkest England and the Way Out."

"CARE in the use of Tubercle Bacillus as a remedy in Tuberculosis" is the title of a conservative monograph on this subject, by Samuel G. Dixon, M. D., Professor of Bacteriology, in the Academy of Natural Sciences at Philadelphia. Dr. Adams writes as follows: "If used in the human economy, I would recommend the most careful administration of the new toxic agent, and, even with the most favourable cases, that the initial dose does not exceed one half a milligramme." The reprint editorial from the *American Naturalist* on the "Literature concerning the New Remedy for Tuberculosis," sent to us with the above, strongly commends Professor Dixon's views.

A VERY thoughtful and venerable face confronts us in the frontispiece of the April number of the *English Illustrated Magazine*. It is that of William James Linton, engraver, poet, political writer; a sketch of whom is given by Fred G. Kilton, which is very interesting. Illustrations of Mr. Linton's work ornament the sketch. An historical sketch of Harrow School is given by Dr. Butler, the Master of Trinity College, Cambridge. In "Girlhood in Italy," Fanny Zampini Salazaro makes the extraordinary statement that "marriage is the one view, the one ambition to which a girl clings." We commit Miss Salazaro to the tender mercies of the ladies.

THE *Review of Reviews* for April as published simultaneously in Great Britain and the United States is a notable number. A portrait of Meissonier is the frontispiece, whilst the artist of commercial union, Erastus Wiman, faces it from the opposite page. Under the leading article on "The Progress of the World," the references to the Canadian elections are evidently written from a United States standpoint. The reproductions of caricatures are very amusing. Mrs. Annie Besant's appreciative character sketch of Charles Bradlaugh is worth reading. John Wesley, as the St. John of England, receives adequate notice. There is a variety of other interesting matter, selections from leading articles, reviews of periodicals, poetical selections, references to military and art matters, and to new books.

"A CONTINENTAL STATESMAN" writes with fervour the leading article of the *Contemporary Review* for April on "The Savoy Dynasty, the Pope and the Republic." He starts out by quoting Mamiani's prediction of '49: "Rome must belong either to the Pope or to Cola Rienzi"; and the later one of Mazzini: "Crispi will be the last Minister of the Italian Monarchy." The writer gives a long historic review of the events which led up to the establishment of the Italian Monarchy, points out that the monarchy is being sapped by "two internal diseases," Radicalism and the Papacy; that through international complications and excessive taxation the monarchy is tottering and that republicanism seems to be the easiest solution of the "crisis in Italian affairs" that "seems to be impending." "The Influence of Democracy on Literature" is a present day article by Edmund Gosse. Sir Frederick Pollock also contributes a timely and of course authoritative article on "Anglo-American Copyright."

SIR JOHN WILLOUGHBY opens the April number of the *Fortnightly Review* with a clear and graphic account of "How we occupied Mashonaland." This is another chapter in the splendid history of British Colonization. Such triumphs of civilization and commerce are being won against barbarous hostility and great natural obstacles by the determined valour of our "kin beyond the sea." Should they not nerve the Canadian reader to value still more his priceless heritage of race and the noble institutions and glorious privileges of his own beloved home. It was by such efforts, though at far greater sacrifice of blood and treasure, that Canada was won for us. In "The Relations of Church and State," Count Tolstoi returns to his favourite subject. The Earl of Meath writes with genial kindness on the subject of "Anglo-Saxon Unity." Both the spirit and manner in which this article has been written are commendable.

"THE Vinland of the Northmen" is the title of a learned and instructive paper which was read before the Royal Society of Canada in May last, by Sir Daniel Wilson, LL.D., F.R.S.E., President of the University of Toronto. The subject is one of peculiar interest to Canadians as there are indications which have led some investigators to think that the hardy and adventurous Vikings, whose proud keels clove so many of the unexplored seas of their time, bearing their valiant navigators on voyages of trial, hardship and adventure—actually sailed along Canadian shores and trod Canadian land. Sir Daniel, with the research, care and grace of style and diction which mark his literary work, examines the grounds advanced for this opinion and