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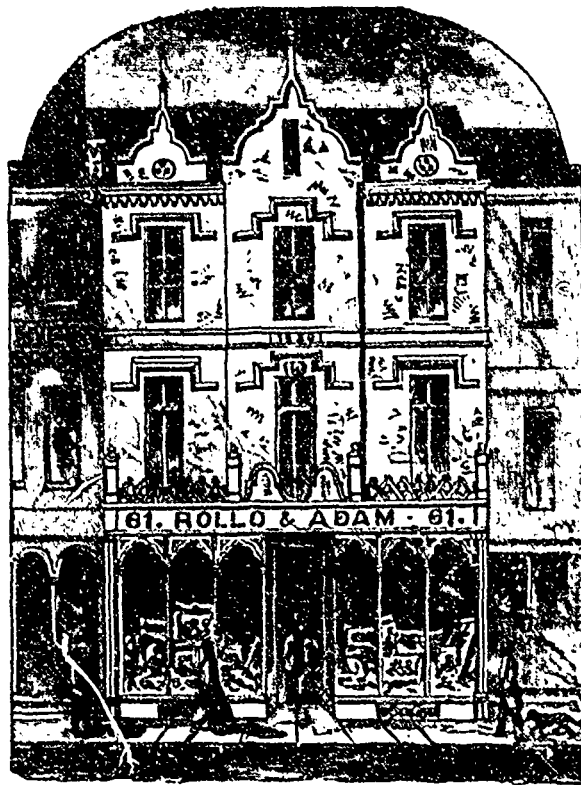
A
Chronicle of Current Literature.

Extra Number, containing
a Classified Price List of

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"There is a kind of physiognomy in the titles of Books, no less than in the faces of men, by which a skillful observer will as well know what to expect from the one as the other."—BUTLER.

NOTES OF THE SEASON.

The present season has been unusually prolific of Fine Books. Illustrated by all processes—steel, copper plate, and wood engraving, in photography, chromo-lithography and in gold and colours. All have been busy and have been emulous of producing, in the most elegant dress and in the finest taste, the books of the season. Type-founders, printers, paper-makers, binders and engravers, no less than authors, editors, and publishers have been eager to present most worthily the subjects that have engaged their skill and workmanship.

Certainly it is one of the most promising features of the age—superior book-making—both as to the matter of a book and the manner of its execution; and the bibliographer and collector of our day, tho' they may be wearied with the multiplicity of the productions of the press, yet they must be satisfied with the scholarship, the research and the ingenuity of their authors, and charmed with the artistic designing and typographical taste of the producers of them. But what a pity it is that we, in the Colonies, are so poor and that so few of our lovers of rare and fine books are unable to indulge in the luxuries of art and book-making that are currently being produced. We will not hint that there is a want of appreciation, on the part of our wealthier book-patrons, of these choicer books, but we fear there is a lack of that generous feeling towards literature generally that characterizes the English connoisseur of books and the frequenter of the shops of the book men in the old world. We regret that there is so little encouragement to the book men to import the better class of books. How would the intelligent and appreciative importer of books, of whom there are many now rising up in the Province, be delighted to receive orders for a few of the books we note below, and we hold that the effect of having these books here and there in our midst would be most beneficial and desirable in educating the taste and elevating the culture of the mass of our population.

But we proceed to summarize briefly the more important of the works in the various departments which have appeared at the beginning of the present season. Among these, in

Illustrated Works, the chief are "Kellerhoven's Reproduction of the Great Masters," produced by a Paris house in colours, with a background of gold, in a manner so faithful and exquisite that they resemble closely the rich magnificence of the original paintings.

The wedding at Windsor, a memorial by Dr. Russell, illustrated in a series of chromo-lithographic drawings by Day & Son claims the next place in importance. The work is a most sumptuous one; illustrating in thirteen folio pictures of the most gorgeous character, the incidents in the alliance of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. We enumerate a few of the subjects chosen for illustration "Portraits of the illustrious personages," "the movements of the Royal squadron, and the arrival of the Princess Alexandra." Eight representations are given of the reception in London, "the arrival in the Rubens' room, Windsor Castle," then follow exquisite pictures of "the eight bridesmaids," "the marriage scene," "the signing of the attestation deed," together with fac similes of the signatures attached, magnificent representations of the presents in gold and silver, jewels, lace, &c. The cost of this royal volume is five guineas.

A new and less costly edition of the New Testament published by the Longmans has appeared, with engravings on wood from the designs of Fra Angelico, Perugino, Titian, Raphael, Ferrari and others. We referred to this great work, at some length, in our number for last Christmas. It is one of supreme excellence and the illustrations are of the highest artistic order. A host of elaborate volumes appear in Longfellow's prose romance "Hyperion," illustrated by twenty-four photographs of the Rhine, Switzerland and the Tyrol; in "Home Thoughts and Home Scenes" original poems by Jean Ingelow and others,

with pictures by A. R. Houghton, engraved by Dalziel Brothers. "The Cornhill Gallery" illustrated by the artists of that Magazine and the "Pictures of English Life" published by Messrs. Low & Son are most charming volumes. Then, an isle delight us of popular editions of favourite authors, beautifully illustrated, from the prizes of Messrs Cassell, Ward & Lock and others, embracing Shakespeare, Bunyan, Goldsmith, Robinson Crusoe, Gulliver's Travels, Arabian Nights, Don Quixote, &c. We have in the yearly volumes of "Good Words" "Sundry at Home," and the "Leisure Hour" annual, unlike those of former years, of permanent value and interest.

In Travels we have an interesting companion volume to that of the late Captain Speke, by his fellow traveller Captain Grant, entitled "Walk Across Africa, or Domestic Scenes from my Journal." From the pen of Dr Pierotti we have a work of great research and of interest to a large class of readers on the "Customs and Traditions of Palestine, illustrating the manners of the ancient Hebrews." From Dr. Alford, the Dean of Canterbury, "Letters from Abroad in 1854" most of which appeared in "Good Words." From Alexander Smith, "A Summer in Skye, a hand book for Fireside Travellers." Captain Hall's Arctic Researches and life among the Esquimaux, published by the Harpurs, adds another volume to the narratives of these fruitless expeditions in search of Sir John Franklin. The period covered by Captain Hall's narrative is 1860-62. "Orusoo's Island, a ramble in the footsteps of Alexander Selkirk" by J. Ross Browne meets us. Mr. Murray announces a new work by Dr. David Livingstone, entitled "Narrative of an Expedition to the Zambesi and its Tributaries, and of the Discovery of the Lakes Shirwa and Nyassa between the years 1858 and 1864. We look for this new work with considerable interest and curiosity.

In History we have much in prospect, but little has actually appeared of late. We have the publication of a number of continuations of works in this class of which are Rawlin-