

of interest to women is this number for the next page shows an article on "Strawberry Hill and the Countess Walgrave," with very pretty accompanying pictures. "Trailing Yew," by Patience Stapleton is continued and keeps up its interest. A most thrilling narrative is MacMahon Challinor's "A Night with a Leopard." And to relieve the mind promptly follows a brisk account of those delightful cartoons of the famous comic artist John Tenniel.

THE *Art Amateur* for March has, as its principal article, a description by A. L. Baldry of the famous art school of Professor Herkomer at Bushey, England. There are articles on the Water-Color Society's Exhibition; on the Management of Picture Exhibitions; on the Painting of Lace; on Portrait Painting in Oil, by Frank Fowler, and on Still-Life Painting, by Allyn Aymar. The rare faience in the Spitzer Museum is described, and a number of beautiful examples are reproduced. "The Strolling Critic," as usual, is very helpful to those who are trying to beautify their homes. The China Painting department is full of valuable matter, including the first of a series of "Talks to my Class," by Miss Elizabeth H. Haines, and "The Decoration of a Table Service." A full-page cut shows how a commonplace hallway may be attractively modified. A double-page illustration of a "Flower and Bird Design" will be welcomed by those who wish to paint screens or furniture panels. There is a calendar for the month; there are reviews of new books: directions for the treatment of designs; a most useful table of palettes for painting in all branches; correspondence relating to crayon portraiture, modelling in clay, embroidery, interior decoration, pyrography and china painting. The color plates comprise a flower study called *Button Bush and Lilies*, for reproduction in water-color; one of *Oranges*, for reproduction in oil, water-color or pastel, and one of *Ribbon Plates*, for china painters.

THE reader who will somewhat thoroughly peruse the pages of the *Review of Reviews* for March will find himself in possession of a very complete general view of the current movements of the world's action, expression and thought. Among the interesting special articles, one finds an account of Professor Ely and the new Wisconsin State University School of Social and Political Science. There is also a review of the late Professor Emile de Laveleye's new work upon Democratic Government, and a pleasant sketch of his life and personality. There are further notes upon the London Polytechnic's proposed excursion of thousands of young English mechanics to the World's Fair at Chicago next year, and an article discussing and favoring the proposed sixteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

ALL of Tolstoi's family are in various parts of the famine district in Russia, organizing and superintending the work of relief.

MILTON was of the opinion that the verses composed by him between the autumnal and spring equinoxes were always the best.

EUGENE Field tells how he planned to decorate the books of his library with his coat-of-arms, and to that end proceeded to find out just what this was. Success crowned his efforts, but the family motto was still lacking, and this involved further delay. One day, however, he discovered that Marshall Field, the Chicago merchant was stamping muslin with this same coat-of-arms; whereupon the bibliophile decided to abandon his cherished purpose as a desecration of the treasures on his shelves.

### Grand Opera House.

#### Miss Marie Wainwright in "Amy Robsart."

Amy Robsart is one of those plays that will always be popular, carrying one back with it to the good old times in Old England, when Queen Bess, the good Queen Bess as she is popularly called, held the sceptre of power during the troublous times of the change from Romanism to Protestantism. This would partly account for the large houses at the Grand last week; but when a play is exceptionally well-mounted, and with such an actress as Marie Wainwright in the leading role, one would be surprised if the attendance had been anything but large. She was ably supported by the rest of the company. Miss Blanch Walsh as Queen Elizabeth was in parts very effective, and the part of Varney was well taken by Barton Hill. Our special artist was present on Wednesday evening and took sketches of some of the interesting scenes and characters which are reproduced on page 182.

### New Spring Jackets at W. A. Murray & Co's.

One page 183 will be found illustrations by our artist of some of the new styles of jackets just imported for the coming season by the above firm. Of the two jackets shown, the tight fitting one is of box cloth, embroidered with silk and tinsel; with feather edging in self color round the edge of the collar and down the front of the jacket. This jacket is made extra long, in accordance with the tendency to wear jackets and mantles even longer than was fashionable last season. The hat is also one of Messrs. Murray's specialities, as also the other hats shown. This one is three-cornered in shape and daintily trimmed with the new madre ribbon, exhibiting all the tints of mother of pearl. The Blazer jacket is made in Bedford cord, garnished in Black and Gold, and as is usual with this combination of color looks stylish, and has a very

rich effect. It is lined throughout with a fine checked silk. The Bonnet is of fancy straw with yachting bows and a dolly crown trimmed with chiffon and Osprey, and has a very dressy appearance. The cloak is a three-quarter length or rather more, being 40 inches long. It is made in Woodbrown box-cloth of a light texture with feather trimming round the collar, and embroidered in self-color and gold. The hat shown with it is one of the large brimmed ones so much worn, trimmed with chantilly lace, black moire ribbon and Prince of Wales tips. The travelling cloak is a new style in Heptonette, a light material suitable for dust cloaks, travelling wraps and etc., which at the same time is thoroughly waterproof. The hat is a dainty travelling hat with a gold bullion crown, sky blue velvet trimmings, and with a very stylish bow at the side.

### Our English Letter.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

LONDON, March 12. '92.

I am sure you must be tired of waiting for my long promised letter, this wretched influenza epidemic is alone to blame for the delay. Fortunately I have not had a very severe attack, but it was severe enough to make me still feel entirely weak and depressed, and I fear this will in consequence not prove a very cheerful letter. By the way is not "influenza" an absurd name for such a disease? Now there is something really suggestive about the French and Canadian La Grippe; it certainly arrives with lightning rapidity although there are not many who are fortunate enough to be able to say that it departs with the same speed, would it did! This influenza is still the all-important topic of the hour, although the severity of the visitation is passing over. It is indeed to be hoped that before its next appearance, medical men will more thoroughly understand its nature and treatment. At present they certainly seem to be working in the dark. I expect in your part of the world also enterprising tradesmen are advertising the most wonderful preventives and cures, the latest here are cinnamon, marmalade, and honey. I have always had implicit faith in ammoniated quinine, but to-day I read in a small medical journal that "quinine is more likely to cause influenza than prevent it, as it is apt to disturb the digestion, bring on headaches and so lower the tone of the system." This may be perfectly true in some cases, for many people cannot take quinine even in the smallest quantities without feeling bad effects. I find so many of my friends are quite reckless in their use of it, they dissolve it in wine or take up some on a teaspoon, quite haphazard and drink it in milk, thus sometimes taking doses much too large. Certainly the safest way to take the drug and the pleasantest is in the form of pills, those of two grains each I generally have. Have you ever tried Eucalyptus Oil? I am a great believer in its efficacy, it is splendid for rheumatism, sprains &c., and of course is one of the preventatives.

What a terribly dull and sad commencement this New Year has had! and the spirit of gloom and depression seems still to hang over London and Society generally.

There is nothing going on and of course no gaiety can be expected until the period of Court Mourning is over, which will be early next month; then I believe the Princess of Wales, the Princesses Victoria and Maud and Prince George are to go to the South of France for a lengthened stay, and the Prince of Wales will appear once more in Society in London and elsewhere. It is rumoured that Princess May is to accompany the Queen on her visit to Hyeres. I sincerely hope the rumour may prove correct, for although bearing her sorrow very bravely, Princess May is looking very thin and delicate, and a thorough change of scene and surroundings cannot fail to do her much good. Of course there is any amount of gossip going about now as to Prince George's Marriage. The choice seems to lie between Princess Margaret of Prussia, Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein and princess Alix of Hesse, all first cousins. As far as the Prince's own feelings are concerned, I have heard that the favored one is Princess Victoria, indeed it was whispered that he was already engaged to her when his brother died. If this marriage is arranged I think it will be as popular as that of Prince Albert Victor and Princess May would have been, for Princess Victoria is a charming unaffected girl and a general favorite. Poor Prince George is soon to experience one of the joys, or otherwise, of being heir presumptive to a throne; he is to make a grand tour of all the foreign courts, and this our sailor Prince will most undoubtedly find a bore.

A few days since the sermon preached by Canon Flemming at Sandringham on the Sunday after Prince Albert Victor's death was published by command of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and with her usual kind thought and interest in charitable institutions, the Princess wishes all profits arising from the sale of the book to be divided between the Gordon Boy's Home, and the Home for Incurables. I have good reason to expect that both Homes will benefit substantially by the Princess's kind thought. I sent to the publishers for a copy early on the morning the book was published, and to my great disappointment found the supply was already sold out, so I am still waiting for the pleasure of reading it. I hope it will ere long find its way to Canada. The preface contains a very touching anecdote related by the Princess to Canon Fleming, which I must tell you in case you have not yet heard it. In 1888 on the occasion of the Princess's receiving the Holy Communion with her five children she "gave Eddy a book" in which she had written certain lines from favorite hymns calculated to impress upon him the solemnity of the sacred rite, and to fix his thoughts on the Cross. Having placed a wreath of flowers on his breast after death, the Princess "turned to the table at his bedside and saw the little book." She adds she "could not help feeling that he did cling to the Cross." I am glad to hear that the Queen's Letter to the nation in response to the sympathy expressed on the occasion of the death of the Duke of Clarence is to be reproduced in *fac simile*. It is to be in lithograph and etching, and Mr. Poynter R.A., is to make the design for the border.

Yesterday the funeral of the late Mr. Spurgeon took place, and from the accounts in all the daily papers, there must have been many moving scenes. The body had been lying in state in the Metropolitan Tabernacle since its arrival from the South of France and it was conveyed through streets lined with mourners to its last resting-place in Norwood cemetery, about six miles from town. The cortege is said to have been two miles long, and all shades of religious opinion were represented beside the grave; the Bishop of Rochester joined the procession at the cemetery gates. Were you fortunate to have the opportunity of hearing Mr. Spurgeon preach when you were in England? Or was he away at the time? I was perfectly enthralled on the one occasion when I heard him, such a wonderful fluency of language, such a happy way of making himself at once one with his audiences he had; there could be no doubt even in the minds of those who differed from him most in religious opinions, that he was thoroughly in earnest, that his whole heart and soul was in his work. I suppose Mr. Talmage is the only preacher in the world who can in any way be compared to him.

On this occasion, I remember the friend who accompanied me pointed out Mrs. Spurgeon. She sat alone in a large pew and listened in a rapt and eager way to her husband's words. She is a middle-aged woman with a pleasant, contented face and wears her hair in curls which fall on her shoulders. I believe she was devoted to her husband, but owing to a chronic illness from which she suffered, she has been unable for several years to help Mr. Spurgeon as she would otherwise have done; it was a great grief to her that she was often too ill even to nurse him or accompany him abroad.

You ask me what books I have been reading lately. Well! of course Mrs. Humphrey Ward's "History of David Grieve" is one. This book is the rage now, it is a continuation of "Elsmere" and you know my opinion of "Robert Elsmere." I must confess I am tired of the perpetual discussions, etc., about Mrs. Humphrey Ward's New Religion, still I was deeply interested in David Grieve, and his spiritual history is worked out with great skill and insight into character; many scenes are very powerful, but some of the characters leave a painful impression on the mind. Certainly the book will raise the reputation of the authoress, although it somewhat lacks the charm of originality which "Robert Elsmere" possessed in such a high degree. I have also been reading a delightful collection of Hans Anderson's letters; the chief charm of his correspondence lies in the revelations of the man's loving nature and childlike simplicity.

We hear a good deal just now about the Chicago Exhibition. Is Canada to be well represented? I think it is doubtful whether England will be as well represented as she might be. The fact that the Americans invite us to exhibit but do not offer to reduce the enormous duties which they levy on almost all imported articles especially pictures is exciting great comment in the daily papers. I always have thought it particularly hard on English artists, that they should be compelled to pay such heavy duty on pictures which they send to other countries, while works of foreign artists are totally exempt from duty in England.

You wish me to give you some hints on London fashions, my dear Elsie, its very little I can tell you just now, don't you remember we are just in one of the dullest seasons of this dull year and we cannot expect anything new, until the Court mourning is at an end at least. I hear that capes will still be worn this spring but of entirely new shapes; smaller hats of the turban shape will appear, but are scarcely likely to be popular, bonnets are also to be small and somewhat flat, mostly of straw with openwork jet crowns. Corset bodices are still much in vogue, and very pretty they are for both evening and daily wear; they are economical too, as with their aid an old-fashioned gown may be quite modernised. How glad I am that my pet aversion, (for millinery purposes that is), violets are not to be general in hats or bonnets this spring. It has always been a mystery to me why English women so persistently choose to adorn their hats and bonnets with stiff ungraceful bunches of these flowers, whose great charm in nature certainly lies in their delicious perfume. Ostrich feathers are more in favor than ever, and no wonder, for the large hats now so much worn would lose half their picturesqueness if devoid of the long feathers or plumes of short ones.

I think there is nothing very new in the way of fancy needlework. Leather work does not gain much in popular favor in England, but I believe in Germany it is very much thought of. I am not alluding to the old-fashioned leather work flowers, fruit, etc., in leather, this is embossed leather with conventional patterns in colours, silver or gold; I have seen very handsome tops for stools, tables, etc., panels for doors or screens; sometimes this leather work is decorated with silks, a sort of coarse silk embroidery. I have lately tried painting on chamois leather again; you will remember my dismal failures some years ago, but now I have discovered a new medium, which I believe is only to be bought in Bond St., it answers the purpose of preventing the colours running even better than I hoped before I tried it. There are many pretty little trifles both useful and ornamental which can be made with chamois leather and in my next letter I hope to describe a few. This letter has far exceeded the length I originally expected it to be, but as I went on writing I remembered more little items of news which I thought might prove interesting. There is always some slight difficulty in writing to friends so far away, for facts and events which are of absorbing interest to us in the mother country often do not excite a second thought in the colonies, and no wonder, for man is a selfish mortal and must always take the most interest in matters which most nearly concern himself, his home and his own country. I am sorry I cannot send you the recipe you asked for this week. I have stupidly mislaid it, but it shall arrive with my next letter as also a menu for an inexpensive little dance supper which may prove useful. Don't forget your promised descriptive letter of your trip to Quebec. Yours, etc.,

ANNIE VAUGHAN.