The first edition of the "Life of Frank Buckland" was exhausted a few days after publication. The Pall Mall Gazette gives, with all reserve, an amusing story of the naturalist's father. When on a visit to Nuneham, the dean was shown a casket, containing (what was esteemed a most precious relic) the heart of one of the early French kings. No sooner was the casket opened than, to the unspeakable horror of the owner, Dean Buckland pounced upon the relic and instantly gobbled it up. He had a passion for ascertaining the flavour of everything he came across and never having tasted a king's heart, the temptation was too strong to be resisted. He is said to have eaten through the whole of the animal creation; and averred that, though a mole was somewhat disagreeable, the worst creature of all to tackle was a bluebottle fly. Subsequently he went out of his mind, and crawled about the deanery on his stomach, fancying himself an ichthyosaurus. "In which condition," said his son (so runs the story), "he was far more interesting than he had over been before."

A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER.—A noticeable advance in the movement for cheaper books appears in the announcements for this summer. Within the last month or two, popular American books in the form of low-priced reprints have begun to make a very fair showing, and promise well for the remainder of the season. With prices down to a range of from twenty-five to fifty cents a volume, devotees of foreign reprints will be attracted to a fresh field of dainty American reading, and doubtless many will find with suprise that our practical and prosaic land has so many charming blossoms of literature.

The Riverside Paper series is one of the latest, and so far the most attractive, of the lists of paper American editions. Such grateful trifles as "But Yet a Woman" and "Their Wedding Journey" are not yet too well known, though welcomed and widely read when they first appeared. Now, too, That "Lass o' Lowrie's" and "Uncle Remus" come for the first time in generally accessible form. One volume of Cable's charming stories, "Old Creole Days," has been reprinted in low-priced form, and it should not be long before all of them, with their delicious, unaccustomed flavour, become in this way far better known and enjoyed than now.

Hitherto it has been the books occupying the middle ground of popularity that have been put within easiest reach. "Uncle Tom's Cabin" has yet to find itself in paper cover.—Abridged from Book News.

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