

ELIZABETHAN ENGLAND: From "A Description of England," by William Harrison (in "Holinshed's Chronicles"). Edited by Lothrop Withington, with Introduction by F. J. Furnivall, LL.D. London: Walter Scott and Company; Toronto: W. J. Gage and Company.

In this volume of the publishers' excellent "Camelot" series of reprints we have the most interesting and important of Harrison's work in attractive form and modern spelling. In compiling the work, the end sought by the editor was "as much variety and as much Elizabethan England as possible, throwing aside matter, however instructive, which was not especially allied to the days of Elizabeth, making of most of Harrison's second, some of his third and a bit of his first book one concise story."

"Holinshed's Chronicles" is described as a hodge-podge of many men's endeavours, and Harrison's contribution "is not only the most important, but the most perfect, portion of the work." "The book is full of interest," says Dr. Furnivall, "not only to every Shakespeare student, but to every reader of English history, every man who has the least care for his forefathers' lives. Though it does contain sheets of padding now and then, yet the writer's racy phrases are continually turning up and giving flavour to his descriptions, while he sets before us the very England of Shakespeare's day. From its Parliament and universities to its beggars and rogues; from its castles to its huts, its horses to its hens; from how the State was managed to how Mrs. Wm. Harrison (and, no doubt, Mrs. William Shakespeare) brewed her beer; all is there."

As an illustration of the style of this accurate observer and quaint writer, we are tempted to give a short extract from his amusing chapter on "Apparel and Attire." It shows that fashion was just as capricious, exacting and expensive three centuries ago as it is now. Referring to the attempt of another to describe the attire of Englishmen of that day, he says: "Certes this writer (otherwise being a lewd Popish hypocrite and ungracious priest) showed himself herein not to be altogether void of judgment, sith the phantastical folly of our nation (even from the courtier to the carter) is such that no form of apparel liketh us longer than the first garment is in the wearing, if it continue so long, and be not laid aside to receive some other trinket devised by the fickle-headed tailors, who covet to have several tricks of cutting, thereby to draw fond customers to more expense of money. For my part I can tell better how to inveigh against this enormity than describe any certainty of our attire; sithence such is our imitability that to-day there is none to the Spanish guise, to-morrow the French toys are most fine and delectable, ere long no such apparel as that which is after the high Almaine fashion, by-and-by the Turkish manner is generally best liked of, otherwise the Morisco gowns, the Barbarian fleeces, the mandilion worn to Colley-Weston ward, and the short French breeches make such a comely vesture that, except it were a dog in a doublet, you shall not see any so disguised as are my countrymen of England. And as these fashions are diverse, so likewise it is a world to see the costliness and the curiosity, the excess and the vanity, the pomp and the bravery, the change and the variety, and finally the fickleness and the folly, that is in all degrees, insomuch that nothing is more constant in England than inconstancy of attire."

THE *Magazine of American History*, for February, has for frontispiece an excellent portrait of the veteran historian, George Bancroft. The opening article, by Mrs. Lamb, is an account of the recent meeting at Washington of the American Historical Association, with portraits and other illustrations. This is followed by two other papers read at the congress, "Recent Historical Work in the Colleges and Universities of Europe and America," by President Charles Kendall Adams, and "The Spirit of Historical Research," by James Schouler. "The Fourteenth State," by John L. Heaton, gives an interesting sketch of the early history of New Jersey and its admission into the Union.

THE principal feature in the *Transatlantic* of February 1 is a complete translation into English verse of Francois Coppée's poetical one-act drama, "Le Pater," which was recently forbidden by the French censorship on the eve of its production by the leading theatre of France. In this number is begun a series of new papers by Guy de Maupassant, entitled "Vagrant Life." The opening paper is a slashing criticism of the Paris Exposition, and especially the Eiffel tower. Other features are a graphic account of the life and death of the famous Spanish tenor Gayarre; a critique of Walter Besant's sequel to Ibsen's "Doll's House"; a continuation of Dumas' *Maxims*; a poem by Lord Tennyson, and the conclusion of the serial, "Rosmersholm."

In the February *Cosmopolitan* Mr. J. Macdonald Oxley concluded his "Romantic Story of a Great Corporation" (the Hudson Bay Company), and Mr. Poulteney Bigelow his "Cruise Around Antiqua" in the canoe "Caribbee." Mr. Frank Vincent gives an interesting account of "The Exiled Emperor," Dom Pedro, and Mr. Murat Halstead contributes an appreciative sketch of Horace Greeley. These two articles and Grace Greenwood's "An American Salon" are embellished with numerous portraits, and indeed the whole number seems to be unusually rich in illustrations. Miss Bisland, the *Cosmopolitan* "globe-trotter," finds a familiar theme for her pen in "King Carnival in New Orleans." In "The Development of Trousers," Mr. Edward Hamilton Bell gives an entertaining historical account of the successive modifications of that indispens-

able garment. The short story of the number is "Mr. Joseph Pate and his People," by Richard Malcolm Johnston.

THE 136 pages of the *North American Review* for February are filled with an ample variety of interesting, timely, and readable matter. The great discussion on Free Trade and Protection, begun by Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Blaine in the January number, which has attracted such marked attention, is continued by the Hon. Roger Q. Mills, Representative in Congress from Texas, and well-known as the author of the Mills Bill in the Fiftieth Congress, who replies to Mr. Blaine's eloquent defence of the policy of protection; and it is promised that in the next number Senator Morrill, of Vermont, the author of the Morrill Tariff of 1861, will take up the discussion of the question. Another topic of the day, "British Capital and American Industries," is treated in a breezy style by Erastus Wiman, who pronounces the English investments in America a good thing for both countries. E. L. Godkin, editor of the New York *Evening Post*, writes of "Newspapers Here and Abroad," and points out the difference between the journalism of England, France, and the United States. "The American Bishop of To-day" is the subject of a vigorous article by the Rev. Julius H. Ward, author of "The Church in Modern Society." An article which will attract wide attention is that of Ouida on "A New View of Shelley." The writer denounces with great severity those who have pried into the private affairs of the poet, and declares that with the private lives of men of genius the world has nothing to do. The article is embellished with numerous quotations from Shelley's poems. More than the customary space is given to Notes and Comments in this number.

THE Midwinter (February) *Century* is notable among other things for the final instalment of Lincoln biography. The chapters include the "Capture of Jefferson Davis," "The End of Rebellion," and "Lincoln's Fame." In this number is begun the publication of the artist La Farge's letters from Japan, with illustrations prepared by the author. Two extremely timely papers are on what Milton calls "The Realm of Congo." The first describes a trip made by the United States Commissioner, Tisdell, in 1884, and the second gives an idea of the Congo River of to-day. The latter is written by E. J. Glave, one of Stanley's officers, who is mentioned several times in Stanley's last book. Recent visitors to the French capital will be especially interested in Miss Balch's account, called "A Corner of Old Paris," of a visit to the Musée des Archives. This article is profusely illustrated with facsimiles of signatures of famous Frenchmen, and by copies of old prints. Joseph Jefferson devotes a large part of the current instalment of his autobiography to his reminiscences of Edwin Forrest, of whom four portraits are given—two of Forrest off the stage and two in character. In addition to this Jefferson describes his own first visit to London and to Paris. The fiction of the number consists of Mrs. Barr's "Friend Olivia," Mr. Stockton's "Merry Chanter," Mr. A. A. Hayes's "Laramie Jack," and "How Sal Came Through," by Mr. Edwards, the author of "Two Runaways." Among the poems of this number is a characteristic piece by James Whitcomb Riley, illustrated by Kemble, entitled "The Old Band." Other poems are by Richard Henry Stoddard, Orelia Key Bell, Walt Whitman, Clinton Scollard, S. M. Peck, Virginia F. Boyle, J. A. Macon, and Prof. Roberts.

TRUE WISDOM.

STORE words Divine within thine heart,
And thou from them wilt never part,
For none their beauty once can see,
And long for other company.

Unto thy feet, a lamp they'll be,
Which while Earth's mists envelop thee
Shall cast an all-revealing ray
On each pit-fall upon thy way.

Ottawa.

F. D. J.

LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

THE University of Königsberg has conferred the degree of honorary Ph.D. on Emin Pasha, who was for one year a student there.

WHAT has become of the *National Magazine* which sent out its prospectus several months ago? Surely it is about in order to insist upon its appearance.

MESSRS. SCRIBNER AND WELFORD, of New York, have been appointed sole agents for the sale in the United States of the well-known Baedeker guide books.

It is stated that Mr. Vanderbilt, the American millionaire, has leased Herbert House, Belgrave Square, from Lady Herbert of Lea, for the ensuing season at the rent of 1,000 guineas.

ONE of the latest new English companies is formed with a view to producing lager beer. Mr. James Bellamy Payne, one of the directors, proposes to sell it to firms on the Continent.

MR. S. S. McCLURE, the newspaper syndicate manager, announces prizes amounting to \$2,250 for stories, poems, etc., suitable for use in his youth's department, edited by Mrs. Burnett.

THE successor to Father Damien has been found in the person of a gentle blue-eyed English girl of twenty-seven. She is a member of the Roman Catholic Church, and we publish in another column a short interview with her previous to her leaving England.

THE *American* of February 1 contains an article entitled "The Americanization of Canada," which will doubtless find many readers in the Dominion. Closer commercial union is hinted at with the establishment of a common tariff and absolute freedom of trade.

THE American Society for Psychical Research disbanded recently, after an existence of five years. Many of the members have joined the English Society. All desirous of further information should address the Secretary, R. Hodgson, No. 5 Boylston Place, Boston.

LADY DILKE has gone to Ipswich in behalf of the Women's Trades' Union Provident League, with the object of forming a union among the workwomen in that town. Next week her ladyship will visit Maidstone, where an effort is being made to unite the women engaged in the paper mills.

PROFESSOR FREDERICK L. RITTER, of Vassar, has revised and enlarged his popular history of "Music in America," and the new edition will be brought out soon by the Scribners. The author has continued to date the history of the leading musical organizations and of the opera in different cities, adding about a hundred pages to the book.

THE autograph signature of the Poet Laureate, the handwriting being rather small and plain, though a trifle nervous, gives extraordinary interest to each copy of the limited edition of "Poems by Alfred, Lord Tennyson," illustrated by the late Edward Lear. Scribner and Welford have a portion of the entire edition of one hundred copies.

As a memorial of a distinguished administrator and to further the cause of Imperial Federation, Mr. Stanley Lane-Poole has edited the papers of Sir George Bowen, and they will be published immediately in London and New York by Longmans, Green and Company. In one of Sir George's earlier letters there is a pleasant glimpse of Washington society during Grant's administration.

A PHILADELPHIA paper shows its discernment of things humorous and entertaining by calling Lewis Carroll's exquisitely funny and original "Hunting of the Snark," "that laboured piece of humorous verse, which was more of a task to read than it could have been to write, and with which the public had no patience." The same gifted journal says of "Sylvie and Bruno," "that it is on the whole a painful attempt to be amusing." The Philadelphian is at all events courageous.

SIR CHARLES DILKE's new book, "Problems of Greater Britain," was published by Messrs. Macmillan on the 31st ult. In addition to the English issue, there were special editions published for America and the colonies. Sir Charles dedicates his book to Sir Frederick Roberts in the following terms: "To His Excellency General Sir Frederick Sleigh Roberts, Baronet, Commander-in-Chief in India, this record of that peaceful progress of Greater Britain, which is made secure by his sword, I dedicate in sincere regard."

AMERICA is not the only country where women ascend the lecture platform, though sometimes from the noise they make about it one would suppose it was. In connection with the series of lectures on "Great Men," now being delivered in the Toynbee Hall, London, Mrs. Alexander Ireland, of Southport, has been requested to give a lecture on "Robert Browning." The Rev. S. A. Barnett, the president, has also asked Mrs. Ireland to lecture on "The Life-Story of Jane Welsh Carlyle" on a subsequent date.

THAT remarkable Russian girl, Marie Bashkirtseff, refers in her astonishing journal to an article in the *Revue du Deux Mondes* devoted to "our Tolstoi." She says: "My heart leaped for joy when I read it. It is by M. de Vogüé, who has made a study of our literature and manners and has already published several remarkably just and profound articles on this great and wonderful country of mine." These "just and profound articles" by M. de Vogüé translated by Mrs. Edmunds, have been published by D. Lothrop Company under the title of "The Russian Novelists." The book, of which a new edition is now ready, should be known to all admirers of Russian literature.

CANADIAN talent is well to the fore in the February magazines in Prof. Roberts and Mr. Lampman. "Rudyard Kipling" is the name of the most recent colonial meteor moving at present across the brilliant sky of London literary society. THE WEEK's London correspondent drew attention to his wonderful gifts some time ago, and since those enthusiastic praises, we have read his contributions to *Macmillan's*, in the shape of powerful short stories dealing with the picturesque and practical of Anglo-Indian life. If we mistake not, he has an exceptionally brilliant future before him. "The Incarnation of Krishna Mulvaney," and "The Head of the District" are the stories alluded to.

THE most interesting bit of "trade news" is that the well-known publishing house of Cassell and Co., Limited, of London, has transferred its American business to a newly organized firm to be known as The Cassell Publishing Company. The new Company has for its president Mr. O. M. Dunham, who for fourteen years has been manager of the American branch of Cassell and Co. Mr. Dunham is one of the most enterprising and popular men in the publishing business, and the new firm is to be congratulated upon his continuance in control. The Cassell Publishing Co. will be the agent of the London house, but the new concern is entirely American, and will consequently make a leading feature of American books, of which it will soon have a notable list to announce.