

ing and publishing trade are calling forth the indignant comments of the author and book-craft of England, an English Cabinet Minister is the while shaping Imperial legislation to give absolute and almost unconditional copyright in the whole British dominions, to every would-be author of the American republic—an act of grace, not only far in advance of the privileges American authors have hitherto enjoyed, but one that throws out of hand every card that England held by which to win reciprocity of copyright with the United States. Of course it may be said that this excess of virtue, on the part of the Mother Country, is in harmony with the spirit of Imperial legislation in international matters. Without being careful to reply to this, we would but urge that England in this matter should not impose upon Canada the obligation to give effect to the proposed Imperial enactment, so long, at least as she fails to secure a reciprocal international treaty with our cousins across the line, and so long, particularly, as American publishers have the monopoly of the book markets of Canada for the sale of their unauthorized reprints of English books. The injustice of any other course, under the circumstances, need hardly be dwelt upon. To restrain Canadian publishers from supplying their own market with reprints of English copyrights, under government license in the authors' interest, is absurd and impolitic enough, while the American reprinter alone is free to do so and without any tax. But to place this premium upon foreign enterprise, and, in addition, to give the American author copyright in Canada, without a substantial *quid pro quo*, is simple lunacy. If England is thus heedlessly bent upon sacrificing the interests of the Dominion, Canadian nationality is then the veriest dream, and the mother-land will have another folly akin to that of the Ashburton and Washington Treaties upon which to plume itself.

A volume containing a trio of literary judgments—on Carlyle, Tennyson, and Ruskin—has just been issued with the rather fanciful title of 'Lessons from my Masters.' Its author is Mr. Peter Bayne, the biographer of 'Hugh Miller,' and the critical estimates have been appearing in the London *Literary World*, from which they are now republished.

A two volume selection of the lectures

and essays of the late Professor Clifford has just been issued from the press of Messrs. Macmillan & Co. The volumes are edited by Messrs. Leslie Stephen and Frederick Pollock, with an introduction by the latter.

Messrs. Blackwood & Sons issue a very useful and interesting book, entitled 'The Modern World,' by Mr. J. A. S. Barton, containing brief descriptions of the principal countries of both hemispheres. The sketches exclude reference to the antecedents of the countries described, the author's object being 'to note the most important turning points of modern history, and to indicate, generally, the resemblances and diversities of the several races from which the nations have sprung.'

Mr. Francis Parkman, the Historian, has re-cast his work on 'The Discovery of the Great West,' and issues it under the new title of 'La Salle, or The Discovery of the Great West,' the author announcing that he has recently procured access to a rich store of material which throws new light on the character of La Salle, and on his adventurous career. It would be an important service to literature if the author's publishers would now bring out a cheap popular edition of his charming histories. They would doubtless meet with large sale in Canada.

Messrs. Scribner have now completed their re-issue of Mr. Gladstone's 'Gleanings of Past Years, 1843-79,' a compilation of the bulk of the great statesman's writings. The volumes are grouped as follows: Vol. 1, The Throne and the Prince Consort, The Cabinet and the Constitution; Vol. 2, Personal and Literary; Vol. 3, Historical and Speculative; Vol. 4, Foreign; Vols. 5 and 6, Ecclesiastical; and Vol. 7, Miscellaneous.

Canon Farrar's new book, 'The Life and Work of St. Paul,' is now ready. The publishers, Messrs. Cassell announce that Mudie's Library subscribed for one thousand copies of the work before publication. Fiction will have to look to its laurels! The same publishers announce in cheap serial form a reissue of Robert's Holy Land, with accurate reproductions of the artist's famous drawings. The original edition of the work has for some years been unattainable except at a fancy price.