

neglected in this number. A very sensible paper, entitled, "One Phase of the Marriage Question," deserves careful reading and inward digestion. Its fellow, on "Borrowing as a Social Science," would have delighted Pantagruel, and in just proportion disgusted Panurge. It will doubtless be duly appreciated by many a sufferer from the importunities of friends. Lady Blanche Murphy gives a very faithful account of one of those semi-scientific, semi-gastronomic English institutions, Archaeological breakfasts, and introduces us to a welcome visitor in the person of Miss Agnes Strickland. A remarkable paper is that on the San Rafael Pariantery, in which the history of the rise and fall of a socialistic experiment is narrated by one of the participants in the enterprise. Albert Rhodes' description of a Court Ball at the Hague gives some information on another subject in the list of "Things not Generally Known," viz., the etiquette and punctilio observed at a petty European court, which far transcend the ceremony of larger and more powerful courts. Fiction is sparsely represented this month. "Little Miss Frere," is all that is worth mentioning in this department. We must not forget George MacDonald's poem, "A Vision of St. Eligius," nor Mary Ritter's "Sheaves." On the whole *Scribner's* furnishes this month mental food of superexcellent quality. The tone of the present number is very far beyond that of the ordinary run of American magazines.

NEW BOOKS.

THE FORMS OF WATER IN CLOUDS AND RIVERS, ICE AND GLACIERS. By John Tyndall, LL.D., F.R.S. New York: Appleton & Co. Montreal: Dawson Bros. 12mo. Cloth, illustrated. pp. 192. \$1.50.

This is the first volume of the International Scientific Series now being brought out by Messrs. Appleton & Co., for the use of non-scientific readers. The value of the series is guaranteed by the high standing of the authors who are to contribute thereto, nearly all of whom enjoy a world-wide celebrity. Among them are Prof. Tyndall, Prof. Huxley, Dr. Carpenter, Sir John Lubbock, Prof. Virchow, Balfour Stewart, Herbert Spencer, Dr. Maudesley, and Prof. Quatrefages. Of the initiatory number we need say little. If the remaining books of the series are as interesting as the work before us, and carry out as thoroughly the programme laid down, the success of the undertaking is beyond a peradventure. Prof. Tyndall treats his subject with great clearness, and invests it with an interest that is too often lacking in so-called Popular Science Works. The opening chapters are on Clouds, Rain and Rivers, the Waves of Light and of Heat, &c., &c., and the information given is imparted in a manner easy of comprehension by the dullest intellects, and is further illustrated by practical experiments. Further on, after describing the phenomena which cause the formation of snow and ice, the writer gives an account of the experiments made within the last thirty years with the object of ascertaining the rate of motion of the Swiss glaciers. The book abounds in useful information and will doubtless meet with a ready sale.

THE ROYAL ILLUMINATED LEGENDS. Edinburgh: William P. Nimmo. Montreal: Dawson Bros.

THE ROYAL ILLUMINATED NURSERY STORIES. Edinburgh: William P. Nimmo. Montreal: Dawson Bros.

There is only one word to express what these little books really are—gorgeous. The painter, the poet, and the musician all contribute to make them attractive. In fact art for children here finds its highest type. Each number contains, in addition to the legend in verse, and the accompanying music, five or six superb plates illuminated in mediæval style on a gold ground—the production of Messrs. Marcus Ward & Co., illuminators to Her Majesty. The drawing is wonderfully artistic, and the gorgeous colouring in every way worthy of the dear old fairy-tale it illustrates so quaintly. We take up one of the legends—"Ye Interestynge Storie of Cinderella and ye Lyttel Glass Slyppere." The cover is one blaze of blue and gold. Inside are the words of the legend in ballad form, with appropriate music arranged in an easy style for voice and piano-forte. Each illustration occupies a full page, 8 in. by 12 in. In the first we have the two sisters, gorgeously arrayed in bright colours, revelling—with noses "tip-tilted, like the petal of a flower"—the poor Cinderella, who is engaged in the homely occupation of washing, and is surveyed with intense disgust by a hideous, befrilled pug-dog in one corner. The figures stand out against a blazing background of gold. As we turn over, Cinderella, in court costume, is entering her carriage. On the next page "Ye Prince danceth with Cinderella," to the intense mortification of the ladies of high degree behind, who are compelled to act the part of decided, though anything but blooming, wall-flowers. Turning over once more, we have Cinderella, again amid a blaze of gold, flying down the stairs, and dropping in her haste the little glass slipper, with which the pursuing lover is compelled to content himself. In the fifth picture, "Ye Lyttel Glass Slyppere Proveth a Fytte," to the astonishment of the tabarded herald and the disgust of the sisters, whose jealousy is evidently a source of much amusement to the very rude little red-headed boy in the corner. The next picture gives the final tableau, and then the curtain drops. A bishop, in mitre, cope, and stole, is pronouncing the nuptial blessing over the kneeling lovers.

"Soon King and Queen, and nobles all,
Surround the Priest, with many more,
Where blushing Cinderella kneels
And gives the Prince the hand that seals
His bond of bliss till time be o'er."

In the same manner are treated the legends "The Fair One with the Golden Locks," "The Sleeping Beauty," and "Ye Pathetic Ballad of Ladye Ouncebelle and Lord Lovelle," and, in half-size, the nursery stories "Little Bo-Peep," "Sing a Song of Sixpence," "The Carrion Crow," and "Simple Simon." Of the execution of the work it is not too much to say that it is beyond praise, while the price at which these little books are sold is so low as to place them within the reach of all. The Legends, intended more for "great folks," are sold at Twenty-five cents each; the Nursery Rhymes, for "lyttel folke," at Thirteen cents each. The former are superb table books, and the latter form the most acceptable present one could make to a child. Each book is certainly worth ten times its price.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

EXPIATION. By Mrs. Julia C. Dorr. Philadelphia: Lippincott & Co. Montreal: Dawson Bros.
THE MOTHER'S WORK WITH SICK CHILDREN. By Professor J. B. Foussagrives. (Translation.) New York: Putnam & Sons. Montreal: Dawson Bros.
HOW WILL IT END? By J. C. Heywood. Philadelphia: Lippincott & Co. Montreal: Dawson Bros.
ERMA'S ENGAGEMENT. Philadelphia: Lippincott & Co. Montreal: Dawson Bros.
ERREUR N'EST PAS COMPTE. Vandeville. Par F. G. Marchand. Montreal: *Merveille* Steam Press.
THE NEWFOUNDLAND ALMANAC FOR 1873.
METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER FOR 1872. St. John's, Nfld.
INTERNATIONAL RAILWAY AND STEAM NAVIGATION GUIDE FOR FEBRUARY. Montreal: Chisholm & Bros.

Notes and Queries.

All Communications intended for this Column must be addressed to the Editor, and endorsed "Notes and Queries."

THE BEGINNING OF THE END.—This saying, "C'est le commencement de la fin"—to which your correspondent "Q" refers—is attributed, at the time of the Retreat from Moscow, to M. Lally Tollendal, son of the ill-fated governor of the French possessions in India, who was executed in 1769.

VIRGO VIRGINIS VIRGINI VIRGINEM.—The following is, I take it, the correct interpretation of the legend on the print mentioned by "Sciurus":—"The Virgin Jesus, the Virgin's Son, gives his virginal body as food to the virgin John."

JACQUES CARTIER MENTIONED BY RABELAIS.—In your issue of the 25th ult. "K" draws attention to the fact that Canada is mentioned by Rabelais. Is he aware that Jacques Cartier is also mentioned by this author? In the account of Pantagruel's visit to the Pays de Satin, where he met Our-dire, he says:

La je vis, selon mon advis, Harobots, Plins, Solin, Berose, Philostrato, Mela, Strabo, et tant d'autres antiquaires; plus Albert le Jacobin grand, Pierre Tomming, papa Pie second Volaterran, Paulo Jovio le vaillant homme, Jacques Cartier, Caition arménien, Marc Paule vénitien, Ladovier romain, Pierre Alvarez, et ne sçai combien d'autres moines historiens cachés derrière une pièce de tapasserie, en tapinois escrivant de belles beugnes, et tout par Our-dire.

RED HERRINGS.—The anonymous author of a pamphlet published in 1599, called "Lenten Staffs," thus accounts for red herrings. The discovery of this dried fish, he says, was owing to an accident, by a fisherman having hung some up in his narrow bobby (house), where, what with his firing and smoking, his herrings, which were as white as whalebone when he hung them up, now looked as red as a (boiled) lobster, whence they came to be called red-herrings.

SOLEICISM.—Diogenes Laertius tells us that Solon built a city in Cilicia, which he named Soleis, and peopled it with a colony from Athens, who, mixing with the natives of the country, corrupted their language, and were said to soleicise.

SILHOUETTE, A BLACK PROFILE.—This term originated in a political nickname. Silhouette was Minister of State in France in 1759. That period was a critical one; the treasury was in an exhausted condition; and Silhouette, a very honest man who would hold no intercourse with financiers or loan-mongers, could contrive no other expedient to prevent a national bankruptcy than excessive economy and interminable reform! Paris was not that metropolis, no more than London, where a Plato or a Zeno could long be Minister of State without incurring all the ridicule of the wretched wits. At first they pretended to take his advice, merely to laugh at him; they cut their coats shorter and wore them without sleeves; they turned their gold snuff-boxes into rough wooden ones; and the new-fashioned portraits were now only profiles of a face traced by a black pencil on the shallop cast by a candle on white paper. All the fashions assumed an air of niggardly economy, till poor Silhouette was driven into retirement, with all his projects of savings and reforms; but has left his name to describe the most economical sort of portrait, and melancholy as his own fate—(D'Israeli, *Cur. of Lit.* Series II.)

"SHAMMING ABRAHAM."—Mr. John Timbs says in "Things not Generally Known":—"When Bethlehem Hospital was first built in Moorfields, there was a ward of it named 'Abram's'; and hence the poor idiots confined there were called 'Abram's men.' They wore the dress of the hospital; and on the 1st of April such as were incapacitated had a holiday, and visited their friends or begged about the streets. This induced vagrants to imitate the Bethlehem dress and pretend idiocy, till the governors of the hospital ordered that if any person should 'sham an Abram,' he should be whipped and set in the stocks, whence came the saying 'He is shamming Abram.'"

BRITISH PREMIERS.—The following list of British Premiers from the time of Pitt to the present day may be acceptable to some of the readers of your *Notes and Queries* column:

Appointed.		Time in Office.	Years.	Days.
1783	Dec. 27—William Pitt.....	17	80	
1801	Mar. 17—Lord Sidmouth.....	3	56	
1804	May 12—William Pitt.....	1	246	
1806	Jan. 8—Lord Granville.....	1	64	
1807	Mar. 13—Duke of Portland....	3	102	
1810	June 28—Spencer Perceval....	1	350	
1812	June 8—Earl of Liverpool....	14	307	
1827	April 11—George Canning.....	0	121	
1827	Aug. 10—Lord Goderich.....	0	168	
1828	Jan. 25—Duke of Wellington..	2	301	
1830	Nov. 22—Earl Grey.....	3	231	
1834	July 11—Lord Melbourne.....	0	128	
1834	Nov. 16—Duke of Wellington..	0	22	
1834	Dec. 8—Sir Robert Peel.....	0	131	
1835	April 18—Lord Melbourne.....	6	138	
1841	Sept. 3—Sir Robert Peel.....	4	87	
1845	Dec. 10—Lord John Russell....	0	18	
1845	Dec. 20—Sir Robert Peel.....	0	180	
1846	June 26—Lord John Russell....	5	239	
1853	Feb. 22—Earl of Derby.....	0	390	
1853	Dec. 19—Earl of Aberdeen....	2	43	
1855	Feb. 5—Lord Palmerston.....	3	17	
1858	Feb. 21—Earl of Derby.....	1	111	
1859	June 13—Lord Palmerston.....	6	123	
1865	Oct. 20—Earl Russell.....	0	249	
1866	June 27—Earl of Derby.....	1	238	
1868	Feb. 25—Mr. Disraeli.....	0	281	
1868	Dec. 8—Mr. Gladstone.....	—	—	

Notes and Comments.

The people of St. Armand Station are to be congratulated on the friendliness which exists between the members of the Protestant and Roman Catholic communities at that place. In a recent number of an Eastern Township paper we read that the Catholics are about to build a new church, and have already succeeded in raising seven hundred and fifty dollars—the Protestants in the vicinity contributing one-half of the amount.

Some people have a curious way of showing their esteem. From China we learn that the native priests of the Catholic diocese of Tong King recently presented their bishop, Monsignor Masson, with a coffin as a special mark of respect. The compliment is, to say the least, a doubtful one; and the action of the donors is liable to be misconstrued by outsiders as a delicate way of expressing a wish that the right-reverend diocesan should shuffle off his mortal coil as speedily as possible. Or was the gift merely intended as a kind of Memento Mori?

Politics do not seem to agree with the Irish working men, some of whom are devoting themselves so vigorously to the discussion of political questions that the result threatens to prove fatal to the employers. The *Sunderland News Letter* reports that the men employed in a large factory at Lurgan have taken to discussing politics with such vigour that little time is found for work. The discussions begin as early as five in the morning, and the disputants proceed to fight it out. A few days ago the head of the firm attempted to pacify them and get them to resume their work, but was soon compelled to retreat, being set upon by both sides. A large number of the Royal Irish attend at the gates every evening to prevent fighting in the streets as the men leave the factory, and though the constables see them part of the way home, shouts of "Home Rule" and "No Home Rule" can be heard from every side. If the nuisance does not soon cease, the factory will be suspended for a time.

Herr Rische is court preacher to Count Harn-Basedow, at Schwinkendorf, Mecklenburg. Although a pastor, he sometimes indulges in declamations that are anything but pastoral save in their simplicity. Herr Rische is also an editor, and runs a monthly periodical, in which he has recently been discussing the question of emigration in a manner the novelty of which is only equalled by its intense absurdity. Quoting St. Paul and St. Chrysostom he arrives at the conclusion that bondage is "not injurious, but salutary," and that, therefore, the Mecklenburg labourers sin against themselves and serve the Devil by escaping from bondage through emigration. He farther states that no faithful Christian ever went across the sea. It would be worth while learning Pastor Rische's ideas on the subject of Foreign Missions; also his opinion as to the character—is whether Christian or otherwise—of his antiquity, St. Paul, and of the other missionaries of the early Church who bore the glad tidings of salvation across the seas. We trust Pastor Rische will not be so unfortunate as to be attached as army chaplain to the German expedition which is to culminate in the Battle of Dorking.

A quack has just been committed for trial at Hull, England, on a charge of obtaining money by false pretences, who, whatever punishment he may deserve for his faults, certainly deserves also credit for his ingenuity. He succeeded, the *London* reports, in effecting sales to one Richardson, a farmer, of various substances which he represented to be valuable medicines; but the most active of which was granular citrate of magnesia. "Some very common butter" was sold as being the "same kind of ointment as that with which Mary Magdalen anointed the feet of Christ." "A bottle of stuff not worth two pence" was sold as "The Elixir of Life"; and, on the whole, the quack seems to have obtained from the farmer between sixty and seventy pounds. But the most curious part of the story is the manner in which the too-confiding agriculturist was induced to trust in his somewhat expensive adviser. The latter "produced a glass containing a liquid like water." He then directed the farmer to blow into it through a tube; and, on the liquid becoming milky, assured him that the change indicated serious disease of the lungs. It is a very old trick of quacks to show people's lungs as spermatozoa; having them dry on the glass which is then moistened with a dupe's urine, but to make a "north-east farmer" blow into lime-water, and to extort £50 from him by the process, is a dodge sufficiently novel to deserve record and remembrance.

With Prof. Pepper lecturing among us, a few notes on the Royal Polytechnic Institution, with which his name is inseparably connected, may be welcome. The great feature in this establishment are the lectures, in which the aim is to combine instruction with amusement. The lectures are all of a popular cast, beautifully illustrated by men who have a faculty for making difficult things familiar to a child. It is a rare accomplishment. Most of the learned lecturers who come before the public shoot over the heads of the audience. It is a positive mistake to set in motion an artillery of unpronounceable terms, which only a Greek professor could comprehend. Lectures in that institution draw immensely, even in the middle of the day, so eager are those in pursuit of useful knowledge to hear and see. Chemistry has been a leading topic, though every branch of science has its representative in the course of the season. The fee is small, therefore the theatre is full, and is crowded when a good lecturer is to appear. One of the encouraging circumstances of the London Polytechnic is its perfectly democratic character. No one ambitious aspirant for fame is allowed to monopolize a chair to the exclusion of others. Thus variety in manner and matter is insured, and the public like it. An audience tires of the same lecturer forever and for aye—an arrangement sometimes called the American system. The stomach loathes to have only one kind of food at every meal. Variety is as necessary for the brain as a change of diet for the stomach.

The *Athenæum* states that a curious book is now passing through the press, the author of which seriously professes to give, from actual experience, a matter-of-fact account of the laws, manners, and customs of a kingdom situated in one of the planets of our solar system. The title of the book is "Another World."