

Our Library Table.

[I beg to inform book-lovers that the books reviewed are all to be had in inexpensive form (paper covers), ranging from as low as ten cents, and very few being beyond twenty-five cents.]

"THE LAUREL BUSH." "A NOBLE LIFE." "NOTHING NEW AND OTHER STORIES." Miss Mullock.—Miss Mullock is so well known through her celebrated novel "John Halifax" that any book bearing her name may be taken for granted as worth reading. There is a pure, healthy tone pervading her work which is a refreshing contrast to much of the literature now extant. I intend to draw attention to some of her works not quite so widely known. "The Laurel Bush" is an old-fashioned love story—full of truth and pathos. It tells of the misunderstanding and long separation of two faithful hearts through the merest chance. The whole story is so natural, the characters so exactly what one may meet any day, that it only serves to show how true it is that romance often accompanies the most ordinary surroundings. To tell the end of this "old sweet story" would be a pity, so I leave its readers to enjoy it to the full.

"A Noble Life" is that of a helpless cripple (an English earl), doomed from infancy to a life of inaction, but possessed of a heart of gold, which lifts him above all earthly ailment. His faithful manservant, in whose arms he almost lives, is a splendid type of devotion, and the love between the frail young earl and the big, tender-hearted Scotchman is most beautifully depicted. The "Noble Life" is described from childhood to manhood, and is a grand illustration of how much benefit and happiness can be dispensed by even those who are amongst the "sore afflicted" of this earth, and of how a high and lovely nature can completely rise above itself.

In "Nothing New and Other Stories" we have a collection of short tales which are little gems. The character of Jean Douglas in the first story is finely drawn, and one feels the better for reading about her. We cannot help, too, feeling in sympathy with her handsome young lover, although he did make a mistake.

"THE QUEEN." Mrs. Oliphant.—Those of our beloved sovereign's loyal subjects who would know of her everyday life up to a few years ago should read this book. It shows to us the true woman, and seems to bring us into closer communion with our noble and Christian Queen. The book was written by special sanction, and every opportunity afforded to the talented authoress for truthfully depicting the daily life of Her Majesty. One reads so frequently the most absurd accounts of Royalty's doings, written by those who really have no authentic source of information, that a book like this should be widely appreciated.

"DRIVEN BACK TO EDEN." E. P. Roe.—This author (only lately dead) has an enviable and widespread reputation as a writer of pure novels that can be put into the hands of our youths and maidens. The story mentioned is hardly to be called a novel in the usually accepted sense. It is a plain account of how a small-salaried clerk in New York City is struggling to keep his wife and family in even bare necessities. They live in a cheap flat, the children have no playground save the street, and the anxious parents see evil looming in the future. The father at last resolves to break away from such associations, resigns his situation, collects all his little savings, and boldly strikes out for a different life on a country farm. At first things look very black, for his experience is chiefly from books and what little information he could pick up, but a brave and trustful spirit animates them all. The parents wisely give occupation to the very youngest child, thus creating an equal interest in work. Their everyday life is told in a simple and fascinating way. The father makes a point of explaining all he knows himself to his children, regarding them as co-workers, and the story is thus made full of useful information, besides being most interesting as a story alone. Young people should especially read this little book, although it can be thoroughly enjoyed by people of any age. FELIX.

Puzzles.

[The following prizes are offered every quarter, beginning with months of April, July and October: For answers to puzzles during each quarter—1st prize, \$1.50; 2nd, \$1.00; 3rd, 75c. For original puzzles—1st, \$1.00; 2nd, 75c.; 3rd, 50c.]

This column is open to all who comply with the following rules: Puzzles must be original—that is, must not be copied from other papers; they must be written on one side only of paper, and sender's name signed to each puzzle; answers must accompany all original puzzles (preferably on separate paper). It is not necessary to write out puzzles to which you send answers—the number of puzzle and date of issue is sufficient. Partial answers will receive credit. Work intended for first issue of any month should reach Pakenham not later than the 15th of the month previous; that for second issue not later than the 5th of that month. Leave envelope open, mark "Printer's Copy" in one corner, and letter will come for one cent. Address all work to Miss Ada Armand, Pakenham, Ont.]

1—HIDDEN GIRLS.

Six little maids are hiding here— One in each line, a pretty dear.

Here is a belt that you may wear To run a race at the county fair. Remember that as you run along A cowboy's shout or a tramp's song Could frighten a daisy racer like you— I will not and cannot believe to be true. B. B.

2—SQUARE.

My First is what you have to pay When you send the hired man away; My Second a precious metal is, And a very useful mineral 'tis; You'd pass my Third many times in a day, In walking through fields or along the highway;

My Fourth may be found in a lot of old stuff: Just look through a trash-room: I guess I've told enough. G. E. K.

- 3—HALF SQUARE. 1, to take. 2, science of morals. 3, to reprove. 4, a kind of duck (abbr.). 5, frozen water. 6, a farrier. 7, a vowel. M. N.

- 4—DOUBLE ACROSTIC. 1, dress of a Highlander. 2, an annoying disease. 3, a sound. 4, studies. 5, man (in Latin). 6, an Australian bird. 7, to want. 8, a period of time. 9, reddish color. M. N.

Initials read downward spell the name of a famous general finally the place where he gained his victories. M. N.

- 5—DROP-LETTER PUZZLE. 1, G-e-t-r-t-i, the mistress of the seas. 2, -t-h-n-, a great general. 3, -a-a-, a progressive country. 4, -k-a-a, where a notable battle was fought. 5, -r-l-a-, a strong fortress. 6, P-r-, a city in Russia. 7, -o-o-v-l-u-, a very nice flower. 8, -o-s-, a small animal. BARCLAY GREEN.

6—ANAGRAM. ITS PARENT SEVERE, if I met on the street, He'd threaten to break my head into seven, But, changing his mind, then he'd turn me around And raise me up almost to heaven. "ARRY 'AWKINS."

- 7—ODD SUBTRACTION. 1, Take 2-5 from something hot and leave something cold. 2, Take 1-5 from a piece of wood and leave a sharp sound. 3, Take two thousand from a woman and leave a girl's name; then take five hundred more and leave two articles. 4, Take one thousand and six from a noted king and leave an article. H. C. G.

8—ANAGRAM. He said, as about to start on a tour, And hoping his dear one's love to secure, "VINA, LEST TEN DAYS should not see me return, I hope you will not miss my heart from you spurn." "DICK."

- 9—SQUARE. 1, sad; 2, enclose; 3, steep slopes; 4, an old form of marquis; 5, to eagerly desire; 6, to decrease.

10—CHARADE. Here's a man we're ONE to mind, He served his country well and truly; By passion never rendered blind, His temper never grew unruly. 'Mong all our modern men of worth And Grand TOTAL'S foremost, upright, true; His fame extends throughout the earth— He needs no monumental TWO.

- 11—NUMERICAL ENIGMA. 1, 4, 5, 6, is a way. 12, 13, 14, 10, 5, 15, 17, 11, is a poisonous oil. 2, 4, 3, 7, is a rodent animal. 9, 16, denotes surprise. 8, 2, 10, 17, 15, 14, is the science of sound. 2, 7, 16, 3, 5, is one of a suit of playing cards. Whole is a noted English novel. JESSIE HYDE.

12—TRANSPOSITION. At school one day, when all was fun, In there came old Uncle ONE. He said he was glad to see us play So long as we didn't get TWO in our way. Some children screamed THREE while in their play; This vexed old ONE, and he did say: "Boys, you're Christians, no doubt, But I think it THREE to no TWO shout." This vexed little Dick, and up he shot And said, "Old ONE, have you forgot That you may ever be gone from me If you think that I FIVE THREE. Our teacher is a very strict man, Yet he tries to teach us all he can, And if we 'cut up' any more He'll mark us by a common FOUR, And whip us, man alive! Now, do you think that we TWO or THREE, FIVE?" "DICKENS."

13—DOUBLE ACROSTIC. A famous man my primals show, By initials in what class he is reckoned, you know. 1, a sudden blow; 2, a Japanese city; 3, an animal; 4, a way from home; 5, a kind of fruit on some trees. F. L. HARTSELL, Oriol.

14—CHARADE. My first is necessary, but dangerous, strong and useful; when caged can be controlled, but is fierce when free. My second is an insect like a bear and like a bee, and the total appear like sparks on a dark night in summer. M. A. A.

15—REBUS. 5 me 6 for T.

16—CHARADE. There are so many cousins who contribute to the Corner, And it's always growing and always getting stronger; To win a prize is quite an honor Whoe'er succeeds, should thank the donor.

But what a complete in the FARMER'S ADVOCATE When the January number the winners' names did state! 'Twas not because "Toledo" at second place did tarry, Nor because the very first prize came to our cousin "ARRY."

But it was because this 'ARRY was the old-time Henry Reeve, Who in bygone days second puzzling much honor did achieve, He has come from old Kent road to do his very best, He now has tried a quarter, and of course he stood the test.

Last "chocolate" he will primal, it is very wholesome, Perhaps on "milk-weed" too, it depends upon his "income." A "punishment," a "chastisement" give him, no, not three, For we're very glad to see him coming back so cunningly. "DICK."

Answers to January 2nd Puzzles.

- 1—Merry Christmas, Happy New Year. 2—R E P O S I T. E n a b l e. P a n s y. O b s b. S l y. I e. T. 3—C ameleopar D. H adj I. A romali C. R ansac K. L eporin E. E quivocatio N. S anguiferou S.

- 4—(1) Salt Lake City. (2) All-eg-heny. (3) Bal-tim-ore. (4) Was-hing-ton. (5) St. Hy-ac-in-the. 5—Anemone. 6—Concatenation. 7—Homesick. 8—Christmas. 9—(1) Khartoum. (2) Soudan. (3) Omdurman. (4) Havana. (5) Cuba. (6) Philippines. (7) Anticosti. (8) China. 10—A river. 11—r a c e r. m a r e s. n i n e s. n e a r s. w r i t e. 12—(1) L-arch. (2) Babe-l. (3) M-ink. (4) M-ale. (5) M-ask. (6) Lady. (7) M-alice. 13—(1) Shamrock. (2) Onion Lily. (3) Cactus. (4) Lavender. (5) Tea Rose. (6) Sweet balm. 14—Punishment Chastisement. 15—Entertainment.

SOLVERS TO JANUARY 2ND PUZZLES. "Ena," "Dick," "ARRY 'AWKINS" Geo. Lawson, F. J. G. Lizzie Conner, B. V. C. Constance Wilson, Una Shepherd, J. McLean, M. N., Jessie and Peter Hyde, G. E. Kinsman, H. C. G., "Dickens."

Answers to January 16th Puzzles.

- 1—Whale, perch, shark, carp, oyster, bass, sword, saw, pike, sucker, devil, flying, plaice, cat, cockle, sole, whiting, sun, mussel, herring (her ring). 2—Eagle, bluejay, vulture, thrush, barn-owl, canary. 3—Sir, between friends, I understand your overbearing disposition; a man even with the world is above contempt, whilst the ambitious are beneath ridicule. 4—Ernest. 5—Income. 6—Blunders sunder lovers (B L under S, S under L, L over S). 7—t h i s. h o n o r. i n l a i d. s o a p n u t. r i n s e. d u e. 8—D r a c o. r o v e r. a v e r e. c e r r a. o r e a l. 9—Separated, desperate. 10—Sage. 12—w e a l d. 13—Shakespeare. e m b a y. a b a t e. 14—(1) Dan, den, din, don, dun. l a t e r. (2) Mass, mess, miss, moss, mus. d y e r s. (3) Mate, mete, mite, mote, mute. 15—Klondike, Kincardine, Kamloops, Connecticut, Regina, Toronto. 16—Manchester, Kidderminster, Macclesfield.

SOLVERS TO JANUARY 16TH PUZZLES. "Ena," "Dick," "ARRY 'AWKINS," "Lawrence," "Barney," M. A. A., Constance Wilson, M. N., Wilson Rowat, G. E. Kinsman, H. C. G., Mrs. A. Bruce, "Boz."

COUSINLY CHAT. "Toledo."—Do not leave us on that account. M. N. is, too, so you have company. "Dickens."—I have informed Uncle Tom of your apology, and now let's forget all about that affair. H. C. G.—You naughty child! You detest anagrams and so you intend to inflict them on others. Well, do. I think you are good at them. Berta.—The prize is for the whole quarter. Send more than one, so I may choose the best. "Ogma."—You forgot to send the answer to your rebus. I am glad you intend to stay with us. M. A. A.—You are quite right. I am "cousin" to all the contributors, you know. "Ena."—Will you please sign name as well as non-deplume? I will not publish it if you do not wish. Your answer to No. 10, while not the one intended by the author, was quite a good substitute, and I had a quiet laugh over it. Constance.—Square words should read exactly the same down and across. It is not necessary to write as much of the puzzle as you did in No. 1, Jan. 2nd issue. The words as they appear in the answer in this issue are sufficient. "ARRY 'AWKINS."—If that book was for punctuality alone you would fare well. "Una."—I meant the prize offered in Jan. 2nd to be open to solvers as well as contributors of original puzzles. Lizzie Conner.—I have your name and credit for every number, so the fact of your name not appearing is immaterial. Someone sent me several correct answers to Jan. 16th puzzles, but did not sign any name. Who was it? "Dick."—We have not heard from Fair Brother for years, nor Lily Day, either. By-the-by, do not build any more "houses." They take up too much space, short puzzles are preferable. Barclay.—Your puzzle was too long, so I only used part of it. "Boz" and "Simple Simon."—Your work came in too late for this issue. Glad to hear from you, though. ADA A.

A Midnight Visitor.

Alexander Williamson went cosily to bed, And on the pillow, soft and white, he laid his weary head; A certain something happened which is terrible to tell, And he was filled with wonderment that made him cold and mute, For, standing up beside his bed, he saw his Sunday suit. "O Alexander Williamson!" it lifted up a sleeve— "Your conscience is upbraiding you, I'm happy to believe. For all the things you've done to me in such a careless way Are quite enough to fill the heart with horror and dismay. The first three days you knew me you were careful as could be; You kept me nicely dusted, and you didn't spill your tea. But, oh, those happy days are gone, as happy days will go, And if I seem a little dull, the reason you must know, You've bulged my trouser-pockets until no one thinks them neat; You tore a button off my coat and lost it in the street; You scrambled up a bramble bank to catch a bumblebee, And in your very shocking haste you tore a trouser-knee." Then, coming close beside the bed, it shook a wristband low: "Now, Alexander Williamson, 'tis well that you should know I won't submit to every shame you heap upon the cloth. Your roughness and your tyranny shall bear an awful fruit: I'll go to rags and tatters and you shall not have a suit!" And then it got so angry, as it knelt against the bed, That Alexander Williamson—he covered up his head. Now, if on any morning you should wander down our way And chance to meet a little boy in wonderful array In clothes full neatly dusted, and highly-polished boot— It's Alexander Williamson - and in his Sunday suit.