

of freshness and even of originality. Neither the characters nor the situations are familiar. The development of the plot is ingenious, and will seldom be anticipated, although here and there it may be guessed at, by the reader.

The hero of the story is a "newspaper man," who had been educated in an orphanage without any knowledge of his parents, and had grown up without faith in God or in man, yet with a certain self-respect which made him repay what he owed to the orphanage, and with a large amount of shrewdness, which made him a first-class reporter. This man advertised for a wife, and the advertisement was answered by a pretty girl who was struggling to support her aged mother and her crippled sister, and who was willing to marry him for the sake of those dependent upon her.

This is not a very promising start, and the reader is a little surprised at the climax of marriage being reached so early in the book, expecting to find all kinds of difficulties in the way, and then the removal of these and the proper conclusion. But nothing so commonplace is the course of Mr. Dougall's story. On the contrary, all the difficulties and dangers come after the marriage. Kent, the husband, had told his wife that he had some other sources of income, odd jobs, besides his reporter's work, and it turns out that these jobs are occasional burglaries, which he justifies on the Robin Hood principle that he robs the rich and the rapacious and helps the poor and weak. The scenes between Kent and his wife, after her suspicions had been confirmed by his confession, are worked out with a good deal of literary power and insight into human sentiment and motive. The complex character of the husband and the growing affection of the wife furnish material for situations full of dramatic interest. We must not reveal the conclusion, which is not so much a dénouement as an outlook. Probably it will be disappointing to many readers; and yet a slight reflection may satisfy them that it is the best and most natural which is compatible with the circumstances.

One of the most remarkable figures is the ex-Baptist minister, Gilchrist, who had given up every earthly hope and prospect, and almost his spiritual work, to watch over a drunken half-sister. A very prosaic kind of martyr, some readers will think. Yes, but one far more real and Christlike than many which will impress the ordinary imagination more powerfully. We have said enough to show that we have here a book of no ordinary interest.

Poet Lore for October opens with a critical and scholarly article on "A Love Drama of the Tenth Century," referring to the dramatic works of Hrotsvitha, by Mr. H. Hudson. Other articles, interesting and instructive to literary readers, make up a good number.

Literary Opinion for October is brim full of bright and entertaining matter of a character at once acceptable and pleasing to literary people the world over. The picture of Adam Lindsay Gordon and his bush cottage, with the accompanying ballad, "The Feud," will prove of unusual interest, as will also the representations of F. Marion Crawford and Marie Bashkirtseff. This periodical is low in price, compact in form, and its contents are clearly and cleverly written.

THE October number of the *Critical Review* of Theological and Philosophical Literature contains many critical articles abounding in advanced scholarship and profound thought. This review cannot fail to be of signal service to students, theologians and philosophers. It is surprising how much solid and serviceable matter is compressed within its pages. The experience and ability of its contributors enable them to write concisely, yet comprehensively. The publishers, Messrs. T. and T. Clark, Edinburgh, announce that the review will appear next year as a quarterly.

PRINCIPAL GRANT'S able contribution on "The New Empire" to the *Westminster Review* for October is written with the customary vigour, frankness of thought and fulness of information which mark this distinguished Canadian's literary work. It is an omen of good for Canada to see such manly and authoritative articles as this appearing in English reviews. This number contains other interesting articles, such as "The Ordeal of Trade Unionism"; "History and Radicalism," by J. W. Crombie, and "Free Education in the United States," by Harriet S. Blatch.

A VERY interesting contribution to the Johns Hopkins Series of Studies in Historical and Political Science is that on "The Constitutional Development of Japan, 1853-1881," by Toyokichi Iyenaga, Ph.D. This small pamphlet of fifty-six pages contains a large amount of information collected from various authentic sources, condensed, and presented by its learned author with clearness and ability. This is the first attempt by a cultured native of Japan to trace the rise and progress in Japan of that large measure of constitutional freedom which she at present enjoys. It is well worthy of study.

A FINE portrait of the late Hon. W. H. Smith, M.P., greets one on the first page of the *Illustrated News* of 24th inst. This number contains besides pictures of "Baron Hirsch," "Parnell," "The Bishop of St. Asaph," President of the Church Congress, "Mr. Hall Caine," and "Mr. Blundell Maple, M.P.," and his splendid horses, "Childwick" and "Common." A double page illustration of "Penrhyn Castle," with letter-press description, and the opening chapters of "Come Live with me and be my Love, an English Pastoral," by Robert Buchanan, make this an unusually attractive number.

FREDERIC HARRISON ends his able article on "The Emancipation of Women" in the October *Fortnightly* with these not unwise words: "Let us then honour the old-world image of woman as being relieved by man from the harder tasks of industry, from the defence and management of the state, in order that she may set herself to train up each generation to be worthier than the last." E. B. Lanin, in "The Demoralization of Russia," adds many new counts, from internal evidence, to the world indictment of the Muscovite for brutality and barbarism. "Under the Yoke of the Butterflies" is a well written, but rather tedious, philippic by the Hon. Auberon Herbert against the vanities of modern society. "Social Life in Australia" is a crisp, democratic article by Francis Adams. "A Son of Adam's" "Impressions of England" is bright, frank and unconventional reading. W. H. Mallock's serial, "A Human Document," is very interesting.

Blackwood for October opens with a long and instructive article on "Current Influences on Foreign Politics," in which the present position of affairs in Europe is ably portrayed. The writer thinks in a war between France and Russia on the one hand, and Germany and Austria on the other, the latter alliance would succeed. Mr. F. H. H. Guillemaud reviews the "Seal-fisheries Question." Mr. H. M. Trollope throws some new light on the genius of the great French poet, Molière. In the line of fiction, "Danovitch: a Russian Romance," is especially interesting. "Capt. Ludwey's Jump," by Dorothea Gerard, is a bright little tale. There is a most useful biographical sketch of John Inglis, Justice-General of Scotland, who died during the current year, and whose name is honoured among jurists.

THERE are several really good articles in the last number of the *Political Science Quarterly*. Mr. F. Bancroft sets forth the efforts at compromise in 1860-61 with the object of averting the then impending civil war, and he proves that it was an impossibility, the difference being so great between the two parties. This was pithily put by Lincoln in a letter to Alexander Stephens: "You think slavery is right and ought to be extended, while we think it is wrong and ought to be restricted." The history of the North German Confederation, by Professor Hudson, shows how the Confederation of 1866 necessarily resulted in the German Empire of to-day. "Economics in Italy" traces the growth of economical theories in that country. Mr. T. Greene goes fully into the question of watered railroad stock, and claims that a distinction should be drawn between stock which is comparatively innocent in purpose and that which is not. Yet, if a man pays for milk he expects to get milk and not water—they represent different values; and it practically comes to this, that if a railway has cost a million of dollars, and shares are issued for two millions, those who, without giving value, get the extra million profit thereby, and those who buy at par practically give double the real value of the shares as represented by the actual outlay. Mr. W. J. Ashley writes very thoughtfully on the subject of "General Booth's Panacea," and points out the difficulties surrounding the question. It is highly probable that the good results will not be so great as anticipated. It will be a tremendous task to change lazy and inefficient people into industrious workers, and we may be sure that there will be a host of failures. Yet, doubtless, some solid results will be achieved.

LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

It is rumoured that Miss Braddon is engaged upon "a novel with a purpose."

JOAQUIN MILLER'S autobiographical novel, "My Own Life," will soon be issued.

MR. HERBERT SPENCER is preparing for publication a new volume entitled "The Principles of Morality."

TENNYSON in his old age is said to be an incessant smoker. A large jar of tobacco stands conveniently near his elbow, and his beloved pipe is rarely removed from his mouth.

GEORGE MACDONALD'S new novel, "The Flight of a Shadow," and also George Moore's new contribution to fiction in one volume entitled "Vain Fortune," are announced.

AT the age of sixty-eight the author of the most famous French "Life of Christ," M. Renan, is said to be engaged on a new arrangement and compilation of "Contes des Fees," or Fairy Tales.

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON starts the hero of "The Wrecker," in the November *Scribner*, on his adventurous voyage among the South Sea Islands, where Mr. Stevenson recently cruised for several years.

THE *Cosmopolitan Magazine* has devoted twenty-eight pages of the November number to a most interesting and exhaustive article upon Chicago from the pen of the famous novelist, Col. Charles King.

MARK TWAIN is having immense fun on his erratic voyages over the rivers of France. He travels in a fishing-boat. He was not long ago at Avignon. He is accompanied by a courier, servant and pilot.

IN the *Forum* for November Edward A. Freeman, the English historian, perhaps the highest living authority on the subject, explains the political situation in Europe, pointing out the specific dangers to peace.

THE "Reminiscences" of his campaigning life as a special artist and war correspondent, on which Mr.

Frederick Villiers is engaged, will be published this season in book form with characteristic illustrations.

MR. J. CASTELL HOPKINS, who was recently elected a member of the Toronto School Board, has just been installed as President of the Young Conservatives Association of the city. We congratulate our able contributor on his advancement to these honourable positions.

SOME particulars of a new volume of poems which Lord Tennyson has in hand are given in the *Athenaeum*. It will comprise Hellenic legend, Oriental tradition, humorous *patois*, idyl, and even stories of the wild brigand life of Southern Europe, and will possibly include the new comedy.

MESSRS. HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND COMPANY announce "Venetian Life," by W. D. Howells, Holiday Edition, with coloured illustrations; "The Works of Oliver Wendell Holmes," New Riverside Edition; Vol. VII., "A Mortal Antipathy;" Vol. VIII., "Pages from an Old Volume of Life," and "Persia and the Persians," by S. G. W. Benjamin.

WALTER BESANT, in the November number of *Harper's Magazine*, will present the readers of that periodical with an entertaining account of "The London of Good Queen Bess"—the London of Shakespeare, of Raleigh, and of Bacon—with descriptions of English life and manners at the time of the Armada, and of England's first period of commercial prosperity.

HARPER AND BROTHERS have just ready for publication "Men of Iron," a stirring romance of the Middle Ages, written and illustrated by Howard Pyle. The story is especially adapted to young readers, and with the illustrations, which are numerous, presents a faithful picture of life and manners in England five hundred years ago. They also announce "Hints to Amateurs," a hand-book of art, by Mrs. Louise Jopling.

MR. EDWARD WHYMPER, well known as the boldest and most scientific mountain climber of his generation, has just completed a new book descriptive of his travels amongst the great Andes of the Equator. As an account of mountain adventure it is worthy the hand that described the fatal first ascent of the Matterhorn, while it records many new and interesting discoveries. It will be issued shortly by the Scribners in handsome form, with profuse illustrations, drawn by various artists and engraved by the author.

THE *Nowoje Wremja* tells a story of a young woman's recent consultation with Count Leo Tolstoi as to what she should do with \$300,000 which she had recently inherited from her father. She wished to keep \$150,000 for her own use, and to benefit mankind with the rest of her fortune. Tolstoi's first advice was in harmony with his well-known hatred of money *per se*. "Burn it, it all," were his words. He afterward admitted that it would not be a bad idea to give the surplus \$150,000 to the poor, and accordingly she did so.

THE catalogues of Messrs. Macmillan and Company, of New York, and of George Bell and Sons, of London, England—whose United States agents the Macmillans are—comprise a very large number of standard works for all classes of readers. The issues of the Oxford Clarendon Press and of the Cambridge University Press are widely noted for their excellence in character as well as workmanship. The popular Bohn Libraries, included in the publications of George Bell and Sons, have for years past been favourites with students and general readers as well.

THE death of Demetrius Kokkos, shot in the streets of Athens by an officer believed to be of unsound mind, is a sad blow to the many who esteemed him first among living Greek poets. His best known works are the opera "Marula," and the tales "Barba Linardo," "Captain Lazaros," and "The Lyre of Old Nicolas," from a dramatic representation of which he was returning at the time of his death. Kokkos was only thirty-one years of age, and had served for some time as secretary to the late Minister, Signor Tricoupis. His murderer afterwards put an end to his own life.—*The Literary World*.

MR. NICHOLAS FLOOD DAVIN, M.P., has been paying Toronto a visit. Mr. Davin is an old contributor of *THE WEEK*, and is one of the comparatively few men in our public life who combine political sagacity with broad literary culture. It is not every man who is both an orator and a forceful and graceful writer. Such men give a literary tone to public discussions and elevate and refine public taste. Apart from his ability as a speaker and a writer, Mr. Davin has an impressive personality. His scholastic culture, added to a wide journalistic experience on the British and Canadian press, his store of anecdote and flow of humour, make him one of the most agreeable of men. A cosmopolitan in thought and feeling, a loyal Briton and a public spirited and progressive Canadian, as shown by his good work in the North-West as well as at Ottawa. Mr. Davin has won the regard of his fellow-countrymen, and is bound to make his mark on the future of our country.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Akers, Elizabeth. *The High Top Sweeting*. \$1.25. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.
Everett, C. C. *Ethics for Young People*. 60c. Boston: Ginn & Co.
Eaton, Arthur Wentworth, B.A. *The Church of England in Nova Scotia*. \$1.50. New York: Thos. Whittaker.
Page, Thos. Nelson. *Elsket and other stories*. \$1.00. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.
Stoddard, Chas. Augustus. *Across Russia from the Baltic to the Danube*. \$1.50. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.