

compress into two volumes the poems of Sir Walter is a difficult task, but from the list of contents already issued we are sure it will be satisfactorily done. Departing from his usual procedure, the publisher announces Praed as the May, and "Hogg" as the June volume in the same series. We trust that the March volume of "Whitman" (to which there is an excellent portrait prefixed, an example, we hope, of favours to come), will introduce to many for the first time the "good grey poet." Mr. Ernest Rhys in his prefatory notice is enthusiastic, and we do not wonder, for Walt. Whitman has struck a new and real note in poetry.—*The British and Colonial Bookseller and Stationer.*

MR. FREDERIC HARRISON'S new volume on "The Choice of Books," and other literary essays just issued by Messrs. Macmillans & Co.

MR. GIFFEN (whose statistics in the just issued "First Report on the Depression of Trade," are now attracting general attention) is engaged on a new series of "Essays in Finance," which, in addition to papers read before the Statistical Society and some published without name, will include several which have not yet seen the light. Men of business anticipate much from so high an authority.

## NOVELTIES.

SOME very pretty wine sets are in the market. They come in cut crystal and in Bohemian ware. Plush-covered boxes, satin-lined, are used for some of these goods. Imagine one containing two decanters, with a set of tiny glasses hung on hooks on the inside of double doors.

A GRACEFUL fancy in Vienna ware is made in the design of a large leaf, with curling edges. A rose-tree forms the handles, and at one end, resting upon the edge of the receiver, is a cluster of roses and rose-leaves.

MANY people are familiar with the musical top which has been widely sold; but a new musical top lately imported contains a "music box," which is so arranged that the motion of the top in spinning will cause it to play tunes. This is imported.

JEWEL cases in new and fanciful designs worked in metal are among the attractions. Several beautiful styles come in gold bronze, with silver filigree work.—*Trade Lounger in the American Stationer.*

ONE of the best things in the "gum stickum" line that I have yet seen is a cake of prepared mucilage. This is of the consistency of a thick jelly, a little stiffer perhaps than the composition on a printer's roller. It is of a creamy-white colour and comes enclosed in a paper wrapper. No brush is required. All that is needed is a damp sponge. The edge of the tablet, after being drawn across the wet sponge, is applied to the paper which is to be fastened, and one stroke of the tablet deposits enough mucilage to make a firm joint. I have seen a piece of paper torn in two and this tablet passed across the ragged edges, which were then butted—not overlapped—together,

and, after drying, it was easier to tear the paper in any other part than at the point of junction.

## PERIODICALS.

THE *Railway Signal*, published by the Railway Y.M.C.A. of Toronto, in its third year, is enlarged and greatly improved. A very interesting journal, well edited.

THE *English Illustrated Magazine* continues to be attractive, particularly to the old countryman who would like to read of scenes and times "at home."

Some of the illustrations of late have been particularly good, notably those by the late Randolph Caldecott in his sketch of Fox Hunting.

In the February and March numbers two instructive and fully embellished papers have given a vivid description of Life Boats and Life Boat Men.

A special feature in the magazine are the most artistic headings, ornamental friezes, etc., etc., that embellish almost every article.

GRIP'S caricatures are still of at least equal merit with its former self. It is too much the habit to decry the merit of home publications, but some of our would-be critics, were they to look through their spectacles, not over them, would find that some of Grip's designs in conception and execution are worthy of commendation.

A CANDIDATE for public favour is *The Arrow*, a new Toronto comic weekly. No's. 1 and 2 are out, and not only out, but out of print, the demand has been so keen. The designs of the cartoons are quite original and so pointed as to hardly need the explanatory line beneath. The title page is particularly good. It is published at the popular price of 5 cents and is a credit to its printers, the *Mail Job Room.*

AN exceedingly interesting volume is "Lord Beaconsfield's Correspondence with his Sister, 1832-1852." These are of even greater value than the former volume, published last year. Mr. Ralph Disraeli, who edited the former volume, has performed similar service for this. He states "that they were written without thought of publication, and to a sister who fully believed in the writer's power." This gives them an especial charm, because it gives us a glimpse of the great man with his mask off, so to speak. There is no attempt at posing for effect. The editor hints that they may be thought too egotistical. Not a bit. The more a writer writes about himself, when he is not writing with a view to publication, the more attractive the work becomes. The letters are full of the most amusing details with regard to Sir Robert Peel, Lords Houghton, Shangford, and Mulgrave, Mrs. Gore, Charles Villers, "L. E. L.," John Murray, the O'Connells, Bulwer, Count d'Orsay, Hume, and others. There is also much about Mrs. Wyndham Lewis, who afterwards became Mrs. Disraeli, and subsequently Countess of Beaconsfield in her own right. The collection is one that all friends of the late Lord Beaconsfield—and, for the matter of that, enemies too—will peruse with the greatest pleasure.