

## PRESENT AND FUTURE ENGLISH BOOKS.

## SIR C. DILKE'S WORK ON THE COLONIES.

NEW NOVELS, AND GOSSIP ABOUT AUTHORS—MAGAZINE CHANGES—THE PEEL BIOGRAPHY—THE DREYFUS CASE—INDIAN REMINISCENCES.

LONDON, Nov. 30, 1898.

**S**IR CHARLES DILKE has completed his work "The British Empire," and it will shortly be published by Chatto & Windus. The author's previous book on Colonial questions is a noted one, and he is well acquainted with the attitude of foreign nations towards British colonization throughout the world. The book is sure to be of service at the present time.

## FICTION.

"The Queen's Justice," a true story of Indian village life by Sir Edwin Arnold, will be published immediately by Thomas Burleigh.

J. M. Dent & Co. announce an edition of the works of Charles Dickens in their "Temple Classics" series.

J. M. Barrie has now written more than half of the sequel to "Sentimental Tommy." The provisional title is "The Celebrated Tommy," but this may be changed.

The sale of Mr. Kipling's book, "The Day's Work," has exceeded by several thousands, it is asserted, that of any of the preceding volumes of stories.

Mrs. J. B. Firth announces for publication, with T. Fisher Unwin, a novel entitled "A Quaker Maid." The story portrays the two schools of Quakerism, the modern and liberal as compared with the narrow and old-fashioned. It treats of the love affair of the daughter of a well-meaning but narrow-minded Quaker couple. Mrs. Firth, who has written two or three novels, is the widow of Mr. Firth, the Member of Parliament who represented the old Chelsea borough, with Sir Charles Dilke, from 1880 to 1885, and afterwards became member for Dundee. He published the first authoritative book on the London County Council.

A novel by the late Harold Frederic, the last work he completed before his illness, will be published in America by The Frederick A. Stokes Company, of New York. It deals with the career of an English company promoter, as though the author had foreseen the disclosures of the Hooley trial. The serial rights have been bought up by an illustrated weekly paper; the publication in book form will be delayed until next spring.

Jules Verne, the indefatigable French author, has achieved the probably unique feat of having written six more books than the number of years he has lived. Miss Braddon, amongst English writers, perhaps, most nearly approaches this marvelous literary record.

A vividly-drawn picture of a wasted life is

"The Hypocrite," just published by Lawrence Greening & Co., and the work of a new author. The hero, if so he may be called, is an Oxford man, young, of good family, and possessed of great personal attractiveness and influence, who goes to the bad without let or hindrance. Whether the study of his wild career might prove a deterrent to those who have a craving for what they regard as "seeing life" is doubtful, but the incidents in his downward path are of such a sordid and commonplace type that they are not likely to make vice alluring. Some of the characters in the book are so excellently set out as to lead one to the supposition that they are taken from nature. Fleet-street journalism is not by any means ennobled in "The Hypocrite."

## PERIODICALS.

Frank Harris, owing to ill-health, has severed his connection with The Saturday Review, which will be edited in future by Harold Hodge, barrister, of the Middle Temple, M.A., Pembroke College, Oxford.

Since retiring from the management of Chapman & Hall, Oswald Crawford has sold Chapman's Magazine, of which he, with others, was the proprietor, to Russell & Co., Paternoster Row, by whom it will be carried on, under the title of Chapman's Magazine. Mr. Crawford will be editor.

## BIOGRAPHY AND REMINISCENCES.

In 1891 was published the first volume of a "Life of Sir Robert Peel," based on his correspondence, and edited by C. S. Parker. In it the biography went as far as 1827. Shortly, two more volumes will be issued by Mr. Murray, completing the memoir. Correspondence—for the most part hitherto unpublished—will be found in them, of the highest political and personal importance and interest, including letters from the Queen, the Duke of Wellington, Disraeli, and the leading persons of the time. Sir Robert Peel's grandson, the Hon. George Peel, will supply a summary of the great statesman's life and character.

It is generally known that Justin McCarthy was on terms of intimate friendship with John Bright. In his autobiography he will give a long account of this intercourse, with anecdotes of Bright. He will also publish, with the consent of John A. Bright, the many interesting letters which he received from The Tribune. Mr. McCarthy, who is still at the seaside, has almost finished the first volume.

That interesting diarist, Sir M. E. Grant Duff, brought his recollections in the two

series which he has already published down to 1881. He is continuing them in another pair of volumes, but this time with a change of scene. Mr. Murray announces, "Notes from an Indian Diary," the contents of which were gathered by Sir M. E. Grant Duff between the years 1881 and 1886, during the Governorship of Madras. He made several tours from end to end of the Province, and, doubtless, these will furnish some interesting anecdotes to the volumes.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

George Allen is about to publish a book on the Dreyfus Case, by F. C. Conybeare ("Huguenot"), whose articles in The National Review, on this subject, attracted so much attention recently. The volume will be illustrated, and will deal minutely with individual personages as well as with the general question and its effect on French life and politics.

The literature committee, of the National Free Church Council, have decided to issue a series of cheap booklets, to be entitled "Free Church Tracts for the Times." The first will be published in February, and will be written by Dr. Clifford, president of the national council. Further booklets will follow by Dr. Munro Gibson, the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, Dr. Dykes, and others. They will come out one every two months.

Michael Macdonagh, Parliamentary reporter of The Times, has written a volume on "Irish Life and Character," which is to be issued by Hodder & Stoughton.

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