

THE MAGAZINES.

The Sketching Club paper in this month's number of *Old and New* is one of the best of the series and certainly the best article in the number. Trollope's novel "The Way We Live Now" takes up almost undue space. The sketch "Sylvester Gardiner," is readable. The three papers "Have we an Inquisition?" "Party Treason and Civic Duty" and, of all subjects, "The Emperor Tiberius," in which that old worthy is purged from the imputations of Tacitus and Suetonius, are interesting and useful. "Nicollette and Aucassin" will be read because the author is Hale, but the workmanship is not of the author's best.

The *Atlantic* for September contains, among other papers, the continuation of Howell's Venetian Story, another of Eggleston's "A Rebel's Recollections" and a thoughtful article by G. P. Lathrop on "The Novel and its Future." The poetry of the number is good as usual and, among the short stories, "The Lady of Little Fishing," is the best.

The *Penn Monthly* maintains its standard of solid, thoughtful reading. An incorrigible Englishman gives his views on aristocracy after four years in America. There is a fair exposition of Cairne's views on political economy. Prussia and Bismarck are trite subjects and the writer does not present anything new about them. A glimpse at Lewes' mental philosophy and some thoughts on deficiencies in the modern educational system complete a very creditable number.

Lippincott is always light, lively and literary. The illustrations of the "New Hyperion" and vignettes from the Schuylkill valley are exquisite. "Check to the Queen" is sprightly. Among the contributors are Howard Glyndon and the author of "Blind Fits."

Scribner's is distinguished this month, as always before, for abundance and variety. Each number amounts to a book and a readable book at that. One feels that he has more than his money's worth. The present number is equal to any of the series.

FROM THE GRAVE.

A writer, sketching several cases where people have been buried alive, relates the following: "Excellent material for a sensational story is furnished by the following well-established facts—Victorine Lafourcade, young, beautiful, and accomplished, had a great number of admirers. Among them was a journalist named Jules Bossouet, whose chances of being the successful suitor seemed to be the best, when suddenly Victorine, contrary to all expectation, accepted the hand of a rich banker named Renelle. Bossouet was inconsolable, and his honest heart ached all the more when he learned that the marriage of his lady-love was unhappy. Renelle neglected his wife in every possible way, and finally began to maltreat her. This state of things lasted two years, when Victorine died—at least so it was thought. She was entombed in a vault of the cemetery of her native town. Jules Bossouet assisted at the ceremony. Still true to his love, and well-nigh beside himself with grief, he conceived the romantic idea of breaking open the vault and securing a lock of the deceased's hair. That night, therefore, when all was still, he scaled the wall of the cemetery, and, by a circuitous route, approached the vault. When he had broken open the door and entered the vault he lighted a candle and proceeded to open the coffin. At the moment when he bent over the supposed corpse, scissors in hand, Victorine opened her eyes and stared him full in the face. He uttered a cry and sprang back; but immediately recovering his self-possession, he returned to the coffin, covered its occupant's lips with kisses, lifted her out, and soon had the satisfaction of seeing her in the full possession of all her faculties. When Victorine was sufficiently recovered they left the churchyard and went to Bossouet's residence, where a physician administered such remedies as were necessary to effect the complete recovery of the unfortunate woman. This proof of Bossouet's love naturally made a deep impression on Victorine. She repented of her past fickleness, and resolved to fly with the romantic Jules to America. There they lived happily together, without, however, ever being able to fully overcome their longing to return to their native land. Finally their desire became so strong to revisit the scenes of their youth that they decided to brave the dangers attendant on a return, and embarked at New York for Havre, where they arrived in July, 1830. Victorine in the interim had naturally changed very greatly, and Jules felt confident that her former husband would not recognize her. In this hope he was disappointed. Renelle had the keen eye of a financier, and recognized Victorine at the first glance. This strange drama ended with a suit brought by the banker for the recovery of his wife, which was decided against him on the ground that his claim was outlawed."

THE LITERARY WORLD.

Mrs. Oliphant is engaged in writing a "three volume" novel entitled "Whiteladies," which will appear serially in the *Churchman* during the coming winter and spring.

"Max Adeler" sent copies of his book to various European sovereigns, and has already received acknowledgments from three or four. The Emperor of Austria sent him a beautiful gold medal.

Mr. W. Clarke Russell is preparing for publication "The Book of Table Talk," a volume of specimens of the conversations of distinguished men, selected from numerous biographies, and from the collections of Spence, Drummond of Hawthornden, Lady Blessington, &c.

A new weekly literary paper is about to be issued in London, the first number of which is to appear on the 8th inst. It will be entitled *Journal Général des Beaux Arts et des Arts Industriels*. The special feature of the paper will be its polyglot character, as it is to contain articles on all artistic topics, including music and the drama, in French, English and German.

A fresh Shakspeare Club has been started at Stratford-on-Avon, by the Mayor, Mr. James Cox, Mr. Bird, Mr. Loggin, and others of the best-known Shakspeareans of the town. The members are in communication with the New Shakspeare Society, and intend to work with it. There is a talk of a new theatre at Stratford, for the acting of Shakspeare's plays. One resident has offered to give his thousand pounds towards the scheme.

Mr. James Redpath's list of lectures for the coming season has been published. It includes such great lecturers as Geo. Dawson, of England, the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, James Steele Mackaye, Wendell Phillips, Hon. William Parsons, Gen. Lew Wallace, Gen. N. P. Banks, Rev. Robert Collyer, Prof. J. H. Pepper, Edward Eggleston, James Parton, Wm. S. Andrews, "Petroleum V. Nasby," Dr. Isaac H. Hayes, James T. Fields, Rev. E. C. Bowles, Mrs. M. A. Livermore, Mrs. A. A. Leonowens, and Sidney Woollett.

Dr. C. M. Ingleby, says the *Academy*, has finished the text of his "Centurie of Praise" (of Shakspeare), and also his introduction to the first part of the Shakspeare Allusion Books that he is editing for the new Shakspeare Society. During his work on the latter book Dr. Ingleby has found that Meres, in his celebrated "Palladis Tamia," of 1593, has quoted a line from Shakspeare's "Henry the Fourth," which has been overlooked by all prior critics.

The Rev. John E. B. Mayor, of St. John's College, Cambridge, has undertaken to edit, for the extra series of the Early English Text Society, Bishop Fisher's funeral sermons on Lady Margaret and Henry VII., with the Bishop's letters, and his sermon preached in London when Martin Luther's books were burnt. This last sermon has never been reprinted in English. All the documents have historical value as well as philological, and Mr. Mayor will add to them an introduction, notes, and glossary.

DRAMATIC DOINGS.

Offenbach is completing the last acts of "Madame l'Archiduc."

Rubinstein is writing a grand opera for the Berlin Hof-theater.

Lydia Thompson appears at Charing-cross Theatre, London, this month.

Nilsson is expected to create the title rôle in Ambroise Thomas's promised "Psyche."

Alexandre Dumas is at work on a new piece, a sort of "Barbier de Seville" number two.

The report that Sims Reeves is about to retire from public life is emphatically contradicted.

Sothern opens the season at the Haymarket in the first week in October with "Lord Dundreary."

Kate Santley is on a provincial tour in England with a new comic opera, "Cattarina," written expressly for her.

Capoul gets 15,000 francs a month for four months by his Russian engagement. And he only sings twice a week.

Brignoli is said to be engaged for London appearances. Pauline Lucca will also return to that favoured city.

Mme. Essipoff is to play in Paris in the early spring after a winter in Russia, returning to London about Easter.

Tamberlik has undertaken the direction of the Italian Opera House at Buenos Ayres for a period of three years.

M. Mermet's long-expected "Jeanne d'Arc" will be the first unknown work to be produced at the Paris New Opera House.

Franz Liszt will come to America, it is said, provided he can get the necessary permit from his ecclesiastical superiors.

M. Victor Massé has completed a comic opera taken from Theophile Gautier's novel of "An Afternoon with Cleopatra."

Arthur Sullivan and Nilsson and her husband have been the guests lately of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh at Coburg.

Barry Sullivan goes to the States in August, 1875, receiving the sum of \$50,000 in gold for 150 performances, and all expenses paid.

The Russian Government has offered two prizes, one of 24,000 francs, the other of 8,000 francs, for the best and second best design for a theatre for Odesa.

The latest "Julia" in London is a Miss Ada Ward, who showed careful training, according to the *Hornet*, but nothing else—except beautiful back hair.

The popular cries of Paris have been set to music in a chorus of the new opera comique by Leon Nassur, to be sung at the Renaissance, Paris, in September.

A London theatrical paper has the temerity to say: "Judged by any other standard than their own unnatural one, the French are the worst actors in the world."

A successful operetta at La Scala is entitled "L'Avalleur de Flute," and has for its theme the adventures of a wandering musician who swallows his flute and wins a maiden's love by the beautiful sounds he produces.

No less than ten new operas are preparing for the forthcoming season in Italy, the composers being Bignami, Amadei, Ferrari, Arienzo, Uiglio, Braga, Trovati, Barbieri, Sebastiani, and Mercuri—besides an opera-ballet by Petrella.

From *Figaro* we learn that Madame Nilsson returns next year for the London season. The locale of Her Majesty's Opera is not yet decided, and a site is talked of in a fine position on ground belonging to the Duchy of Lancaster, on the Thames Embankment, near Lancaster-place.

"Samson" is the title of a new grand opera now being prepared in Paris. The title rôle is for a baritone; Dalilah is a mezzo-soprano, and the tenor is a Philistine high priest. Leccocq's "La Fille de Madame Angot" has just been performed for the first time in Italy at the Teatro del Verme at Milan.

Mr. Arthur Mathison, the author of the original libretto of "The Talisman," has been engaged by Mr. Chatterton to play the part of the minstrel "Blondel" in the dramatized version of the novel which will shortly be produced at Drury Lane Theatre. In the opera, as written by Balfe, the part of "Blondel" was included, and was destined for Mr. Mathison. The rôle was omitted when the opera was given this season at Her Majesty's Opera.

ODDITIES.

A long-winded orator is said to have a sleeping-car attached to his train of thought.

Jerrold said to a very thin man, "Sir, you are like a pin, but without the head or the point."

Memphis husbands punish their wives by making them sit on chunks of ice while they knit the heel of a stocking.

The Milwaukee man who tied his dog to a waggon-wheel to learn him to be a coach-dog is disgusted with the whole business.

A Pennsylvania baby is said to have inherited the eyes and nose of his father, but the cheek of his uncle, who is an insurance agent.

The most serious charge yet made against Mr. Beecher is that he was the first to offer a chromo to subscribers.—*Chicago Inter-Ocean*.

A chap who spent \$1,500 to graduate from Harvard, is post-master in Iowa at \$24 per year. Where would he have been but for his Latin and Greek?

California housekeepers have discovered one little objection to Chinese cooks. When John gets out of spirits and discontented he is apt to poison the whole family.

One reason why Indianapolis has so many burglaries is because a fellow has to "crack" from six to twelve houses to get money enough to pay his railroad fare out of town.

A boy's reverence for the name of mother is apt to be in the inverse ratio of the number of those domestic commodities with which an indulgent father from time to time has provided him.

A California temperance association limits the beverages of its members to wine, beer, and cider, "except when labouring under a sense of discouragement, and then whiskey shall be allowed."

St. Paul, Minn., growing jealous of Brooklyn, promises an early and full publication of a first-class scandal of its own. It is said that the pastor of a Methodist church, two-thirds of the male members thereof, and the organ-blower's wife are involved.

A man who was about to be hanged in Alabama, sang, as he stood with the noose about his neck: "Oh! the bright angels are waiting for me." Whereupon the local editor fiendishly wrote, "And the angels stirred up the fire and looked brighter than ever."

Here is a description of a mean church, which has a moral in it: "After the old pastor died the deacons went about for a two-hundred-and-fifty-dollar minister, and you can get about as much minister for that price as you can get psalm tunes out of a file."

After the persecuting attorney had heaped vituperation upon the poor prisoner without counsel, the judge asked him if he had anything to say for himself. "Your honour," replied the prisoner, "I ask for a postponement for eighteen days, in order that I may find a blackguard to answer that one there."

For a young woman to begin to pick lint off a young man's coat collar is said to be the first symptoms that the young man is in peril. To which may be added that he is a goner when that girl takes her handkerchief, and, moistening it with her lips, wipes a black spot off that young man's nose.

At a meeting in London, to receive a report from the missionaries sent to discover the tribes of Israel, Lord H— was asked to take the chair. "I take," he replied, "a great interest in your researches, gentlemen. The fact is, I have borrowed money from all the Jews now known, and if you can find a new set I shall feel very much obliged."

Mr. Bergh declares that the popular mode of killing fleas by rolling them between the thumb and forefinger is extreme cruelty, because the insect is often dropped alive and left to die a lingering death. The public are warned that in the execution of the flea a sledge-hammer and an anvil must be used, or prosecution will follow.

The ways of women are past finding out. It is said that the ladies of Hartford, Ct., have a fashion of tying up their taper fingers when young gentlemen are expected to call, and when they very naturally ask the cause, they blushing remark, "I burnt them broiling steak this morning." The result is that several young gentlemen have burned their fingers believing the story.

A certain "Uncle James" of our acquaintance, whose execution is not quite equal to his preference for the violin, was paid a delicate left-handed compliment the other night by his little niece, who, on being awakened some time during the small hours of the night by the hideous performances of two felines under the window, naively remarked, "Mamma, I don't like to hear Uncle James play on a violin."

Says the *Detroit Free Press*: "An old man and his wife who came in by the Central road yesterday morning, saw about thirty hacks at the door of the depot, and about thirty hackmen shouted 'hack' at them. The man took it all as a high compliment, and turning to the lady he said, 'I tell you, mother, they think we are something great, or they'd never have all these carriages down here to meet us. I wonder how they knew we was coming?'"

If any one of a practical turn of mind desires to learn the effect of advertising on business, let him advertise in two lines, in the most obscure part of some newspaper, that he wants to buy a dog. If he does not want the visitation this will bring him, let him insert a line in the midst of a batch of other advertisements that he will no longer pay his wife's bills, and then go among his acquaintances and observe if there is anything peculiar in their manner that would seem to imply that they had read the notice.

Rev. Dr. Osgood tells this story about Dr. Storrs and Dr. Howard. The two clergymen met on their way to exchange pulpits, when Dr. Howard said: "Do you believe, Mr. Storrs, that it was foreordained from all eternity that I should go to Longmeadow and preach this lecture for you?" Dr. Storrs—"Certainly I do, Dr. Howard." Dr. Howard (turning his horse toward Springfield)—"Then I'll break the decree." "Hold on," says Storrs; "it was foreordained from all eternity that you should make a fool of yourself half-way between Springfield and Longmeadow." "Ah," says Dr. Howard.

A Columbia clergyman, who, while preaching a sermon one Sunday evening, perceived a man and woman under the gallery in the act of kissing each other behind a hymn-book, did not lose his temper. No! he remained calm. He beamed mildly at the offenders over his spectacles, and when the young man kissed her the fifteenth time he merely broke his sermon short off in the middle of the "thirdly," and offered a fervent prayer in behalf of "the young man in the pink necktie and the maiden in the blue bonnet and grey shawl, who were profaning the sanctuary by kissing one another in pew 78." And the congregation said "Amen." Then the woman pulled her veil down, and the young man sat there and swore softly to himself. He does not go to church as much now as he did.