

good-for-nothing kind of being I am. Should Mr. Constable feel inclined to make a bargain for the wares I have on hand, he will encourage me to further enterprise; and it will be something like trading with a gipsy for the fruits of his prowlings, who may at one time have nothing but a wooden bowl to offer, and at another time a silver tankard.'

"In reply, Scott expressed regret, but not surprise, at my declining what might have proved a troublesome duty. He then recurred to the original subject of our correspondence; entered into a detail of the various terms upon which arrangements were made between authors and booksellers, that I might take my choice; expressing the most encouraging confidence of the success of my work, and of previous works which I had produced in America. 'I did no more,' added he, 'than open the trenches with Constable; but I am sure if you will take the trouble to write to him, you will find him disposed to treat your overtures with every degree of attention. Or, if you think it of consequence in the first place to see me, I shall be in London in the course of a month, and whatever my experience can command is most heartily at your service. But I can add little to what I have said above, except my earnest recommendation to Constable to enter into the negotiation.'

"Before the receipt of this most obliging letter, however, I had determined to look to no leading bookseller for a launch, but to throw my work before the public at my own risk, and let it sink or swim according to its merits. I wrote to that effect to Scott, and soon received a reply;

"I observe with pleasure that you are going to come forth in Britain. It is certainly not the very best way to publish on one's own account; for the booksellers set their face against the circulation of such works as do not pay an amazing toll to themselves. But they have lost the art of altogether damming up the road in such cases between the author and the public, which they were once able to do as effectually as Diabolus in John Bunyan's Holy War closed up the windows of my Lord Understanding's mansion. I am sure of one thing, that you have only to be known to the British public to be admired by them, and I would not say so, unless I really was of that opinion.

"If you ever see a witty but rather local publication called Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine, you will find some notice of your works in the last number: the author is a friend of mine, to whom I have introduced you in your literary capacity. His name is Lockhart, a young man of very considerable talent, and who will soon be intimately connected with my family. My faithful friend Knickerbocker is to be next examined and illustrated. Constable was extremely willing to enter into consideration of a treaty for your works, but I foresee will be still more so when

Your name is up, and may go
From Toledo to Madrid.

— And that will soon be the case. I trust to be in London about the middle of the month, and promise myself great pleasure in once again shaking you by the hand.'

"The first volume of the Sketch Book was put to press in London as I had resolved, at my own risk, by a bookseller unknown to fame, and without any of the usual arts, by which a work is trumpeted into notice. Still some attention had been called to it by the extracts which had previously appeared in the Literary Gazette, and by the kind words spoken by the editor of that Peri-

odical, and it was getting into fair circulation, when my worthy bookseller failed before the first month was over, and the sale was interrupted.

"At this juncture Scott arrived in London, I called to him for help, as I was sticking in the mire, and, more propitious than Hercules, he put his own shoulder to the wheel. Through his favorable representations, Murray was quickly induced to undertake the future publication of the work which he had previously declined. A further edition of the first volume was struck off and the second volume was put to press, and from that time Murray became my publisher, conducting himself in all his dealings with that fair, open, and liberal spirit which has obtained for him the well-merited appellation of the Prince of Booksellers.

"Thus, under the kind and cordial auspices of Sir Walter Scott, I began my literary career in Europe; and I feel that I am but discharging, in a trifling degree, my debt of gratitude to the memory of that golden-hearted man, in acknowledging my obligations to him.— But who, of his literary contemporaries, ever applied to him for aid or counsel that did not experience the most prompt, generous, and effectual assistance!" W. I.

PORTRAIT OF THE REV. MR. CHINIQUI.

WE have before had occasion to speak of the portraits executed by Mr. Hamel, a young gentleman giving high promise of celebrity as an artist, and we again allude to him with pleasure, as the painter of the portrait, a beautiful lithographic print of which is now before us. The Rev. Mr. Chiniqui is justly celebrated for his zealous and successful labors in the promotion of Temperance among the people of this Province, and the portrait we allude to will be highly cherished by multitudes, as a remembrancer of one to whom they are indebted, for having opened to them a more bright and honorable career. The price at which it is sold, is such as to bring it within the reach of all, and, we doubt not, it will be very generally purchased and preserved.

WE acknowledge with very great pleasure, the receipt from the author of "Ida Beresford," of another tale, which we have not been able to give in this number, in consequence of its being received after the greater part of its contents had already been provided.

We also acknowledge a very able paper, on the subject of Capital Punishment, of which we have been also compelled to defer the publication.

In our next number, being the closing one of the year, we shall bring to an end, in accordance with our usual custom, all continued tales. The story of Jane Redgrave, which has occupied us so long, and which has been so generally admired, will be then concluded