

## OUR TABLE.

THE LOTTERY OF LIFE—BY THE COUNTESS OF BLESSINGTON.

A NEW novel, by the Countess of Blessington, has recently made its appearance. It is a quiet story, shewing the fickleness of fortune, and the freaks the unstable dame plays with her votaries in this incongruous world of ours. The story is not as good as the heralds of the press had led us to anticipate, but it is a good story nevertheless. It has already been published in a cheap form by the publishers of the New World in New York, and through this medium has been extensively circulated. As a pleasant pastime, it may be read, and, if the moral be applied by those who read it, to themselves, it will not be without profit. It teaches that the path to honour is open to all who worthily pursue it, and that ill-regulated conduct and unstable principles will bring even the highest in rank to a very low place indeed, in fortune's wheel.

THE FOUNTAIN, AND OTHER POEMS—BY W. C. BRYANT.

AMERICA is treading fast upon the heels of her great parent in the paths of literature. Many of her sons have won for themselves positions of eminence among the great men of the age, and no one has better earned his laurels than William C. Bryant. The volume before us bears evidence of this. Within the depths of "the Fountain," lie the pearls of truth and genius, while on its surface sparkle the gems of poesy and beauty. We are altogether prohibited from extracting any thing from the volume by the want of space, and to the same cause must be attributed our very brief recommendation of the work to the admirers of exquisite poetry.

THE CROFTON BOYS; AND, THE PEASANT AND THE PRINCE—BY HARRIET MARTINEAU.

SOWING AND REAPING, OR WHAT WILL COME OF IT?—BY MARY HOWITT.

THESE are pretty little books, each one containing a very interesting tale, principally designed for the amusement and instruction of the young. They form a portion of a series which is now in press in England, and which is also re-printed in America. They will materially assist in the developement of the "young idea," and may have some effect in correcting the errors which naturally belong to youth, and, if permitted to grow and strengthen, mar the beauty of the mind for ever. The moral inculcated in each is excellent, and will be easily comprehended by the expanding intellect, which has begun to search beyond the surface, and reason upon the grave results which flow from simple and seemingly trivial causes. We cheerfully commend them to the perusal of the young.

POEMS—BY ALFRED TENNYSON.

TRUE poetry is rare in these degenerate days. The world is deluged with what the authors probably imagine will entitle them to rank with the mighty magicians of the past. But months roll by, and they find that they have already outlived their fame. Not so with Tennyson. His lays, though not endowed with the gigantic power of some of our noble bards, possess a grace, richness and imaginativeness that will ensure them an abiding place among the literature of his age and country long after the words of praise shall have ceased to fall upon his ear. The volume now before us is filled with gems of exquisite beauty, almost any one of which would be sufficient to stamp his mind as one of no common mould. We have not room in this number to refer more particularly to them; but a ballad in another page will shew that our encomium is not undeserved.

JACK HINTON, THE GUARDSMAN—BY HARRY LORREQUER.

THE story of the Guardsman grows more interesting as it progresses. It is evident that its author has lost none of the power by which he impresses his own mirth-loving spirit into his readers. Still, there are appearances which indicate that he is not totally unacquainted with the art of book-making, and that if the new story rival the former ones in excellence, it will also rival them in length. The family resemblance which Jack Hinton bears to Charles O'Malley increases with his years, but this will rather be a recommendation than its reverse, as the reader will doubtless rejoice to be occasionally reminded of one who was a pleasant companion in days gone by. Jack Hinton will not be less a favourite than his predecessor.