

glare—or he cut off, as in many emeralds we have seen, a mere corner, so that the beholder, instead of being bothered with flashing green in his eyes, should peep at will into green depths.

We do not say he was altogether right—as regards the diamond he was altogether wrong—but we may rely on it he knew his business, and when he failed intended to fail. His intense appreciation of turquoise was due not only to admiration for its color—which, after all can be matched only by one or two flowers—but to its being the one gem that, for all its brilliancy of color, does not flash. To this hour the high-class Asiatic loves the cat's-eye as the European can never do, because the light in it gives no pain, but reveals itself through a sort of dusky shade.

The European has made lovely jewels, and will make lovelier, but he will never make the same jewels as the Asiatic, who with inimitable art will take from gold all its glitter without diminishing by one iota the perfection of its shade of color, and will hand you a bit of enamel in which the green is as bright as the emerald, the red as fiery as the ruby, and the whole as restful to the eye as a piece of turf.

The Oriental jeweller has another merit, too, and in it lies the secret of a possible great development in the demand for European jewellers' work. He always gave to his jewels certainty of value. His gold was gold of unalterable purity, his silver truly silver of the standard, his stones the stones they professed to be, his work paid for at an understood and invariable rate. The consequence was that he made little, but that the market for his commoner wares never ceased, jewels being as much "property" as English sovereigns now are, equally portable, nearly as capable of concealment, and as fixed in value.

A great noble could fly from province to province with nothing but a casket, and not only always remain rich, but always be able to raise cash at a few hours' notice. So could a peasant, though his jewels would only be necklaces of silver and narrow bracelets of gold. Any money changer would take them anywhere in Asia; and even if he traded on the applicant's necessity, he would not attack the quality of an article known to be unimpeachable.—*Selected.*

#### BERING SEA.

Commenting upon two articles on the Bering Sea question published in its columns, the *Times* calls the American claims preposterous. It says: "Their action is arbitrary and high-handed. Their arguments, as far as they can be put into intelligible shape, are worthy of the most rigid school of British game pre-arrangers. The seal is a wild animal, and there will never be any danger of its extermination by hunting on the high seas. The danger comes from excessive slaughter when the animals are perfectly helpless. If the Americans choose, by indiscriminate slaughter, to destroy their own industry, we are helpless, but they cannot be allowed to monopolize the seals by claiming property in the high seas and their contents. If they will show a reasonable spirit of compromise, it will be a good thing to come to an arrangement; not for a close season, which is inappropriate to the conditions of the case, but for a closure during the breeding season of an area perhaps 20 miles around the breeding grounds."

One *Times*' correspondent describes the sealing industry throughout, and combats the reports of American experts in regard to the extinction of the seal. He says all masters in the sealing fleet when interviewed, testified that there was no diminution in number, but that the seals were harder to catch, being more wary. After the end of May hardly any cow seals with young were taken, proving that the capture from boats is not calculated to retard natural increase. The correspondent suggests a close time for an area of 20 miles from the end of May to the first of December, as the mother seals feed within that radius during breeding time. The correspondent thinks that the question of how many should be killed on the Islands, should be decided by a commission of practical men.

#### BOOK GOSSIP.

A welcome addition to the "Canterbury Poets," the handy little series published by Walter Scott, London, is a collection of the verse of the Minor Scottish Poets, selected and edited, with an introduction and notes, by Sir George Douglas, Bart. In this we find many of the songs that are dear to the hearts of all Scotchmen, as well as a large number of others less generally known. We may say the highest place among these minor poets is occupied by women writers. Such songs as the "Flowers of the Forest," by Jane Elliot, "Werena My Heart Licht I Wad Dea," by Lady Griselle Baillie, the most charming of all heroines of romance-in-real-life. "Auld Robin Gray," by Lady Anne Lindsay, "The Land O' The Leal," "Caller Herrin'," "The Lass o' Gowrie," "The Laird o' Cockpen," and others by Lady Nairne, all have the quality of touching the heart, and are not excelled for sweetness by any poems in the collection. All the selections are not written in the Scottish dialect, and among those purely English in their style we find some beautiful poems. We have space for but one short selection entitled "A Thought," by Robert Nicoll.

Yon sail on the horizon's verge  
Doth like a wandering spirit seem,—  
A shadow in a sea of light—  
The passing of a dream.

A moment more and it is gone!  
We know not how—we know not where:  
It came—an instant stay'd—and then  
It vanished into air.

Such are we all:—we sail awhile  
In joy, on life's fair summer sea:  
A moment—and our bark is gone  
Into Eternity.

"The Handbook of Swindling," is the rather startling title of the last

volume of the Camelot series which we have received from the publisher, Walter Scott. This cheerful looking red volume contains the paper which gives the title, and several others by the same writer, Douglas Jerrold, edited, with an introduction by Walter Jerrold. The work of Douglas Jerrold has a standing that cannot be assailed, and we need only say this collection of some of his shorter papers will be found a valuable addition to one's library. In the Camelot series we are always getting something good.

Walter Scott has published in paper covers a useful little pamphlet giving a concise account of Parliamentary procedure, reprinted from the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*. It will make light to some in dark places for those who take an interest in the Lords and Commons, and wish to understand all the business connected with law making and the passage of bills. Price 3d.

In Worthington Company's International Series, we have "Misjudged," by W. Heimburg, translated by Mrs. J. W. Davis. It is an interesting story of the life of the unappreciated wife of an artist, who finally by her goodness and patience wins his love, and all ends well. There is a suspicion of naughtiness in the artist's feelings for Hildegard Von Zaidorf, the beautiful girl whose picture he was painting, but the tone of the whole book is pure and good. There is something very fascinating about Heimburg's writing, although it doubtless loses much in the translation.

"Justice: being Part IV of the Principles of Ethics," by Herbert Spencer. In 1860 appeared the ambitious programme of Mr. Spencer's *System of Synthetic Philosophy*, which was to carry out in its application to all phenomena the general law of evolution as set forth in two previous essays. In 1886 his health failed him, and the further elaboration of the work was suspended until recently, when improved health permitted the publication of the present contribution to his great undertaking. It is considered by the author himself to be one of the most important sections of his entire philosophical series, bearing as it does on living questions of much moment. Although thought much of by the majority, yet Mr. Spencer has numberless opponents, more conservative than himself, who will be able to dispute powerfully as to the soundness of his philosophical ideas and conclusions, which are not of a kind which will pass without keen criticism. D. Appleton & Co., New York; cloth, price \$1.25.

"For the Defence," a new book by B. L. Farjeon, author of "Nine of Hearts," is a story of a trial in court of a young girl charged with the murder of her infant child. It is cleverly written, and the characters are well portrayed. Justice and gross injustice being well impersonated in Mr. Justice Richbell, the judge of the case, and his son, the villain who had caused all the sorrow and ruin of the young Miss Laycaster. This lady's faithful friend and lover undertakes her defence and succeeds in tracking the wrong-doer, and at last winning "Madge" for his own. The book is very interesting and decidedly different from the ordinary love stories. John Lovell & Son, 23 and 25 St Nicholas St., Montreal. Price 30 cents. For sale by T. C. Allen.

The second of Prof. Frederick Starr's articles on "Dress and Adornment," in *The Popular Science Monthly*, will be published in the October number. The author maintains that dress arose from a desire for ornament rather than from a sense of shame. He describes a number of beautiful garments that are made by savages, and illustrates his descriptions with a large number of pictures.

"A Merciful Divorce," by F. W. Maude, is a story of the "smart set" in London, by an author who has had abundant opportunities for a knowledge of his subject. Although racing and baccarat figure in the story, its purpose is not sensational, and it conveys a wholesome lesson in a most entertaining way. This book, as well as "Stephen Ellicott's Daughter," the new novel by Mrs. J. H. Nodell, author of "The Story of Philip Methuen," is to be published immediately by D. Appleton & Co. in their carefully selected Town and Country Library.

Messrs. D. Appleton & Co. are about to publish a volume which may be called a pendant or supplement of Verchoyle's "History of Ancient Civilization." This is "A History of Modern Civilization," a hand-book based on Gustav Ducoudray's History. In this book "the author and adapter," according to a prominent London critic, "has reached one of the rarest results in literary work, a summary at once comprehensive and readable."

Mr. Percy Fitzgerald has written a full and most entertaining "Life of James Boswell," which is to be published shortly by D. Appleton & Co. Mr. Fitzgerald has made a book full of interesting anecdotes, and readable throughout. It will contain portraits of Boswell and of Dr. Johnson.

Octave Thanet's new book "We All," which will be published shortly by D. Appleton & Co. in the popular series of "Good Books for Young Readers," will be found to contain graphic sketches of outdoor life and stirring adventures in Arkansas, which will appeal to readers both old and young. This fascinating story is accompanied by twelve full-page illustrations.

Among the books announced for early publication by Charles H. Sergel & Company, are "Congressman Swanson," by C. C. Post, "Martyrdoms of Literature," by Robert H. Vickers, "The Shadow of Shame," by Austyn Granville, "Socials," by Effie W. Merriman, and "On the Indian River: a Prose-Idyll of Semi-Tropic Woods and Waters, with Interlarded Chapters on the Climate, Game and Fruits of the Indian country, Florida," by C. Vickerstaff Hine. All but two of these writers are residents of Chicago.

The *Season* for October is just out, and is full of beautiful Autumn designs in dress and art work. Ladies should secure this month's *Season* without delay, and we feel assured they will never willingly be without it. All the articles shown from month to month can be depended on as originals—not simply copies from other periodicals—thus making it more valuable. Single copies, 30 cents; yearly subscription, \$3.50. The International News Company, 83 & 85 Duane Street, New York.