

## OUR TABLE.

RAMBLES IN YUCATAN—BY H. W. NORMAN.

ANOTHER Rambler to this unknown land, following in the steps of Mr. Stephens, has given to the world a sketch of his travels in Yucatan. It treats of an interesting subject; but no one who has perused the book published by Stephens, will be apt to admire this, notwithstanding that the style is of a rapid and pleasing character, as the journey appears to have been to the author. The various ancient ruins which have formed the principal attractions to former tourists, were visited by Mr. Norman in about as much time as might have sufficed any of his predecessors to examine one of them; but this has formed no bar to the enterprising author, who has confined himself, in describing them, to their outward appearance only, and to their position as regards the several points of the compass, "the only instrument he carried with him." Mr. Norman's book, though it may secure for him a temporary celebrity, will scarcely be a very enduring monument to his memory.

BIANCA CAPELLO—BY LADY BULWER.

THE former work by this gifted lady was not of a character to impress the world favourably towards her. The very fact of its having been intended as a satire upon her husband, produced an impression which its literary merits could not efface, and while many were entertained by its perusal, few could be found to admire it. Not so will it be with "Bianca." It will have many admirers, as much for the entertainment it affords as for the evidences it bears of a keen insight into the springs of humanity, and into the impulses by which men are governed. It contains many fine reflections, mixed up with occasional outbursts of human nature, which show that she has not schooled herself to utter forgetfulness of the past. Lady Bulwer is a woman of splendid intellect; being, in mind at least, a fitting mate for her discarded but illustrious lord. We have pleasure in recommending her "Bianca" to the perusal of all who delight in excellent works of fiction.

MEMOIRS OF THE QUEENS OF FRANCE.

THIS is a subject fertile in romance, for the Queens of the ancient empire of France have not for many centuries passed their lives among beds of roses. Indeed, the homes of kings and princes are not those where Peace and Happiness most generally hold their courts. Amid much that is brilliant, the canker is seldom absent, gnawing its painful way into the heart and mind. There is instruction in the lives of kings—lessons to the discontented and repining, which, if applied, might teach us to bear the ills with

which humanity is afflicted. The Memoirs of the Queens of France have their share of instruction, and are in themselves of a deeply interesting character. We commend them to the readers of our magazine, as well worthy of their perusal.

LIGHTS AND SHADOWS OF FACTORY LIFE—BY A FACTORY GIRL.

WE have derived much pleasure from the rapid glance we have been able to bestow upon this unpretending work. It shows that the treasures of intellect have been showered on rich and poor alike, for its author owes even the education she has obtained to the labour of her hands. Were the book critically examined, it would shew an occasional straining at effect, detracting somewhat from its merits; but it nevertheless will bear comparison with the productions of some of the most celebrated of the countrymen of the authoress. We would recommend the readers of the *Garland* to peruse it, satisfied that they will join with us in saying it is a work of very considerable merit, and such as to reflect much credit upon the author, whatever the sphere in which she might happen to move.

THE BIBLE IN SPAIN—BY MR. BORROW.

THE author of this work seems destined to play no unimportant part among the writers of the age. Some two or three years since he published a book under the title of the "Zincali, or the Gypsies of Spain," which gave him a firm foothold in the Temple of Fame. This new work will give him a title to a yet higher place, for it is such a one as is now-a-days somewhat rare. Mr. Borrow is an enthusiastic lover of the country which formed the theatre of his adventures, and the pictures of it which he presents are strikingly vivid, and life-like. Persons who desire to read a really interesting and a most instructive book, will not fail to possess themselves at the earliest opportunity, of Mr. Borrow's "Bible in Spain."

THE length to which two of the tales in this number of the *Garland* have extended, has forced us to postpone the publication of several valuable tales and articles which we should have had much pleasure in publishing, and which would doubtless have been received with equal pleasure by our readers. Among these we may be excused for noticing an excellent tale by Mrs. Moodie, entitled the "Broken Mirror"—a story called "Sarah Herbert," and an article, the first of a series of "Glances at History"—by new contributors; as well as a sketch of the Life of Madame de Maintenon, by Mrs. Spooner, and an extract from the "Exile's Portfolio"—all of which we hope to find room for in the April number.