

with the great movement now being made in favour of cheap literature, that is, really standard works, admirably printed, would appear to point to the eventual downfall of the circulating libraries. Messrs. Cassell's "National Library"—in which they propose to supply standard works, in clear, readable type—192 pages—at 3 pence each, is the most radical move we have had in this direction.

There is one delightful little volume just published. It is called "When I was Child, or Left Behind," by Linda Villari. The story is admirably told; there are countless insignificant details to show it is a tale of real experience, and it gives a graphic picture of girlhood of twenty or thirty years ago.

Mr. W. J. Courthorpe—the editor of Pope's works has just written a volume which will probably be widely read. It is a series of essays, full of thought and erudition, entitled "The Liberal Movement in English Literature."

A new feature has been introduced into *Punch*, under the title of "Paper-Knife Poems." These consist of brief reviews of the newest books. In many cases the essence of the volume is given in four or eight lines.

"HOW GRANT MARCHED AGAINST MARK TWAIN."  
—The New York *Sun* calls attention to the curious fact that Mark Twain's article, in the December *Century*, entitled, "The Private History of a Campaign that Failed," is, by an odd coincidence, a contemporaneous supplement to chapter eighteen in the first volume, just printed, of General Grant's memoirs. It appears that the only time that General Grant was really scared was when he had to meet the little army in which his future publisher was a private. At Palmyra, Grant, then a colonel, was ordered to move against Colonel Thomas Harris, who was said to be encamped at the little town of Florida, some twenty-five miles away. In his memoirs General Grant tells how his heart kept getting higher and higher as he approached the enemy, until he felt it in his throat; but when he reached a point where he expected to see them and found they had fled, his heart resumed its place. Mark Twain was one of the "enemy;" and that he and his fellow-soldiers were equally frightened; appears in his frank confession in the December *Century*. The difference between the two soldiers was that Mark Twain was thrown into such trepidation that he then and there abandoned forever the profession of arms; whereas General Grant made on that occasion the discovery that the enemy were as much afraid of him as he had been of them. "This," says General Grant, "was a view of the question I had never taken before, but it was one I never forgot afterward. From that event, to the close of the war, I never experienced trepidation upon confronting an enemy, though I always felt more or less anxiety."

**CHEAP BOOKS.**—In an interview with the head of the famous house of George Routledge & Sons, the pioneers in England of cheap books, some interesting statistics of the sales in one year of the editions published by them were given. This is only a partial list. In the case of Scott's novels it must not be forgotten that Mr. Black, of Edinburgh, also publishes a

cheap edition, which commands a great sale, no doubt:—

Lytton's (sixpenny edition).....	80,000
Scott's Novels.....	30,000
Marryat's Novels.....	60,000
Robinson Crusoe (18 months).....	40,000
The English Opium-eater.....	1,910
Gulliver's Travels.....	2,480
Jack Hinton.....	8,000
Sterne.....	2,865
Innocents Abroad.....	5,575
Arabian Nights.....	1,403
Aesop's Fables.....	2,427
Amelia.....	4,200
Joseph Andrews.....	5,250
Tom Jones.....	8,200

Of the 3s. 6d. edition of Lytton's novels over 10,000.

The sale of Harrison Ainsworth's works amounts to over 53,000, all about equal quantity, except "Lancashire Witches," which is much lower than the others.

The sales of Dickens' works for the same period were:—

American Notes.....	3,345
Barnaby Rudge.....	6,260
Grimaldi.....	3,266
Nicholas Nickleby.....	6,670
Pickwick.....	7,650
Sketches by Boz.....	4,060
Oliver Twist.....	5,456
Old Curiosity Shop.....	7,000

How the poets rank in popular estimation the following will show. A years' sales:—

Byron.....	2,380
Burns.....	2,250
Campbell.....	207
Chaucer.....	637
Cowper.....	800
Hemans.....	1,900
Hood.....	980
Hunt, Leigh.....	76
Keats.....	40
L. E. L.....	109
Longfellow.....	6,000
Lowell.....	307
Milton.....	1,850
Moore.....	2,276
Poe.....	310
Pope.....	706
Rogers.....	32
Scott.....	3,170
Shakespeare.....	2,700
Shelley.....	500
Southey.....	267
Spenser.....	360

The two most popular books are "Handy Andy," 18,000 yearly, and "Valentine Vox," 14,000.

Of French novelists, Dumas is decidedly the most popular. His "Monte Christo" is published in two volumes, and the sale of both volumes included is 41,160. Eugene Sue and Victor Hugo rank about equal, the latter slightly preponderating with sales of "Notre Dame" reaching 4,530 copies.—*Condensed from Pall Mall Gazette.*

THE SEVENTH and concluding volume of "The Treasury of David," by Spurgeon, is now complete, and is published by Funk & Wagnalls.

THE VICAR OF WAKEFIELD.—Mr. Elliott Stock has issued a fac-simile reproduction of the first edition of Goldsmith's work, published in 1766. Of the part that Dr. Johnson played as godfather there is no