

fame. It was quite a nice, ordinary banquet, and Mr. Ogilvie made a most favorable impression by his after-dinner speech. But a dinner given in New York in honor of Anthony Hope, the English author, was much more unique in its way. This dinner was given at 14 Mott Street, in the Chinese quarter, and began where Occidental dinners usually end, with preserves and dessert and tea. When the guests had had their fill of these, croquettes and ham and birds' nests were brought, together with the best rice wine, to which Scotch whiskey, we are naively told, bore no comparison, as far as its after effects are concerned. If rice wine is stronger than Scotch whiskey, perhaps it is as well that the Canadian Club should not introduce it here!

Book Reviews.

Laird & Lee, Chicago, have issued "A Mine of Gold; or Strange Adventures on the Yukon." This book proves once more how true it is that "truth is stranger than fiction." It tells, in simple, modest language of the torments, dangers and privations courageously endured by its author, Wm. M. Stanley, of Seattle, one of the discoverers and happy possessors of the New El Dorado. For the first time the public is given a knowledge of the inside life of the gold hunter, and this is as thrilling reading matter as any romance ever published. Well illustrated with views taken on the spot. It is issued in Laird & Lee's popular 25c. series, with a better edition at 50c.

It is scarcely credible that 8,000 of "Progress and Poverty" were sold in New York during the month of last November. Yet such, we are informed, was the case—a phenomenal sale for a book published eighteen years ago. We doubt if such an instance could be selected from the whole previous history of the bookselling trade. Resurrections of that sort don't often occur. But we shall be blamed for using the term by those who count Henry George a prophet. They, of course, will not have it that any of the books of their master have ever died. It may be conceded, however, that the vitality of "Progress and Poverty" is exceptionally great. Mr. Morang proposes to issue an edition of it concurrently with George's new book.

Of course there are exceptional circumstances that make the rapid sale of Henry George's book a foregone conclusion. The social and business atmosphere is in an electric state. It is an age of problems on which everybody is looking for light. It is an age when the stream of competition runs turbid and full, and the ordinary individual who essays to cross it is liable to be carried

off his legs. When an apostle like Henry George arises and avers that his book deals with the subject of "getting a living," as the most important of all the sciences, he is not likely to fail of getting readers. There is nothing like the attractiveness of the man who stands up in the crowded street and says he has a remedy for things. The busy wayfarer stops; the crowd gathers. All sorts of faces are turned towards him.

"Sixty Years of Books and Bookmen," by Clement K. Shorter, is perhaps the handiest guide book on the literature of the century that has been written. The necessity of including all writers of eminence who were living when Her Majesty came to the throne has caused Mr. Shorter to open his book with the name of Southey, whose work and contemporary position in the world of letters he deals with in a brief and attractive summary. Following upon this in the same manner, he reviews the leading poets of the era, from Wordsworth to Rudyard Kipling, in chronological order. A second chapter is devoted to the novelists, a third to the historians, and so on, embracing the several branches of the literary profession. Mr. Shorter's aim, as he says in his introduction, is more bibliographical than critical, and the result is the creation of a book of reference which no literary student can afford to go without.

Drexel Biddle, Publisher, Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa., has published "The Flowers of Life," "The Second Froggy Fairy Book," and "Shantytown Sketches." These works are from the pen of Mr. A. J. Drexel Biddle. "The Flowers of Life" is essentially a gift book, appropriate for presentation occasions, including, as it does, some of Mr. Biddle's latest essays and poems. "Shantytown Sketches," in a totally different vein, comprises a number of Mr. Biddle's new and unpublished dialect sketches, together with some of his most popular and best-known skits, which have appeared from time to time in many of the newspapers and comic weeklies. "The Second Froggy Fairy Book" continues the narrative of Mr. Biddle's widely-read juvenile work, "The Froggy Fairy Book," now in its third thousand. Booksellers will find these good books to carry in stock. They have already sold largely, and promise to maintain their popularity.

Having proved himself capable of catering to Canadian novel readers—no inconsiderable or unintelligent part of our population—Mr. George N. Morang is now giving the solid readers a turn by the production of the first and probably the greatest book of the late Henry George. This work is entitled "The Science of Political Economy," and it is planned on a comprehensive scale.

It is said to be a marvel of lucidity. The author was six years writing it, but this did not lead to dull prolixity. On the contrary, the book is so simply written that a reader of ordinary intelligence can not only follow it, but will, in nine cases out of ten, become interested in it. The theatrical quidnuncs of years ago used to say that the putting on of Shakespeare meant failure and loss. Mr. Morang boldly challenges the public with a serious work on political economy, and evidently means to make a success of it. It is understood the size of his advance order list for it already justifies the experiment.

All hunters will be interested in a new volume issued by the Forest & Stream Publishing Company, of New York, entitled, "Trail and Camp Fire." This is the third volume of a series issued under the auspices of the Boone and Crockett Club. Big game hunters throughout the world have heard of this Club, the objects of which are primarily to promote manly sport with the rifle. "Trail and Camp Fire" includes a series of most interesting articles on hunting and hunters' trips, contributed by men of world-renowned reputation. "The Labrador Peninsula," by P. Low; "An African Shooting Trip," by Mr. Lord Smith; "Wolves and Wolf Nature," by George Bird Grinnell; "A Newfoundland Caribou Hunt," by Clay Arthur Pierce; "On the Little Missouri," by Theodore Roosevelt, are a few of the chapter headings of the book. Several illustrations of big game serve to make the volume still more valuable. The whole makes a handsome octavo volume of 354 pages, in cloth binding; price \$2.50.

Funk & Wagnall's Standard Dictionary was a great undertaking carried to a successful conclusion by enterprising and brainy men. But its price was necessarily high. To meet the demand for a cheaper book, based on the larger work, the same publishers have issued The Students' Standard Dictionary. This exceedingly comprehensive yet handy volume is designed to give the orthography, pronunciation, meaning, and etymology of over 60,000 words and phrases in the speech and literature of the English-speaking peoples, with synonyms and antonyms; containing, also, an appendix of proper names, foreign phrases, faulty diction, disputed pronunciations, abbreviations, etc., etc.; 1,225 pictorial illustrations. Abridged from the Funk & Wagnall's Standard Dictionary of the English Language, by James C. Fernald, editor, with a staff of learned associate editors. Large 8vo., cloth sides, leather back, viii-915 pp. Price, \$2.00 net. Bound in tan sheep, \$3.50 net. The Students' Standard Dictionary should be on the desk of every office, counting-room, store, shop, and of every scholar in the