

BOOK NEWS FROM LONDON.

LONDON, May 29, 1901.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S memory is to be kept green by a birthday book. This will comprise an anthology of sentences spoken or written by Her late Majesty. Mr. Ernest G. Harmer, who has compiled the book, has found quotations which will apply more or less to every day in the year. The publishers, Messrs. Hutchison, are preparing a dozen illustrations for it.

A reprint of all the poems of the Poet Laureates written to or of Her late Majesty is to be published under the title of "Victoria the Wise," by Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode.

FOR TOURISTS

As a companion to their Cathedral Handbooks, Messrs. G. Bell have published "An Itinerary of English Cathedrals for the use of Travellers." This was originally written by Dr. J. G. Gilchrist, of the University of Iowa, and has been revised by the Rev. T. Perkins, rector of Furnworth, Blandford. Dr. Gilchrist's idea was that all travellers landed at Liverpool, so that it was from Liverpool he designed his arrangement of a tour during which all the cathedrals of the country might be visited without wasting time by unnecessary railway travelling. Thus, from Liverpool the visitor was invited to proceed to Manchester, Carlisle, Newcastle, Durham, and so on, round by Canterbury and back. To this new edition Mr. Perkins has prefixed a chapter on English cathedral architecture.

Mr. Barry Pain's "Another English-woman's Love Letters" has now entered its fourth edition, and is one of the successes of the moment. Encouraged by its popularity, Mr. Fisher Unwin has undertaken the immediate publication of a little volume called "The Letters of Her Mother to Elizabeth," the author of which will not be announced on the title page.

WRITERS OF FICTION.

Rarely has a novelist the satisfaction of seeing two of his books published together. Such a pleasure is in store for Mr. George Gissing at the end of this month. "By the Ionian Sea" is a narrative of a recent ramble in Southern Italy, in parts which are not frequented by globe trotters. "Our Friend the Charlatan" is a novel. Both will be published by Messrs. Chapman & Hall.

Sir Walter Besant is improving in health, though very slowly. He has now on hand a large amount of work, what with the "Survey of London" and two new novels. Early in September Messrs. Chatto & Windus will publish his latest novel, "Lady of

Lynn." There is also some talk of his writing a volume dealing with North London in the same manner as he has described the City, Westminster, South London, and East London. Each of these books has had a big sale.

NEW NOVELS.

"A Son of Mammon." G. B. Burgin. Long.

"Arrows of the Almighty." Owen Johnson. Macmillan.

"Bitter Fruit." Mrs. Lovett Cameron. Long.

"A Vanished Rival." Bloundelle Burton. Cassell.

"Malicious Fortune." Stella During. Allan.

"The Millionaire Mystery." Fergus Hume. Chatto.

"The Catspaw." B. M. Croker. Chatto.

"Marna's Mutiny." Mrs. Hugh Fraser. Hutchison.

"Wildersmoor." Mrs. C. L. Antrobus. Chatto.

"Prince Charming." Rita. Sando.

"The Grip of the Bookmaker." Percy White. Hutchison.

"A Judas of To-day." Fox Russell. Everett.

OLD-WORLD BOOKBINDING.

THE National Bookbinder speaks of the bookbinding business in different old-world countries as follows: The bookbinding industry is still in its infancy in Southern Austria, books being mostly published in paper covers. In an area of some 30,000 miles probably there are less than 100 bookbinding establishments. The total business amounts to but very little. The work is principally done by hand, and shops where the proprietors employ help are scarce outside of Trieste. Large orders are sent to Vienna. The great majority of bookbinders in Southern Austria confine their attention to the rebinding of old books.

Denmark imports a large amount of book cloth from Great Britain.

There are few countries in the world where so many books are published in paper covers as in France. In England or the United States the stories of Kipling, the poems of Longfellow and most other books are published in cloth covers. In France, on the other hand, the novels of Zola and the tales of Alphonse Daudet appear invariably in paper covers. Leipzig is the centre of book printing and binding in Germany. And book cloth is manufactured by two large firms at Bamberg, Bavaria, and at Gummersbach-on Rhine.

There is a German factory located at Orefeld, in the lower Rhine district, which manufactures pegamoid. It is an English invention, and the material is made of cot-

ton and certain patented coating, an imitation of embossed leather, which is now coming into extensive use as a material for bookbindings of the higher grades, such as have been hitherto usually done in leather.

In some parts of Greece book cloth is used as shoe lining. The most prominent publishers in Sweden are in Stockholm. A large number of books are bound here in moleskin. Book printing is an important industry in Edinburgh. Many of the books printed in that city are bound and published elsewhere.

Several prominent publishing houses in London have practically all their printing done here. The printed sheets are shipped to London and are bound and issued there. From one-third to one-half of the volumes printed in Edinburgh are bound in London. Nevertheless, the city is the centre of the bookbinding industry of Scotland. There are 46 bookbinders in one county of Edinburgh.

Three or four hundred years ago, and even later still, a curious and most durable binding was made from some kind of pulp, with a peculiar raised or embossed florid ornamentation, generally colored with gold and lazuli. Lazuli is a mineral of fine azure blue color, much valued for ornamental work. The style was chaste and fascinating.

Mr. James Hannay, the veteran historian of "Acadia" and the biographer of Sir Leonard Tilley, will shortly issue his "History of the War of 1812," a work on which he has been engaged for years. Mr. Hannay's book will be eagerly sought by every possessor of a Canadian collection.

A new tablet has been brought out by a London house, with moveable letters so that show cards can be produced in a minute. The appliance, it is claimed, will last four years and can be altered as often as desired. The letters are in 1 in. and 1½ in. lengths, and are attached to the tablet by gilt pins. This will likely prove a success in the trade.

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