

LIBRARY TABLE.

CATRIONA. By Robert Louis Stevenson. Toronto: William Bryce.

This new romance supplies further evidence of the author's power of narrative and character painting. To his masterpiece "Kidnapped" it is an interesting sequel, and is brimful of adventure, peril and achievement, both by sea and on shore. The further adventures of the two heroes described in "Kidnapped," Alan Breck and David Balfour, and of the latter's Highland sweetheart, are graphically told; and the cause of events carries them into France and Holland, giving the author additional opportunity of proving his great gifts as a story-teller.

THE OPINIONS OF A PHILOSOPHER. By Robert Grant. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Toronto: William Briggs. 1893.

Those who have enjoyed Mr. Robert Grant's pleasant volume, "The Reflections of a Married Man," will not delay in having this genial author expound to them "The Opinions of a Philosopher." Gentle reader, you cannot gravely read this book without a smile. Although it is by no means our habit we would be almost willing to lay a wager that at the very first incident recorded in its homely pages, viz.: where little Fred pushed the patient angler's first pickarel back into the hole in the ice, as the poor fisherman turned to bait his hook, your good natured face will relax and broaden. And we further venture to opine that the benevolent expression indicated will not be far removed as from time to time the book is resumed until its 224 pleasant pages have all been read. The illustrations of Messrs. W. T. Smedley and C. S. Reinhart render the letterpress more attractive. We shall look with agreeable anticipation for Mr. Grant's next volume.

PERIODICALS.

"The Electrical Engineering" for September opens with DeLands' Synoptical Index of Current Electrical Literature. It also contains a report of "The World's Congress of Electricians," and a continuation of "One Way to see the Exposition."

The most charming of periodicals for children, "Wee Willie Winkie," edited by Lady Marjorie Gordon and her Mother, has appeared for September. It contains "Notes for 'Wee Willie's' Bairns," "Wee Willie's" Competitions for September," "Puzzles and Riddles," besides other attractive and instructive short papers.

The September number of "Onward and Upward," edited by The Countess of Aberdeen, is full of well written articles as usual. Among others are: "The Irish Village at the World's Fair," by the Editor; "Idle Days in Patagonia," "Report of Annual Meeting of O. and U. Association," "Council of Wives and Mothers," besides some interesting editorial notes, etc.

I. Zangwill's "The King of Schnorrers," in the September Idler, continues to illustrate the character of its author's humour. Ernest Jessop writes entertainingly of the "Pets at Sandringham." Francis Gribble provides a dramatic short story entitled "The Fog on the Bluntis Alp." David Christie Murray tells the story of his first attempts at authorship, and Robert Barr has a descriptive paper on "Mont St. Michel" that we will defy any one to read without laughing.

The editorial notes of the Review of Reviews for September begin with "Our Monetary Crisis" and end with "The Referendum" as a probable rallying cry of the Tory party in England. "Engineer Ferris and his wheel" are described by Carl Snyder. Two papers on the silver question are supplied by E. W. Bemis and Professor Van Holst respectively, and J. L. Laughlin also deals with it. Very graphic and forceful is Mr. W. T. Stead's character sketch of the intrepid moral reformer, Lady Henry Somerset. That romantic, historic figure Jeanne d'Arc has also a paper devoted to her memory in this number.

Charles B. Spahr begins the Political Science Quarterly with a critical examination of Mr. Giffen's case against Bimetallism. "What is immediately needed," says Mr. Spahr, "is an Act giving us a silver currency which is not a promise to pay gold." Max West says: "The inheritance tax has been rapidly increasing in importance in the past few years." The papers of Alexander Winter on "The Modern Spirit in Penology" and Professor J. B. Moore on "The Late Chilian Controversy" are interesting. "The Prussian Archives" are the subject of a thoughtful contribution by Professor H. L. Osgood, while Professor W. Cunningham says of Professor W. J. Ashley's "Introduction to English Economic History and Theory, Vol. I, Part II, that it is excellent but unmethodical.

The essays comprising the contents of The Nineteenth Century are often of great value, and the issue for September affords confirmatory evidence of the statement. It opens with a paper on "Weariness," by Professor Michael Forster, followed by an essay from the pen of the Rev. Canon Knox Little, entitled "Protestant Science and Christian Belief," in which the learned Canon most ably replies to the article which appeared in the July number by Mrs. Humphrey Ward. The Countess of Jersey contributes "The Transformation of Japan," and R. B. Cunningham Graham "Father Archangel of Scotland." Many other excellent papers complete a good number.

Mr. W. H. Grenfell falls foul of Mr. Gladstone on the vexed currency question in the September Fortnightly and argues with no little warmth for greater consideration of silver. Mr. Grant Allen, with becoming modesty(?) in his contribution on "Immortality and Resurrection," speaks of the Christian religion as a religion of "a lower type" than Judaism, and the morality of which, he is good enough to concede, "may be as high and pure as its paid apologists assert." Of course, the gentle reader will not for a moment think that Mr. Grant Allen would take payment from the editor of the Fortnightly for his learned and scientific exposure of the erroneous views which are so widely held on the above subjects. It is quite refreshing to pass from Mr. Grant Allen's strictures on Christian belief, and even Mr. W. Bevan Lewis's thoughtful paper on "The Origins of Crime" to Mr. W. M. Conway's graphic paper on "The Climbing of High Mountains." Such papers as that of Mr. J. Theodore Bent, entitled "Under British Protection," are not only pleasing and informing but they keep one in touch with our world-wide Empire's progressive development.

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