

MR. W. H. MALLOCK tries a tilt with the Elsonian theologians in his able paper on "Amateur Christians" in the *Fortnightly* for May, and we think unhorses his opponents. A Christless creed can scarcely claim to be called Christian. Mr. T. Bent narrates his journeyings in Bechuanaland, a very poor country; "Khama," the chief, is a conspicuous combination of civilized advancement and savage nobility and shrewdness. Sir R. Temple argues that "The Victoria Nyanza Railway" is a necessity of British commerce and civilization. The late General Sir Lewis Pelly's "Glimpses of Carlisle" will be read with a melancholy interest in view of the General's recent death. Precentor Venables' "Reminiscences of E. A. Freeman" will find many historical and other readers.

THE *Art Amateur* has, by its intrinsic excellence, won for itself an enviable position among art journals. Apart from its value to art students, every lover of the beautiful must look upon it as one of the most welcome visitors to his home. The April and May numbers are full of instructive and pleasing matter. There are five colour plates, "Water-Colour Sketches," by Hubert Herkomer; "A Pony's Head," by Helena Maguire, in the first-mentioned; and "A Quiet Smoke," by O. H. Spiers; "Swallows in Flight," by Helena Maguire, and "Cupids and Roses," by M. Sargent Florence—not to mention the varied reproductions of sketches and pictures of Sir Thomas Lawrence, Raffet, Herkomer and others; as well as the suggestive notes, instructions and supplemental designs. The taste, skill and enterprise shown in this beautiful and useful publication are worthy of hearty commendation.

RICHARD H. DANA begins his opening article in the May issue of the *Annals of the American Academy* with the significant question: "Is a Republic a permanent form of Government?" and, farther on, he says, "The United States, as a Republic, is now on its trial. What will be the end?" It seems the best-informed writers of the United States are not so well satisfied with the present condition and future prospects of their Republic as are many outside admirers. The article referred to deals with the "Practical Working of the Australian System of Voting in Massachusetts." Charles C. Benney shows how far the ballot has impressed the United States mind in the second article, which refers to its working in Pennsylvania. F. W. Blackmar writes on "The Indian Problem" from the standpoint of education, and says: "The Indian must be drilled, trained and placed in an occupation which offers protection on the one hand and restraint on the other."

THE *Scottish Review*, published by Alexander Gardner, Paisley, and the Leonard Scott Publication Co., New York, is one of the ablest of the quarterlies. Though the more popular monthlies, especially those that excel in illustrations, have come into great prominence, there is an important field still left for a good quarterly in whose pages thoughtful and scholarly men can treat exhaustively subjects in which intelligent readers have more than a passing interest. The *Scottish Review* through almost every number devotes some space to subjects connected with Scottish history, antiquities or literature. "Heraldry, British and Foreign;" "The Canary Islanders;" "David Duke of Rothesay," by the Marquis of Bute; "A New Religion," "John Major, Scottish Scholastic;" "Hymnology of the Christian Church;" "The Death of Gustavus Adolphus," and "The Anthropological History of Europe" are among the principal contents of the number for the current quarter.

MR. T. WEMYSS REID has an amusingly confident article in the *Nineteenth Century* for May, in which with great satisfaction to himself he proceeds to foreshadow the coming Liberal ministry. Prince Kropotkin refers to advancements in "Recent Science." "Studies of New York Society" affords Mr. M. W. Hazletine an opportunity to extol the merits of "Julien Gordon's" novels, and to assert that there is a species of American *grande dame*. Surgeon T. H. Parke argues that "How General Gordon was really lost" was through the delay of the troops at Metammeh for about three days, and not through the prolonged delay of the Gladstone Ministry in starting a relief expedition. Mrs. Mona Caird makes a lively dash at Mrs. E. Lynn Linton in "A defence of the so-called 'Wild-Women.'" "Lost in the Rockies" is well told by W. H. Grenfell, and J. W. Wightman's "One of the 'Six Hundred' in the Balaclava Charge," is a spirited and stirring contribution to the literature of that famous event by one of the charging lancers.

LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

COLONEL A. K. McCURE lost, in the Philadelphia *Times* fire, his valuable political library which he has been collecting for fifty years.

A VOLUME of public addresses by Mr. Henry Irving, including the one delivered to the Harvard University students, will be published this spring.

AN exact reprint of Lord Mahon's edition of Chesterfield's "Letters" is announced by Lippincott. It is to be in five octavo volumes, printed from pica type.

MISS CONSTANCE FAIRBANKS, late of the editorial staff of that well-edited paper the *Halifax Critic*, and an occasional contributor to THE WEEK, is visiting Toronto.

DR. SANDERS' mammoth lexicon of the German language—the work of thirty years—cannot, it is said, find a publisher who is willing to risk publishing so expensive a work.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN AND COMPANY are about to publish a new edition of Miss Austen's novels from entirely new plates, with a few illustrations, the set to be complete in ten volumes, issued monthly.

UNDER the title of "A Rolling Stone that Gathered no Moss," will soon be published a fresh novel dealing with theatrical life in London and the provinces. The author is Mr. John Coleman, the actor.

THE promised reprint of the original edition of William Caxton's "Golden Legend," which is being edited by Messrs. F. S. Ellis and William Morris, is almost ready for publication. The work will be in three volumes.

RECENT researches in Bible lands afford Sir J. William Dawson, Principal of the McGill University, of Montreal, a theme for two articles which he has written for the *North American Review*. The first is announced for the June number.

A CRITIC, whose opinion we respect, says the *London Literary World*, writes thus in a private letter: "Have you read that wonderful book of Florence Marryat's, 'There is No Death'? If but one-hundredth part of it be true, it is a marvellous work. If it be fiction, it is very good fiction. If it be lying, Munchausen is superseded."

ANOTHER book by the famous Spanish novelist, Valera, the author of "Pepita Ximenez" and "Dona Luz," is to be published immediately by D. Appleton and Company. The title is "Don Braulio," and the book has been translated from the Spanish of Pasarse de Listo by Clara Bell. It will appear in Appleton's Town and Country Library.

MME. ADAM claims to have christened Julien Viaud's story, "The Marriage of Loti"; but it is also said that the name Loti was first given to the author by his fellow-officers in the French Navy on account of his modest and retiring disposition, *loti* being the Japanese for violet. When looking around for a pen-name he adopted Pierre Loti as a fairly good one.

UNDER the title, "The Retreat of Theology in the Galileo case," the successive steps taken by the Catholic Church in getting out of the unfortunate position which it took in that case will be recounted by Andrew D. White in the *Popular Science Monthly*. The excuses for the persecution of Galileo that were invented in the course of two centuries testify to great ingenuity on the part of the theological apologists.

THE annual report of the librarian of the Shakespeare Memorial Library, at Stratford-upon-Avon, is a very interesting document. It tells of the steady accumulation of mementoes of Shakespeare. In the past year no fewer than twenty-five new editions of the great master's works have been added to the library, making the total number of editions 272, and the number of volumes included therein 2,563. During the year there have also been added seven volumes of works upon the life of Shakespeare, and thirty-four which are critical, explanatory and illustrative of his plays and poems.

TOLSTOI'S manuscript, says the *New York World*, is full of interlineations and erasures, and the handwriting is small, fine, and hard to read. The Countess transcribes it for the printer, and one year, it is said, she made fifteen copies of one of her husband's books. From the same source we learn that Lieutenant Julien Viaud is so much pleased with his literary pseudonym, "Pierre Loti," that he has made it his legal name. He is always addressed in private life as "M. Loti," his wife is "Mme. Loti," and his little boy, now three years old, is "Samuel Loti." The name Loti, in the Tahitian idiom, means a flower.

THE *Athenæum* says that Samuel Davey has obtained possession of a journal of Victor Hugo ("Journal de l'Exil"), consisting of about 2,000 closely-written pages, as well as nearly 1,000 letters addressed to the poet, "which were included in six large bundles of miscellaneous papers, which Mr. Davey's late son purchased some years back, and which seem to have been sold out of Hauterville House as waste paper." The journal begins in July, 1852, and continues until 1856. It is a minute record of the conversations of Hugo with his family, friends and distinguished visitors, which seem to have been taken down day by day.

WILLIAMSON AND COMPANY with commendable enterprise offer to the reading public Francis Parkman's latest work, "A Half-Century of Conflict." This work takes up the narrative at the close of the author's "Count Frontenac and New France under Louis XIV.," filling the gap between that work and "Montcalm and Wolfe." It completes the series of historical narratives, "France and England in South America," the publication of which was begun in 1865. All who are familiar with the preceding volumes from the brilliant pen of the great historian, who imparts to history the glow and movement of romance, will hail the advent of this book, the closing volume, of a famous series.

RUDYARD KIPLING'S "Barrack Room Ballads" has the following dedication to Thomas Atkins:—

I have made for you a song,
An' it may be right or wrong,
But only you can tell me if it's true;
I have tried for to explain
Both your pleasure an' your pain,
And, Thomas, here's my best respects to you.

Oh, there'll surely come a day
When they'll grant you all your pay,
And treat you as a Christian ought to do;
So, until that day comes round,
Heaven keep you safe and sound,
And, Thomas, here's my best respects to you.

FROM the *Book World* we take the following: It has been generally believed that the first printed newspaper, properly so called, is the *English Mercurie*, published in 1588 by Lord Burleigh, with the sanction of Queen Elizabeth, for the purpose of rousing the national feeling against Spain, and of allaying popular alarm at the time when the Spanish Armada was in the Channel. A French writer, M. Dubief, has, however, lately called the statement in question. He maintains that the early numbers of the publication, still to be seen in the British Museum, are in some parts only a literal translation of some Dutch "Gazettes." He, therefore, claims precedence for his own countryman, Theophrastus Renandot, alike distinguished in medicine, literature and philanthropy, who first published the *Gazette de Paris* in 1631, and dedicated the first number to King Louis XIII.

THE *London Literary World* says that Jonas Lie, the most popular (according to Mr. Edmund Gosse) of Scandinavian novelists, began life as a lawyer, and it was not till he had reached the age of thirty-two that he made any effort to distinguish himself as a man of letters. By that time Ibsen and Björnson, who had been fellow-students with him at the University of Christiania, had achieved fame. Roused to emulation by their success, he abandoned the law and took to poetry and journalism. His place in literature was not won without a long, hard struggle. Ten or twelve years ago he achieved local fame, and now, close on to his sixtieth year, he is said to hold the first place in the affections of Norwegian readers. His special subject is the depicting of marine life. His inside acquaintance with naval matters was obtained during his residence at Trömsö in his early boyhood, and later, when he went through a course of study for a cadetship, which he failed to obtain on account of the shortness of his sight. For the last twenty years he has lived abroad, spending his winters in Paris and his summers in Bavaria.

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