

fully open to him, from highest to lowest, the life, not of his own country alone, but that of nearly every capital in Europe. His residence in America made him familiar with our Western life, and the life of the East, too, was fully known when, under the Administration of Lord Beaconsfield, Owen Meredith became Governor-General of India. It is hard to value too highly the advantages of such a world of observation to a man of Lord Lytton's temperament and talents. In some respects he did not fail to reap largely from his wide and varied field of observation; at the same time, there are indications that to Lord Lytton, as to others of the privileged orders, their very privileges become limitations. His sympathies are too exclusively with people of his own class—who range the same fields of literature or hold the same social rank. A man of the world he may be in some sense, but his sympathies are not with the world, and he is not a writer for the world. All men may admire the beautiful garden fountain, but the world will prefer to drink at the mountain spring; and when the scholarly verses of the nobleman are forgotten, even scholars and noblemen will continue to delight in the songs of a Scotch peasant.

In 1856 appeared Owen Meredith's first publication, "Clytemnestra." The author was then only twenty-four years of age. The subject is suggested and largely inspired by the Agamemnon of Æschylus. This first work produced a very favourable impression, as it well might, considering the youth of the writer. But it was not, as some supposed, a work of genius; it was a work of talent merely. The subject is not original, and if there is something in the treatment that differs from that of the Greek dramatist, the difference is in the details, and cannot be said to improve the general effect. In fact, the young Englishman retouches the work of the old master so as to introduce the colouring of our own age and race, whilst the strong features of the

Poems. Shawmut Ed. 16mo, \$1.00.

Household Ed. With Portrait and Illustrations. 12mo, \$2.00; mor., \$5.00.

Illustrated Library Ed. With Portrait and thirty-two Illustrations. 8vo., \$4.00; mor., \$9.00.

Blue and Gold Ed. 32mo, full gilt, \$1.25; mor., \$3.00.

Cabinet Ed. 16mo, gilt top, \$1.25; half calf, \$3.00; mor., \$4.00.

Red-Line Ed. Eight Illus. by Du Maurier. Small 4to, \$2.50; mor., \$6.

Lucile, and other Poems. Illustrated. 8vo, paper covers, 50 cents.