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The Canada Bookseller.

MISCELLANY AND ADVERTISER.

No. 4-Vol. 1.]

APRIL, 1872.

INEW SERIES.

"THE CANADIAN MONTHLY AND NATIONAL REVIEW."

A WORD FROM THE PUBLISHERS.

THIS Magazine, though the present No. is but its fourth issue, has already secured for itself- not only the merit of being ranked as the most important and ambitious of all mative literary ventures- but the further distinction of being accepted as the National Magazine of the Dominion. Its representative character has been unreservedly conceded to it by the unanimous voice of the Press, and the favourable opinion expressed by many of the most competent literary writers in the country. The reception given to its first issue clearly proved not only that its general excellence was thoroughly appreciated, but also that a long-felt want had at length been fully supplied. By the publication of the subsequent Nos. it has gained still further upon public favour, and we are glad to be able to inform the readers of The Monthly that its permanent establishment is now assured.

It is the resolve, both of Projectors and Publishers, that the success hitherto obtained shall only be the measure of greater achievement; and they hope to make the magazine such as will entitle it to a more hearty acceptance and to a still higher need of praise.

That this effort may be successful, and that the exercise may not suffer from any lack of interest and encouragement in its Patrons, the Publishers feel that they may reasonably appeal to their readers for continued, active support. They would therefore respectfully urge all who wish well to the publication to assist them in extending its circulation. The machinery of the Trade has been freely made use of, Special Canvassers, where obtainable of requisite ability, have been employed, and the Club-System has been put into requisition. Successful, however, as these various aids have been, there yet remains much to be done to bring The Monthly more fully before the public.

Though the publishers are desirous of earning success only by deserving it, yet, however high the merits of the Magazino may be conceded to be, of what avail is this, where its existence is unknown? We ask our readers, therefore, to disseminate the fact of its publication and io aid us in securing a larger subscription list.

The mechanical cost of each No. is very large, and the outlay for Contributions and Editorial work is a heavy hage. Undeterred by the present expense of its issue, we are, nevertheless, projecting an enlargement of the

publication after the expiry of the first volume in June, which will further extend our disbursements, though, it is hoped, it will increase its attractiveness and popularity. Let us be enabled to meet this expense by commensurate returns! Let *The Monthly* be known and read in every town and village in the country! See that its circulation be aided everywhere! Let friends in the Lower Provinces be reached and readers at our doors! Distant or near, any disposed to aid us can do so. Every man of leisure can secure us a club. Every chance reader can, at least, send us one subscription.

THE PUBLISHERS.

THE MEMOIR OF ROBERT CHAMBERS, WITH AUTOBIOGRAPHIC REMINISCENCES BY WM. CHAMBERS.

The immense individuality of character and the moral and autscular energy of the brothers Chambers, are, manifestly, remarkable features in the history of their famous Edinburgh publishing house. The will never wavered which in their early, struggling days, carried them through failure and disappointment; and the active minds, ever upward-tending, never flagged in the set purpose of ultimately achieving great things.

It may safely be said that the maxims of 'Self-help' never received higher testimony to their truth and value than in the case of these brother publishers, whose remarkable career is so unestentationally narrated in this biography. It would be difficult indeed to cite a more stirring, interesting memoir than this; or one more full of incentives to action, and lofty, determined purpose.

The brothers were born, within two years of each other, at the opening of the century; and some twenty years afterwards, in 1821, they made their first attempt at publishing.

In Canada, where the beginnings of most of the Commercial houses of the present way have been small and humble indeed, the difficulties that surrounded the Chambers' in their early start in life, will find many a parallel in the experience of our merchants; and it would be no uninteresting history were the story published of the beginnings of even those who have been connected with the same trade as the Chambers in Canada. Their first effort was launched 'mid privations and self-denials. The Kalcidescepe, t' > herald of the Chambers' publications, was boldly issued, but like most first efforts

was doomed to a short existence. It was not until some ten years later, when the intellectual life of Scotland was making a new effort to rouse itself to battle with the ignerance of the times, that the Edinburgh Journal was established. At this time popular literature was unknown. Blackwood's Magazine, and the Edinburgh and Quarterly Reviews had been set on foot by the literary giants of those days, but no attempt to educate the masses or to cater for the instruction and recreation of the people at large had been thought of. The late Lord Brougham seeing the necessities of the times and the importance of "diffusing useful knowledge" was initiating, in the Southern Metropolis, with the help of Charles Knight and others, a series of popular Manuals.

In London, however, the progress of the movement was most discouraging. Marked by frequent failure, disappointments and heavy loss, the business of publishing seemed a delusion and a snare. Soon again, the awakening thought and stimulated enquiry of the times was invoked in support of the 'Penny Cyclopedia'; but this and other ventures met with nothing but disaster.

It was at this time that the brothers Chambers, bringing only to their task the fruits of self-taught studies and the energy of high resolves, though with many misgivings, inaugurated the Journal. Misfortune and poverty had, however, schooled them to endurance and perseverance. Successive failures and the sharp discipline of many disappointments only added stimulus to their efforts. At length through the grinding process of slow and wavering struggles the light of prosperity dawns. The Journal became a success, and the stirrup to the saddle was reached. Then follows the successive steps in their remarkable publishing career. New projects were started, further enterprises entered In quick succession, came the "Miscellany," "Papers for the People," "Information for the People," &c., &c., and rapidly the house that had but a poor, meagre beginning, rises year by year into brighter and more presperous days as the intelligence of each succeeding epoch emerges into clearer light. Then come the days contemporary with the publication of the "Encyclopædia," and with them renown and affluence to the House-the fitting rewards of early and unsparing toil and unflinching discharge of duty. This biegraphy has all the elements of romance. Its attractiveness, too, is enhanced by the personal reminiscences of the surviving brother. The whole book is entertaining and delightful in the extreme, and all readers will lay it down with thanks to the writer and admiration for the men whose lives have been so useful and whose example is so noble.

THE EDUCATION OFFICE BOOK-SHOP.

Against all monopoly and illegomate interference with trade there is always a potent and sound remedy—severe and competent criticism. Unfortunately, in regard to the abuses and injustice of the Government Book-Shop, and the follies and expense of its management, criticism and invective have, hitherto, been

levelled at them in vain. For around this monopoly, so vicious in principle and so indefensible in practice, its conductors seem always to have been able to throw the gloss of plausibility and the fiction of the public good. Hence, its management has, for many years, become responsible to no one; its rules and regulations have been freed from all higher interference, and its accounts and balance-sheets held sacred from the vulgarity of an audit.

Possessing no claim, for the last ten years at least, of public necessity, and essential to no educational require ment, while in principle and expediency utterly unjustifiable and a gross departure from the policy which the plainest justice and common sense prescribe, the pression and abolition have been loudly called for; and as, unquestionably, not a solid argument can be advanced, in these late years, for the continuance of this Government book-depository, except the personal benefit of those directly interested in its maintenance, it is with no surprise that we learn that there is every probability of the institution soon being swept away and its peripatetic vending functions, at last, brought to a close.

We have no desire, in view of the likelihood of this being the case, to comment further on this benevolent literary institution, the proud boast of which is that, (with the aid of a government 100 per cent. grant, besides the maintenance of the book-shop at the public cost) it undersells the legitimate book trade of the country. Neither do we wish to notice the foolish position taken by its Organ in ascribing to the members of that trade, (whose bread it takes out of their mouths,) the meanness of personal motives in desiring to have abolished such an illegitimate and an unwarrantable interference with their business! But before leaving the Establishment (which, in its existence and continuance, defies every sound maxim of political economy) to its fate, we may be permitted to remark that such an aspersion of "interested motives" on the part of the trade, comes very fitly from behind departmental pay rolls. Its claim, moreover, of underselling the trade-an honourable boast! but not a fact, leaving the Government grant out of consideration-is highly creditable to a Government trading department, free from rent, taxes, fuel, and salaries; free from bad debts and interest on capital invested, though not free from bad stocks -which it has had, furtively, to send to auction-yet the loss on which has to be borne at the public expense! But need there be anything further said to show the absurdity of this Departmental trading scheme, the result of which, unquestionably, is to discourage legitimate industry and enterprise, and to prevent the expansion of a trade which it is important to foster in all parts of the country?

Can it be argued that there is a necessity for this system of Government trading? Can it be shown that there is any incapacity in private enterprise, or that book-stocks can be bought cheaper with Government funds than with private means? Can it be shewn that Departmental machinery is necessary to do what legit: mate trade is established to do? Can it be shown that the trade have no facilities, no enterprise, no capacity

for the conduct of their business—so that a public functionary is required to buy, import, and sell merchandize which it is the work of the trained, intelligent and responsible booksellers amongst us to do?

If this be so, the legitimate ecnelusion would be that the book stores of the country are not worthy of patronage; that the stocks of the various houses in the trade are immeasurably inferior to that of the Government depository—that the trade lack ability, education and intelligence for their work—that enterprise and industry are stagnant amongst them. All these are implied. But do we find this to be the case? Do we find that the Department, even with the public purse at its back and a country's credit in its favour, has made such strides in the development of the book business—that its stocks are more varied, more carefully selected, more up with the times?

No! Such is not the case. Ask any reading teacher, any County-Board School Trustee, any intelligent member of a Mechanic's Institute if such be the case, and it will be found that complaints are almost everywhere made against the Government institution; and that, where enticed or badgered to send their orders to the book-shop at the Normal School, they have always been compelled in the end to fall back on individual enterprise and to recur to the unsubsidized trader for the supply of their wants.

So far, indeed, from this Education Book Depôt being a boon to those it is intended to serve, we have heard of its utter worthlessness; of the autocratic behaviour and imperial arbitrariness of its managers; of its imposition and the lack of intelligence of those in charge; of the difficulty of procuring what was sought for; of the pawning off of books that were not ordered in lieu of those which were; and that, though the legitimate tradeliand not the advantage of a parliamentary grant to to aid it in procuring custom, the universal conclusion was, that books were more cheaply sold and obtained with less trouble and aunoyance at the ordinary book stores of the country than at the sham Book Depository.

We wish to have done with this task, however. Yet, in the interest of the trade we cater for, whose privileges we are bound to watch over, and for whose protection from injustice and wrong it is the province of this Journal to insist upon, we must urge that this illegitimate monopoly be abolished and this mischieveus State interference with trade be finally abandoned.

Where no public good is to be attained, let there be no personal wrong. Where there is no benefit to the State, let there be no injustice to the citizen—no Educational service—no individual injury!

LITERARY GOSSIP.

Principal Talloch of It. Andrews is preparing a work on the "Rise of a Ration: I Theology and Christian Philosophy in England in the 17th Centuary."—The Longmans announce an exposition of "Fallacies in the Hypothesis of Mr. Darwis," by a Dr. C. R. Brec.—The Rivingtons are preparing to publish Dr. Dollinger's "Lectures on the re-united of the Churches of Christendom.—Mrs. Oliphant's "Alemoirs of the Life of Count

de Montalembert" will shortly be issued.—A new historical work, entitled, "Royal and Republican France," by Henry Reeve, C. B. is announced. The "Correspondence of the late Lord Elgin," is about to be published.—a new edition of Sir Henry Holland's "Recollections of Past Life" has been called for.—Macmillan is about to issue Prof. and Mrs. Faweetts "Essays and Lectures on Political and Social subjects." A work on "Modern Indian Problems," being selections from Speeches delivered and Minutes published in India, by Sir Henry Summer Maine, is announced by Murray.—M. Taine's "Notes on England," translated by Mr. W. F. Rae for the London Daily News is published in separate and extended form.—Messrs Cassell have issued a work illustrative of Parliamentary history entitled, "A Book of Parliamentary Anecdote."—Messrs. Black now issue the complete Centenary Edition of the Waverley Novels, in 25 volumes, 12mo. Dr. Schellen's familiar exposition of the new branch of science, "Spectrum analysis in its application to Terrestrial substances and the physical constitution of the heavenly bodies," is now ready.—A new work "A Systematic View of the Science of Jurisprudence," by Prof. Sheldon Amos of the Inner Templa is announced.—A Life of Daniel O'Connell, entitled, "The Liberator, his Life and Times, political, social and religious," is in press. Mr. Proctor, author of "Other worlds than ours," has collected for publication a volume of "Essays on Astronomy."—Appleton reprints "Three Centuries of English Literature," by the Regius Professor of Modern History in Queen's College, Belfast. Strahon issues a Volume of "Character Sketches," by Norman Macleod, D. D.—A new wolume of the Bayarl Series is ready—"Socrates for English Readers."—"The Garden and the City, with other Contrasts and Parallels of Scripture," is the title of the new work by the author of "Bible Teachings in

ITEMS.

NATIVE.

Messrs. Adam, Stevenson & Co. reprint a work which, although it bears a rather sensational title—"The Abominations of Modern Society"—deserves to be largely circulated. It is written by a popular Presbyterian clergyman in Brooklyn, the Rev. T. DeWitt Talmago, who depicts in strong colours, in the volume, the vices and misery caused by intemperance, immorality, and those curses of large cities, gambling and billiard saloons. Other vices of society, and the ways that are crooked in modern social life, are denounced by the author in fierce, scathing words, the perusal of which should prove a salutary warming to all young men. The same publishers issue a 24-page pamphlet by Dr. Wm. Canniff of Toronto, on "The Effects of Alcohol on the Human System," being an essay upon the cause, nature and treatment of Alcoholism. Temperance organizations should see to its large circulation over the country. Price \$5,90 per 190 cropies.

copies.

From the Montreal Gazette Office we have a very neatly printed collection of Four Sermons on "The Church Service," by the Rev. James Carmichael, M.A. of Montreal. The little work is published by request, and it embraces a clear statement of the service of the

Anglican Church, well worth perusal.

Mesers. James Campbell & Son, Toronto, are issuing, with excellent taste, and in the best style of workmanship, a number of religious works with their imprimature. Those we have reactily seen consist of biographies of Canadian elergymen; a volume of Sermons representing the Presbyterian pulpit in Canada; a re-issue, by arrangement, of Mr. Henry Ward Beecher's "Life of Jesus, the Christ," &c. We note, also, their announcement of a "Life of the late Rev. Robert Burns, D.D.," by his Son, which will be scught for with interest.

Mr. John Lovell sends us, as we go to press, a proof copy of a 48-page work on "The Climates, Productions, and Resources of Canada," by J. Beaufort Hurlbert, M.A., LL.D. The work is intended to illustrate the agricultural capabilities of the country, and is illustrated with a series of coloured maps, showing the chief zones of the grains, grasses, etc. We shall notice it more fully in our next.

ENGLISH.

Mr. Jno. Hodges of London has issued the first volume of the Rev. S. Baring-Gould's new work "The Lives of the Saints.'

Mr. Jno. C. Hotten's new popular reprints embrace the air. ono. C. Liotten's new popular regrints embrace the following amusing works which are published at 25c each: "Stories of the Sierras and other Sketches" by Bret Hart, with a wild story of western life by Joaquin Miller; "Shaving Them," or the adventures of three Yankees on the Continent of Europe, by Titus A. Brick Esq.; and "Practical Jokes," or mirth with Artemus Ward and other Papers, by Mark Twain.

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Messrs. Geo. Routledge & Sons issue in cheap form the new volumes of Mark Twain. Viz.—"Roughing It," and "The Innocents at Home," which are having an immense

Messrs. Longman & Co. announce a new work by Prof. Tyndall on "Researches in Molecular Physics by means of Radiant Heat, a series of memoirs collected from the Philosophical transactions." They also an-nounce a new work on the Christian Ministry by the Bishop of St. Andrews, entitled—"The outlines of the Christian Ministry Delineated and brought to the test of Reason, Holy Scripture, History and Experience; with a view to the reconciliation of existing differences concerning it, especially between Presbyterians and Episco-palians."

nalians."

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. have nearly ready a new volume of Lectures, by Mr. E. A Freeman D.C. L. on "The Growth of the English Constitution from the Earliest Times"; a further volume of Sermons by Dr. Trench, Archbishop of Dublin, preached for the most part in Ireland; the new issue of the Bampton Lectures, for 1871—on "Dissent in its relation to the Church of England" by the Rev. G. H. Curteis; and a critical work by W. Sanday, M. A. on "The Authorship and Historical Character of the Fourth Gospel."

Messrs. H. S. King & Co., will immediately publish

Messrs. H. S. King & Co., will immediately publish the first volume of The International Scientific Series of Manuals. A new work by Prof. Tyndall will form the initial volume, which will be reproduced simultaneously by Messrs. D. Appleton & Co. of New York. Its subject will be "The Forms of Water in Clouds, Rain, Rivers, Ice and Glaciers." Other important works in this series will follow from the pens of eminent scholars.

AMERICAN.

Vessrs. Scribner, Armstrong & Co., who succeed the late Firm of Charles Scribner & Co., have just ready a reprint of the "Memoir of Robert Chambers," with reprint of the "Memoir of Robert Chambers," with Autobiographic Reminiscences by his Brother, a work which promises, from the interest of the volume, to have a large sale. They announce new volumes in their Illustrated Library of Travel and Adventure, the most recent of which are "Japan" and "Arabia," compiled and arranged by Bayard Taylor, and Wild Men and Wild Beasts," by Lt.-Col. Gordon Cumming. They have just ready a thrilling story in verse, "Within and Without," by George Macdonald, author of "Wilfred Cumbermede," which, no doubt, will attract all readers of his prose.

of his prose.

Messrs. D. Appleton & Co.'s list for the month embraces reprints of Sir John Lubbock's "Prehistoric Times," an important Archeological work; Prof. Huxley's Manual of the Anatomy of Vertebrated Animals; and Dr. Schellen's work on "Spectrum Analysis in its application to Terrestrial Substances, and the Physical Constitution of the Heavenly Bodies." This house also reprint Prof. C. D. Yonge's "Three Centuries of Eng-

lish Literature;" a volume of sermons, "Christ in Modern Life," by the Rev. Stopford Brooke, the editor of the Rev. F. W. Robertson's Life and Letters; and an issue of "South Sea Bubbles, by the Earl and the Doc tor," a delightful volume of travel in Polynesia and the

Southern Pacific.

Messra. Harper & Brothers reprint "Music and Morals," by the Rev. H. R. Haweis, M.A., a work on the power and influence of music, with chapters on varithe power and influence of music, with chapters on various instruments, biographies of great composers, and a critical account of music in England. Their recent resistues of works of fiction are "The Lovells of Arden," by Miss Braddon; "Cecil's Tryst," and "Lord Kilgobbin," by Charles Lever. The third volume of Lord Brougham's Autobiography; the second and third volumes of Tyerman's Life of Wesley, and a reprint of Palmer's "The Desert of the Exodus," a work issued by the Palestine Exploration Committee, will be the forthcoming publications of their press. cations of their press.

Messrs Robert Carter & Bros., announce a new work by the Rev. Dr. Wm. Hanna, on "The Wars of the Hu-guenots," and a volume entitled 'Thought Hives,"

from the pen of the Rev. Dr. Cuyler, New York.

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SPECTRUM ANALYSIS in application to Terrestrial Substances, and the Physical Constitution of the Heavenly Bodies, Familiarly explained by Dr. H. Schiellen, Director der Realschule I. O. Cologne, Rieser des Rothen Alderodens IV. K.L., Associate of several Learned Societies. Translated from the second enlarged and revised German edition, by June and Caroline Lassell. Edited, with Notes, by Wm. Huggins. J.L.D., D.C.L., F.R.S. With numerous Woodcuts, Coloured Plates, and Portraits; also, Angstrom's and Kirchhoff's Maps. 455 pages, 8vo. cloth. Price, \$5 50.

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