The Christmas number of Scribner's Magazine would be as wonderful a literary treat as was that of last year, but for the fact that it has no such poem as the haunting Ticonderoga of Mr. Stev nson. It has, however, a strong and impressive piece of blank verse by some singer who conceals fear. his identity. This poem is entitled The Lion of the Nile, and is accompanied by illustrations from the pencil of Mr. Elihu Vedder, whom we cannot but regard as the boldest and most original genius that American art has yet produced. The breadth, solidity and tremendous impressiveness of Vedder's designs seem to give him a loftier position than that even of Lafarge. Mr. Stevenson's The Master of Ballantrae, is continued with deepening interest; and the Christmas Sermon, which this wizard of prose contributes, is no less fascinating for its style than wholesome for its manliness of tone. The short stories, in which the number is even more rich than usual, are excellently varied in mood. The choicest is perhaps that contributed by Mr. H. C. Bunner, a delicate and wholesomely tender story called Squire Five-Fathom. A contribution of vivid interest to art students, and of great value by reason of its moderation, sympathy, and freedom from the art-affectation of the day, is Mr. Hitchcock's paper on Botticelli. Of the many poems which the number contains there are three distinctly above the average-Miss Reese's Tell Me Some Way, James Jeffrey Roche's Sir Hugo's Choice, and A. Lampman's Winter Evening. This latter poem, a sonnet, is strikingly fresh and effective. Mr. Lampman is one of the foremost of rising Canadian poets; and Mr. Roche is a native of Prince Edward Island. Miss Reese, we understand, is a young Southerner of promise.

In a late number of the Boston Advertiser there is a column and a half devoted to the poetical work of Mr. Bliss Carman. The writer is a well-known Boston critic, William Morton Fullerton. The warmth of his appreciation for Mr. Carman's Stevens' Around the World on a Bicycle poetry, which he regards as displaying following in order of popularity. lyric genius of the highest order, may be which Mr. Carman has earned in Boston. Here is a specimen of the critic's commen-

In Mr. Carman's lines, much as they suggest that his sympathy is with the school of Keats, there is a spirit so entirely his own, an infusion of new truth, new beauty so subtly original, that in an instant he is set apart in a place by himself as one who charms and soothes us in ways known to no other poet. In that great power of the interpretive imagination a poet who

Was it a year or lives ago
We took the grasses in our hands,
And caught the summer flying low
Over the waving meadow lands,
And held it there between our hands?"

certainly may be said to stand among the foremost. But his marked characteristic is that all he touches is by some magic volatilized into a gaseous glow and pervasive odor which seem to be the very quintessence of poetry.

Messrs. Belford, Clarke & Co. have lately issued the sixth edition of Ella Wheeler Wilcox's Maurine and Other Poems. This sufficiently indicates the popularity which this forceful and sincere singer has attained. Her name first became famous through her plentifully discussed Poems of Passion, which were certainly somewhat audacious, but as certainly vigorous and musical. The work before us has not the ripeness and lyric fire of Poems of Passion, but it is by no means undeserving of its popularity. It displays the author's admirable merits of natural feeling, directness, healthy fervor and candor of utterance. The leading poem is a sort of novel in verse told in a way to hold the reader's interest. It is written in well-managed iambic pentameter verse, rhyming irregularly. In spite of its entertaining quality, and occasional felicities, it is not up to the level of this poet's best achievement. It is frequently crude both in expression and in thought. Many of the lyrics and sonnets reach a much higher level; and almost invariably, whatever their occasional shortcomings in technique, they have a solid basis of thought and feeling. Such a poem as the following sonnet on "Will" has an enduring value: There is no chance, no destiny, no fate,

Can circumvent or hinder or control The firm resolve of a determined soul. Gifts count for nothing; will alone is great; All things give way before it, soon or late. What obstacle can stay the mighty force Of the sea-seeking river in its course,

Or cause the ascending orb of day to wait? Each well-born soul must win what it deserves. Let the fool prate of luck. The fortunate Is he whose earnest purpose never swerves. Whose slightest action or inaction serves The one great aim. Why, even Death stands still,

And waits an hour sometimes for such a will. has an article of great importance and admirable temper, by Mr. George R. Parkin, on "The Reorganization of the British Empire." Mr. Parkin advocates with great force and persuaviveness the scheme of Imperial Federation, and advocates from a patriotic Canadian standpoint. Canadians who regard Independence as the more natural destiny of their country have no quarrel with such Federationists as Mr. Parkin, who would tolerate no scheme of Federation

that did not leave to Canada the same de-

or such independence as would be possible in a federal union of equals, may join hands in eternal antagonism to the ignoble alternative of annexation. As Mr. Parkin energetically puts it, "In annexation to the United States, she (Canada) could have nothing but a bastard nationality, the offspring of either meanness, selfishness, or

Notes and Announcements. Mr. William Black's new novel will be

entitled A Spring Idyl. Mrs. Humphrey Ward has another novel

nearly ready to succeed Robert Elsmere. Andrew Lang has written a fairy story for Christmas reading called The Gold of

The British museum has become the owner of the collection of rare books that once belonged to Jerome Bonaparte.

A Paris correspondent says that in France the rich people buy Zola and the poor

Mrs. Burnett's famous juvenile, Sara Crewe, has been brought out in Germany

in the Tauchnitz series. Mrs. Humphrey Ward's portrait has exhausted two editions of the November

Book Buyer, with a third ready this week. The Tale of Phabe Dawson, by Crabbe, is said to have been read by particular wish to both Fox and Sir Walter Scott on their death-beds.

Miss Katherine O'Meara, the author of Madame Mohl and Her Salon and of Narka, recently published as a serial in Harper's Magazine, has just died in Paris.

The fascinating Diaries and Letters of Gouverneur Morris will be published by the Scribners in a few days. The work has been given a handsome setting of type and binding.

The Scribners have issued, in a dainty binding of half morocco, with parchment sides, several of their attractive books of poetry, including Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson's Underwoods.

Ben Hur is the most popular book at the Boston Public Library, says the Boston Herald, with Little Lord Fauntleroy and

John Ward, Preacher, has reached its accepted as a measure of the distinction | 20th edition and there seems no falling off in the demand. This is one of the most successful books published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co. for a number of years.

The first volume of the limited edition of the Cyclopædia of Music and Musicians is nearly ready for delivery with the Scribners in this country. In England the work will be published by Bernard Quar-

Howard Pyle's work as an illustrator and author is apparently as much appreciated in England as in America. His latest book, Otto of the Silver Hand, received simultaneous publication in New York and 9, Pastorale by Zipoli and Canon by Mar-

In Our Recent Actors, by Mr. Weston Marsland, the story is told of Charles Kean that a critic having offended him, he sent for the scribe, and after scolding him like a child, locked him up in a parlor until he knew how to behave.

Owing to the vast amount of labor involved in the manufacture of Paul Du Chaillu's great work, The Viking Age, the publication of the book has been postponed by the Scribners. The magnitude of the work may be learned from the single fact that there are to be over 1,200 illustra-

"The American Widow-New Style," is the subject of the Saturday Review's treatment of The Quick and the Dead. Of the Widow Pomfret it agrees with Miss Squeers. who remarked of Tilda Price that it was down. very desirable from the very nature of her feelings that she should be married as quick as possible.

An intimate friend of Thackeray named Bolland is now said to be the original of George Warrington. He is described as a man of great ability, but one whose indolence and Bohemian tastes prevented him from making a name. Theodore Hook is claimed as the original of Wagg, Hayward of Wenham, and Maginn of Costigan.

The Scribners' illustrated catalogue of holiday books makes as tasteful and useful a guide to choice gifts for Christmas as one would wish. It contains a full list of their popular books for young people, and specimen illustrations are given from a number of the works of travel, art, biography, etc., published by them. The Scribners send this list free to any one who will write them for it.

A delightful Christmas article by Donald G. Mitchell and a Christmas poem by J. Whitcombe Rıley will be the opening features of the Christmas Book Buyer. Sarah Orne Jewett, Octave Thanet, Geo. Parsons Lathrop, W. C. Brownell, James Baldwin, Mrs. Burton Harrison, and pages, with over 60 illustrations, halt of which is printed in colors.

A Freak of the Sunshine. In the photographs of buildings collected for the illustrated edition of Progress some queer things are to be seen. In one of them, that of the Bayard building, T. McAvity & Scns' name is shown plainly. How it got there was a puzzle until it was solved by the fact that the name had been gree of independence as it should retain for reflected upon the glass—and so sharply as England. All true Nationalists, whether to be photographed-from the large sign they look toward an absolute independence over their Water street factory.

MUSIC, AT HOME AND ABROAD.

I imagined that the reason for the attend- HAROLD GILBERT. ance of the public at an organ recital was to hear a performer or performers play on that instrument, but after last Friday evening's experience, I have come to the conclusion that for many there is some other purpose to be attained. What that exact object is I was unable to find out, unless it the gems of the great masters admirably performed. I am not very straight-laced myself, but I must confess that I do object to loud talking, laughing and (to use LADIES' slang) carrying-on in a sacred edifice on an evening when the proceedings are opened by a surpliced clergyman with the doxology and the benediction. It is rather trying to a lover of music to have had two persons just behind one on an occasion like this, who talked steadily the whole evening through, increasing their tone as the organ grew louder, but never ceasing for an instant. I suppose it shows how small a proportion of human beings are there who possess the real soul for music.

For myself I should like to have the church in darkness, though of course that would have been impossible with a large crowd, as there was at St. Luke's. Somewhere about 1874 I was in Geneva and went to a recital at one of the Protestant churches there, and the only lights were those in the organ loft (the organ being over the west entrance). The effect was superb, the congregation behaving noiselessly the whole evening-though of course whispers were indulged in to a certain extent. There one could sit, with the lights behind just dimly lighting up the chancel at the east and enjoy to perfection the playing by a master hand on an exceptionally fine instrument. What the name of the church was, or who played and sang, or what was the music performed, I have now forgotten; but the remembrance remains of one of the most enjoyable (musical) evenings of my life.

I was disappointed with St. Luke's organ. Taking the stops separately or as a whole, it will not compare with any of the best organs of the city, and the poor performer was met with that bane of organists, cypering, in the first piece he played and had to shut off one stop the whole evening. I wonder that the powers that be did not take advantage of an expert being in town the other day, tuning Trinity and the Stone church organs, to have theirs thoroughly overhauled.

Mr. Morley played as he only can play (at all events in Canada) and showed to special advantage in No. 3, Lott's Voluntary; No. 6, Battiste's Offertoire and No.

The Oratorio society, which mustered about 60 voices, did not show to advantage at all. In the first place it was apparent that they have learned to lean too much on the conductor's baton and wanted the point for their leads and so missed them when it was not given. This is erring on the other side, as the chorus should be able to take up its lead in music that they have been drilled in so long and ought almost to know by heart. The soprano lacked tone terribly-the sustained notes in the Hallelujah chorus being feeble and barely in tune. Of course the splendid playing on the organ saved everything and it only shows what an immense power a first-rate player has in keeping a chorus from an absolute break-

As to the Orpheus quartette: I think I gave them a little hint some months ago and I am afraid they have not seen their way clear to make use of it. Part of the third line of the second verse of the words they sang perfectly describes their performance, "breathless adoration." Lack of good breathing produces nervousness, and nervousness in an unaccompanied quartette Charlotte and Union Streets. is both uncomfortable for the performers and listeners. One of the necessities for quartette singing is the use of long sustained notes, using the last note especially for a cres. and dim., thus making an agreeable, finish. But when the final note is attempted to be prolonged but fails with a sound something like the tuning of an organ pipe which hasn't a sufficiency of wind, then something is wrong. Gentlemen, practice, and also keep some reserve of wind power and then it will be pleasant to listen to you.

At the early service, last Sunday morning at the Mission church, the choir used, with the exception of the creed, Mr. Morley's new Service in G., which was published in the Parish Choir some little time The December number of the Century | Hamilton W. Mabie are also among the ago. For an initial performance the sercontributors. The number will have 144 vice went very well and was very much admired. I hope to be able to say something about the special beauties of this service next week.

> I hear that the new music for the Minstrels has arrived this week, and that it is the intention to get to work at once. As I have said before, there is no fear but what the amateurs will be greeted with full

The scores of Athalie having arrived the Oratorio society commenced their rehears- GILBERT BENT & SONS. als on this work last Monday evening. I

I am offering all the following goods at special prices for the HOLIDAY SEASON. Selections may be made at once and reserved until wanted. Those requiring CHAIRS, etc., cushioned or upholstered, should leave Rattan Goods. was to annoy those who went to listen to GENTS F.ASY CHAIRS; LADY'S GENTS' ROCKERS: do; MISSES' do; UPHILL prayer, and concluded with the singing of | SEWING CHAIRS; RECEPTION CHAIRS; WORK BASKETS; CENTRE TABLES. FURNITURE.

> LADIES' SECRETARYS; GENTS STUDENTS' CHAIRS; CARPET ROCKERS: FANCY TABLES; CARD do; LOUNGES; PLATFORM ROCKERS;

HALL STANDS; MANTLE MIRRORS.

recital at St. Luke's I have been told, on

good authority, that the cyphering was

caused by no defect in the organ, but by

accident, viz., the trackers for the stops

that cyphered ran closely behind a wire

screen where the two men who were em-

ployed to blow the organ were placed.

They knowing nothing of this, occasionally

rested against the screen, which naturally

gave way from the pressure, and so caused

the stoppage of the proper action of the

trackers. It was an unfortunate occur-

rence, but one that could hardly be

avoided, as the men naturally were quite

CHOICE

innocent of the harm they were doing.

Gloves and Hosiery:

MEN'S SCARFS;

LADIES' VESTS;

Scotch Underwear;

OPERA SHAWLS;

RETAIL.

Silk Handkerchiefs:

DRESS FABRICS.

HAROLD GILBERT,

believe it is the intention to produce it ROYAL HOTEL, with pure y local talent, and I for one

should be glad to see this happen. Mr. ST. JOHN, N. B. Morley is too old a conductor to do anything risky, and I am sure that if this is T. F. RAYMOND, Proprietor. his idea, the public will have the pleasure of listening to a good performance. FREDERICTON, N. B. Since I wrote my previous notes on the

J. A. EDWARDS - Proprietor. FINE SAMPLE ROOM IN CONNECTION. Coaches at trains and boats.

28 to 32 Germain Street, St. John, N. B. MODERN IMPROVEMENTS. Terms - - \$1.00 Per Day. Tea, Bed and Breakfast, 75 Cents.

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JOHN ACADEMY OF ART STUDIO BUILDING, 74 GERMAIN ST.,

THE SCHOOL-ROOMS are now open to Pupils rom 10 until 5 every day in the week, except Saturday afternoon.

The aim of the School is to give Pupils a good

SAINT JOHN, N. B.

DRAWING AND PAINTING. The course taught consists in-Drawing from Models and objects; the Antique;

Life; Still Life. Painting from Life. Lectures on Perspective, including Parallel, Angular and Oblique Perspective; casting Shadows by gas light and sun light; Reflections in the mirror

and water.

A specialty is made of Portraiture in this School.

Pupils are taught to draw them in Charcoal and
Crayon, and to Paint them in Pastel and Oil. Principal-JOHN C. MILES, A. R. C. A. Assistant-FRED H. C. MILES

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ARE ALL in the newest finish and colorings, viz:

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APPLES, PEARS, WALNUTS, ORANGES, LEMONS AND STRAWBERRIES. Also, Roses (Pale and Deep), MARGA-RETTS, SUNFLOWER & DAHLIAS.

80 DOZEN JUST RECEIVED Will be sold low by the Dozen, or Box containing three cakes each. CHRISTMAS CARDS and goods suitable for HOLIDAY PRESENTS now opening. Great reduction on former prices.

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A CHROMO GIVEN AWAY With Every Dollar Worth Purchased. Call while it is yet time at

MORTON L. HARRISON'S, 99 King Street. Flour and Feed Store. Wheat, Flour, Buckwheat,

RYE, CORN, OATS, BRAN, SHORTS, From the best mills. Always on hand. R. & F. S. FINLEY.

NEW BRUNSWICK RAILWAY

Commencing October 22, 1888.

PASSENGER TRAINS WILL LEAVE INTER COLONIAL RAILWAY Station, St. John, at †6.40 a. m.—Fast Express for Bangor, Portland, Boston and points west; also for Fredericton, St. Andrews, St. Stephen, Houlton, Woodstock, Presque Isle, Grand Falls and Edmundston.

PULLMAN PARLOR CAR ST. JOHN TO BOSTON. †8.50 a.m.—For Bangor and points west, Freder icton, St. Stephen, Houlton and Woodstock.
†4.45 p. m.—Express for Fredericton and intermediate stations.

\$3.30 p. m.—Night Express for Bangor, Portland, Boston and points west; also for St. Stephen, Houl ton, Woodstock, Presque Isle. PULLMAN SLEEPING CAR ST. JOHN TO BANGOR. RETURNING TO ST. JOHN FROM Bangor at †6.30 a.m., Parlor Car attached; †7.30 p.

Man, Sleeping Car attached. Vanceboro at \$1.15; \$11.30 a. m.; \$12.00 p. m. Woodstock at 6.00; \$11.40 a. m.; \$12.00 p. m. Houlton at \$6.00; \$11.40 a. m.; \$12.00 p. m. St. Stephen at \$1.55 a. m.; \$11.30; \$19.45 p. m. St. Andrews at \$16.50 a. m.

Fredericton at †6.25; †12 m.; †3.15 p. m. Arriving in St. John at ¶5.45; †9.10 a. m.; †3.00; 7.00 p. m. LEAVE CARLETON FOR FAIRVILLE. †8.00 a m.-Connecting with 8.50 a. m, train from

†4.30 p. m.—Connecting with 4.45 p. m. train from St. John. BASTERN STANDARD TIME. Trains marked † run daily except Sunday. ‡Daily except Saturday. ¶Daily except Monday. F. W. CRAM, Gen. Manager. H. D. McLEOD, Supt. Southern Division. A. J. HEATH, Gen. Pass. Agent, St. John, N. B.

Intercolonial Railway.

1888---Winter Arrangement---1889

O^N and after MONDAY, November 26th, the trains of this Railway will run daily (Sunday excepted) as follows:—

TRAINS WILL LEAVE ST. JOHN.

Day Express..... 7 30 Express for Sussex......16 35 A Sleeping Car will run daily on th 18.00 train to On Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, a Sleeping Car for Montreal will be attached to the Quebec Express, and on Monday, Wednesday and Friday a Sleeping Car will be attached at Moncton.

TRAINS WILL ARRIVE AT ST. JOHN.

Express from Halifax and Quebec..... 7 00 Express from Sussex..... 8 35 All trains are run by Eastern Standard time.

D. POTTINGER, Chief Superintendent. RAILWAY OFFICE, Moncton, N. B., November 20, 1888.

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AND OTHERS INTERESTED IN CHEAP TELEPHONES.

THE St. JOHN TELEPHONE COMPANY are about opening a Telephone Exchange in this city, and are making arrangements, which will be completed in a very short time, for giving the public telephones at much less rates than have heretofore obtained in this city.

A Company also purpose starting a Factory in this city for the manufacture of Telephones and other electrical apparatus, thus starting a new industry. The ST. JOHN TELEPHONE COMPANY ask the public to wait until a representative of their company shall call upon them This company is purely a local one, and we cordially solicit your support in our endeavor to introduce a new, better and cheaper Telephone than any yet offered the public.

ST. JOHN TELEPHONE CO. the office of The Provincial Oil Co., Robertson Place, where those wishing to subscribe may sign subscribe may sign