

THE WORLD OF BOOKS.

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 "Tweedledoo" of Mr. Stevenson.

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.

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."

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 Hugo.

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 Phoebe 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 "Stevens' Around the World on a Bicycle" following in order of popularity.

John Ward, Preacher, has reached its 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 Cyclopaedia of Music and Musicians is nearly ready for delivery with the Scribners in this country. In England the work will be published by Bernard Quaritch.

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 London.

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 illustrations.

"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 Squere, who remarked of Tilda Price that it was 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.

The Scribners' illustrated catalogue of holiday books makes as tasteful and useful a guide to choice gifts for Christmas as one could 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.

A delightful Christmas article by Donald G. Mitchell and a Christmas poem by J. Whitcombe Riley 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 Hamilton W. Mabie are also among the contributors.

MUSIC, AT HOME AND ABROAD.

I imagined that the reason for the attendance 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 was to annoy those who went to listen to 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 slang) carrying-on in a sacred edifice on an evening when the proceedings are opened by a surpliced clergyman with prayer, and concluded with the singing of 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 whippers 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 ban 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. 9, Pastorale by Zipoli and Canon by Martini.

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 breakdown.

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 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 crescendo and diminuendo, 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 ago. For an initial performance the service 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 houses.

HAROLD GILBERT. - - Announcements for the Holidays.

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 their orders early to insure prompt delivery.

Reed and Rattan Goods.

- GENTS EASY CHAIRS; LADY'S " " GENTS' ROCKERS; LADIES' do; MISSES' do; UPHILL do; SEWING CHAIRS; RECEPTION CHAIRS; WORK BASKETS; CENTRE TABLES.

FURNITURE.

- LADIES' SECRETARIES; GENTS' do; STUDENTS' CHAIRS; CARPET ROCKERS; FANCY TABLES; CARD do; LOUNGES; PLATFORM ROCKERS; HALL STANDS; MANTLE MIRRORS.



Reed and Rattan Goods

ARE ALL in the newest finish and colorings, viz:

- CHERRY, ANTIQUE OAK, MAHOGANY, BRONZE, COPPER, RUSTY BRONZE, GILT, White and Gold, Blue and Gold, etc. etc.

MY NEW Furniture Warerooms

are now nearly completed, and will be opened at an early date with a complete assortment of

Household Furniture.

HAROLD GILBERT, - - - Carpet and Furniture Warerooms,

54 KING STREET, ST. JOHN, N. B.

ROYAL HOTEL, ST. JOHN, N. B.

T. F. RAYMOND, Proprietor. QUEEN HOTEL, FREDERICTON, N. B.

J. A. EDWARDS - Proprietor. FINE SAMPLE ROOM IN CONNECTION. Also, a First Class Livery Stable. Coaches at trains and boats.

ELLIOTT'S HOTEL, 28 to 32 Germain Street, St. John, N. B. MODERN IMPROVEMENTS. Terms - \$1.00 Per Day. Tea, Bed and Breakfast, 75 Cents. E. W. ELLIOTT, Proprietor.

Hotel Dufferin, St. John, N. B.

FRED. A. JONES, Proprietor. Best \$1 House in the Maritime Provinces. Hawarden Hotel, Cor. Prince Wm. and Duke Sts., ST. JOHN, N. B.

WM. CONWAY, Proprietor. Terms, \$1.00 per Day; Weekly Board \$4.00. BELMONT HOTEL, ST. JOHN, N. B.

The most convenient Hotel in the city. Directly opposite N. B. & Intercolonial Railway Station. Baggage taken to and from the depot free of charge. Terms—\$1 to \$2.50 per day. J. SIME, Proprietor.

VICTORIA HOTEL, (FORMERLY WAVERLY), 81 to 87 King Street ST. JOHN, N. B.

D. W. MCCORMICK, Proprietor. Fancy Soaps, - IN IMITATION OF - APPLES, PEARS, WALNUTS, ORANGES, LEMONS and STRAWBERRIES, Also, ROSES (Pale and Deep), MARGARETTS, 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.

R. D. McARTHUR, MEDICAL HALL, No. 50 Charlotte street, opp. King Square.

For the School Children An Elegant Card Given Away WITH EVERY SCHOOL BOOK. - ALSO - 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, Sydney Street.

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. 10.50 a. m.—For Bangor and points west, Fredericton, St. Stephen, Houlton and Woodstock. 1.45 p. m.—Express for Fredericton and intermediate stations. 1.30 p. m.—Night Express for Bangor, Portland, Boston and points west; also for St. Stephen, Houlton, Woodstock, Presque Isle. PULLMAN SLEEPING CAR ST. JOHN TO BANGOR.

RETURNING TO ST. JOHN FROM Bangor at 10.30 a. m., Parlor Car attached; 1.30 p. m., Sleeping Car attached. Yancober at 11.15; 11.30 a. m.; 12.00 p. m. Woodstock at 6.00; 11.40 a. m.; 12.20 p. m. Houlton at 12.00; 11.40 a. m.; 12.30 p. m. St. Stephen at 11.55 a. m.; 11.30; 12.45 p. m. St. Andrews at 11.50 a. m.; Fredericton at 12.25; 12.45; 1.15 p. m. Arriving in St. John at 10.45; 12.00 a. m.; 1.00 p. m.

LEAVE CARLETON FOR FAIRVILLE. 12.00 p. m.—Connecting with 8.50 a. m. train from St. John. 1.30 p. m.—Connecting with 4.45 p. m. train from St. John.

EASTERN STANDARD TIME. Trains marked * run daily except Sunday. † Daily except Saturday. 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

ON and after MONDAY, November 26th, the trains of the Railway will run daily (Sunday excepted) as follows—

TRAINS WILL LEAVE ST. JOHN. Day Express..... 7 30 Accommodation..... 11 20 Express for Sussex..... 16 25 Express for Halifax and Quebec..... 18 00

A Sleeping Car will run daily on the 18.00 train to Halifax. 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 55 Accommodation..... 13 30 Day Express..... 19 20 All trains en route by Eastern Standard time.

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

NICHOL'S Sulphite of Lime,

FOR PRESERVING CIDER, WILL KEEP CIDER GOOD FOR YEARS.

The genuine for sale by C. P. CLARKE, 100 KING STREET.

TO TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBERS 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 propose 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. A representative of the Company will be at the office of The Provincial Oil Co., Robertson Place, where those wishing to subscribe may sign subscribers' list.

NEW FRUIT!

Valencia Raisins; Valencia Layer Raisins. PRIME FRUIT. RECEIVED THIS WEEK.

GILBERT BENT & SONS. SOUTH MARKET WHARF.