PROGRESS, SATTREAY, AUG. 11.

THE WORLD OF BOOKS.

Two New Novels.

Among the almost innumerable novels which crowd the reviewer's desk, it is rare to find one which calls for more than passing notice. So ephemeral are they, as a rule, that almost before the ink is dry on the review their little day is sped. But congratulation also, that the prices at here and there appears a work which seems to contain an element of permanencysome inherent virtue of force, of insight, or of pure beauty, which may prevail to keep it from the dust of the upper shelves. Two such works are those which I have before me. Utterly unlike in almost all respects, they have this in common, that they are books to be taken seriously. They cannot be ignored.

The Truth About Tristrem Varick* has been the subject of hot discussion, and has been treated to much of a certain kind of censure, which must have greatly assisted by hundreds of others for its real literary its sales. With a wise regard to that human weakness which makes forbidden fruit ever attractive, the publishers have taken care that their advertisements of this novel should suggest the spice of naughtiness which it contains, and, acting on the hint, the critics have saved themselves much trouble by devoting their notice mainly to this feature. I cannot but think that in this respect the book must have disappointed many purchasers. Those who were looking for realistic descriptions after the painful style of M. Zola, and those who thought to find such sensuous imaginings as those of M. Maupassant or Theophile Gautier, alike must have regretted their half dollar. The story is of another type than these; and though the plot turns on a hideous crime, the crime itself is not brought under the analyst's microscope, is there much inducement offered to any emulation of the Pessimistic the author intends that his work shall be, but in spite of himself it is not wholly so. The hero is disillusioned, if ever a man was, but the reader does not find himself of necessity in a like case. The purity, the sincerity, the singleness of purpose of the hero furnish an antidote to the horrors of the climax, and written, all from her own experience with against the surroundings which Mr. Saltus the finest elephants of Asia. "Pets in Artist Life," by Eleanor Lewis, has some paints for us the one villainy stands out as a monstrous and almost unbelievable exception. As a piece of art the story demands unstinted commendation. The construction of the plot is altogetier admirable, for unity, for ingenuity, for compactness. As for the style, it is exquisite. Mr. Saltus has a love of absolute beauty for its and Mrs. Leonowens, and there are also own sake which gives his prose an enduring tascination. He has a singular the hness in his epithets, and his rhythms are new and charming. To match the beauty of English in his paraphrase from Flaubert-the dialogue between the Sphinx and the Chimaera -one would have to search far indeed. These two or three pages have a loveliness which I do not think it rash to call imperishable.

Mrs. Deland's book† is important because it voices a feeling which occupies at the present many hearts. The plot is the reverse of elaborate, though many may regard it as improbable. The whole story hinges on the question of eternal condemnation. John Ward, preacher to the straightest sect of the Presbyterians, is a character of extreme nobility, much narrowness, and inexorable logic. He takes to himself a wife who is all that a woman should be or could be. This wife fails to reconcile the omnipotence and omniscience of a benevolent Deity with an eternity of agony for those dying in their sins. Hence follows-what I would advise my readers to find out for themselves as soon as possible. The heroine, John Ward's wife, speaks for a vast constituency,—and she speaks with burning earnestness and unimpeachable sincerity. Herein lie the power and interest of the work.

CHARLES G. D. ROBERTS.

The Best Plays of the Old Dramatists.

The eleventh and twelfth volumes of the Mermaid series, t like the preceding ones, need mention only, and not eulogy, since their literary and mechanical excellence will be taken for granted. William Wycherley is represented in the former volume by four of his comedies, "Love in a Wood," "The Gentleman Dancing Master," "The Country Wife" and "The Plain Dealer." These are edited by Mr. William C. Ward, who contributes a just and appreciative introduction and notes.

Five of the best plays of John Ford make up the twelfth volume, which has been capably edited by Mr. Havelock

The excellent engravings which form such an attractive feature of Messrs. Vizetelly's publications are not absent from these volumes, which have as their respectit. Please do step on the horrid thing." New York Sporting Times. tive frontispieces a portrait of Wycherley, from the picture by Sir Peter Lely, and a photogravure of "The Bankside and Its Theatres" as they were in 1620.

Forthcoming volumes of the series are announced to contain the masterpieces of market, when Dumley chanced to meet them. Ben Jonson, edited by Brinsley Nicholson and C. H. Herford; Otway, by Hon.

* The Truth About Tristrem Varick. By Edgar Saltus. New York and Chicago: Belford, Clarke & Co.

† John Ward, Preacher. By Margaret Deland.
Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

† William Wycherley. Edited, with an introduction and notes, by W. C. Ward. (Mermaid Series, vol. XI.) Illustrated. London: Vizetelly & Co.
St. John: J. & A. McMillan.

2s. 6d. John Ford. Edited, with an introduction and notes, by Havelock Ellis. (The Mermaid Series, vol. XII.) Illustrated. London: Vizetelly & Co. St. John: J. & A. McMillan. 2s. 6s.

Roden Neal; Heywood, by John Addington Symonds and A. W. Verity; Shadwell, by George Saintsbury; Dryden, by R. Garnett; Chapman, by Brinsley Nicholson and W. G. Stone; Etheredge and Sedley, by Arthur Symons, and other works equally worthy of preservation. It is matter of wonderment, all things considered, but of which these books are sold bring them within the reach of every student.

Mr. Knight's Collected Papers.

A number of pleasant, racy sketches, descriptive and otherwise, published in the Halifax papers, have been collected by the bright author, Mr. J. T. P. Knight, who is well known under the nom de plume of "Vagrant" and published in a handsome pamphlet by Messrs. J. & A. McMillan. A Landsman's Log Book should prove very interesting to Haligonians and will be read worth. Published by and for sale at J. & A. McMillan's. Price 50 cents.

The Magazines.

So great has been the success of The Writer, the Boston magazine for literary workers, that its publishers propose to enlarge it in January, at the beginning of the next volume, and to increase the price to \$2 a year. The Writer was started only a year and a half ago, but it has already made itself a permanent place among the standard monthly magazines. It is earnest, practical, bright, helpful and interesting, and it stands unique as the only periodical in the world devoted to discussing the practical details of literary production. The August number is full of good reading for literary workers. \$1 a year; 10 cents a number. The Writer, Box 1905, Bos-

All boys will enjoy the frontispiece of the August Wide Awake, "The Crisis," a wild Canadian river scene, also the accompanying story of peril and pluck, "Saved on the Brink," by Macdonald Oxley; and both boys and girls will have great fun over James Otis' complete serial, "A Neck-tie Party," for it is a jolly story. One of the most beautiful things in the number is a "parable" entitled "The Temple of Music." In 'The Elephants of an Indian Prince" Miss Risley Seward offers the young folks the most entertaining elephant article ever beautiful pictures and some very amusing anecdotes. There is a charming little tale for the little folks by Katharine Macquoid, about two little girls and "A Sabot." Other contributions are by Edward Everett Hales, Dr. Garnett, Mrs. James T. Fields, Mrs. Sherwood, Mrs. Crowninshield, Margaret Sydney, Mrs. Frances A. Humphrey an article on Hans Andersen, an account of the baby Buddhas in Thibet by Mrs. Leonowens, instructions how to make a "handy microscope," together with Tangles, Letters from Children, poems, prizequestions and pictures. \$2 a year, 20 cents a number. Boston: D. Lothrop Co.

Notes and Announcements.

Newspaper Libel is the title of a novel and interesting work just published by Ticknor & Co., Boston. It is a practical treatise, and the first work on the subject yet published in America designed for popular use and the use of the newspaper profession. The author is Samuel Merrill. He is a newspaper man as well as a lawyer, and has made a book that will be indispensable to publishers and writers for the press. The work treats of the law of libel in the Dominion of Canada as well as in the States, and will be found of interest

Will We be Bald or Gray?

Dr. Hammond, some months ago, raised the interesting inquiry as to whether the coming man will be bald, but we think a rarer problem will first suggest itself, and that is, will the coming young man be grayhaired, or more accurately, white-haired? White hair is no longer a sure index of age. Many of the barbers in this city keep in their collection of tools tweezers, which they have been confidentially requested by their patrons to use to pluck such white hairs as they discover. Many of the young men discover silver threads among the gold, and the number of instances of perfectly whitened heads with the fair skin, bright eyes and energetic step of youth are so greatly increased as no longer to be regarded as a lusus naturæ. Some of the most beautiful women to be met with at the present day have pure white hair or grey hair, and it is the opinion that these locks add to the charm of their youthful beauty. Let Dr. Hammond add to his interesting monologue on the future baldness of men another on the preliminary universality of white hair .- Evening Sun.

Theory and Practice.

"Oh, you cruel thing," said the girl in he fluffy muslin dress, as the fishing party sat on the bank of the stream. "How can you cut those worms in two that way? You ught not to kill the poor things."
"Why, it doesn't seem to hurt them. We

have to do it anyhow." to be—Ow-wee, there's a great big cat-erpillar on my dress. Brush it off and kill more 'n' I'll have the church skinned."— Merchant Traveller.

Which Accounts For It.

Mrs. Hendricks, the landlady, and Mrs. Simpson, who keeps a rival establishment round the corner, were returning from He almost swept the ground with his hat.
"That is Mr. Dumley, my fourth floor

back," explained Mrs. Hendricks.
"Indeed!" said Mrs. Simpson, "what a very polite and deferential young man."
"He is three weeks behind with his board," said Mrs. Hendricks, grimly .- | title? Texas Siftings.

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MUSIC, AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Dearth of musical news, both abroad and at home, makes it rather a difficult matter to write anything readable this week for my column.

The 62nd band played its best when accompanying the hymns at the Mission church last Sunday, and was admirably in tune with both organ and choir. From all I have heard, the officers and men were well pleased with the service, and I was not a little surprised to find how many joined in the singing of the hymns, especially the processional. Mr. White conducted his men capitally, having them well in hand, this being specially noticeable in the last

I hear that the successor of Mr. Gubb is likely to be an organist from Charlottetown, but I have not been able to verify it as an

Madame Albani has undertaken to make a concert tour in the Dominion of Canada at the beginning of next year. The artists engaged to support her include Miss Damian and Mr. Barrington Foote. It is expected that the tour will last six weeks. Regarding its success there can be no manner of doubt.

The London Telegraph publishes this in a recent number. It is to be hoped that St. John will be included in the tour.

Arrangements are at last completed for producing the Gilbert and Sullivan opera at the Casino. The new work will be seen here simultaneously with its production in London. The opera is not yet named, or, being named, its title has not yet been divulged. The date for the production is November 12. Contrary to general expectation, the plot is laid in Northern Europe. The first act represents the harbor of Hammerfest, the capital of the Norwegian province of Finmark, with the glaciers of the Darlekarlian Alps in the distance. The folk-songs of the Norwegians are of especial beauty, and this has been taken advantage of to the fullest extent, while some of the old-fashioned customs and practices of the Northern people afford play for the sparkling wit and peculiar humor of Mr. Gilbert. The end of the second act takes place in the aula of the great Swedish University. The the great Gustavus Wasa and the revolt of per cent. in weight the first month, and if the Darlekarlians and the Miners of Falun. In the presentation of the work there will be double choruses of the students and the Falun miners, with their wives and daughters. The solos of Eddas, the prima donna, it is claimed, surpass the best of Sir Arthur's previous compositions. There will be eleven principals in the cast, a chorus of 70-40 male and 30 female voices-and the orchestra will number 30 pieces. It may be interesting here to add that Sir Arthur Sullivan was a student at Leipsic Conservatory with August Soederman, the great Swedish musician, and Neil W. Gade, the famous Danish composer .- New York World.

From the above cutting it appears that admirers of the Gilbert and Sullivan combination will have to possess themselves with patience until the 12th of November.

FELIX.

WHY BEAN HOLLER WILTED.

Could Get Along Without a Church, as Long as Its Nine Was Winning.

"Sort o' all-goneness to the place, you

"What's the cause? Has the plague

"Plague? Wuss nor a plague; a plague hain't nowhar. See that stun buildin' over

"Yes." "Union store once." Had five clerks and a feller to count money. You don't see no signs o' biz there now? Course you don't. Had to have a short stop, though, what could gobble up daisy-cutters without peel-in' the skin off his nose." "Short stop?"

"Jess so. Pulled the money out the bank, shut up the Union store, and got a short stop what pulls the rag off the brush. See that steeple up there 'mong the trees on the hill?

"Yes. That's your church?" "Jess so. Hain't no preachin' there now, though. A dandy fuss-class preacher costs five hundred, but we changed off and got a ripsnortin', bang-up pitcher this year instead. He's a lil' o' the fuss water. Arter we got a pitcher we had to have a catcher to hold him. Sold the church organ for four hundred. Got a crack back-Then we had to have a first baseman. The bell that used to call us up Sunday to our weekly dose o' gospel music went, and we got a first baseman. So it went. The drug-man mortgaged his soda fountain to get a fuss-class left fielder, an' the butcher sold his wagon to buy a smart uniform for our baseball club. I tell you, there hain't nuthin' we go on so hefty as we do on our club. When a game is on you can't find no one but me in town-"

"And why do you stay here alone?"
"Keep it on the Q T. I live over on Bed-Bug Hill. I—well—I'm peelin' the "No, you don't any such thing. You have no right to take the life of any other creature. Just think; how would you like carpet off the church to buy a new roof for our grand stand. We got a club on the Hill that can knock the socks off the Hol-

It Pinched Her.

At the Seaside: She, bathing for the first time in her new suit—Why, Charles, how strange! It feels just as though I had my

shoes on. Charles—Hold up your feet and let's see. She(screaming)—Why, it's a crabl— Burlington Free Press.

A Veteran.

Major Smith-Col. Jones, can you tell me where Gen. Robinson got his military Col. Jones—Certainly, sir. He was general ticket agent at Kalamazoo, Mich., for six years.—Puck.

or to hire, at Bell's, 25 King street.

HOW A BABY GROWS.

Slason Thompson, Formerly of Fredericton, Confronted With Solemn Facts.

[Chicago News.] Yesterday we were honored with a call from Alexander Slason Thompson, com-piler of Humbler Poets and associate editor of our esteemed hebdomadal contemporary, America. He was looking so well and so happy that we could not forbear congratulating him upon his robust appearance and upon the peace of mind and the tranquility of temper which his cheerful countenance and lively conversation betokened.

"Yes," said he, "business affairs are in a highly prosperous condition. The paper is adding thousands of names weekly to its subscription list, advertisements are plentiful, and from every part of the country we are receiving assurances that our efforts toward encouraging a better class of literature are heartily appreciated. But, cheering as all these things are, none of them contributes so largely to my happiness as does the well-being of my little daughter, that voiceful cherub which heaven vouchsafed to me six weeks ago last Wednesday."

"Ah, that is true," said we, "and how is the child-how thrives the little Eugenia?" "Most parents," answered Mr. Thompson, "are so blinded by prejudice as to be wholly incompetent to pass an impartial opinion upon their progeny, therefore I have applied myself with uncommon earnestness of purpose to weighing the merits and demerits of this child to the end that I might be able to give an intelligent and unbiased judgment thereon, and I find that, divesting my mind of all the prejudices incident to paternity, the little Eugenia is indeed the most beauteous, the most amiable and the most precocious infant I ever had to do with. Therefore it is with pride and joy that I note her constant and rapid physical growth and the gradual but distinct development of her mental powers, which in their unfolding remind me of the unfolding of a rosebud.

"She is now six weeks old, you say?" "Yes, and when she was born she weighed only four pounds. But unless all signs are wrong, she will speedily illustrate the truth of that homely saying which teaches us that 'Big oaks from little acorns

"Weighing but four pounds at birth she weighed six pounds when she was one month old. Now my friend Bryan Lathrop, who has that genius at figuring which all Vermonters have, tells me that if the child continues to gain at the rate she has grown since her birth, she will weigh 48 pounds when she is six months old. If she does, she will be the biggest baby on the period of the opera is that of the time of North Side. You see she has gained 50 in the near future. she keeps it up she will increase materially every month. The indications are that she will, and I pray to heaven that these sweet promises will be fully realized."

"Unhappy man," we cried, "you know not what you say. It is not within reason to suppose you seriously hope that Eugenia will actually gain 50 per cent. in weight each month !"

"Certainly I do," said he, "and there is every prospect that she will, heaven be

"Alas," we sighed, "most wretched of human beings, you know not what you invite! If Eugenia continues to gain 50 per J. Bond, some of the pies bringing \$3.50 cent. in weight each month, she will at the each. The proceeds were to help complete end of the year weigh more than any other person on earth!"

each. The proceeds were to help con the hall and the sale realized \$22.50.

A new lodge of Good Tomplars is

"Oh, you get out—you be darned!"
"Take your pencil and figure it for your self. She weighs 4 pounds at birth, 6 pounds at 1 month, 9 pounds at 2 months, 13½ pounds at 3 months, about 21 pounds at 4 months, 32 pounds at 5 months, 48 pounds at 6 months. From this period the gain will be more rapid, yet still at the same ratio. She will weigh 72 pounds at 7 months, 108 pounds at 8 months, 162 pounds at 9 months, 243 pounds at 10 months, 365 pounds at 11 months, and 547 pounds at 12 months! Just think of itthere are the figures-Eugenia 1 year old

and weighing 547 pounds avoirdupois!"

Mr. Thompson said nothing; he simply stared at the figures in a dazed, semi-coma-

"By the time your child reached the age when children run about and play," we continued, "she would weigh several thousand pounds. She would become an annoyance rather than a delight. You could not take her on your lap unless you raised her and held her there by means of steam pul-leys; if, in her childish play, she happened to trip and fall, the chances are that she would break through the floor and keep on falling, clean through to the cellar; just imagine what a noise she would make when she woke up in the night with a colic—the concussion of her cries would shatter all the window glass in the neighborhood. Consider, too, the expense of rearing such a child—what a vast amount of food she would require, how much leather would be required for shoes, and what acres of muslin would be demanded for a petticoat or a

"How much would she weigh by the time she got her growth?" asked Mr. Thompson,

"We have not the time to figure it," said we, "but it would be many, many billions of pounds. With each ton of flesh she acquired you would be put to more and more expense and greater and greater trouble. You could not take her out with you to parties or concerts, nor would the beaus dare to, because if they'd ask her if she'd have some soda water or ice cream, and she accepted, she bankrupt the richest Crœsus on earth. Just imagine a girl weighing 18,000,000 pounds stepping in Gunther's and trying to slake her thirst! The probability is that so far as you were con-cerned you would be kept constantly busy enlarging your house. Would this not be

Mr. Thompson said nothing. He groaned dismally and he was the picture of mis

"In all this," said we, "is to be seen the utter vapidity of human happiness. A few moments ago you were rejoicing in your daughter's seeming prosperity, but now you discover that you have mursed a delu-sion, and that the very growth which you hailed and for whose continuance you prayed is likely to become a sorrow-a burden too heavy for you to bear. Foolish man, invite no misfortune by tempting Providence with silly prayers and vain impor-tunities. Accept that which is as for the best, and esteem that only as happiness which neither the present concerns nor the

future can affect." Best makes of pianos and organs for sale It seemed as if all the sunlight had sud denly gone out of his life.

LODGE-ROOM ECHOES.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows. North Star lodge, No. 48, which was necessarily unrepresented in the brief sketches published in No. 13 of Progress, was organized July 11, 1884. John Allingham, John Cantley, Robert Järdine, John Gilker and Thomas G. Scott were the charter members. The noble grands up to date have been: H. W. Bowles, A. E. Alexander, R. Jardine, D. F. Graham, J. V. Vantier and W. E. Williams. The last named is the sitting N. G., with John Jackson V. G.; Robert Young, R. S.; Robert G. Duff, P. S., and A. D. Mc-

Kendrick, Treas. The present member-

ship of the lodge is 74.

The Grand lodge session opened at Amherst, Wednesday, with about 70 representatives present. The morning of that day was given up to a delightful sail down the river. In the afternoon, the reports were presented. Grand Master Stewart made but one recommendation, that the term of office of the Grand Master be extended to two years. The reports of the year's work presented by Grand Secretary Frazee and Grand Treasurer Taylor, showed the following evidences of the prosperity of the order in this jurisdiction: Numerical strength last year, as corrected, 2,386 gross increase, 329; gross decrease, 282 net increase, 46; now in membership, 2,432; total receipts for the year, \$13,972; total expenditure, \$12,179; amount paid out for relief of brothers, \$2,275; for families of deceased brothers, \$312; burial of deceased Odd Fellows, \$466; special relief, \$270; total amount of invested funds, \$21,100.

Loyal Orange Association.

The Grand Orange Lodge of British North America will hold its anual sessions this year in Winnipeg, Aug. 28 and 29. The Grand Lodge of New Brunswick has decided not to send a delegate to the meetings, and any member who attends from this district will go on his own account. County Master James Kelly is the only one who has decided to attend the sessions. He will leave here for Winnipeg the 15th

The case of the County lodge vs. Davidson & Co. will come up at the next session of the supreme court. This is an action for damages, preferred by the lodge, which owns a large tract of land at St. Martins, off which, it is claimed, the defendants have been cutting lumber for a number of years. The suit is for \$10,000 damages.

The prospects are good for an "Orange hall," owned by Orangemen, in St John, Choice Table Butter and

York District lodge annual session will be held at Nashwaak village, on Thursday, Aug. 23. The session commences at Oak Farm Dairy Butter Store,

Independent Order of Good Templars. On Wednesday evening last the new temperance hall at Gondola point was the attraction for the many summer tourists there The occasion was a musical and literary entertainment, held under the auspices of Garfield lodge. A number from the city was present. Mr. John Law presided, and after the entertainment disposed of a large number of pies at auction, assisted by Mr.

A new lodge of Good Templars is shortly to be organized at the Second Lake, Loch Lemond.

I. W. Fisher, L. D. of Golden Grove lodge, installed its officers with Wm. Adams, C. T., and Miss Jessie Adams, R. S. Garfield lodge will install their officers Monday evening.

Knights of Pythias.

The report of Supreme Keeper of Records and Seal R. L. C. White shows the order to be in a very gratifying condition. He says "the number of subordinate lodges Dec. 31, 1887, was 3,015, and the number of members 208,949, being a net gain, during the calendar year, of 292 lodges and 23,961 members."

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