PROGRESS, SATURDAY, APRIL 20.

THE WORLD OF BOOKS.

New Novels.

Let us take this for a text : "There are worse things than losing one's hand, doushka."

"What is worse?"

"To have the eye of the public always at one's key-hole. A man might go mad for that, thrust his pen through the opening and put it out, and so have no readers for his manuscripts. The sensation of being eternally pried upon,-there is nothing much worse than that : and that is the penalty."

Viewed as a reproof of the curiously vulgar and vulgarly curious who have sought to cut Amelie Rives into pieces small enough to fit the slides of their mental microscopes, we find these sentences satisfactory. The best rejoinder to partial or prudish critics is her book itself. The Witness of the Sun* is distinctly superior to The Quick or the Dead. As in the latter work, Miss Rives has limited the number of her characters and drawn them large, but the relative disproportion that was one of the serious blemishes of the earlier novel is not observable here." Our author has learned as much of values as she knew about light, tone and color. She has gained somewhat, too, by cultivating a judicious repression. There is exaggeration in The Witness of the Sun, but it is the exaggeration that dignifies, not that which distorts. What there is of oddity and affectation pertains to character and not to its description. Thanks to the breadth of the canvas, we have a painting rather than a study and the figures that stand out so plainly against the warm Italian background are drawn with a firm hand. Hero and heroine not only live but they are alive : to the practised reader of fiction the distinction should be apparent. The hero's mother is sufficiently natural, but she is not lovable. The little Lotta is lovable but hardly natural. In the cases of these, one feels, the author's enthusiasm has warped her judgement : but the indictment does not lie against other of the personages that lend force to the movement of the story. A sad story it is, on the whole. The confirmed novel-reader, accustomed to end to the strains of the Wedding March, will miss that agreeable accompaniment. The book is for those who have learned to view life in the large and who are able to recognize genius before a hundred years has passed over its work. It will interest such persons and the fragrant memory of it will abide with them. * * Watchers and listeners at Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett's keyhole, limiting their interest to her accent and her dresses, have not yet been able to tell us the secret of her activity and her success. We may gather that from the study of this delightful new book of hers. † She does not spend her strength in analyzing emotions or labelling motives. Attracted by subtle sympathy to a passing group, she begins by loving them and ends by knowing them. When she writes, she becomes a realist, but a realist who disdains trivialities, basing her claim upon her keen perception of essential humanity. No author more completely identifies herself with her characters. She shrinks from creating a villain. Her women may be wilful, as was'Jose's "pretty sister," but they are seldom hard, cold or unloving. The sum of all this is sure to be a restful and refreshing book, bubbling over with the joy of life, full of the sentiment that warms without scorching. The Pretty Sister of Jose is a very winsome little sister and Mr. Reinhart's clever sketches assist Mrs. Burnett to make her and her companions emphatically real to Bearing the imprimatur of the Atlantic Monthly, in which it appeared as a serial, Prof. Hardy's Passe Roset comes to us under the best possible auspices. The author of But Yet a Woman has here given us his most important work. The mechanical construction of the tale is far superior to] its predecessors, and the skeleton has been clothed upon with rare fidelity. Man and nature are both the gainers by Prof. Hardy's increased power. His characters are clearcut, consistent, well adjusted to their en- Co. purchasing the copyrights, electrotype vironment, harmonious in movement. The plates and stock of their miscellaneous heroine, to be sure, does irrational things, but only, it would seem, by way of proving | Mifflin & Co. materially strengthen their her womanliness. Her toster-mother, Jeanne, is drawn with a grace of tenderness that makes her lovely in her utmost unloveliness. The hero is not conspicuous, but he is not disappointing. We may be pardoned for calling attention to the genre painting of Brother Dominic, which is, to our mind, a most felicitous study. Aside from these characters, the chief charm of the book has its source in the author's intimate and loving knowledge of nature, which

MUSICAL AND THEATRICAL.

Dr. Rameau* differs very widely from the It has, at last, occurred to the mind of the irreslop-shop version sent out by Bryce of pressible interviewer to give the world some exact Toronto. Dr. Rameau is not in method particulars, gathered from the best sources of infor suggestive of The Ironmaster, nor strongly mation, with regard to the waists of eminent actresses (next the same authority will turn his atso in style. It slights incidents to deal tention to male waists). He says that Miss Kate with events. It has an undertone of con-Vaughan has the smallest waist on the stage. Miss Ellen Terry is about at the head of the profesviction. It preaches a moral that, were it sion in waists. Her waist measures 28 inches, told as loudly as it is forcibly, all the world which is just an inch more than the circumference might hear. The central figure, Dr. of the Venus of Milo. Then comes Mary Anderson Rameau, is a savant and an atheist. Proswith 26 in. Miss Eastlake rivals Miss Terry; Mrs. Bernard Beere measures 27 in.; Miss Dorothy perity and suffering alike confirm his Dene, 24 in.; Miss Kate Rorke, 23 in.; Miss Mary Moore and Miss Norreys, 22 in. Finally comes Miss Kate Vaughan with a waist of 21.5 inches in finally reaches a more hopeful conception circumference .- London Court Journal. of life and duty-it shall remain for the

W. A. Whitecar has been getting married again, Laura Almosnine, of a Hoyt-The title of James Anthony Froude's new novel, which the Scribners will bring out in America, will be The Two Chiefs of Dun-Color Blindness in Its Relation to Rail- ing how many or whom her successors will

road Employees and the Public, a valuable

paper by Prof. G. Sterling Ryerson, of Trinity Medical college, is published by J. E. Bryant & Co., of Toronto. For European tourists, the Scribners are about to issue a new and revised edition of

their Index Guide to Travel and Art Study in Europe. This is the only European guide which is illustrated, and especially devotes itself to art subjects.

it is certain that her translation of Ohnet's

opinions. By what tortuous path he

reader of these luminous pages to learn.

boy.

Notes and Announcements.

The forthcoming new edition of the Erckmann-Chatrian works of French fiction will include their national novels, such as Waterloo, The Conscript, etc., upon which the reputations of these writers rests. There will be six volumes in all of the new edition. the set being in uniform binding.

Almost the only new English poet who has won a way into American magazines in] the past two or three years is Mr. Graham R. Tomson, a collection of whose verse is about to be issued by Longman, Green & Co., (almost at the same time that they publish Col. Higginson's poems.) Mr. Tomson's book is called The Bird- Together with Red, Long Late, Alsike and Bride, a Volume of Ballads and Sonnets : the title ballad is of interest to America, in that it is an Eskemo legend.

Evidence that the popular demand for religious works of importance is not on the wane comes from the Scribners in the

Thomas comedy company, being the bride this time. Her predecessors were Sallie Partington and Belle Melville, but Whitecar is so susceptible that there's no know-The Folio, for April, has a portrait of

Kyrle Bellew for frontispiece, a great number of readable notes, and six pieces of music-all good and one, Blake's transcription of C. A. White's song, "Madaline," likely to be popular .- Boston : White, Smith & Co. Price, \$1.60 a year, 15 cents a number.

Scrofula is transmitted from parent to child, and thus becomes a family inheritance for generations. It is, therefore, the duty of every scrofulous person to cleanse his blood by a thorough and persistent course of Ayer's Sarsaparilla.-Adrt.

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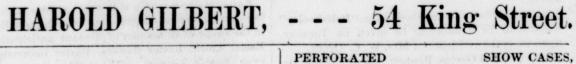
TOILET PAPER,

IN ROLLS.

SHOW CASES,

IN

NICKEL,



success which has attended their most recent theological books. Dr. Shedd's Dogmatic Theology has reached its second edition, while a fourth edition of Dr. Roswell Hitchcock's Eternal Atonement has been called for. The first volume of Dr. Vincent's Word Studies in the New Testament has already gone into its second edition, and Dr. Ladd's What is the Bible? has sold through two printings, with a third

edition just ready. "A Night at the News Desk," by William Taylor, jr., "Every Writer His Own Stationer," by Ernest Brookes, and "Shorthand in Newspaper Work," by Will M. Clemens, are specially good things in the April number of The Writer. There are so many good things, however, that on second thought we question whether it is fair to particularize. Many readers will doubtless derive most benefit from the departments, Queries, Helpful Hints and Suggestions, Literary Articles in Periodicals, and News and Notes, and these are worth a dozen times the cost of the magazine .---Boston: Wm. H. Hills. Price, \$1 a year, 10 cents a number.

The feature of the April number of Lend a Hand is Dr. Hale's address on "The Possible Boston," in which the Nationalist ideal is set forth with admirable clearness and force. "The Work of Cities," by Hon. Seth Low, and Mr. White's paper

on "Public Out-door Relief" have the element of timeliness as well as of interest and value. The same may be said of the 24-page extra accompanying this number, in which are given excellent abstracts of the recent Old South lectures upon municipal government and reform. Lend a Hand is altogether a perfect magazine.— Boston: J. Stillman Smith & Co. Price, \$2 a year, 20 cents a number.

An important change in the publishing business was announced last week, the Boston firm of Ticknor & Co. being dissolved, and Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & publications. By this change Houghton, already remarkably strong list of publications. This firm is now one of the largest as well as one of the most successful firms of publishers in the country. Their books are always of a high order, and their name is everywhere honored. The firm now consists of Messrs. H. O. Houghton, George H. Mifflin, Lawson Valentine, James Murray Kay, Thurlow Weed Barnes, H. O. Houghton, jr. and Thomas B. Ticknor.

"I keep up quite a pleasant and a deon hand, or made at short notice. cidedly lively confab with literary confreres AT AND CHEAPEST IN THE CITY. inspires bits of description that no modern in the dominion," writes our valued con-The best the market affords always on hand novelist need blush to acknowledge. From tributor, Rev. Arthur John Lockhart. P. A. CRUIKSHANK, first page to last, Passe Rose is pure, sweet, "A new-found genial one is Mr. Wick-49 Germain Street, ≩ Gorbell Art Store, 207 Union Street, PERFUMES, Opposite Market Building. healthful and satisfying. steed, of Ottawa, who sends me his 50c. A WEEK. Waifs, containing much good occasional How much the translator helps or verse; and Mr. Waters' Water Lily, a FOR CLOCKS, RUGS, PICTURES, hinders we may never know, when we have poem almost as affluent in fancy and ima-Silver-Plated Ware and Fancy Goods, **Mantel Mirrors.** not the opportunity of comparison. We gery, and quite as full of grace and tendercan have confidence, however, in the accur-FROM ness as Moore's Peri in Lalla Rookh. JONES, -- The Installment Man, acy and ability of Mrs. Cashel Hoey, and Duvar sends cheering report, and likewise Sangster, who would be dearer to 36 DOCK STREET. PICTURE FRAMING A SPECIALTY. * The Witness of the Sun. By Amelie Rives. | the muse and render her good service still, With Portrait. Philadelphia : J. B. Lippincott Co. but he is a nerve-broken man." It will be Flour and Feed Store. PICTURE FRAMING good news to our readers that Mr. Lock-Price, \$1. † The Pretty Sister of Jose. By Frances Hodg- hart will shortly criticise these poems and son Burnett. With twelve illustrations by C. S. other Canadian works-including Mr. F. Wheat, Flour, Buckwheat, A SPECIALTY. Reinhart. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Blake Crofton's masterly monograph on St. John : J. & A. McMillan and Alfred Morrisey. RYE, CORN, OATS, BRAN, SHORTS, Haliburton-at greater length. JENNINGS', 171 Union Street. Price, \$1. From the best mills. Always on hand. † Passe Rose. By Arthur Sherburne Hardy. *Dr. Rameau. By Georges Ohnet. Translated Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. by Mrs. Cashel Hoey. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippin-



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