

THE WORLD OF BOOKS.

William Sharp.

Among us Canadians, and on this side the water generally, the poems of Mr. Sharp have been strangely overlooked.

Mr. Sharp's feeling for the romantic, the supernatural, the heroic, the weirdly suggestive, does not lead him into any contempt for that vital and selective realism, which (as I have said on all possible occasions) must form the basis of all true art.

The present volume* is, as its name implies, arranged in two sections. The first section, Romantic Ballads, contains four poems of the supernatural, which are of themselves sufficient to establish Mr. Sharp's claim to be regarded as a powerful and original singer.

"The Deith-Tide" is not a narrative but rather a lyrical ballad, shorter than its predecessors, but not less admirable.

In the "Poems of Phantasy" the note is sweeter, softer, less strenuous; but that strange and wide-eyed sense of the supernatural is not for a moment absent.

Last night through a haunted land I went, Upon whose margins Ocean leant

And then I came upon a stone Whereon these words were writ alone, The soul who reads, its body dies

*Romantic Ballads and Poems of Phantasy. By William Sharp. London: Printed for the author by Walter Scott, 24 Warwick Lane.

THE WANDERING VOICE.

They hear it in the sunless dale, It moans beside the stream,

They hear it when the woodlands wail, And when the storm-winds scream.

It moans upon the wind, No more Through twilight shadows home—

It comes at dusk, and o'er and o'er Haunts Malcolm's lands.

He rides down by the foaming linn— But hark! what is it calls

With faint, far voice, so shrill and thin, The House of Malcolm falls.

His comrades feast within the room, And through the darkness go—

What is that wailing cry of doom, That scream of woe!

No more in sunless dells, or high On moorland ways is heard the moan

Of the long-wandering prophecy— In moonlit nights alone

A shadowy shape is seen to stand Beside a ruined place:

It waves a wildly threatening hand, It hath a dreadful face.

Mr. Sharp is author of two other volumes of poems—The Human Inheritance, now out of print, and Earth's Voices (London: Elliot Stock).

CHARLES G. D. ROBERTS.

The Poets of Maine.

It is usually as easy to criticise an anthology as it is hard to make one. Tastes differ, and that which one man holds worthy of praise may be condemned by a no more competent judge.

This, to quote the publishers' statement, is a representative volume. It is not merely a collection of the poetry of Maine, but an evidence of the poetic sensibility, taste and culture of the great mass of its people.

Sweet wind that blows o'er sunny isles The softness of the sea, Blow thou across these moving miles

Ripples her hair like waves that sweep About this pleasant shore; Her eyes are bluer than the deep

And the quotation might be many times paralleled, for the average merit of the collection is high. It will serve our purpose, however, to say that, while the editor has omitted no one who had the shadow of a claim to recognition, he has sought unweariedly and successfully for the best work that each has done.

"Good Company."

When the prevailing tendency among publishers is towards good books at low prices, one could hardly expect such an enterprising firm as Messrs. Lee & Shepard

*The Poets of Maine: a Collection of Specimen Poems from Over Four Hundred Versemakers of the Pine-tree State; with Biographical Sketches. Compiled by George Bancroft Griffith. Cloth 8vo, pp. 856. Portland: Elwell, Pickard & Co. Price, \$3.

to do other than lead. That they have not disappointed their friends, the reading public, will be plain to any one who examines the new series which they have appropriately named, "Good Company."

I. The Lover. By Sir Richard Steele. II. The Wishing-Cap Papers. By Leigh Hunt.

III. Fireside Saints. By Douglas Jerrold. IV. Dreamthorpe. By Alexander Smith.

V. A Physician's Problems. By Chas. Elam. VI. Broken Lights. By Frances Power Cobbe.

VII. Religious Duty. By Frances Power Cobbe. VIII. The Schoolmaster. By Roger Ascham.

IX. The Development Theory. By Joseph Y. and Fanny Bergen. X. The Philosophy of Mirth. By B. F. Clark.

XI. The Gentleman. By George H. Calvert. XII. Education. By Herbert Spencer.

The literary quality of these books is indicated by the titles and the authors. Most of them are old friends, and there is not one but is worth reading and owning.

MUSIC, AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Why will amateurs attempt to sing songs that are totally beyond their powers? The range of pretty and effective but simple ballads is so large that it seems to me quite unreasonable that singers should torture the audience, the accompanist and themselves by giving an incomplete rendition of difficult high class music.

I went to the concert in Trinity school-room, last Thursday week, and the thing that struck me most was the total inability (at least on my part) to understand the words that were sung.

I am not going to make a very original remark, but it is certainly interesting to compare the results that accrue from the efforts of a man who knows his business and from those of one who does not.

The English reeds are certainly very choice and without rival in this city, and it is a most fortunate coincidence that they harmonize most beautifully with the rest of the stops of the organ.

The recitals that are announced for the five Fridays of Epiphanytide will be evenings of great musical worth and enjoyment.

Just the Man He Wanted. Attorney for defense (to man drawn as juror)—Permit me to ask you, Mr. Idunno, if you have conscientious scruples against capital punishment?

IF YOU WANT TO BUY



Carpets, Oilcloths, Rugs, Curtains, FURNITURE,

House Furnishing Goods,

ROCK BOTTOM PRICES, HAROLD GILBERT'S

WAREROOMS, 54 King Street, WILL AFFORD YOU THIS OPPORTUNITY.



Terms Liberal.

seems no doubt that this will be a most remarkable series of vocal and instrumental performances, the like of which has seldom, if ever, been given in St. John.

The concert at the Institute, Monday evening, was a performance of more even merit all round than has been given for some time. Some of the solos were especially pleasing, perhaps from the fact that they were all very old, time-worn favorites.

The minstrels have got to work and had a rattling hour and a half practice at two choruses, Tuesday evening. The "boys" were evidently well pleased with their new conductor, Mr. Morley, and by the way he handled them on the first evening, I think that the coming performances will be an advance on the last, not only in the general arrangement of the entertainment but also in the work of the chorus, which will be more evenly balanced, with voices placed in their proper class.

The English reeds are certainly very choice and without rival in this city, and it is a most fortunate coincidence that they harmonize most beautifully with the rest of the stops of the organ.

Attorney for defense (to man drawn as juror)—Permit me to ask you, Mr. Idunno, if you have conscientious scruples against capital punishment? Attorney—Are you opposed, on principle, to the execution of condemned criminals? Juror—Huh? Attorney (hastily)—We'll take this man, your honor.—Chicago Tribune.

1889. Cotton Sale!

Hamburg Embroideries.

We are showing a fine assortment of Hamburgs, Edgings, Insertions and Allovers, in Cambric, Book and Nainsook Muslins—EXTRA VALUE.

COTTONS. Our lines are now about complete in Cottons and Sheetings (White and Grey); also, PILLOW COTTONS in all widths and grades.

London House, Retail, CHARLOTTE and UNION STREETS.

ST. JOHN ACADEMY OF ART. STUDIO BUILDING, 74 GERMAIN ST., SAINT JOHN, N. B.

THE SCHOOL-ROOMS are now open to Pupils from 10 until 5 every day in the week, except Saturday afternoon. The aim of the School is to give Pupils a good training in

DRAWING AND PAINTING. The course taught consists in— Drawing from Models and objects; the Antique; Life; Still Life. Painting from Life.

Principal—JOHN C. MILES, A. R. C. A. Assistant—FRED H. C. MILES SEND FOR CIRCULAR.

Wizard Oil!

I HAVE THIS DAY RECEIVED A SUPPLY OF WIZARD OIL.

The properties of the above famous preparation need no comment.

R. D. McARTHUR, MEDICAL HALL, No. 59 Charlotte street, opp. King Square.

ELEGANT and ATTRACTIVE GOODS FOR PRESENTS.

PERFUMES in great variety; TOILET BOTTLES, ODOR CASES; CELLULOID HAIR BRUSHES; MIRRORS, etc., with and without cases; MANICURE SETS; Pain and Mounted WALKING STICKS; VINAIGRETTES; SMELLING BOTTLES; SEATING MUGS and FITTINGS.

With other Articles Suitable for CHRISTMAS SEASON, all of which are offered at moderate prices. C. P. CLARKE, 100 KING STREET.

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 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. 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.

DIARIES. Counting House Diaries, OFFICE DIARIES, POCKET DIARIES. FOR 1889.

For sale by J. & A. McMILLAN, St. John, N. B.

At the Washerwomen's

ANNUAL CONVENTION lately held in St. John, it was moved, seconded and unanimously carried that they buy from and get all their Wringers repaired at BEVERLY'S

on Germain street. The man who sells on the instalment plan. MISS B. E. BOWMAN, of Boston, Teacher in Oils, Water Colors on every kind of Material. Also—CHINA, LUSTRA and PLASTIC WGRK. Address: 4 WELLINGTON ROW, ST. JOHN, N. B.