

THE WORLD OF BOOKS.

A curious story of friendship, hatred, revenge and happiness is 'The Fatal Phryne', by F. C. Phillips. A young and talented English artist, is introduced to the reader in Paris, working in the largest studio in the city, the property of his friend and landlord, with whom he lodges. Nothing apparently can turn him from his easel. The beautiful women of the day are his models, and, through his unwillingness to form any friendlier relation, always remain his models. One day his friend, who is past three score, announces his intention of marriage with his ward, and a few weeks later return with her to the studio building. The artist loves her from a distance, and her husband, who married her to save himself the trouble of making other provision for her support, smiles at and encourages the passion of his honorable young friend. He reads his beautiful young wife's diary to learn if she returns his love. She does not, and the indifferent feeling of her aged husband changes to one of passionate devotion. An indiscreet accusation of one of the artist's models, her cousin, and a rich widow, reveals to her the love of the artist, and she begins to examine her regard for him. Meantime the artist is painting his masterpiece for exhibition in the salon. It is all completed except one head, for which he cannot find a satisfactory model. One day, in a fit of abstraction, he paints in the beautiful face of the woman he loves—his friend's wife—and turns to find her present with her jealous cousin. He apologizes, erases the face, substitutes a pretty fancy, sends his picture to the salon and then, while the people are talking of his great future, wrestles with rheumatic fever and death. His friend, who is a physician, attends him. By close attention to his wife's diary, he learns how great is her love now for the artist. Then begins a struggle between friendship and revenge. The latter conquers, and he administers a drug that disfigures his rival for life. His complexion is turned to an unchangeable bronze color. He compels his wife to nurse the sick man and watch the horrible transformation, and when he is convalescent, he hands him a mirror and shouts aloud in his fiendish glee, declaring that his wife will scorn such a pariah. To his surprise, she turned to her lover, and thus shows her contempt for her husband and villain, who, very properly, falls dead of heart disease. The artist retires to the country, and in a short time marries the woman he loves. A like system of rewards and punishments disposes of the other characters in the story.

The book is not so naughty or so fascinating as 'As in a Looking Glass', Phillips last questionable success, but it is very readable, quite entertaining and sometimes original. It is published in Lovell's Canadian series, a new and pretty paper edition that must attract the novel reader.

'The Fatal Phryne'. By F. C. Phillips. Montreal: John P. Lovell & Co. St. John: J. & A. McMillan. Paper, price 20 cents.

The Magazines.

The Century for June should have more than the usual interest for Canadians, and more especially those in the maritime provinces, for in it Mr. Charles H. Lugin, an acknowledged able and well informed writer discusses from a Canadian standpoint the relations of Canada and the United States. The editor's note shows that the American side of the question is to follow. Mr. Lugin's article contains an admirable array of facts and comparisons, all of which are very favorable to our dominion. In concluding he says:

The preview of this paper does not embrace the discussion of the future of Canada, but it may be asked whether in view of the great natural advantage heretofore referred to, the Dominion cannot claim to possess the element necessary to the establishment of an independent nationality; by which I mean, not politically independent, but commercially. * * * If not a self contained nation Canada has too many and too great resources to render it necessary for her to become a supplier for commercial favors. Undoubtedly it is in her interests to obtain the most intimate trade relations possible with her Southern neighbors. * * * The expensive and unnatural tariff wall between the United States and Canada ought to be removed; but Canadians are unwilling to admit that the benefit of such a step would be all on their side, and that if it were not taken the Dominion will disintegrate and drop piecemeal into the arms of the republic.

George Kennan continues his articles on Russian exiles in 'The Convict Mines of Kara'; the Lincoln paper is of great interest, and the fiction and poetry of its usual high order. The Century Magazine, New York. Price, 35 cents.

In the first number of 'The New Review', which Longmans, Green & Co., will issue at once, Senator Naqueb, a partisan of General Boulanger, states the general's case by authority and is answered in the following pages by M. Camille Pelletan. Another burning question, 'The Unionist Policy in Ireland,' is discussed in the same number by J. W. Russell, M. P. Lady Randolph Churchill contributes to the June number of 'The New Review' notes of travel, called 'A Month in Russia,' and another American, Mr. Henry James, supplies an article entitled 'After the Play.'

Among the most instructive and entertaining articles in the June Writer, is F. B. Moffett's 'Longhand Contractions.' In it he shows how necessary abbreviations have become to newspaper writers and telegraphers, and gives a list of the more im-

portant contractions compiled by such men as Isaac Pitman, Gurney Salter, Thomas Allen Reed, Dr. Powers and Augustine Birrell. Mr. Moffett concludes that "when our spelling has been reduced to a phonetic basis; when prefixes, affixes, and familiar and constantly recurring words are represented in copy by a single letter; when the typewriter has been so perfected that it can be operated with not quite so much noise as a trip hammer, can be carried snugly in the vest pocket and cost a little less than a small fortune, the millennium, so far as the poor pen-pusher is concerned, will be at hand and writing, to him, will become a pleasure instead of a torture as it is now." The Writer: William H. Hills, publisher, Boston; price 10 cents.

GARMENTS AND FEELINGS HURT.

The Careless Town of Moncton, Will, Perhaps, Pay for Both.

MONCTON, June 11.—Not many evenings ago, as I was taking a short cut through one of the quieter side streets, my attention was attracted by a yawning gulf, almost at my feet, which was quite unguarded by fence or lantern, and which would have required very careful navigation on the part of the pedestrian who ventured in that vicinity after dark. The hole turned out, on inspection, to be the trench, dug for the pipes conveying the water into a house, which was being finished on the street. The trench was fully five feet deep, and half full of muddy water, and as my best girl was along, I shuddered at our escape, and remarked that it would be an awkward spot for any one to pass, who had, as Mr. Weller would say, "been celebrating the occasion of a friend's birthday," little thinking how soon one of my friends would come to grief, in the same place.

Two or three nights later, one of our popular business men chanced to pass along the street in question with his pretty young wife. The night was very dark, and it was raining slightly, so the treacherous ditch had even a better chance to get in its deadly work. By this time it had extended quite across the sidewalk, and a narrow plank, by way of a bridge, spanned it; the water came well up to its banks, and it looked in the dark like a little puddle on the sidewalk. My friend moved carefully aside to give his better and dearer half the plank, and stepped into five feet of muddy water, which absolutely reached up to his chin and trickled in muddy cascades down the inside of his shirt collar, coursed in rills down his spinal column, and in two seconds saturated him to the skin. Worse still, his sudden fall dragged his wife after him, but recovering herself rapidly she scrambled to the surface and assisted her justly indignant spouse to reach solid ground once more.

And the sequel to this unpleasant little episode promises to be even more unpleasant for the town of Moncton than for the gentleman in question, for the city fathers will be asked at an early date to set apart a certain sum, in current coin of the realm, sufficient to make good the loss of a spring suit of tweed, with its etectras, a new silk umbrella, broken by the fall, and various other damages to personal property, if not real estate.

I most cordially hope that the town will not be let off too cheaply, for such carelessness deserves punishment. There was no earthly reason why some child might not have been drowned in passing the dangerous place after dark.

All the Difference in the World.

A clergyman of the austere and granite-iron type was staying at a New Brunswick country hotel in pre-Scott-act days. Passing through the common room one day he observed two rustic youths seated at a table drinking whiskey, of that fiery type usually found in country barrooms. Pausing beside the unconscious offenders the holy man endeavored to catch their eyes, and transfix them with the disapproving glare of his own. Failing, he laid his hand on the shoulder of the nearest culprit, and pointing a thin forefinger at the half emptied glass, he said in a sepulchral voice, "Young man! do you know that at the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder?" The unmoved son of the soil took up his tumbler, stirred the contents slowly, swallowed them with great gusto, and looking up at the clergyman, answered affably, "Oh no! not of you put sugar to it, it don't."

The Two Girl Friends.

Elsie—I am going to marry the apothecary. Aggie—Oh! how nice. He'll trust us for vanilla cream sodas now.—Epoch.

Many diseases of the skin are not only annoying but are difficult to cure. You will not be disappointed if you try Baird's French Ointment. It also cures insect stings, piles, chapped hands, etc. Sold by all dealers.—Addt.

SHORTEST AND LONGEST.

The longest day is in June, they say; The shortest in December. They did not come to me that way; The shortest I remember You came a day with me to stay; And filled my heart with laughter; The longest day—you were away— The very next day after.

—George Birdseye, in Century Brica-Brac.

All New Novels, Papers and Magazines as issued, on sale at McArthur's Book Store, King Street.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

[FOR ADDITIONAL SOCIETY NEWS SEE FIFTH AND EIGHTH PAGES.]

SHEDIAC.

[Progress is for sale in Shediac at H. Stewart's store.]

JUNE 12.—The sacred concert in the Methodist church on last Thursday evening was something very fine indeed. The singing of Miss Duncean, Minnie Harper, and Laura Deacon was exceedingly fine, as also the reading by Miss May Harper, and the recitation by Miss Hattie Smith.

The warm weather of summer has brought the people from the city, and every day we see the Weldon house grounds covered with people enjoying the sweet air of the country. Among them I notice Mrs. D. Dixon, and Mrs. Benedict of Moncton. This is the second season these ladies have spent at Shediac. I hear of several others who are coming in a few weeks. Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Kelly spent Monday in Moncton.

Miss Smallwood, of Newfoundland, who is at the Sackville academy, is spending her vacation with the Misses Webster of this place.

Mr. James Webster has gone to P. E. Island for a few weeks.

Mrs. J. W. Morton, of Kent Junction, has been here visiting her father.

Mr. W. A. Moore, who is working in Campbellton, has been home spending a week with his parents.

Mr. W. J. Gilbert, of Dorchester, was in town this week.

A big time is expected here next Thursday, when the engineers have their clam bake at Point du Chene. About 300 or 400 people are expected.

Dr. E. A. Smith has been missed this last week or so since he has been in charge of Dr. Murray's office in Moncton.

Mr. F. A. McCully, of Moncton, was in town on Monday last.

Mr. D. S. Harper spent last Monday in Moncton.

Mr. Fred Ward, of Springhill, spent last Sunday with his mother.

Mr. Bliss Ward and bride passed through here today on their way to P. E. Island, accompanied by Mr. Fred Ward and Miss Belle Ward. JAKE.

ANNAPOLIS ROYAL.

JUNE 8.—Prof. J. B. Barnaby has returned, and is again filling his position as organist in St. Luke's in a very creditable manner, the music on Sunday being excellent. His friends are delighted to have him among them.

I notice Mr. L. Mitchell, of London, G. B., is in town, and intends remaining for some time. We are glad to have Mr. Mitchell here.

Mr. S. D. Book, of the Union Bank of Halifax, arrived today to relieve Mr. A. D. McRae, who leaves here on Monday for Digby, where he will spend his two week's vacation.

I am glad to see such an interest taken in tennis and cricket by the young people of Annapolis Royal. The cricket club, composed principally of the youth of the town, are at present interested in having a grand tournament on the three first days of July. The programme has not yet been published, but I believe they intend inviting the cricket clubs of Digby, Windsor and Bridgetown, also the Windsor band, to take part in it, and defray expenses by having a play in the rink the first night, a ball the second and a grand concert the third. It is some time since there has been a public ball here, and everybody who enjoys that sort of pleasure seems delighted at the prospect.

On Wednesday noon, the Methodist church was crowded with ladies and gentlemen to witness the marriage of Mr. H. E. Gillis, one of our popular barristers, and Mrs. Lloyd Publicover, daughter of the Rev. Mr. Cassidy. The bride was very tastefully attired in a green travelling costume, with garnitures of gold braid looked charming. She carried a magnificent bouquet of choice flowers, presented to her by the children of Hon. Jno. B. Mills. The church was beautifully decorated with flowers, and the pulpit very prettily draped. The groom was attended by Mr. Chas. McCormick, and dressed in a suit of grey, bore himself admirably, during the ceremony. Miss Florence Cassidy, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and looked very pretty. The ceremony, which was particularly impressive, was performed by Rev. Mr. Cassidy, assisted by Rev. J. J. Ritchie and Rev. Mr. Aegwin. Immediately afterward Mr. and Mrs. Gillis drove to the W. & A. R. depot, and took the Halifax express for a trip to Pictou, Charlottetown and other places of interest to them. Quite a number of their friends were at the depot to witness their departure, and they have the best wishes of them all for a long and happy life. It appears to me that June is a very popular month for weddings. On Tuesday, Mr. Aug. Fullerton left for Boston by the steamer New Brunswick, and is expected to return within three weeks with his bride, who is at present in Boston, where they are to be married. There are rumors of several more weddings in the near future. JONES.

TRURO, N. S.

JUNE 11.—Dr. Roach, of Tatamagouche, was at the "Prince" for a few days this week.

"Scrivensly Manor" is closed, Mrs. J. C. Cummings and Master Eugene being at Bedford for the summer.

Dr. Hall and Prof. Eaton, of the normal department, are back again, after a few days spent at Wolfville, where they attended Acadia's closing.

Mrs. Fred Smith, now of Boston Highlands, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John F. Crowe.

Rev. J. Robbins and C. M. Dawson left last Saturday for New York, there to take passage for England, where they go as delegates to the world's Sabbath school convention, which opens in London, July 1.

The breach of promise suit which was pending between Mr. George Campbell and Miss Esther Fletcher, of Foleigh Village, plaintiff suing for \$30,000, has been settled, defendant effecting a settlement in \$3,000 and costs.

Lieut. Governor McLennan spent Wednesday in town.

Mr. R. H. Currie, who has lately been added to the Merchants' bank staff here, is a valuable acquisition, vocally, to the choir of the West-end Presbyterian church.

A lacrosse club is being organized here, and already much animation is being shown in the practice of the game.

The dry goods clerks here, with a posse of ladies as energetic helpers, are agitating for early closing three nights out of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. George B. Layton have returned from their trip to the states, and are spending a few days, en passant, among friends here.

Mr. W. F. Adell, one of our popular druggists, spent last week in Halifax, attending the meetings of the Pharmaceutical society.

The new club house for the Lonsdale tennis courts has been completed. It is built in pavilion style, having three rooms and a large covered piazza for the accommodation of spectators.

Mr. Harry Crowe spent a few days in Kings county, last week, with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Harley are enjoying their vacation in Halifax.

Mrs. Isaac Snooks' sister, from Mexico, is visiting here.

Ladies, and Children's Dresses, Sateen, Nuns veiling or Cotton cleaned at Ungar's Steam Laundry.

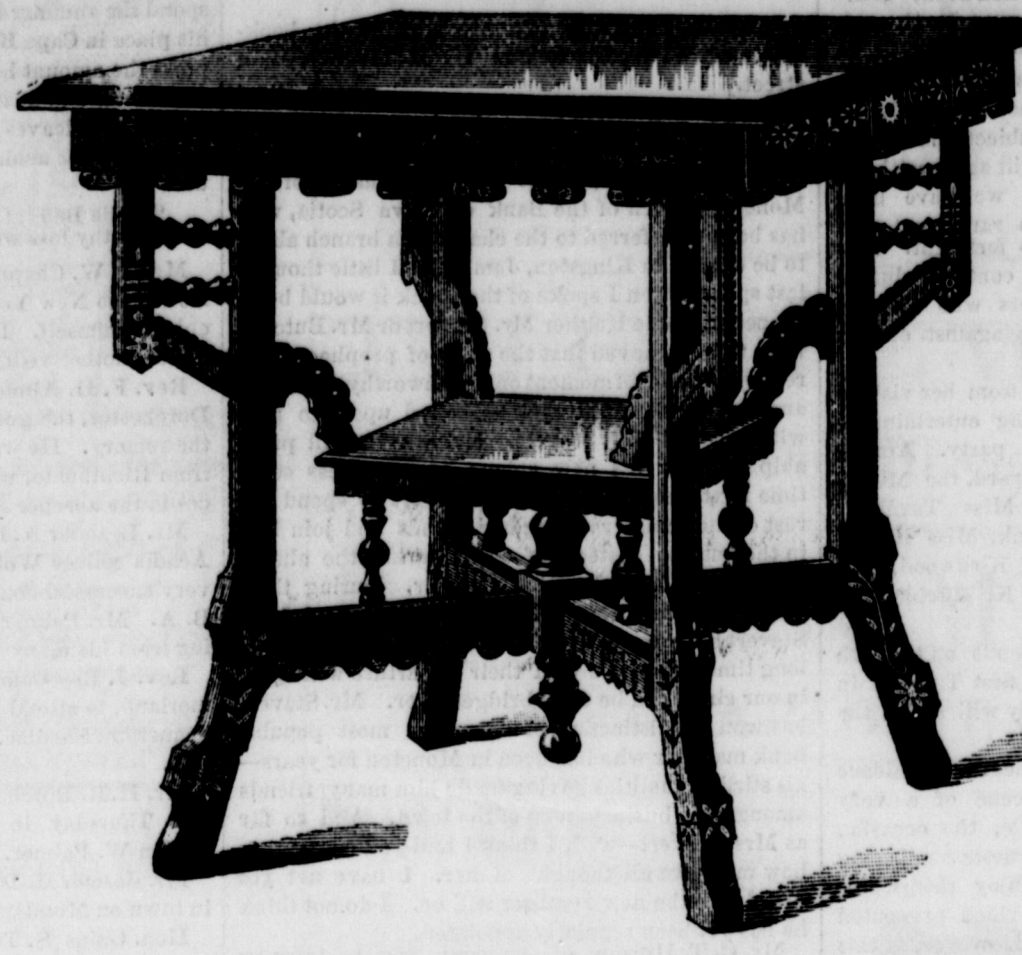
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