

THE WORLD OF BOOKS.

The two most recent numbers of Messrs. Scribner's Sons' Yellow Paper Cover series are *The Wheel of Fire*, by Arlo Bates, and *The Crime of Henry Vane*, by F. J. Simson. The latter is a very captivating story. A party of New York men are dining, when some one incidentally alludes to Vane as a fool. An old friend of Vane's raises a question on this point, and to substantiate his defence, relates the whole story of the life and worry and success of the young banker, who strove while there was something to strive for, and who gave up when his dollars were many, and his kindred few. The style in which the story is told is so alert and attractive; the bits of philosophy are so small, and yet so striking, that the fascination of the book is particularly strong. In conclusion, he says: "So John ended his story. . . . I suppose I have told it more as if I were a novelist trying to write a story." He has succeeded admirably in writing his story, and what is more, he has not seemed to try. Some of his epigrams are very apt. Here he defines a cynic: "A cynic is commonly a snubbed sentimentalist who takes it out in growling."

All of Arlo Bates' works are strong, and *The Wheel of Fire* is some of it. He knows men well, and makes good use of his knowledge. His chief characters are truthful studies, and the incidents that employ these characters are fresh and interesting.

The series is a useful one, and is rendered pleasing by its general qualities of neat workmanship and good material, as by the taste and discretion shown in the selection of its numbers. Stevenson's *The Black Arrow* was published in this series some time ago.

No. 8 of the Riverside Paper Series is Dr. Olive Wendell Holmes' *The Guardian Angel*. It forms a natural sequence to his *Elsie Venner*, and, as he says himself, "like that, it is intended for two classes of readers, of which the smaller one includes the readers of the 'Moralists' in *Æsop* and of this Preface." Again, he says: "If I called these two stories Studies of the Reflex Function in its higher sphere, I should frighten away all but the professors and the learned ladies. If I should proclaim that they were protests against the scholastic tendency to shift the total responsibility of all human action from the infinite to the finite, I might alarm the jealousy of the cabinet-keepers of our doctrinal museums. By saying nothing about it, the large majority of those whom my book reaches, not being preface-readers, will never suspect anything to harm them beyond the simple facts of the narrative." In any novel, since a novel must be a picture of life, one may, if he chooses, read vastly more than is written, even as he may go through life digging into it and studying it or may merely exist, perhaps with much pleasure to himself, and never go beyond the veriest superficialities of the lives of himself and his fellows. And many novels are artificial and shallow and worthless, and many lives are also. As a story—for those who want only a relation of incidents—Dr. Holmes' book is exceedingly interesting, and as a portrayal of real life it is the fine work of a scholarly, earnest, experienced student. What need to mention the prose-style, the clear-cut, truly artistic English!

No. 7 of the Series is Isaac Henderson's *Agatha Page*, which sets forth some of the deeper experiences of real life, and which was so well received on its first appearance.

The Wheel of Fire, by Arlo Bates, and *The Crime of Henry Vane*, by F. J. Simson. Yellow Paper Cover series. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Price, 50 cents each.

The Guardian Angel, by Olive Wendell Holmes, and *Agatha Page*, by Isaac Henderson. Riverside Paper Series: Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. For sale by Alfred Morrissey. Price 50 cents each.

In the *Atlantic Monthly* for October, Agnes Repplier, in a paper called "Fiction in the Pulpit," deals in a decisive manner with the theory that a novel should be didactic or should possess a moral aim or purpose. The article is highly satisfactory one to read, from the fact that the writer has left herself very vulnerable in her chief points, and from the fact that not a few are strongly inclined to disagree with her. Mr. John Fiske contributes an article, "The Monmouth and Newport Campaigns," in which he gives prominence to the great reforms brought about by Steuben in the revolutionary army. Mr. William Cranston Lawton's "The Closing Scenes of the Iliad" makes Hector the true hero. It is gratifying to hear someone magnify Hector at the expense of Achilles because few of us would venture to do so ourselves. "A Non-Combatant's War Reminiscences" by Mr. J. R. Kendrick is a paper dealing with the social and political life of South Carolina before and during the war. Mr. Henry Loomis Nelson attacks the government with much heat and determination in his "The Government and its Creditors." Mr. Charles W. Chesnut contributes the short story for this month, "Dave's Necktie," a sketch of slavery times. "Ladies and Learning" is an interesting article, dealing with the old and new ideas concerning the higher education of women. The poetry, book reviews and contributors' club are up to the usual high standard.

Scribner's Magazine for October opens with an article by Mr. Joseph Thomson, "How I Crossed Massi-Land," which describes the country through which Stanley,

according to latest dispatches, is now passing. The article is fully illustrated. Iceland, from its remoteness, its former prosperity, and the air of antiquity that surrounds it, has a great deal of fascination for us in Canada, and Mr. Charles Sprague Smith's admirable paper, "A Summer in Iceland," stirs our interest and makes us thrill with the memory of old Scandinavian heroes. The illustrations do much to increase the worth of the article. "The Master of Ballantrae" is concluded gracefully and powerfully. Mr. Duncan Campbell Scott has a poem in this number. The Canadians who sing through the pages of the great magazines are few, and Mr. Scott is not the least sweet-voiced of them. "The Last Giustiniani," is a poem of considerable strength and poetic feeling, by Miss Edith Wharton. The two papers on "Electricity in War," will meet with a hearty welcome; the first is by Lt. W. S. Hughes of the U. S. navy, and deals with the use of electrical machinery in naval warfare, and the second by Lt. John Mills of the U. S. army, describes the various ways in which electricity is made indispensable in land warfare. Mr. Donald G. Mitchell contributes "A Scattering Shot at Some Ruralities," which contains some pertinent reflections on the decay of New England farm life. Professor N. S. Shaler offers some very practical suggestions for the improvement of the roads of the United States in his article "The Common Roads."

Notes and Announcements.

Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. have just published *The Heritage of Desires: Marsh and Other Tales*, by Bret Harte.

It is announced in the French papers that Amelie Rives and Catielle Mendes, a Parisian writer of fiction, are to collaborate a novel together. The Boston Times comments thus: "The fusion of Rives and the French should be sufficient warning to the public to stand firm under. Turn down the lights!"

Seven writers—clergymen, college professors and public men, some of them specialists of acknowledged standing—have associated themselves to discuss special questions of social interest and import, and to prepare papers to be afterwards given to the public from time to time in the pages of *The Century*. The writers include the Rev. Professor Shields of Princeton, Bishop Potter of New York, the Rev. Dr. T. T. Munger of New Haven, the Hon. Seth Low of Brooklyn, and Professor Ely of the Johns Hopkins University. For each paper the author will be responsible, but he will have the benefit of the criticism of the other members of the group before giving it final form. The opening paper will be printed in the November *Century*.

The *Century* has in preparation a series of papers on topics relating to The Gold Hunters of California. The articles will be prepared for the most part, as were the War Papers, by prominent participants in the events which they describe; and they will include accounts of Early Explorations, Life in California before the Gold Discovery, the Finding of Gold in 1848 at Sutter's Fort, the Journey to California by the Different Routes (around the Horn, across the plains, by Nicaragua, and by Panama), Life in the Mining Camps and in San Francisco, and other important aspects of California life at the time. It is believed that these papers will be in the nature of a revelation to the reading public of the present day as to many interesting aspects of the pioneer period, its romance and adventure, its tragedy and pathos, and its poetry and humor. A careful search in California and elsewhere has already brought to light many interesting pictures never yet engraved. The publication of the papers will not be begun until the series is further advanced.

Now they have published *Pilgrim's Progress* in the Chinese dialect of Amoy and someone says this is the eighty-third language in which the work has appeared. We are all made brothers by sympathy—"a fellow feeling makes us wondrous kind"—and it is really astonishing how much we are softened toward the poor young pagans now that we know that they too are having little stories read to them, about Appollon and the heavy burdens and the hard roads and bad weather, as we used to.

It is stated by some of the English papers that Lord Tennyson devotes the \$1000 that he continues to draw as a pension from the civil list and for which he has been so severely criticised, entirely to aiding members of the literary profession who are in distress.

Mr. Arthur Weir, author of *Fleurs de Lys and Other Poems*, who graduated from McGill with the degree of B. Sc. a few years ago, and who has since been occupying a position on the staff of the Montreal Star, is about to leave journalistic work and Montreal to accept an important appointment to some scientific work in Detroit. Mr. Weir is an active Canadian and his poetry is so full of promise that he could ill be spared from our small band of literary workers in our huge, rich field; but his love for Canada is no passing fancy and he will continue to work for her during his separation from her.

We had the very real pleasure, on Wednesday last, of a call from Mr. William Sharp, the English poet, novelist and critic. There are cases in which it is better for us not to meet with authors whose works we admire. Mr. Sharp is as far as possible from being one of such cases. After meeting him we understand the magnetism that he exercises over many friends. In person he is handsome, in manner prepossessing, and altogether a delightful and instructive companion.—*Dominion Illustrated*.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

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

DIGBY, N. S.

[Progress is for sale in Digby at Mrs. Gille brand's.]

SEPT. 23.—Last week's storms have greatly changed the looks of all things out of doors in Digby, and prevented one or two open-air festivities, which I feel sure would have been delightful, if they could have taken place as arranged; but I fear we shall have to wait for another summer to see them consummated. Still hospitality was not neglected altogether, as a very pleasant small party given by Mr. H. B. Short and his sisters, on Tuesday evening, and another of the same sort by Miss Jessie Stewart, on Wednesday evening, go to show. Leave takings and mutual hopes of future happy meetings have been the order of the days, so many of our summer friends having trended their ways to their distant homes.

On Wednesday afternoon quite a party of friends gathered at the railway station to say "good-bye" to Professor and Mrs. Prescott Vail, who were leaving for Boston via Yarmouth, en route to New York. Miss Pickman also left by the same train for a long visit in New York and other cities.

Friday, Miss Mary Short left for Middleton, N. S. to visit friends. She evidently intends to enjoy herself, as she took her pony and phaeton with her. Mr. H. P. Smith returned from his moose-hunting expedition on Saturday. He had a delightful trip, though he was not successful in killing any moose; but we all know the moose did not come when they were "called," as his aim is always true.

Miss Ruddock left for Boston by the steamer *Forest City*, on Friday evening. Mr. H. B. Short also went to Boston on the same boat.

On Saturday Mrs. Coffin, son and daughter, left on the *Monticello* for St. John, en route for New York. Mrs. David Robertson and her daughters also returned to Rothesay.

There are whisperings of a very pleasant social event to take place this week, but I am not at liberty to say anything definite.

This is a glorious autumn day, and no doubt we shall have many more like it, so that the strangers who still linger here will find enjoyment in this delicious, bracing air.

Rev. Dr. Ambrose gladdened the hearts of his flock by his presence among them again, yesterday, having returned from Montreal on Saturday.

F. RAQUETTE.

AMHERST, N. S.

[Progress is for sale in Amherst at G. G. Bird's bookstore.]

SEPT. 25.—Mrs. Horace Eaton returned to her home in Parrsboro on Saturday, accompanied by her mother, Mrs. W. H. Rogers, who intends to spend a few weeks there.

Miss Almon and her little brother, who have been visiting Mrs. Kelsey, returned to Halifax last week. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Parker, of Halifax, spent Sunday in town.

Mrs. Dimock Cummings, of Truro, has been in town visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Baker. Mr. and Mrs. Noel Steele arrived home from their bridal trip to Montreal on Saturday night.

Miss Harding was in town this week. Miss Leonard, of Spring Hill, was in town a day or two last week, the guest of Miss Cutler.

Mr. John McKeen, of the Nova Scotia bank, and Mrs. McKeen, have returned from their extended visit.

Mr. Robert F. Boyer, formerly of Moncton, has been in town for some days.

Mr. James A. Dickey, C. E., was in town last week.

Rev. E. E. Harris returned on Friday from attending the synod at Montreal.

Mrs. Cecil Wiggins and Miss Milner, of Sackville, accompanied by Miss Robinson and Miss Smith, were in town on Friday.

Mrs. Walton Smith and children, of Truro, were the guests of Mrs. Alex. Robb for a few days last week.

Mrs. A. A. Chapman and child are in town. Mrs. F. W. Robb has returned from Halifax, where she has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Townshend.

Dr. Robie S. Morse, of Iowa, is just now paying his annual visit to his brothers, Judge and Dr. Morse.

Mrs. Chandler Crane has opened a class for instruction in painting in the school room of Christ church with a fair attendance. If we may judge from the exquisite work this talented lady has on exhibition in Crawford's bookstore, we can safely bespeak for her a liberal patronage.

Miss McElroy left on Tuesday for Windsor to spend some weeks.

Mr. James Robb, of Antigonish, is in town, the guest of Mrs. Alex. Robb.

Aubrey Robb has left for Boston to attend a mechanical engineering school.

Charles Purdy returned on Saturday from his trip to Boston.

OSCAR.

TRURO, N. S.

[Progress is for sale in Truro at Mr. G. O. Fulton's.]

SEPT. 25.—Mrs. A. J. Walker has returned from St. Andrews, N. B. Mr. Chas. Tupper, of California, who has been visiting Truro friends, leaves for his western home this week.

Miss Minnie Irvine, of Halifax, who has been enjoying a short visit among friends here, left for home last Saturday afternoon.

Postmaster William McCully is entertaining Mr. Robt. Clarkson, of Dayton, Ohio.

Miss Annie Peabody, eleventh of Eastport, Me., gave a series of readings to a select audience in the Y. M. C. A. hall, last Monday evening.

At the conclusion of the prayer meeting in the Methodist church last Wednesday evening, Miss Gladie Johnson, the competent organist, was made the recipient, through Rev. E. B. Moore the pastor, of a beautiful gold watch, the gift of the congregation, accompanied by a short address expressive of their esteem and the keen appreciation in which her services are held.

Miss Maie Smith, of Fairview, is home after a long and pleasant vacation spent in Cape Breton.

Mrs. Crafts, of New York, delegate to the Sabbath school convention which opens here this afternoon, will be the guest of Principal and Mrs. J. B. Calkin, at Fern Hill, during her stay here.

PEG.

RICHIBUCTO.

SEPT. 25.—The Boston Comedy company, under the management of H. Price Webber, arrived on Monday and will play here for a week. Mr. Webber is receiving a warm welcome from his many friends here. Monday evening the *Hidden Hand*, and last evening *Aurora Floyd* were presented before large audiences.

Mr. Havelock Phinney and Miss Mary Hudson, daughter of Mr. William Hudson, were married this morning at the residence of the bride's father, Miss Belle Foster, of Dorchester, attended the bride, and Principal Harrison supported the groom. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr. Hooper, of Welford. Mr. and Mrs. Phinney left on the 12 o'clock train for Winnipeg, their future home.

Rev. Wm. Hamilton, of Kingston, returned home last week after a three weeks vacation.

Mr. J. H. Hamilton, of Moncton, is in town, the guest of Mr. Martin and Mrs. Flanagan.

Judge Tuok, Attorney General Blair, Mr. W. B. Wallace, of St. John, and H. H. James, of Buctouche, are in town attending court.

REINA.

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Send for CIRCULAR.

In the Matter of the Maritime Bank of the Dominion of Canada (in Liquidation.)

ALL PERSONS AND CORPORATIONS, creditors of THE MARITIME BANK OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA, (in Liquidation), are hereby requested to present proofs of their claims, duly attested, to the Liquidators, at their office

Bayard Building, Prince William Street, St. John, N.