LITERATURE.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

—The following recent publications of G. W. Carleton & Co. are for sale in this city by Porter & Coates.

"A Lost Life," by Emily C. Moore, who has obtained some reputation as a story-writer under the *nom de plume* of "Mignonette," is an ably-written but particularly unpleasant narrative of an aggravated case of domestic misery, such as the women's rights advocates love to harp upon for the purpose of showing how the feminine portion of humanity is obliged to suffer at the hands of tyrant men. The heroine of "A Lost Life" allows her brute of a husband to kill one of her children and to beat another one nearly to death without taking any vigorous steps to protect herself, but finally the blow of a switch across her own face induces her to fly from home, and to seek to earn her own living in a distant city. A very proper course of action for her to take, in our opinion, and we freely hand the chief offender in the case over to the tender mercies of Woodhull, Claflin & Co., feeling assured that their experience in the matter of husbands will enable them to do it full justice. A very interesting young clergyman figures prominently in the story, who even goes so far as to make love to the ill-used wife. To Miss Moore's credit, however, her heroine does not encourage his advances, and even refuses to marry him after her husband has procured an Indiana divorce. It is not quite certain, however, whether this refusal is based upon an opinion that such a proceeding would be improper, or upon the fact that the dominie had already transferred a portion of his affections to another woman. There are many trivial details which obstruct the current of the story, but, on the whole, it is well written, and some of the characters are described with much skill.

"The Empty Heart; or, Husks," and "For Better or Worse," are a couple of entertaining stories by Marian Harland, bound in one volume. This writer, without taking the highest rank among the female novelists of the day, has well-deserved claims upon the regards of her readers. Her plots are constructed with skill, and her stories, although bordering at times upon what for convenience we may call the "sensational," are interesting and will repay perusal.

"Millbank," by Mary J. Holmes, is, like the other novels of the same writer, a story of domestic life, in which there are some excellent contrasts of character, much quiet humor, and a skilful weaving of comparatively unimportant incidents into a plot of considerable interest. Miss Holmes' stories always point an excellent moral and "Millbank," her latest production, may be read with pleasure and profit.

"The Loving Ballad of Lord Bateman," with illustrations and notes by George Cruikshank, which Carleton & Co. has reprinted, is a piece of comedy which derives its chief value, as many more important works before it have done, from the illustrations and notes aforesaid, which are in the immortal Cruikshank's best manner.

—"Papers for Home Reading," by Rev. John Hall, D. D., the Scotch-Irish pastor of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York, is the title of a collection of short stories and essays, each of which points a Christian moral. These papers have been selected from a magazine edited some years ago in Ireland by Dr. Hall, and, with one exception, they have not been published before in this country. Dr. Hall is an eloquent and earnest writer, and the volume before us will receive a cordial welcome from many Christians who know the author by reputation, and who admire his character and talents. The volume is adorned by a fine portrait of Dr. Hall. For sale by Claxton, Remsen & Haffelfinger.

—"Studies in Literature" by G. W. Griffin, second edition, published by Claxton, Remsen & Haffelfinger, is the title of a series of essays by one of the editors of the Louisville *Journal* on "George D. Prentice," "Vathek," "Victor Hugo," "Edwin Booth as 'Hamlet' and as 'Macbeth,'" "Percy Bysshe Shelley," "David Garrick," "Dante," "The Scarlet Letter," "Janauschek," several of Shakespeare's plays and other similar topics. These essays are fair average newspaper criticisms, reviews, and dissertations, but they are scarcely profound enough, elaborate enough, or, to speak plainly, good enough for the use that has been made of them in the present instance. Newspaper writers do themselves and their profession great injustice when they attempt to transfer their hastily penned comments from the place where they belong, and where they are appreciated at their true value, to the pages of a book, where elegance of diction and fine analysis are looked for by the only class of readers such a volume as the one before us is likely to interest. Mr. Griffin's essays are neither better nor worse than thousands of others that appear every day in the journals of the country, and they say very little that has not been better said on many previous occasions.

—"Two Books," by Mrs. C. E. K. Davis, published by Henry Hoyt, gives the diaries of two good little girls, who are very good indeed, and whose comments upon themselves and things in general will be, or ought to be, appreciated by all good children. For sale by J. B. Lippincott & Co.

—"Christian Doctrine Studied in the order of the Protestant Episcopal Church Catechism," by Joshua Dixon, is a new edition of a work which has been decidedly popular as a Sunday-school manual. It has been edited by C. W. Andrews, D. D., who has added a series of Lessons for Bible-classes, which will increase its usefulness. For sale at the office for the sale of the Leighton publications, No. 1225 Sansom street.

—"Paralysis, and other Affections of the Nerves," by George W. Taylor, M. D., published by Samuel R. Wells, is a description of the various paralytic diseases, and of Dr. Taylor's vibratory and movement cure, which has been successfully used in many instances. For sale by J. B. Lippincott & Co.

—"A System for Beginners in the Art of Playing upon the Piano-forte," by William Mason and E. S. Hoadley, published by Oliver Ditson & Co., is a practical method which carries the learner on by easy stages, but which insists upon thoroughness. The difficulties in the way of good performance are successively met and overcome, and each point is explained with great clearness, the most exact directions being given for the assistance of both teacher and pupil. This work will doubtless become a favorite with those who wish to learn the art of piano-forte playing.

—The publishers of the *Historical Magazine* have, apropos of the ratification of the Treaty of Washington, issued an "extra," which contains their elaborate review of the recent address on "American Neutrality" by Mr. Charles Francis Adams, with a carefully prepared sketch of the foreign policy adopted by the Continental Congress, and which was overturned by Hamilton and his followers.

SAD AFFAIR.

A Young Man Kills Himself in the Presence of His Affianced.

The Washington *Patriot* of Saturday has the following:—

About 7·30 o'clock last night a young man named William S. Brooke, about thirty-three years of age, shot and killed himself in the second-story of a house on Eighth street, one door below the Calvary Baptist Church.

A young woman named Julia Burke, who, it seems, is a seamstress in the house where the act was committed, was in the room at the time. It is stated that she was engaged to be married to Brooke; that he had called upon her, and that she had remonstrated with him on having been indulging to excess in liquor, when he exclaimed that he had nothing now to live for, and, according to the statement of Miss Burke, immediately pulled a Derringer pistol from the right pocket of his pantaloons, held it up to his right temple, and fired, the ball penetrating the right temple and producing death in about an hour after the shot was fired. Miss Burke says she was engaged to marry Brooke, and exhibited, in corroboration of the statement, an engagement ring on her finger.

On being questioned, Miss Burke stated that she has resided in Washington about four years, and that she is a seamstress by occupation, and that Brooke has been in the habit of visiting her frequently in her work-room in the second story of the house. She says that when he came last night he stated that on the first of the month he was going to swear off drinking forever.

He asked her to kiss him, and said he was trying to taper off. He ordered and drank several glasses of lemonade while he sat talking to her.

Miss Burke is a fine-looking woman, apparently about twenty-five years of age, with regular features, black eyes, and dark hair, which hangs in waves around her neck and shoulders. She conversed freely about the suicide, and exhibited little or no agitation when she stood in the door and looked upon the face of the dead man.

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$1,260,150 Par. C'st, $1,264,447·34. M'kt v'l	$1,293,557·00
Real Estate	56,000·50
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Interests from Investments, 1870	137,050	
		$2,233,2
Losses paid in 1870		$1,136,941

STATEMENT OF THE ASSETS.

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United States Government Loans	325,932
Pennsylvania State Loans	169,310
Philadelphia City Loans	200,000
New Jersey and other State Loans and City Bonds	225,510
Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Co., other Railroad Mortgage Bonds and Loans	368,245
Philadelphia Bank and other Stocks	62,486
Cash in Bank	281,048
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