LITERARY NOTES.

Messrs. Appleton & Co. have in press the works of the late distinguished Sir James Y. Simpson, the whole complete in three volumes—Vol. I., "Select Obstetric and Gynæcological Works; Vol. II., "Anæsthesia, Hospitalism," etc.; Vol. III., "The Diseases of Women."

The author of "Red as a Rose is She," which provoked so much discussion and secured so many readers last Summer, will shortly begin, in an English magazine, a new novel, under the extraordinary title of "Good-by, Sweet-heart." The advance sheets of this novel have been secured for *Appletons' Journal*.

Appleton & Co. will shortly reprint Dr. Wm. Stroud's famous "Treatise on the Physical Cause of the Death of Christ," a work which has been pronounced by English critics a masterpiece, and which the late Sir James Y. Simpson highly praised. According to Dr. Stroud, the immediate cause of Christ's death was rupture of the heart.

The June number of *Harper's Magazine* will contain a brilliant, humorous poem, by the author of "Nothing to Wear," splendidly illustrated. This poem occupies one-half a sheet of the magazine. Its motive is drawn from New-York mercantile life. The same number will contain a contribution from Porte Crayon, with illustrations by the author, and an elaborate and richly illustrated paper on the New-York Custom-House from the pen of Mr. T. B. Thorpe.

Forsyth's "Novels and Novelists of the Eighteenth Century" is in press by D. Appleton & Co. This work is an attempt to illustrate the morals and manners of the last century, by an analysis of the works of fiction of that period. The exhibit it gives of the coarseness and immorality of the "good old times" is rather startling. The work will be of double interest, as the history of romantic literature in one of its most active eras, and as a picture of by-gone manners.

Appleton & Co. will shortly publish a very interesting volume, entitled "Fifty Years' Reminiscences," by Mark Boyd. This work is one of those chatty, gossipy, agreeable books of anecdotes, in which French literature is so abundant, and which are getting to be now numerous in English. Mr. Boyd's "Reminiscences" are all anecdotes, and often of great and interesting personages like the Duke of Wellington, for instance, of whom he has many stories to tell. The author was a Scotchman, who spent most of his life in London, in very good society.

A revised edition of Winthrop Sargent's "Life of André" will shortly be published by D. Appleton & Co. Winthrop Sargent, whose death in Paris, last Summer, called forth so many expressions of sorrow, has been noted for his contributions to our historical literature. His "Life of André" and "Account of Braddock's Defeat" have been largely drawn upon by our historians. The new edition of the "Life of André" will bring the work within the reach of many to whom hitherto it has been unknown.

Early in May the Appletons will publish Prof. Tyndall's "Fragments of Science for Unscientific People." This volume is a collection of all those famous essays by Prof. Tyndall which have from time to time appeared in the English periodicals, and which, on the occasion of their appearance, elicited so much admiration and discussion. Prof. Tyndall has been well called the "poet of science." "Fragments of Science," like Huxley's "Lay Sermons," will be a welcome addition to our literature of popular science.

The regular yearly volume of Appletons' "American Annual Cyclopædia" will appear some time in May. It will contain the United States census returns of 1870, and supply a clear and succinct account of the great great European struggle. Probably no volume of this annual series contains so much important information as will the issue for 1870. It treats of an era crowded with great events; it gives a vast array of important statistics; and in its obituaries are included such names as those of Dickens, Lee, Farragut, Thomas, Sumner, Kennedy, and Dumas.

The Ohio State Journal says: *What I Know of Farming*, is not a sensational novel, although it is published by that monopolist of sensational novels, Carleton of New-York. No reader of *The State Journal* need be told that the work with the above title is the wise, practical exposition of agriculture as an art based upon science, which Horace Greeley found time to write, in the intervals of labor enough to kill any other three men in the country. It is very much the fashion among the ungodly, irreverent Bohemians of the press to get up practical jokes at the expense of Mr. Greeley's knowledge of farming. We confess to have found considerable enjoyment in some of these ridiculous and extravagant burlesques. But when it comes to plain, perpendicular truth, it is due Mr. Greeley and his publisher, and it is to the interests of the public, to say that there is a vast amount of practical wisdom and good sense in this little volume about farming, and no American farmer can possibly be the worse for reading it.

CHARLES DUDLEY WARNER IN DEFENSE OF "PUSE."

To the Editor of The Evening Mail.

SIR: It had not occurred to me (living as I do in the country), until I read "A Defense of Pusley" by your engaging correspondent, that pusley needed any defense. If he had told me of a defense *against* pusley I should have been his grateful debtor; for if there is any form of organized matter that is abundantly able to take care of itself, and, if not to hoe its own row, to be the cause of its fellows being hoed by others, it is the vegetable under consideration. But I am not sorry to have your correspondent call upon its beauty and use. The cultivation and manipulation of pusley of his mind and taste seems to be our only hope, as countrymen, in the contest with this weed. I should like to have him for a neighbor; I should like to live amid a society of such people. The human stomach is the most insatiate thing in nature, and it alone can compete in its hunger with the fertility of pusley. I hope to live to see the day when New-York markets shall be filled with these fascinating "greens." Let me supply the New-York market with pusley, and I care not who owns the Erie Railway.

Your correspondent might further have said, by way of giving dignity to these "greens," that they are imperishably associated with the greatest achievement of Christopher Columbus. It may be of small credit to him in the end that he discovered America. I think myself that it would have been his credit and to our comfort if he had left it covered. Whether the advantages outweigh the disadvantages of opening up this continent it is still too early. And it is likely that Columbus is to be robbed of even the due credit of discovering the country, if it is a discredit. So I read lately. But he has one distinction that will stick to him in an immortality of fame or infamy. He was the discoverer of pusley! This will keep the memory green when everything else has dried up.

This shall be
As life, glittering o'er his memory,
When his the streams have worn their barriers low,
And, be the sea drank up, forever cease to flow.

In an old translation from the Spanish of Columbus's Voyage to America, I find the following passage:

"Friday, Oct. 26, 1492, the Admiral stood off and on, and finally landed on an island called Cuba; here they found the grass as high as it is in Andalusia in May, and they found parsley growing in abundance.

"It seems to me superfluous to say that it was "growing in abundance," but those old chroniclers put down everything like children. The subsequent treatment of Columbus has seemed cruel. But was it so? Was not the persecution due to this discovery? What punishment is sufficient to a man who uncovered a continent of pusley?

C. D. W.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

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