NEW PUBLICATIONS.

CHARLOTTE BRONTE.

CHARLOTTE BRONTE. A MONOGRAPH. By T. WEMYSS REID. 12mo., pp. 236. Scribner, Armstrong, & Co.

It appears to have been the purpose of the author in the composition of this volume to present an offset to Mrs. Gaskell's "Life of Charlotte Brontë," which, in his opinion, is drawn in too somber colors, exhibiting the career of the gifted novelist as of a sad and cheerless character, which is not warranted by the true version of her remarkable history. There is no doubt, he suggests, that the later years of Charlotte Brontë's life were clouded by sorrow, and oppressed by physical and mental anguish. But it is not correct to suppose that throughout her whole life she was the victim of the extreme depression of spirits which Mrs. Gaskell has described with such vivid emphasis. The spirit of Charlotte Brontë was not in any degree a morbid or melancholy one. Of singular reserve with all save the members of her own household, there was one solitary friend to whom she clung with passionate affection, and to whom she always revealed the other side of her character, "the silver lights," and joyous experiences which remained necessarily hidden from the world. With this life-long friend, Charlotte Brontë, from her school-days down to the time of her last sickness, kept up the closest and most confidential intercourse. She addressed hundreds of letters to her, which are full of characteristic touches. These letters furnish the chief part of the material for the present volume. They were addressed to Miss Ellen Nussey, with whom Charlotte Brontë formed the acquaintance and friendship at school which continued until her death. The record extends over five-and-twenty years, and so far as Miss Brontë's history as a woman, and the history of her family are concerned, is complete for the whole of that period.

The father of Charlotte Brontë was a specimen of wayward and eccentric humanity of which few examples are found in the smooth monotonous routine of modern social life. His peculiarities have been made known to a certain extent in Mrs. Gaskell's biography, but their full measure has never yet been revealed to the world. He was an Irishman by birth, and one of a large family, all of whom were noted for their physical strength and personal beauty. While still a young man, he settled as a clergyman in Yorkshire, where he remained to the end of his days. He was certainly a strange compound of good and evil. He had kindly feelings towards most people, and delighted in the stern rectitude which distinguished many of his Yorkshire flock. When his daughter became famous, no one was more pleased at the circumstance than he was. He cut out every scrap from the newspapers that referred to her; he was proud of her intellect and jealous for her reputation. But throughout his whole life he had no real sympathy with any one but himself. Passionate, vain, and self-willed, he was seldom distant in his demeanor towards his own household. He was scrupulously polite to strangers, was garrulous about his past life, and needed only a glass of wine to become talkative on the subject of his early conquests.

As you listened to the quaintly-attired old man who chatted on with inexhaustible volubility, you possibly conceived the idea that he was a mere fribble, gay, conceited, harmless; but at odd times a searching glance from the keen, deep-sunk eyes warned you that you also were being weighed in the balance by your companion, and that this assumption of light-hearted vanity was far from revealing the real man to you. Only those who dwelt under the same roof knew him as he really was. Among the many stories told of him by his children, there is one relating to the meek and gentle woman who was his wife, and whose lot it was to submit to persistent coldness and neglect. Somebody had given Mrs. Brontë a very pretty dress, and her husband, who was as proud as he was self-willed, and taken offence at the gift. A word to his wife, who lived in habitual dread of her lordly master, would have secured all he wanted; but in his passionate determination that she should not wear the obnoxious garment, he deliberately cut it to pieces, and presented her with the tattered fragments. Even during his wife's life-time he formed the habit of taking his meals alone; he constantly carried loaded pistols in his pockets, and when excited he would fire these at the doors of the outhouses, so that the villagers were quite accustomed to the sound of pistol-shots at any hour of the day in their pastor's house. It would be a mistake to suppose that violence was one of the weapons to which Mr. Brontë habitually resorted. However stern and peremptory might be his dealings with his wife (who soon left him to spend the remainder of his life in a dreary widowhood), his general policy was to secure his end by craft rather than by force. A profound belief in his own superior wisdom was conspicuous among his characteristics, and he felt convinced that no one was too clever to be outwitted by his diplomacy. He had also an amazing persistency, which led him to pursue any course on which he had embarked with dogged determination. It happened in later years, when his strength was failing, and when at last he began to see his daughter in her true light, that he quarrelled with her regarding the character of one of their friends. The daughter, always dutiful and respectful, found that any effort to stem the torrent of his bitter and unjust wrath when he spoke of the friend who had offended him, was attended by consequences which were positively dangerous. The veins of his forehead swelled, his eyes glared, his voice shook, and she was fain to submit lest her father's passion should prove fatal to him. But when, wounded beyond endurance by his violence and injustice, she withdrew for a few days from her home, and told her father that she would receive no letters from him in which this friend's name was mentioned, the old man's cunning took the place of passion. He wrote long and affectionate letters to her on general subjects; but accompanying each letter was a little slip of paper, which professed to be a note from Charlotte's dog Flossy to his "much-beloved and beloved mistress," in which the dog, declaring that he saw a good deal of human nature that was hid from those who had the gift of language," was made to repeat the attacks upon the obnoxious person which Mr. Brontë dared no longer make in his own character.

The period between 1832 and 1835 may be regarded as among the happiest years of the little parsonage household at the Hawarth. The young people were accustomed to their father's coldness and eccentricity. Peculiar and shy as they were both in their modes of life and their modes of thought, they enjoyed a home-born, healthy happiness, that gave promise of peaceful lives for the future. Some unpretending literary efforts brightened their hopes at this time. In 1835, when Charlotte was in her nineteenth year, her personal appearance was by no means unattractive. Though she had no pretensions to beauty, her eyes, hair, and massive forehead were redeeming features. A year or two after, during her first engagement as a governess, she had an offer of marriage, concerning which she writes a characteristic letter to her faithful correspondent:

You ask me whether I have received a letter from T——. I have about a week since. The contents I confess did a little surprise me; but I kept them to myself, and unless you had questioned me on the subject I would never have adverted to it. ——says he is comfortably settled at ——, and that his health is much improved. He then intimates that in due time he will want a wife, and frankly asks me to be that wife. Altogether the letter is written without cant or flattery, and in common-sense style, which does credit to his judgment. Now there were in this proposal some things that might have proved a strong temptation. I thought if I were to marry so —— could live with me, and how happy I should be. But again I asked myself two questions: Do I love T—— as much as a woman ought to love her husband? Am I the person best qualified to make him happy? Alas! my conscience answered "No" to both these questions. I felt that though I esteemed T——, though I had a kindly leaning towards him, because he is an amiable, well-disposed man, yet I had not and never could have that intense attachment which would make me willing to die for him—and if ever I marry it must be in that light of adoration that I will regard my husband. Ten to one I shall never have the chance again; but n' importe. Moreover, I was aware he knew so little of me he could hardly be conscious to whom he was writing. Why, it would startle him to see me in my natural home character. He would think I was a wild, romantic enthusiast indeed. I could not sit all day long making a grave face before my husband. I would laugh and satirize, and say whatever came into my head first; and if he were a clever man and loved me, the whole world weighed in the balance against his smallest wish would be light as air. Could I, knowing my mind to be such as that, conscientiously say that I would take a grave, quiet Quaker? Nay, verily! No: it would have been deceiving him, and deception of that sort is beneath me. So I wrote a long letter back in which I expressed my refusal as gently as I could, and also candidly avowed my reasons for that refusal. I described to him, too, the sort of character I thought would suit him for a wife.

The publication of "Jane Eyre" took place in the Autumn of 1847, and at once aroused the liveliest curiosity both in England and America as to its mysterious author. Its wonderful success, which brought so sudden a change of fortune to Charlotte Brontë, did not disturb her serenity. She corresponded freely with her publishers, and with the critics who had written to her concerning her book; she confessed the secret of her authorship to her father; but in her letters to her friend no difference of tone is to be detected. She bore her honors meekly, and betrayed nothing of the gratified ambition which must have filled her soul. "She had not even revealed her identity to the publisher till, by an accident, she became aware of the rumor that the writer had satirized Mr. Thackeray under the character of Rochester, and had even obtruded on the sorrows of his private life. Shocked at this supposition, she went to London by the night train, accompanied by Anne, and having breakfasted at the station, walked to the establishment in Cornhill, where she had much difficulty in penetrating to the head of the house, having stated that he would not know her by her name. At last he came into the shop, saying, with some annoyance: 'Young woman, what can you want with me?' 'Sir, we have come up from Yorkshire. I wish to speak to you privately. I wrote 'Jane Eyre.'' *You* wrote 'Jane Eyre!' cried the delighted publisher; and taking them into his office, insisted on their coming to the house of his mother, who would take every care of them. Charlotte related afterwards the strange contrast between the desolate waiting at the station in the early morning, and their loneliness in the crowd of the great city, and finding themselves in the evening seated among the brilliant company at the Opera House, listening to the performance of Jenny Lind." It was not until after the publication of "Shirley," in 1849, that her secret was made known to the world, and she began to share in the excitements of successful authorship. Upon the appearance of this book, with its vivid pictures of Yorkshire life and its masterly sketches of character, there was but one chorus of praise even from the obtuse critics who joined in eager cry against "Jane Eyre." She was now persuaded to visit London, and make acquaintance with her admirers and peers in the world of letters whose names were familiar in Hawarth parsonage long before "Currer Bell" had made her first modest appeal to the public. The following passage from one of her letters at the time describes her first impressions of London life.

I have just remembered that as you do not know my address you cannot write to me till you get it. I came to this big Babylon last Thursday, and have been in what seems to me a sort of whirlwind since; for changes, scenes, and stimulus, which would be a trifle to others, are much to me. I found when I mentioned to Mr. —— my plan of going to Dr. ——'s it would not do at all. He would have been seriously hurt; he made his mother write to me, and thus I was persuaded to make my principal stay at his house. So far I have found no reason to regret this decision. Mrs. —— received me at first like one who has had the strictest orders to be scrupulously attentive. I had fire in my bedroom evening and morning, two wax candles, &c., and Mrs. —— and her daughters seemed to look on me with a mixture of respect and alarm. But all this is changed; that is to say the attention and politeness continue as great as ever, but the alarm and estrangement are quite gone; she treats me as if she liked me, and I begin to like her much. Kindness is a potent heart-destroyer. I had not judged too favorably of —— on a first impression—he pleases me much: I like him better as a son and brother than as a man of business. Mr. W —— too is really most gentlemanly and well-informed; his weak points he certainly has, but these are not seen in society. Mr. X —— (the little man) has again shown his paris. Of him I have not yet come to a clear decision. Abilities he has, for he rules his firm and keeps forty young men under strict control by his iron will. His young superior likes him, which, to speak the truth, is more than I do at present. In fact, I suspect that he is of the Helston order of men—rigid, despotic, and self-willed. He tries to be very kind, and even to express sympathy sometimes, and he does not manage it. He has a determined, dreadful nose in the middle of his face, which, when he peked into my countenance, cuts into my soul like iron. Still he is horribly intelligent, quick, searching, sagacious, and with a memory of relentless tenacity: to turn to —after him is to turn from granite to easy down or warm fur. I have seen Thackeray.

As to being happy, I am under scenes and circumstances of excitement, but I suffer acute pain sometimes—mental pain, I mean. At the moment Mr. Thackeray presented himself I was thoroughly faint from inanition, having eaten nothing since a very slight breakfast, and it was then seven o'clock in the evening. Excitement and exhaustion together made savage work of me that evening. What he thought of me I cannot tell. This evening I am going to meet Miss Martineau; she has written to me most kindly; she knows me only as Currer Bell; I am going alone; how I shall get on I do not know. If Mrs. —— were not kind, I should sometimes be miserable; but she treats me almost affectionately; her attentions never flag. I have seen many things; I hope some day to tell you what. Yesterday I went over the new Houses of Parliament with Mr. ——. An attack of rheumatic fever has kept poor Mr. X. out of the way since I wrote last. I am sorry for *his* sake. It grows quite dark. I must stop. I shall not stay in London a day longer than I first intended. On those points I form my resolutions, and will not be shaken. The thundering *Times* has attacked me savagely.

At a subsequent visit in London, she heard Mr. Thackeray's lectures on the English humorists, where not a little commotion was excited by her unexpected presence among the literary crowd. "Some there are still living who remember that first lecture, when all London had assembled to listen to the author of 'Vanity Fair,' and the rumor suddenly ran round the room that the author of 'Jane Eyre' was among the audience. Men and women were at fault at first, in their efforts to distinguish 'Currer Bell' in that brilliant company of literary and social notabilities; but at last she was discovered hiding under the motherly wing of a chaperon, timid, blushing, but excited and pleased—*not* at the attention she herself attracted, but at the treat she had in prospect. One or two gentlemen sought and obtained introductions to her—among them Lord Carlyle and Mr. Monckton Milnes. They were not particularly impressed by her appearance or the speech of the person's daughter. Her person was insignificant, her dress somewhat rustic, her language quaintly precise and formal, her manner odd and constrained. Altogether this was a woman whom even London could not lionize; somebody outwardly altogether too plain, simple, unpretending, to admit of hero-worship. Within there was, as we know, something entirely exceptional and extraordinary; but, like Lucy Snowe, she still kept her real self hidden under a veil which no casual friend or chance acquaintance was allowed to lift. It was but a brief visit to the 'Big Babylon,' and then back to Haworth, to loneliness and duty!"

The words last quoted furnish the key to the life and character of Charlotte Brontë. Of a keenly sensitive temperament, with a nature craving for sympathy as its appropriate sustenance, she knew little of the joy of sincere companionship. Her secluded position kept her from a wide choice of friends, and her fastidious taste made her scrupulous and dainty in their selection. She was thus thrown back on the solid principles of duty in her own soul, and she adhered to them with the fidelity of a martyr in life and in death. Of the peculiar sacrifices to which she was called, she rarely made mention, even to those who most fully shared her confidence; but she bore them in silence and secresy, with saint-like composure and ineffable sweetness. The present volume will serve to recall the image of a noble woman, which was fading from the memory of a busy generation, but whose serene example of patience and faith affords a wholesome tonic in the midst of secular distractions. Her letters possess the merit of transparent sincerity; they are equally without pretension and without disguise; and if they show little of the fire and brilliancy of her remarkable genius, they present an instractive guide in the study of her admirable character.

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3 DOORS from Madison Square, No. 17 East 24th-st., very desirable ROOMS for families with BOARD. Parties requiring first-class accommodations please call.

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24 WEST 10TH.—Large pleasant rooms, to rent with board.

39 WEST 22ND-ST.—Several handsome rooms to rent, with board, for the summer or permanent. Strictly First-class families leaving the city will find this a very desirable place and location. The most desirable terms, low for the Summer.

44 WEST 10TH-ST., near 5th-av.—Desirable ROOMS with superior BOARD, at moderate prices, for families and gentlemen. Transient visitors, $4 25 per day.

45TH-ST., 108 WEST, one block from 6th av. Elegant suites to let; first-class table; good references.

125 W. 42D-ST.—Lovely, cool Rooms, prettily furnished, and good Board. Also beautiful back parlor for physician. Terms reasonable to desirable party. References.

348 WEST 46TH-ST.—A gentleman and wife or two gentlemen can have a neatly furnished room, with board, in a small private family; location and neighborhood first-class; references exchanged.

East Side.

A PRIVATE FAMILY having more room than they require, would let with board, first and second floors, furnished, en suite or in single rooms, to families or single gentlemen. Apply to No. 10 E. 34th-st.

ROOM TO LET.—A large room on second floor, for two persons; also, one on fourth, with board; transient and late boarders taken; references. 38 E. 22d-st.

$2 PER DAY.—26 and 28 East 23d-st., Madison-square. Elegant ROOMS with first-class BOARD. Also table boarders accommodated.

34 EAST 20TH-ST.—Suits of ROOMS, handsomely furnished; private bathrooms; with or without board. Rooms for gentlemen; terms moderate; references.

Board and Rooms Wanted.

COUNTRY BOARD—Wanted for three or four weeks by a young gentleman, within one hour of City Hall. Must be free from malaria; good boating and terms moderate. Address with particulars, L. E. A., Box 25, Tribune office.

Corporation Notices.

PROPOSALS.—Proposals for Dredging Slip between Piers (new numbers) 45 and 46, N. R., will be received by the Department of Docks, 117 and 119 Duane-st., until the 17th of July, 1877, at 12 o'clock m. For full particulars see The City Record, for sale at No. 2 City Hall, New York.

Steamboats and Railroads.

ALBANY BOAT, PEOPLE'S LINE. The elegant steamers DREW and ST. JOHN leave Pier No. 41, North River, EVERY WEEK DAY at 6 p. m. connecting at Albany with express trains for SARATOGA, LAKE GEORGE, LAKE CHAMPLAIN, THE ADIRONDACK AND WHITE MOUNTAINS, and all favorite Summer Resorts North and West. FARE ONLY $1 50.
Messina's celebrated String Bands accompany each steamer.
S. F. HAYO, General Passenger Agent.

FOR NEW-HAVEN, HARTFORD, SPRINGFIELD, WHITE MOUNTAINS, MONTREAL, and intermediate points. Steamers leave Pier 2, N. R., daily (Sundays excepted) at 3 p. m. (Westerly time). L. R., at 3 (5 p. m.) and 11 p. m., connecting with Shore Line at New Haven for Hartford, Springfield, &c. Tickets sold and baggage checked at 944 Broadway, New-York, and 4 Court-st., Brooklyn. Excursion to New-Haven and return, $1 50.

LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD. ARRANGEMENT OF PASSENGER TRAINS Jan. 1, 1877.—Leave depots foot of Cortlandt and Desbrosses-sts., at 6.30 p. m., Night Express, daily, for Easton, Bethlehem, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Wilkesbarre, Pittston, Scranton, Elmira, Ithaca, Auburn, Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, and the West. Pullman's sleeping coaches attached.
ROBT. H. SAYRE, Sup't. and Eng'r.
General Eastern Office, corner of Church and Cortlandt-sts.
CHAS. S. LUM, Gen. Agent.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.—GREAT TRUNK LINE AND UNITED STATES MAIL ROUTE.—On and after June 25, 1877, trains leave New-York, via Desbrosses and Cortlandt Street Ferries, as follows:
Express for Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, the West and South, with Pullman Palace Cars attached, 9 a. m., 6 and 8.30 p. m. daily.
For Williamsport, Lock Haven, Corry, and Erie at 8.30 p. m., connecting at Corry for Titusville, Petroleum Centre, and the Oil Regions. For Williamsport and Lock Haven, 9 a. m.
For Baltimore, Washington, and the South, "Limited Washington Express" of Pullman Parlor Cars, daily, except Sunday, 9.30 a. m.; arrive Washington 4.10 p. m. Regular at, 9 a. m., 1, 6, and 8.30 p. m. Express, 6 and 8.30 p. m.
Express for Philadelphia, 7.30, 8.20, 9 (9.30 Limited), 10.30 a. m., 1, 4, 5, 6, and 8.30 p. m. Sunday, 9 a. m., 5, 6, 7, and 8.30 p. m. Emigrant and second-class, 7 p. m.
For trains to Newark, Elizabeth, Rahway, Princeton, Trenton, Perth Amboy, Flemington, Belvidere, and other points, see local schedules at all Ticket Offices.
Trains arrive from Pittsburgh, 8.50 and 10.40 a. m., and 10.20 p. m. daily; 10.10 a. m., 6.50 p. m. daily, except Monday. From Washington and Baltimore, 6.50, 10.05 a. m., 4.10, 5.10, and 10.10 p. m. Sunday, 6.50, 10.40 a. m. From Philadelphia, 3.05, 6.50, 9.10, 10.10, 10.40, 11.50 a. m., 2.10, 4.10, 5.10, 6.50, 8.40, 10.10, and 10.20 p. m. Sunday, 3.05, 6.50, 10.40, 11.50 a. m., 6.50, 7, and 10.20 p. m.
Ticket Offices, 526 and 944 Broadway, No. 1 Astor House, and foot of Desbrosses and Cortlandt-sts.; No. 4 Court-st., Brooklyn; Nos. 114, 116 and 118 Hudson-st., Hoboken; Depot, Jersey City. Emigrant Ticket Office, No. 8 Battery-place.
FRANK THOMSON, General Manager. L. P. FARMER, General Passenger Agent.

THE GREAT FALL RIVER LINE FOR BOSTON and all points East, via NEWPORT AND FALL RIVER. THE MAMMOTH PALACE STEAMERS BRISTOL AND PROVIDENCE. Largest, handsomest and most costly steamers in the world. FULL NIGHT'S REST. NO MIDNIGHT CHANGES. Five morning trains—Fall River to Boston. Steamers leave New-York daily at 5 p.m. (SUNDAYS July 1 to Sept. 2, inclusive), from Pier 28, N. R., foot of Murray-st. GRAND PROMENADE CONCERTS EVERY EVENING. Tickets and State Rooms secured at all principal Hotels and Ticket Offices, at the Pier, and on Steamers.
BORDEN & LOVELL, Agents.
GEO. L. CONNOR, General Passenger Agent.

RONDOUT and Kingston—Landing at Newburgh, Poughkeepsie, Highland Falls (West Point), Cornwall, Marlboro, Milton, Esopus, connecting with Ulster and Del. R. R. steamboats THOMAS CORNELL and JAMES W. BALDWIN, from Pier foot Spring-st., N. R., daily, at 4 p. m.

TO THE WHITE MOUNTAINS—THROUGH BY DAYLIGHT.—On and after July 9, through cars for the White Mountains will leave Grand Central Depot via New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad at 8.05 a. m., arriving at Fabyan's at 8.25 p. m. Ask for tickets via Connecticut River Line.

THE NEW PROVIDENCE LINE TO BOSTON, VIA PROVIDENCE DIRECT. A WHOLE NIGHT'S REST. ONLY 42 MILES OF RAIL, TIME, 60 MINUTES. THE NEW MAGNIFICENT STEAMER MASSACHUSETTS ("The Palace Steamer of the World"), AND THE WORLD-RENOWNED STEAMER RHODE ISLAND ("The Queen of the Sound") leave daily (except Sundays), from Pier 29, N. R., foot of Warren-st., at 5 p. m., arriving at Providence at 6 a. m., and Boston at 7 a. m. No intermediate landings between New-York and Providence.
THE OLD RELIABLE STONINGTON LINE, FOR BOSTON AND ALL POINTS EAST. NOT A TRIP MISSED IN 7 CONSECUTIVE YEARS. The elegant steamers STONINGTON AND NARRAGANSETT, at 5 p. m. daily (Sundays excepted) from Pier 25, N. R., foot of Jay-st. Staterooms and tickets FOR EITHER LINE secured at 1363 Broadway, and at all offices of Westcott Express Co. Also tickets for sale at all hotel ticket offices.
Passengers and Freight via either line always taken at low rates.
D. S. BABCOCK, President.
L. W. FILKINS, General Passenger Agent.

ULSTER & DELAWARE RAILROAD.—SPECIAL SATURDAY EVENING TRAIN.—Leaves Rondout on arrival of Hudson River train leaving Grand Central Depot at 3.30 P. M. Returning Monday morning, arrive at Grand Central Depot 11 A. M.

Steamboats and Railroads.

ERIE RAILWAY. SUMMER ARRANGEMENT OF TRAINS, in effect June 25, 1877:
9 a. m.—Cincinnati and Chic