

Books and Authors

THE LITERARY OUTLOOK

THE GAELIC LANGUAGE REVIVAL AND THE LABORS OF SEUMAS MACMANUS TO THAT END—TWO NEW BOOKS BY ELIZABETH STUART PHELPS—MORE EXPERIENCES OF FENELOPE—NOTES ABOUT VARIOUS AUTHORS. Correspondence of The Journal.

NEW YORK, April 18.—Charles Battell Loomis has recently placed himself under the management of Major Pond for readings from his books. Mr. Loomis says he finds that his books of fairy tales for children please men and women as much as the children themselves, which is an excellent proof that men and women are but children of a larger growth.

Seumas MacManus, who has had considerable literary success in "Through the Turf Smoke," "The Leadin' Road to Donegal," and "Donegal Fairy Tales," is a most enthusiastic Irish nationalist and it would not be surprising if his friends present him as a candidate for parliament. Mr. MacManus goes so far in his nationalistic ideas as to advocate the return of his people to the Gaelic language. He teaches a little class in his home town, and has a number of pupils. He has also been heard in the land, save when spoken by visiting tourists. Mr. MacManus is coming to America this fall for the purpose of converting us to the use of Gaelic, but to increase our interest in those fine tales of the old shanachies told around the great fire—the folk tales of Ireland which have been told over for centuries but never set down in such a charming fashion as Mr. MacManus has written them. He will give readings from his books, and also bring out his first novel, "Lad o' O'Flaherty," a tale of Irish life.

Elizabeth Stuart Phelps is about to bring out a book somewhat different in character from anything she has previously done. Her publishers state that the work may be regarded as her contribution to the servant girl problem. The title is, "The Successors of Mary the First," and with the servant girl explanation in mind, one may well imagine there were many successors to Mary the First. Doubtless the line of succession passed into other families, the Annies, Lizzies, Gretchenes and Maggie's. The story relates the life of a girl, and of various nationalities, with various servants. Of these latter there were many, and of various nationalities, with various shades of ignorance and shades of incompetence. The author probably drew largely from her own experiences with so-called intelligence offices, for she has written with such satire and with evident enjoyment of her task.

That Miss Phelps did not desert her former line of work may be seen from the serial publication now just beginning, of "Beyond the Gates," a development of some ideas touched upon in her earlier books. Carefully enough, just before this new work began publication, a prominent New York clergyman presented a sermon setting forth some of the peculiar views of Miss Phelps. The two agreed that heaven was not the perpetual pleasure palace as people generally thought, but that it would be some such place as the earth, with its sorrows as well as its joys and its pain as well as its pleasure.

Morgan Bates, the author of a much discussed novel, "Martin Brook," is a native of Albany, N. Y., where he has laid some of the most striking scenes of his story. Mr. Bates has indicated that the prototype of his hero, Martin Brook, might be found in his own family, and all the main incidents of the novel are based directly on fact. His father was one of the organizers of the Troy conference of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Bates is a newspaper man of wide experience and has written considerable for the stage. He is about 50 years of age, of medium height, and with a manner of direct sincerity. "Martin Brook" is his first novel. Mr. Bates resides at present in Traverse City, Mich., but his work has been done in Chicago and other places in the central west. His wife, Clara Doty Bates, who died five years ago, was known as a writer for children and also of verse.

Now and then as the poem "Ben Bolt" is recalled, the fact that its author, Thomas Dunn English, is still living, is brought to mind. For several years past Dr. English has been no part of the literary world of the day, and he lives in quiet retirement with relatives in Newark, N. J. Dr. English lays claim to being the oldest living graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, although there still survives one physician who was a colleague of his in the medical department of that institution. Whatever literary work Dr. English has done of late has been executed at the expense of extreme exertion, although his memory is as clear as ever. He is one of the few surviving literary men who remember Poe, Willis, Graham, Cooper and other authors who followed quickly in the way blazed by Irving, and set the pace for American letters.

NEW BOOKS

Meeting Death—Robert Louis Stevenson's "Aes Triplex," is so generally credited that the humor and cheerfulness injected in it do not remove the dreariness of the impression. It is a fine piece of writing, certainly—one of the best of contemplations upon death. Here is a notable passage from the text: "A spirit goes out of the man who means

curate, peripatetic treatment of the subject and expert condensation of the information assembled, the author, in fitting cases, compresses the facts, physical and political, concerning Minnesota territory, and in many more pages, describes the process of acquiring a statehood and the remainder of the volume contains a clear and attractive description of the organization of the state, the powers and duties of the central government, the duties of the various departments, the judiciary, revenue and expenditure, educational administration and scope, economy, state militia and naval reserves. The appendix contains a list of governors, territorial and state, and members of the first legislature; population growth tables; tables of the duties of the various departments; a list of territorial acts; of the enabling act, of the act for the admission of Minnesota into the union; of the state constitution, etc. The book, so far as the general reader is concerned, is a most useful work for everybody. New York: The MacMillan Company, Minneapolis: N. McCarthy, Price, 75 cents.

Geographic Names—The government has issued another edition of the report of the United States board on geographical names, which was first published in 1893. This board was organized in accordance with an order of President Harrison in 1893 for the purpose of bringing some order out of the confusion and contradictions in geographic names as used in government publications. The policy of the board is that, in general, the name in common local use at present should be adopted. It doesn't change corrupted names, but pure forms after the former have been established, because it would be useless. They avoid the possessive form of names; drop the final "h" in the termination "burgh"; change "borough" to "boro"; abandon "center" and spell it "center"; discontinue the use of hyphens in connecting parts of names, and drop the words "city" and "town" as parts of names. Names of Russian origin in Alaska ending in a nominal syllable variously rendered as "of," "ow" and "ov," are made to end in "of." Several counties, a city and a river and a mountain range bear the name "Allegheny" and "Allegheny," and the board has adopted "Allegheny." A good many changes of this kind have been made. The board bases its decisions chiefly on local usage. Several corrections of Minnesota names are made, as "Clearwater" for "Clear Water"; "Deerwood" for "Deer Wood"; "Delavan" for "Delevan"; "Edina" for "Edina Mills"; "Faldal" for "Faldahl"; "Georgetown" for "Georgetown"; "Guesen" for "Guesen"; "Greenvale" for "Green Vale"; "Howard Lake" for "Howard"; "Invergrove" for "Inver Grove"; "Joe Davies" for "Joe Davies"; "Lauriston" for "Lorriston"; "Standish" for "Scandia"; "Synnes" for "Synnes"; "Walcott" for "Wolcott"; "West Minneapolis" for "Bushnell"; "Wild Island" for "Wild"; and several others. The report contains a list of county names in the United States, with the proper spelling. Washington: Secretary Board of Geographical Names.

A Tragedy of Love—Miss Imogen Clark's "God's Puppets" presents a picture of society in New York city about the middle of the eighteenth century, when English influence was beginning to integrate the Dutch ways. The hero, Captain Belandere, an English army officer, came to the city to meet the most tumultuous experiences of his life and find a wife. The strong work in the story lies in the fearful tangle of misunderstandings and the tormented jealousy of one Dutchman, which brought about the suicide of Annetje Riessen, the good Dutch domine's pretty daughter, and killed the domine himself. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, Minneapolis: Nathaniel McCarthy, Price, 75c.

How the French Live—In "Our European Neighbors" series, Hannah Lynch's "French Life in Town and Country" is one of the most attractive numbers. The rural and domestic life of France is described for there is less known about it, generally, than there is about the Parisian and town life generally. The author points out the striking contrast between the provincial and the Parisian people. A chapter is given to the press and another to the Parisian salon and another to the Parisian life. The very interesting little bourgeois class, New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, Minneapolis: Nathaniel McCarthy.

A Man and Two Women—Sidney McCall cannot expect the readers of "Truth Dexter" to go into raptures over his hero, Van der Wey de Craighhead, who fell in love with two women, but the story is so well told by a man about the same age and concurrently married a somewhat unpolished southern heiress, whom he met in the course of his duties as a naval reserve, that the character of Old Boston estate. While the character of Craighhead is far from attractive and her Creole power over Craighhead was seriously wounding him, there is no doubt on the white, pure, innocent soul of Truth Dexter; as innocent a girl as was ever born into this sad world. The author's portrayal of the two women, the one a French girl, the other a white, pure, innocent soul of Truth Dexter, is decidedly entertaining. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. Price, \$1.50.

A Wide Range History—An elaborate publication is "The World's History and Its Progress," by Edgar Sanderson, author of "History of the British Empire"; J. T. Lamberton, author of "Historic Characters and Famous Events"; John McGovern, author of "The Story of the World"; and M. M. Rogers, Laurence G. W. M. Lane, George S. Jones, Frederick Logan, W. M. Handy. The introduction is by Professor M. S. Snow of Washington university and dean of the college.

Beginning with ancient and mediæval history, the work is brought through the centuries to the nineteenth century, which receives elaborate and interesting treatment. It is "century of achievement." Thus we have the record of the world's history and the noted characters who may be called the "makers" of the world's history, and the makers of valuable manuscripts and inscriptions in Egypt which push back the date of the first dynasty 5,000 years from the long accepted date, and the discovery of the Euphrates valley. Three of the series of ten volumes relate to the general history of the world, and the remaining seven volumes embrace detailed studies of special periods and changes and remarkable movements of the human race. The progress of the sciences is simply set forth, and the trend of human thought through the ages is noted and the reader will find every phase of the history presented in a perspicuous and attractive way. The author is the inquirer will find himself, at the conclusion of the tenth volume, possessed of a very clear idea of the entire history of the human race. The portion devoted to the beginnings of modern nations is of special interest and the studies of special periods and movements will well repay perusal. In the tenth volume, which is devoted to the achievements of the nineteenth century, are detailed the wonderful inventions and discoveries which have given the world rapid transportation and lightning communication by steam and electricity, which have brought the world into a closer touch with each other and are rapidly receding the area of the savage races. Here are set forth the marvels of modern engineering, the telegraph, the telephone, the steamship, with steel broad rivers and deep channels, and bridges with facility into the earth to draw forth its manifold treasures. The wonderful machinery which has wrought such transformations in the industrial world is described, and the triumphs of astronomy and electricity, the progress of agriculture, exploration and discovery, hygiene, the progress of the printing and publishing, are duly set forth. The record of educational progress in its systematization and generalization and special studies of the nineteenth century is an interesting feature. The work is a tremendous advance in modern warfare receives attention, from the period of Nelson,

it proposes to treat in a very attractive way. It is profusely illustrated, with fifteen or twenty photos to each volume, while the type, binding and illustrations are all that can be desired. Chicago: Universal History Publishing company.

APRIL MAGAZINES  
The Review of Reviews (No. 13 Astor Place, New York) in its "Progress of the World" department, discusses interestingly the motives and results of the big steel trust, suggesting that it should receive careful and critical scrutiny. Mr. Stead's sketch of Queen Victoria, and the sketch of the character of Harrison and Evans, and a valuable paper in Colonel Hinton's "Indian Territory," its Status, Development and Future," which embodies much information concerning the Indian problem.

Outing (New York): Outing Publishing Co., 233 Fifth Avenue) is a rarely good number. There are half a dozen papers detailing fishing and shooting episodes of deep interest, a school of trout, a school of salmon, illustrated by Ernest Harold Bayne, the author of the "Outing" magazine, and the usual record of sporting events.

The Smart Set (New York: Es Es Publishing Co.) completed now is "The Wage of Character," by Julien Gordon (Mrs. Van Rensselaer Cruger), who rarely disappoints readers. The number contains the usual breezy exhibits of the follies and fads of "society."

The Coast is a new magazine published at Seattle, Wash., by The Coast Publishing Company. The contents of the magazine are of home literatures and the magazine is a most creditable production.

Travels (London: No. 125 Fleet Street E. C.) contains some very interesting matter, as Mr. Ernest Harrington's "A Literary Pilgrimage in North Italy," illustrated, and "Off the Beaten Track," with Caravan, Camp and Camera into the Interior of Turin," by Rev. A. D. Sloan, with illustrations.

Literary Notes.  
D. Appleton & Co. announce "The Woman's Book of Sports." The copyright of "Adam Bede" has recently expired and cheap editions will soon be published.

Dr. Johnson's "Rambler" is to be revised in London in the original shape and manner, with Herbert Vivian for editor.

Rev. Cyrus Townsend Brady's latest story, entitled, "Whirlwinds Are Out and Love's Afield." The old authors are still favorites. New editions of Smollett, Macaulay, Byron, Carlyle, Dumas and Dickens are announced.

The Hutchinsons, of London, announce the "Queen Victoria's Birthday Book," compiled by E. G. Harner. A quotation for each day in the year, from the Queen's speeches, is included.

Professor W. H. Venable, of Cincinnati, has written a novel dealing with Aaron Burr's scheme for founding an empire in the southwest.

John Gilmer Speed writes in the Literary Digest, "The Passing of the Historical Roman Empire," that the form of literature seems to be exceedingly slow in passing.

Eugene Didier, in the Literary Era, charges that the form of literature seems to be exceedingly slow in passing.

Four of us good and attractive stories as were ever written for young and old are included in Miss Millie Elliott Seawell's volume, entitled, "Laurie Vale, and Other Stories."

In the "Great Admiral Series," a volume of very deep interest is James Otis' "With the Duke of Devonshire," a story of Captain Porter's famous cruise in southern waters during the war of 1812.

A second edition of L. W. de Laurence's "Hypnotism" has been issued, revised and enlarged. The author calls for the general recognition by the medical profession of

Psycho-Therapeutics as a science free from fraud, ignorance and superstition.

In the "United States Government" series, a notable volume is "The Young Consul," by William Drysdale.

Grosset & Dunlap, No. 11 East Sixteenth Street, New York, have issued Fred Oppen's cartoons, which appeared in Hearst's newspapers during the campaign last year, under the title, "Willie and His Papa."

Petit and Swift ..... 17 25% ..  
Hale and Pines ..... 15 25% ..  
Higbee and Larkins ..... 14 25% ..  
Hale and Marshall ..... 13 25% ..  
Barnes and Rankin ..... 12 25% ..  
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Janney and Leland ..... 9 25% ..  
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