ORLY A WORAN'S HEART. A Novel. By Ada Clare. New York: M. Doolady. Philadelphia Agent: T. B. Peterson & Brother.

We deprecate, as a rule, the appearance of sensational novels. As a class they are vitiating to the taste and depraying to the morals of the reader. There are some few, however, which are so ridiculously original in their characters, plot, society, and denouement, that whatever indignation we might feel is swallowed up in the keen sense of the comical. To this class, harmless because of its gross absurdities, belongs "Only a Woman's Heart," The plot of the novel we can briefly sum up. There are two girls, young ladies, we should say, in love with one man. The heroines' names are Laura and Juha. The hero answers to the euphonious title of Victor Doria. As is the custom of the heroes of fiction when placed in similar positions, he engages himself to the one he does care a jot or tittle for. The major part of the work is consequently devoted to his approaches to Laura, white he remains affianced to Julia. This honorable diversion is finally terminated by Laura seiting out on a sea voyage, whither Victor follows her. They are engaged, and when, after three hundred pages of agony, their bliss seems secured, a storm arises which sinks the ship and all its passengers, including the luckless pair. Such is the tale, neither particularly moral in its thread or pleasant in its conclusion,

There are certain little eccentricities displayed in the narrative which we will quote, as scenes taken from what we are assured is real life. The opening chapter is unique. A number of pupils of a female seminary are indulging in the teminine pleasure of rowing. A discussion ensues, which terminates in a second Austerlitz. We let Miss Clare describe the

"here such a skirmish of words ensued between the two girls, that, had not the boat arrived at a convenient spot for embarkation, a naval bactle would certainly have convulsed the peaceful water of that shahow stream. But no sooner die it touch land than the brace of warlike spirits flew promis enously at each other. The other girls, taking a boisterous interest in the affray, formed a ring and prepared to enjoy the sport. The plan of battle was prepared to enjoy the sport. The plan of natice was a peculiar one; there were very few blows given, but the chief object seemed to be to ascertain which could aqueeze the hardest, and drag the other about most unresistingly. In the course of events, Laura convived to get hold of a handful of Julia's hair, and, by means of this, to pull her round and round, with no other view, apparently, than to make her describe involuntary circles. It was, how-ever, considered a masterly piece of strategy by the spectators, and their expressions to that effect so maddened Julia that she took her revenge by scratching Laura's throat from ear to ear, and then they tripped each other up, and rolled for at least ten minutes in the sand, in an entirely miscellane-oue manner, after which both flery spirits seemed quenched, and they quietly rose and equally claimed

"In the meanwhile, the unconscious object of this contest was a hinden witness or it all. Just above and peyond them he sat with another young man, excessively amused by its ludicrous side, though it most rudely dispelled their former illusions about the young angels from the seminary, and shook their whole fair theory of gentle girlhood to its foundations. The being whose name has been mysteriously amounced as beginning with a V, was becoming with a V, was becoming the contraction of the contracti teriously announced as beginning with a V, was alvoung man of partly foreign blood, pursuing the art or sculping through ambition, that of the drama as a profession, and owning the exphonious name of Victor Doria, which, as to surname, the reader will perceive, was possessed of a most ancient and aristocratic flavor. Whether any of the blood of the house of the Dorias ran in his voius he had not been heard to suggest, but from the peculiarities of his face and manner, popular opinion had already decided the question in the affirmative."

After this little exhibition of pugilism before two gentlemen, they proceeded to an amusement which, considering the probable presence of their audience, causes us no small astonishment:-

"Though it was fer too late in the fail to make bathing an actual pleasure, for it was verging towards the middle of November, these girls, all active and ambitious swimmers, in spite of the chill in the air, were soon battling about in the water, 'ducking' each other with unparalleled rudeness, screaming sarilly, and indulging in boisterous exhibitions of animal spirits which would have utterly shocked the propriecies of girls brought up in city

The gentleman "whose name begins with V" and his companion were doubtless edified by the exhibition.

There is another peculiarity we notice. The hero Doria is an actor, apparently what we would term in daily parlance a "stock actor." Yet we are assured he moves in the best society -no circle of the rich, no inter-penetralia of aristocracy from which he is debarred. Mothers welcome him as a guest, and he quits the stage to enter the most refined drawing-rooms. We do not say that such ought not to be the case, yet the fact is nevertheless true. They are excluded, and all the Victor Dorias in creation could not have been treated in the way which "Only a Woman's Heart" asserts. Laura gives a plece of masculine, yet sensible advice, to her actoradorer, which we quote as applicable to pertormers under similar circumstances:-

Laura looked up at his approach, and welcomed him with her usual quiet same, "What is the mat-ter, Victor?" she asked, when she had fully mea-sured his face with her kind eyes. "I see you are "Yes, I am; I wan you to look at this I haven't speem of it to any one else, for you are the only one here on whose sympatates I can really depend.

I know you sympathize with me."

"I'm so g'ad you think so."

"Well, just listen to this; it is from a leading journal, which hitherto has been most favorably dispersed to us."

posed to me."
"They have taken a new critic on to the staff, I

"Probably; but see what it says; I am much over

"Probably; but see what it says; I am much overrated It is doing an injustice to native actors, to
enlogize a foreigner so oeyond his deserts. I lack
dignty; I am not large enough; my voice is sickeningly sweet; I am effeminate, presumptious, overborne with conceit. I look supercitiously on the
public; I have grown careless; and finally, worst of
all, a suspicion that I buy over other critics to my
interest. Now, what do you think of that? Ought
I to pull the critic's nose or answer it?"
"Neither, you toolish fellow. Don't you know
you cannot fight a pressman unless you are a pressman yourself? I mean you cannot fight him with
answering him, because it would be taking him on
his own ground, where he knows all the shifts and
turnings, and you know nothing. You would come
with your earnestness, and indignation, and sensitiveness, and he would just trip you up, with one
flippant sarcassn or impertinence. It is just like any
other art—strength and right go for nothing when
an opponent is thoroughly master or the 'knack' of
the thing. As for personal assault, which you technically term pulsing of 'the nose, I think it would be
very undignified under the sight provocation."

We think that it would have been very undig. nified, and might result in something worse than

compromising Victor's hauteur. In regard to the literary execution of the story, we cannot complain. It is pleasantly told, in a quiet conversational style, which reads pleasantly and smoothly. It is neatly executed by Mr. Doolady. But we must both censure and deplore the false judgment which leads an authoress to portray social conditions which have never existed, and depict characters and situations whose only merit is their absurd originality. A truthful delineation of what really can be seen is the only form of meritorious movels which pretend to depict social events. The agents for the work is T. B. Peterson & Brothers, No. 306 Chesnut street.

FARED MEATS OF THE FUNERAL, A COLLECTION OF ESSAYS, POEMS, SPEECHES, HIS OTHES AND BANQUETS. By Private Miles O'Rellly, New York, Carleton, Pailadelphia Agent: The unique title of the work before us is taken from the familiar lines of Hamlet:-

Did coldly furnish terth the wedding breakfast," and we must contess that the name is a peculiarly happy one. On the return of peace it is most appropriate to serve up papers on the war as baked meats of the funeral at the joyous wedding teast. The collection of viands placed before us is so varied, that we greatly doubt whether all can be denominated baked. There seems a dish dressed in every variety known to literary cuisine; we have seldom seen a more thoroughly disjointed book. It comprises everything-the articles written by Halpine in the Heraid and Tribune, his poems, dashed off on the inspiration of the moment, and some of his older works. The most interesting chapter in the work is that one in which he clears up the mystery about the authorship of the famous poem on the "Flaunting Lie." He removes all imputation of Mr. Horace Greeley being the writer, and assumes the responsibility himself of saying that Mr. Greeley never wrote the verses. It is rather a matter of conjecture, from the body of the book, whether Mr. Halpine desires his readers to have the impression that he wrote them or not." In his preface, however, he is emphatic. He says, m it, that in connection therewith the author would only say that he was at all times ready to assume its authorship, but was restrained by the suggestion of Mr. Greeley that in 'politics a lie well stuck to is as good as truth," and that "no matter what avowals were made in regard to the song, Mr. Greeley's enemies would still continue to hold him responsible therefor." So this interesting question is now satisfactorily solved. The whole work is of interest. It is written in the genial style of the "Private," and is a spley reminder of the events of the days which are still so fresh in all our memories.

-We have always desired to see a spirit of courtesy manifested by cultivators of letters, in their intercourse with each other. As a general rule the public can seldom find fault with writers because of any lack of politeness in their dealings with their own craft. We fear that candor is too often sacrificed to courtesy. But there occurred yesterday a lamentable instance of positive rudeness. The literary critic of the Press, in a recent review of Mrs. Ann S. Stephens' late novel, the "Gold Brick," undertook to express a doubt in regard to the probability of certain portions of the narrative. In that doubt we sympathized. In our examination of the book we stated that it was "perfeetly unnatural, its extreme disregard for anything like probability being its chief merit." On this expression Mrs. Stephens took the trouble to write a letter, giving proofs that the instances stated by her as facts were "truths of history." She gave the dates, and added the confirmation of her signature, as guarantee to her words. Under such circumstances, it is only natural to suppose that the Press would have published her letter, and let her thus speak for her own defense, without going behind her assertions. On the contrary only extracts are given, and to these statements are added comments expressive of doubt. "Connecticut editors no doubt will verify or correct this statement." "We accept Mrs. Stephens' statement, subject, as before, to any admission, explanation, or denial from Connecticut." Such is the manner in which the critic of the Press receives a letter from a lady. Some may term it caution, we see it only as gross discourtesy. We accept the facts as given by Mrs. Stephens in good faith, and before her explanation most of the improbability of her

THE AMERICAN NEWS COMPANY .- The originator of the American News Company was Mr. John Hamilton. He was born in New York city in 1833, commenced work by selling papers in the streets at the age of eight or ten years, and may be said to have grown up with the newspaper business of this city from its infancy. He had energy, tact, and foresight, and soon developed the characteristics of a successful dealer; he sublet to other boys, and gradually attained position and influence among the fraternity. When the era of cheap publications commenced, and Park Benjamin, Wilson, Winchester, and a host of other enterprising publishers flooded the land with their cheap reprints, young Hamilton availed himself of this new branch of business, and met with his usual success. In May, 1854, he established himself in the news business at No. 30 Ann street, and during the same year entered into a partnership with Mr. S. W. Johnson, under the firm style of Hamilton & Johnson. Later in the day he added to the firm Mr. P. Farrelly. In the fall of 1864, they united their business with that of H. Dexter & Co. In February, 1864, the firm was joined with its rival Tousey & Co., under the title of the American News Company. Mr. Sinclair Tousey was President, and Mr. Henry Dexter Vice-President. The amount of business transacted by the concern is proven by the following authorized ex-

hibit:-phia..... 5,500

Northly magazines published in Boston, 40,500 Monthly magazines published in Philadelphia...... 49 506

In addition to the above, about 225,000 "dime" and other ten-cent publications are sold monthly, as well as large quantities of books, writing papers, and stationery. The cash receipts of the company since its organization have been:-

From February 1 to December 81, 1884... \$2,225,872 83 From January 1 to December 81, 1865.... 2,850,729 89 and in 1868 will run over \$3,000,000. The total expense account for 1865, besides shrinkage and losses, was \$84,090 74, of which \$12,762.51 were for the single items of twine and paper required in their packing and for-

warding. -The advertisement of an English firm, published in a New York literary journal, concludes

as follows:-"Messrs. Cassell, Petter & Galpin cannot conclude this nouse without referring to the serious drawback they must encounter in their endeavors to introduce their works at reasonable rates to the notice of the people of the United States. This drawback presents itself in the form of the large duties levied upon all imported books; and they venture to express a hope that the great principles of free trade, which have been found so beneficent in their influence in this country, and so efficacions in comenting the relations of England

created the appetite When we need the advice of Mesers, Cassell & Co., we will let them know, until which time no one will impute it to selfishness if they keep their views and their publications to themselves.

-Here is a personal description of Thomas Carlyle at the Edinburgh University, at threescore and ten, worth extracting, from the London Telegraph:-

"Mr. Carivle rose at once, shook himself out of his gold-lac d rectorial gown, left it on his chair and stepped quicty to the table, and drawing his tall bony frame into a position of straight perpen-dicularity not possible to one man in five hundred at seventy years of age, he began to speak quietly and districtly but nervously. There was a shelf and distinctly, but hervously. There was a slight flush on his face, but he bore himself with compo-sure and dignity, and in the course of haif an hour he was obviously beginning to feel at his ease, so far, at least, as to have adequate command over the cur-rent of his thought. He spoke on quite freely and easily, hardly ever repeated a word, never looked at easily, hardly ever repeated a word, never looked at a note, and only once returned to finish up a topic from which he had deviated. He apologized for not having come with a written discourse: It was usual, and 'it would have been more comfortable for me just at present,' but he had the lit and could not satisfy himself, and 'as the spoken word comes from the hear,' he had resolved to try that method. What he said no words will be learned otherwise than from me. I could not well describe it; but I do not think I ever heard any address that I should be so anwilling to blot from my memory. Not that be so unwilling to blot from my memory. Not that there was much in it that cannot be found in his writings, or inferred from them; but the manner of the man was a key to the writings, and for naturalness and quiet power I have never seen anything to compare with it. He did not deal in ruetoric, He taked—it was continuous, strong, quiet take—it was continuous, strong, quiet take. like a pairiarch about to leave the world to the young lads who had chosen him and were just entering the world. His voice is a soft, downy vo ce—not a tone in it is of the shrill fleree kind that one would expect it to be in reading the latter-day pamphlets. There was not a trace of effort or of affectation, or even of extravagance,"

-The first number of the new Southern magazine announced by us some time since, The Crescent Monthly, has just made its appearance, bearing the imprint of William Evelyn, New Orleans. It is a creditable specimen of typography, considering the limited resources of the region in which it is published, and its literary character is as high as we could expect. If it be a hard thing to make a good first number of a magazine or newspaper here, where we have all facilities and most of the talent of the country to choose from, what must it be at the South, which was never celebrated for its writers, whose numbers for the most part exceeded their genius? The South, indeed, in past times depended upon the North and upon England for its literature; for it was generally content to devote its time and talents to other things-as the law and politics, which we take to have been at once the excellence and the defect of the Southern mind. However this may be, we hope that the war, which has changed so many other things, has changed this one also, and has given, or will soon give, an impetus to letters among the Southern people.

-The London correspondent of the Round Ta-

ble writes as follows:-"A poor book on an extremely interesting subject is The Line of Father Ignatius of St Paul, Passionist (the Hon, and Rev. George Spencer). Compiled chiefly from his autoolography, journal, and letters, by the Rev. Father Plus a Sp. Sanoro, Passionist.' I onee saw this refined, thun faced, light-eyed man, in his coarse monkish garb, barefooted, tonsured, and, remembering the thousands who would sell their souls to be the son of Lo d Spencer, could not but cel moved with some admiration for one who for his soul's sake (so he thought—and 'as a man believett in his heart so is he') had made himse: f of no worldly reputation, had yielded luxury, and wealth, and lashion. Had there been any affectation about him I would have felt differently, but his eye was pure as the sky of all that. He was impusive, charitable, sincere; and woen he drew a check on the bank he would rarely reach home with any of the money about him. This nobleman is found at the bidding of his apperiors washing an old flight of stairs. There is a good story of him which reminds one of Thoreas:—A rich Roman Cetholic cause one day in grand style to receive the Catholic came one day in grand style to receive the Catholic came one day in grand style to receive the father at the railway station. The father before a crowd steps out of a third-class carriage. 'My dear Father Ignatius,' cries the gentleman, horrified, 'why do you travel by third-class?' 'Well, because there is not a tourth.' The closing part of Father Ignatius' life was devoted to trying to get the taithtul all over the world to pray for the conversion of En, land. He was somewhat staggeted when he found an old Irishwoman who, to obtain the indulgences promised by the Pope, said three Aves for England's conversion daily, but made up or it by cursing England three hundred times per day, lest any good might come to her by her prayers! He died of heart disease, sucdenly, whilst waiking towards a friend's house. 'He was coming,' writes Father Pius. without perceiving the suggestiveness of the neident, straight to the grand entrance, when he turned off on a by-path. He perceived that he had lost his way, and asked a child which was the right

-Lord William Lennox, in his recently published volume of reminiscences, "Dratts on My Memory," relates a number of amusing anecdotes of several notabilities with whom he came in contact at one time and another; among others Theodore Hook, with whom he was on terms of close intimacy. 'At a dinner given by himself, the turtle soup, by some mistake was spoiled by the cook.

"Never mind—mistakes will happen in the best regulated families. That's the soup—get that ready —put back the turbet and all will be well." Happily all was well, the turtle after a short pause appeared, the cook sent a most humble apology, I he ped my hungry guests, gave Cannon an extra aldermanic allowance of green int to conciliate him, filled a tumbler of punch for Hook, which inspired him with the first pun of the evening. 'Never mind,' said he, as I was deploring the rumous effect that the absence of turtle would produce on the least, 'we so not judge of the dinner by the test-u-do (test you do).'"

-The second number of the "Bookworm" contains an amusing anecdote of how the Rev. Mr. Brand, a well-known collector in his time. spent Sunday in buying "Caxtons," "Wynkyn de Wordes," "Pynsons," and "Lawrence Andrews," of an "Ebrew Jew," torgetting, in the enthusiasm of the amateur and collector, his duties as parish priest, and leaving his congregation to be dismissed by the beadle, the day having slipped away without his knowing it, he was so wrapt in the study of signatures, colophons, and other mysteries of the bibliographieal craft. Such a bookworm now-a-days would soon have a "call" elsewhere, at least in this country, where we have no fancy for learned

Better than this is the following grim anecdote of Fauntleroy, the famous forger:-

"A story is tood of Fauntiercy's last moments which does not redound to the credit of all his friends. Among the acticaces he was in the habit of giving at his table was some remarkably fine Lunel, imported by himself, and kept to immeelf so iar that he would never put any of his friends on the scert of it. The day before his execution some of his oldest friends came to take leave of him, and one outstayed the rest. "Fauntiercy," said this last visitor, with due solemnity, "we have tried all means to save you, we have done everything in one power, but all is in vain, and we have only to take leave of you forever. Consider the position in which you stand. The dead veil of life is about to be withdrawn. You are on the brink of that chasm which separates time from eternity. It there is anything you leave unsaid in this world, you will have no chance of saying it then. Is there nothing more you have to say to us? Do you not think you owe us some return for our exertions? It will soon be too late. Tell us where you get that Lunel." But Fauntiercy was resolute. He died, and made no sign." "A story is told of Fauntieroy's last moments

-M. Herve, a writer in the Revue Contemporaine, states that forty per cent. upon its gross

and France, may soon be adopted by the people of America, so that a great country, which na made such large sagrifices for the promotion of education, may not present the anomaly of excluding from its markets tac food necessary to those minds for which, by is advanced without of education, it has already created the appetite."

profits is paid by every newspaper published in France upon every number that it prints. The tax of six centimes is imposed upon a journal of a given size, but if the proprietor wishes to found a smaller and cheaper leaves he must found a smaller and cheaper journal he must still pay the same tax of six centimes. The revenue thus obtained is enormous, M. Herve showing that a daily journal printing 5000 copies pays no less than 100,000 francs a year for the mere privilege of existence.

-A singular kind of work is in preparation in England, a "Thesaurus Craniorum," or catalogue of skulls of the various races of man, in the collection of the author, Mr. Joseph Barnard Davis, which is said to be the result of many years' research and labor, and to contain between fourteen and fifteen hundred specimens of skulls and skeletons derived from every division of the globe, and embracing representatives of the human races of most attainable countries, as well as many of the islands of the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

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