REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS. EYDNIR ADRIANCE; OR, TRYING THE WORLD. By Amanda M. Douglas. Published by Les &

B. Lippincott & Co. In this story Miss Douglas has given no new ideas to the world. Judging from the style of the parrative, and from the majority of the quotations which head the chapters. we should imagine that she was a student and admirer of what is known as the "spasmodic" school of literature - a school which still appears to have a strange fascination for a certain class of writers, although it never had a healthy life; and many of the works quoted by Miss Douglas have almost been forgotten by the general reader, and are only remembered as curiosities by the litterateur. The leading characters in "Sydnie Adriance" do not impress us as studies from life by a keen observer of men and manners, but rather as the reproduction of conventional types that we have met with frequently in a somewhat extended course of fiction reading, and which may be traced back to Charlotte Bron.e's really great novel of "Jane Eyre." It would be a matter of curious speculation to estimate how many writers-lady writers especiallyhave, consciously or unconsciously, imitated this work.

The hero of Miss Douglas' story is one of those mysterious, unfathomable men who make the heroine uncomfortable by studying her with steely grey eyes, which look into her very soul; who have no sympathies with any of the little social nothingnesses which make life pleasant; whose cold-blooded sarcasm and irony, which we should take to be evidences of biliousness rather than high-mindedness, are vented on all occasions, opportunely or inopportunely; and who, to crown his offenses, makes the young lady do all the courting, and almost forces her to pop the question. A thoroughly disagreeable fellow is this St. John, to our fancy, and one with whom we would not desire to be intimately acquainted, although he appears to be a pet of the author, who makes her heroine finally yield to his influences and throw herself into his arms. Sydnie Adriance, too, has an air of mystery about her which her friends and acquaintances cannot fathem, and she is attracted to St. John by an elective affinity which renders resistance on her part in vain; but, taking her all in all, she is a rather attractive young lady than otherwise.

"Sydnie Adriance" is a cleverly written story, and in many respects it indicates a decided advance over the previous works of the author. Miss Douglas, however, would produce something better entitled to commendation if she would forget her books for a while, and endeavor to study the scenes and characters of the busy everyday life around her. These will afford abundant subjects for the exercise of her talents; and whatever deficiencies may be exhibited in comparison with the works of the best writers, such studies will possess more real value than any imitations that she will ever be able to produce.

-From John E. Potter & Co., Nos. 615 and 617 Sansom street, we have received "Mrs. Partington's Knitting Work," a new edition of a book that achieved no inconsiderable amount of popularity when it was first published several years ago. Mrs. Partington was a hit not of a season but of many seasons, and that she still lives, as garrulous and as genial an old lady as ever, we judge from the oracular utterances ascribed to her which we continually meet with in the corners of the newspapers. In the volume before us we have the best of the Partingtonian sayings and doings, in a convenient shape for reference; and open it where we will, there can be found something to raise a pleasant smile and to amuse an odd half hour or so, such as comes to the busiest men in the midst of the busiest seasons, sometimes. The book is illustrated by Hoppin's designs, which admirably hit off the different char-

-The same house sends us "Five Hundred Employments Adapted to Women," by Virginia Penny. The question of women's work and wages is increasing in importance every day, and anything that is likely to open new fields of remunerative employment to the weaker sex is worthy of encouragement. Miss Penny has given a list of industrial pursuits in which women have been, are, or might be engaged, with estimates of the rates of wages. Many of the employ ments indicated are not likely to be adopted by women except in rare instances, but it was just as well to make the list as full as possible, if for no other reason than to encourage the despairing by showing what women have done already in occupations many of which are generally supposed to be monopolized by men. The estimates of wages are based on ante-bellum rates, and are not, therefore, altogether reliable at the present time; but the book will, we think, afford some useful hints to those women who are anxious to find some honorable and remunerative means of earning their own living. The necessity for the thorough education of women in the branches of industry which they may be disposed to adopt should be insisted upon in all works of this kind and in all essays on this subject, for without such education the women-workers will always compete with the men at a disad-

-"Talks about Adam and his Family" is a little work published by the American Sunday School Union, the title of which is sufficiently indicative of the nature of its contents.

-It will be a matter of regret with bookbuyers that the name of Ticknor & Fields will henceforth disappear from the title-pages of some of the choicest works published in America. The firm has been dissolved by the retirement of Mr. H. M. Ticknor. The remaining partners, Messrs. James T. Fields and James R. Osgood, have associated with them Mr. John S. Clark, and they will carry on the publishing business of the old firm under the title of Fields, Osgood & Co.

LIBERIA. Interesting Statements of President Recently, at the Old John Street Methodist Episcopal Church, New York, the Hou. Joseph J. Roberts, who was for eight years Pre-Shepard, Boston. Philadelphia Agents: J. sident of Liberia, made some interesting statements in regard to the history and condition of that republic. He said that the idea of a colony of emancipated slaves and free negroes, to be established on the Africau coast, originated with Robert Finley and others, early in the present century. Messrs. Mills and Bar-gers were sent out by them to fix upon the site. They first went to London, and after consultation with Clarkson and Wilberforce settled upon Sierra Leone. The first ship sailed from New York in the winter of 1819-20. and the colonists first landed in Sierra L one, but finding they were not cordially received by those in power there, they established them-selves at Cape Mesurado. The obj-cts held in view by those who projected the enterprise were four, namely :- First, to establish an asylum for the free pegroes of the United States; second, to test the capacity of the negro for self government; third, to check the slave trade; and fourth, to carry civilization into Arrica. After the ill success of the colonists in Sierra Leone, they derived much benefit from the advice of Commodore Stockton, then a naval officer in command of a vessel on the African coast, who recommended Cape Mesqrado as an eligible seat for their future republie. At this place there was a large slave mart. The strangers were at first received with friendship, but the slave traders soon incited the natives to hostilities against the n. In November, 1820, they were attacked by 1500 of these savages. Only 35 strong, they succeeded in repulsing this formidable band. They afterwards successfully warded off the attack of a still more numerous force. The Africans, incited by the slave traders, then called on King Bosun, the most powerful chief of that region, to come down and assist them. He came down to the coast, but as they could not satisfy him that the Americans had done them any injury, he refused to interfere. It may be remarked that the sister of this monarch was one of the first converts to Christianity. The colonists did not for several years set up an independent government, but, at length, difficulties having arisen out of the refusal of British traders to pay duties on goods imported into the territory which the colonists had bought, the connection between Liberia and the American Colonization Society was severed, and the Republic of Liberia established a Government, which has been recognized by fourteen of the nations of the civilized world. The four objects of the originators of the enterprise have not proved to be visionary. Liberia did and still does furnish an asylum for any who choose to avail themselves of its advantages. It has shown the capacity of the African race for self-government. It has been efficient in repressing the slave traffic. Years ago the Government broke up all the barracoous along its six hundred miles of coast, and has never

> and 50 churches, nearly half of which are Methodist. The Rev. John Seis, American Minister, resident and Consul-General to Liberia, followed President Roberts, and gave a very interesting account of the progress of religion among the native Africans. Of the four Presidents of Liberia, three have been Methodist's and two Methodist clergymen. The Methodist Bishop of Liberia is a brother of President Roberts. Over four hundred converts from the natives have been made by the Methodist Church alone, three hundred of whom are at present full members of that communiou.

allowed any to be established there since. It

has had at least some civilizing influences.

More than two thousand slaves taken out of

the holds of slave ships have been taught the

arts of civilized life and turned into good

citizens. Moreover, the chiefs and head men

of the surrounding tribes are now anxious to

send their children, that they may grow up

under the civilizing influences of the Christian

republic. Although these chiefs have nothing

children, and hundreds of them are constantly

residing among their more cuttivated brethren.

As to religion, though there are but two or

three white missionaries, there are between 40

pay, the people of Liberta receive their

In response to inquiries, President Roberts stated that Liberia was deficient in the means of education. They had some well-educated men among them, but there was such a deficiency of capital as to make it impossible for their college and schools to meet all the demands which were made upon them. As the richest chief was he who had the greatest number of wives and slaves, and the natives were utterly barbarous, the Liberiaus were obliged to take the children which were sent to them and bring them up for nothing, and he was sorry to say that in some cases they had been obliged to refuse applications. The college, of which Mr. Roberts is now the President, had a grand field, but was hampered by poverty. The population of Liberia was stated by President Roberts to be about 600,000, of whom from 15,000 to 18,000 were American negroes. It is extremely to be regretted that the unfavorable weather prevented a full attendance at this interesting

Literary Items.

-Mr. J. Payne Collier writes:-"After some consideration I have determined to make a pause in the issue of my series of fifty reprints in what I have called my 'Blue Series.' It has included seven poetical miscellanies, beginning with the only known first edition of Tottell's 'Songes and Sonettes, 1557; and my intention was to continue them by the earliest impressions of the productions of our most famous poets-such, for instance, as Daniel and Drayton, whose poems, as originally published, were in all respects different from the form they afterwards assumed. Whatever may be the case with my subscribers (so to call them), the public has given me sufficient encouragement whenever an opportunity has occurred; because a complete set of my reproductions only a short time since produced at auction more than double the money they had cost a dead recipient; and a day or two ago in Glasgow my reprint of 'Tottell's Miscellany alone was sold in the same way for triple the amount I obtained for it, charging, as I invariably do, no more than the cost of print, paper, and transcript-nay, in not a few instances, having had the transcripts made several years ago, I willingly made them a present to my friends; so that, in fact, in those instances they paid merely for print and paper.

Mr. Collier describes his financial difficulties, and adds that it was his intention to follow up the "Blue Series" of the ancient English poetical miscellanies by a reprint of Churchyard's "Chippes," (an author who began writing in the reign of Edward VI, and continned to write until after James I had ascended the throne.) For the same pecuniary reason he is unable to give the singular "flyting" between Churchyard and Camell, of the conclusion of which he is in possession of the sole existing copy; and his intended reproduction of the original editions of the works of such great poets as Daniel, Drayton, Chapman, Marston, etc., must also be relinquished. He continues:- "I cannot consent to be £3

or £4 out of pooket by every Blue Book I produce. My 'Yellow Series' I shall continue as long as I am permitted; but even a noug the recipients of these rare, most amusing and very informing tracts, I find some hesitators, although I tarnish for a few shillings what no money could purchase, and what every gentleman who regards either the literature or history of our country should know something about."

EDWALISH MORALITY IN CHIVA.

Chinese Gambling-Houses Farmed Out. A curious moral obliquity in the administration of the local English Government at Hong-Kong is revealed in a recent memorial presented to the Duke of Buckingham by the Indian Committee of the British Association

for the Promotion of Social Science. This memorial is long and minute, but the

main facts presented are these: -"It appears from the papers presented in March last, by the Queen's command, that the local authorities in Heligoland had, at different times in the years 1855, 1857, and 1858, granted or confirmed to two common gambling-house keepers in succession (natives of Frankfort and Cassel), in consideration of the yearly payment of eight thousand thalers to-and subject to the approval of-her Majesty's Government, the privilege of the gambling establishment, or exclusive right to the games of bazard in the said island of Heligoland, till January 1, 1871; that those concessions are still in full operation; that the local authorities in the other colony, that of Hong Kong, had, so recently as the summer of 1866, taken upon themselves to pass an 'ordinance,' by which all existing laws in restraint of public gaming there were to be deemed repealed, and they themselves enabled 'from time to time to frame and pass such rules, regulations, and conditions as might be deemed expedient for the better limitation and control of gaming in that colony;' that those provisions have been acted on ever since, and with such effect that there are now existing at Hong Kong, under the royal license, twelve public gaming-houses, managed by a gambling firm, out of the profits whereof a sum of nearly two hundred thousand dol'ars yearly is received by the local authorities."

The memorial goes on to represent that "with respect to Hong Kong the Gaming Farm appears to have been carried into effect by the local authorities after her Majesty's Imperial Government had clearly expressed their disapproval of it, and their determination not to accept a revenue raised by such means; insomuch that since the summer of 1866, when the first ordinance was passed. the farm had been created by the local anthorities, put up by them to sale, and granted to the highest bidder; the yearly consideration money received in advance from the farmer, and, as already mentioned, twelve licensed gambling-houses were set up by him, and brought into active speration amongst the mixed community of less than one hundred and eighteen thousand inhabitants of both sexes and of all ages, by whom that little and upproductive island is already over-peopled, and where gambling was previously known only as a crime both by Chinese and by British laws,"

Finally, the memorial makes the following statements, which are corroborated by documents accompanying the petition itself:-

"(1.) That neither the Chinese laws and usages, ner the local ordinances against gambling, have ever been fairly put into execution, nor revised with that intention; and that, on the contrary, one most excellent ordinance (No. 6 of 1857) for improving within Hong Kong the Chinese law of the tithing, and hundred, and the frank-pledge, which in China have always been found quite sufficient for the entire suppression of the practice, was never out in force at all from the time of ment until that of its repeal. (2.) That in some respects the first ordinance relating to gambling was so ill-planned as to make it difficult for any prosecutor to obtain a conviction. (3.) That the present governor has reported that when he came to the colony two years ago the local police were the least effective and most corrupt body of police whom he had ever seen. (4.) That their pay being very scanty. and the nominal part of the informer in the mulct levied on gamblers not being allowed to police informers at Hong Kong, they were the more open to the bribes which the gambling houses offered."

The petition concludes with the usual prayer for the reform of these abuses.

In the course of this document, moreover, occurs the following paragraph, which reveals the fact that the gambling licenses are not the only nor even the worst features of the British Government in China. The petitioners say that "they cannot conclude these last observations without deploring that the Queen's sanction was ever given to the two precedents which appear to be relied on in favor of the Gambling Farm, that is to say, the Brothels Lincense act of 1857, and the Opium Shops Farm of 1858, measures to which the objections are so patent as to need no exposition here. And they are pained to see that the great spread during the year 1867 of the debanchery, or, as it is called, 'the trade of the Opium Farm,' is even made a subject of gratulation in the Registrar-General's report for that year already cited."

John Bull would appear to have one moral code for home government, and another, not nearly so moral, for the benefit of his foreign subjects.

-The Cretan insurrection still smoulders. -The population of Queensland is now over 100,000.

-The most fashionable milliners in Paris at this moment are men.

-The harvest home festival is becoming more general in England. -Isabella, not with the gingham umbrella,

is expected at Brighton, England. -A detailed geological map of France is to

be constructed at the expense of the State. -An imperial decree forbidding Christianity has been posted on the walls of Yokohama. -The new registration roll for Glasgow, as

finally made up, contains 47,854 voters. -An anti-orchard thief association has been organized in Southbridge, Mass.

-The popular vote at the coming Presidential election will approach 5,000,000. -The Treasury Department has received a specimen of cannel coal from Alaska.

-The Sun Tavern, Faneuil Hall, erected in 1709, is the oldest building in Boston. -Pauperism continues steadily on the increase in Scotland. Last year the cost was

£807,631. -During 1868 2513 shipwrecks took place on the coasts of Great Britain, with a loss of 1333 lives.

—For the week ending November 3, 252 patents will have been issued from the Patent Office.

-The Alberton estate, worth \$50,000,000, in Holland, is waiting to be claimed and divided by Americans.

-The French government has given a medal to a young woman who held on to a mad dog which bit her, and thus saved the lives of fifteen or twenty persons.

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