

LITERATURE.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

THE QUEEN OF THE AIR. By John Ruskin, LL. D. Published by John Wiley & Son, Philadelphia agents: J. B. Lippincott & Co.

There is no doubt that a tolerably ingenious man can make almost any interpretation of the Greek myths plausible, and they have already been interpreted in so many different ways that when a new idea on the subject is put forth, it is apt to be received with suspicion. In fact, to give an explicit interpretation of these myths may be set down as an impossibility. They frequently may mean, and do mean, different things; they are combinations of different ideas, of different lines of thought, and of different religious systems. The threads of different legends are so twisted together that the most ingenious unraveller is unable to follow each of them out to a definite origin, or rather they are of such obscure and impalpable growth that it is impossible to decide when or where they had their origin. Mr. Ruskin takes Athena as the representative of the powers of the air, the clouds, the storm, the clear light, the shifting, changing and complicated phenomena of the sky and atmosphere. His theory is ingenious, and to a great extent satisfactory, while he develops it with that enthusiasm and eloquence of language for which all his writings are noted. The theme is a noble one, and the greatest regret in perusing this book is that Mr. Ruskin has not confined himself to it exclusively, and avoided his vile habit of digressing to talk about every subject under the sun except the one he professes to have in hand. As it is, about one-half or less of this book treats of the Greek myths of cloud and storm, while the rest is given up to some of Mr. Ruskin's absurd disquisitions on political economy and matters and things in general about which he knows nothing at all. When Mr. Ruskin discusses about art he is always worth listening to, even if we do not agree with his opinions and conclusions, and even in his most irritable moments he strikes out ideas and eloquent thoughts that commend our admiration. His theories of political economy, however, are simply bosh, and it is a great blemish on such a work as the one before us that Mr. Ruskin should have wandered off from his real subject to talk nonsense. The book is full of the passages that might be quoted, and the difficulty is to make a selection. We take the following, because it is essentially true, and it contains thoughts that are worthy of the consideration of our artists and all who have any interest in art—

"Fix that in your heads also, therefore, that Greek faces are not particularly beautiful. Of the much nonsense against which you are to keep your ears shut, that which is talked to you of the Greek ideal of beauty, is among the most hateful. There is not a single instance of a very beautiful head left by the highest school of Greek art. On coins, there is even no approximately beautiful one. The Juno of Arzoo is a virago; the Athena of Athens grotesque; the Athena of Corinth is ill-judged; and of the famous Archelaus, the coins of Terina and Syracuse, are prettier, but totally without expression, and chiefly set off by their well-curled hair. You might have expected something subtle in Mercury; but the Mercury of Paris is a very stupid looking fellow, in a cap like a hen's, with a knob on the top of it. The Bacchus of Thebes is a drayman with his hair pomatum'd. The Jupiter of Syracuse is, however, calm and refined; and the Apollo of Clazomeum would have been impressive, if he had not come down to us much flattened by the artist. The most wholesome element of Greek coins does not primarily depend on beauty of features, nor even, in the period of highest art, that of the statues. You may take the Venus of Melos as a standard of beauty of the central Greek type. She has tranquil, regular, and lofty features; but could not hold her face for a moment against the beauty of a simple English girl, of pure race and kind heart."

"And the reason that Greek art, on the whole, bores you (and you know it does), is that you are always forced to look in for something that is not there; but which may be seen every day, in real life, around a most wholesome element of beauty of features, nor even, in the period of highest art, that of the statues. You may take the Venus of Melos as a standard of beauty of the central Greek type. She has tranquil, regular, and lofty features; but could not hold her face for a moment against the beauty of a simple English girl, of pure race and kind heart."

"The reason that Greek art, on the whole, bores you (and you know it does), is that you are always forced to look in for something that is not there; but which may be seen every day, in real life, around a most wholesome element of beauty of features, nor even, in the period of highest art, that of the statues. You may take the Venus of Melos as a standard of beauty of the central Greek type. She has tranquil, regular, and lofty features; but could not hold her face for a moment against the beauty of a simple English girl, of pure race and kind heart."

"The reason that Greek art, on the whole, bores you (and you know it does), is that you are always forced to look in for something that is not there; but which may be seen every day, in real life, around a most wholesome element of beauty of features, nor even, in the period of highest art, that of the statues. You may take the Venus of Melos as a standard of beauty of the central Greek type. She has tranquil, regular, and lofty features; but could not hold her face for a moment against the beauty of a simple English girl, of pure race and kind heart."

"The reason that Greek art, on the whole, bores you (and you know it does), is that you are always forced to look in for something that is not there; but which may be seen every day, in real life, around a most wholesome element of beauty of features, nor even, in the period of highest art, that of the statues. You may take the Venus of Melos as a standard of beauty of the central Greek type. She has tranquil, regular, and lofty features; but could not hold her face for a moment against the beauty of a simple English girl, of pure race and kind heart."

"The reason that Greek art, on the whole, bores you (and you know it does), is that you are always forced to look in for something that is not there; but which may be seen every day, in real life, around a most wholesome element of beauty of features, nor even, in the period of highest art, that of the statues. You may take the Venus of Melos as a standard of beauty of the central Greek type. She has tranquil, regular, and lofty features; but could not hold her face for a moment against the beauty of a simple English girl, of pure race and kind heart."

ugly thing—the Medusa's head, for instance—they can't do it, not they—because nothing frightens them. They when the mouth, and the teeth, and the nose, and the eyes, and the eyes a-gogging, and the thing is only ridiculous after all, not the least dreadful, for there is no dread in their hearts. Pensive, amazement, often deepest grief and desolation. All these of terror never. Everlasting calm in the presence of all fate, and joy such as they could win, not indeed in a perfect beauty, but in beauty at perfect rest! A kind of art, this, surely, to be looked at, and thought upon sometimes with profit, even in these latter days.

"To look at sometimes, not continually, and never as a model for imitation. For you are not Greeks; but, for better or worse, English creatures; and cannot do, even if it were a thousand times better word doing, anything well, except what your English hearts shall prompt, and your English heads shall give. For all good art is the natural utterance of its own people in its own day."

"But also, your own art is a better and brighter one than ever this Greek art was. Many moderns, and insights have been added to those of the old ones. The very corruption of which we have fallen are signs of a subtle life, higher than theirs was, and therefore more fearful in its faults and death. Christianity has not been superseded, nor, by itself, excelled healthily; but it has added its own good, won also by many a Nemean contest in dark, gloomy, and all that was good and noble in heathenism; and our present thoughts and work, when they are right, are nobler than the heathen's. And we are not reverent enough to them, because we possess too much of them. That sketch of four cherub heads from an English girl, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, at Kensington, is an incomparably finer thing than ever the Greeks did. Ineffably tender in the touch, yet Herculean in power; innocent, yet, exalted in feeling; pure in color as a pearl; reserved and delicate in design as this lion crest—if it alone existed of such—if it were a picture by Zeuxis, the only one left in the world, and you built a shrine for it, and were allowed to see it only seven days in a year, it alone would teach you all of art that you need to know. But you do not learn from this or any other work, because you have not reverence enough for them, and are trying to learn from all at once, and from a hundred other masters besides."

"From Porter & Coates we have received 'Hospital Sketches and Camp and Fireside Stories,' by Louisa M. Alcott. About one-third of this little volume is taken up with a record of the writer's experience as a nurse in the hospital at Washington during a portion of the war, and the balance with a series of pleasantly written tales of camp life and home scenes. Miss Alcott is known as a graceful writer of stories and sketches, and several of her works have obtained well-deserved popularity. This little book will be read with even more interest than her former writings. The story of the hospital life is told in a pleasant vein, which shows a fine sense of humor, while there are passages of simple but intense pathos that rise to the height of tragedy. Here we have a picture of a woman's rights woman fulfilling her mission—

"John is going, ma'am, and wants to see you if you can come."

"The moment this boy is asleep, tell him so, and let me know if I am in danger of being too late."

"Ganymede departed, and while I quitted poor Shaw, I thought of John. He came in a day or two after the others; and, one evening, when I entered my pathetic room, I found a lately emptied bed occupied by a large, fair man, with a fine face, and the sweetest eyes I ever met. One of the earlier comers had often spoken of a friend, who remained behind, and that those apparently were wounded than himself might reach a shelter first. The man treated for his mate, and was never tired of praising John—his courage, his variety, self-denial, and unflinching boldness of heart; always winding up with 'He's an art' out of the teller, ma'am; you see if he isn't art."

woman's hands, the sympathetic magnetism of a woman's presence, as well as the feebler souls about him. The doctor's words caused me to repeat the words, 'I will not be idle, as my duty perhaps, but of those little cares and kindnesses that solace homesick spirits, and make the heavier hours pass easier. John looked lonely and forsaken just then, as he sat with bent head, hands folded on his knee, and wore a wistful, sad, and beautiful looking nearer; I saw great tears roll down and drop upon the floor. It was a new sight there; for, though I had seen many suffer, some aware, some groaning, most endured silently, but none wept. Yet it did not seem to me to be any touching, and I thought, 'Why do you weep, my heart opening wide and took him in, as, gathering the bent head in my arms, as freely as if he had been a little child, I said, 'Let me help you bear it, John.' Never, on any human countenance, have I seen so sweet and beautiful a look of gratitude, surprise and comfort, as that which answered me more eloquently than the whispered—

"Thank you, ma'am, this is right good! this is what I wanted!"

"Then why not ask for it before?"

"Nor did he for now I understood the wistful look that sometimes followed me, as I went out, after a brief pause beside his bed, or wore out warding off such wistful, sad, and beautiful looking nearer; I saw great tears roll down and drop upon the floor. It was a new sight there; for, though I had seen many suffer, some aware, some groaning, most endured silently, but none wept. Yet it did not seem to me to be any touching, and I thought, 'Why do you weep, my heart opening wide and took him in, as, gathering the bent head in my arms, as freely as if he had been a little child, I said, 'Let me help you bear it, John.' Never, on any human countenance, have I seen so sweet and beautiful a look of gratitude, surprise and comfort, as that which answered me more eloquently than the whispered—

"Thank you, ma'am, this is right good! this is what I wanted!"

"Then why not ask for it before?"

"Nor did he for now I understood the wistful look that sometimes followed me, as I went out, after a brief pause beside his bed, or wore out warding off such wistful, sad, and beautiful looking nearer; I saw great tears roll down and drop upon the floor. It was a new sight there; for, though I had seen many suffer, some aware, some groaning, most endured silently, but none wept. Yet it did not seem to me to be any touching, and I thought, 'Why do you weep, my heart opening wide and took him in, as, gathering the bent head in my arms, as freely as if he had been a little child, I said, 'Let me help you bear it, John.' Never, on any human countenance, have I seen so sweet and beautiful a look of gratitude, surprise and comfort, as that which answered me more eloquently than the whispered—

him; wiped the drops from his forehead, stirred the air about him with the slow wave of a fan, and waited to help him die. He stood in some need of help—and I could not look on the doctor had foretold, the strong body rebelled against death, and fought every inch of the way, forcing him to draw each breath with a spasmodic, and clench his hands with an imploring look, as if he asked, 'How long must I endure this, and be still?' For hours he suffered dumbly, with out a moment's respite, or a moment's murmuring; his limbs grew cold, his face damp, his lips white, and again and again, he tore the covering off his breast, as if the lightest weight added to his agony; yet through all, his eyes never lost their perfect serenity, and the man's soul seemed to sit therein, undimmed by the ills that vexed his flesh.

One by one, the men, woe, and round the room appeared a circle pale, and the wistful, sad, and beautiful looking nearer; I saw great tears roll down and drop upon the floor. It was a new sight there; for, though I had seen many suffer, some aware, some groaning, most endured silently, but none wept. Yet it did not seem to me to be any touching, and I thought, 'Why do you weep, my heart opening wide and took him in, as, gathering the bent head in my arms, as freely as if he had been a little child, I said, 'Let me help you bear it, John.' Never, on any human countenance, have I seen so sweet and beautiful a look of gratitude, surprise and comfort, as that which answered me more eloquently than the whispered—

"Thank you, ma'am, this is right good! this is what I wanted!"

"Then why not ask for it before?"

"Nor did he for now I understood the wistful look that sometimes followed me, as I went out, after a brief pause beside his bed, or wore out warding off such wistful, sad, and beautiful looking nearer; I saw great tears roll down and drop upon the floor. It was a new sight there; for, though I had seen many suffer, some aware, some groaning, most endured silently, but none wept. Yet it did not seem to me to be any touching, and I thought, 'Why do you weep, my heart opening wide and took him in, as, gathering the bent head in my arms, as freely as if he had been a little child, I said, 'Let me help you bear it, John.' Never, on any human countenance, have I seen so sweet and beautiful a look of gratitude, surprise and comfort, as that which answered me more eloquently than the whispered—

"Thank you, ma'am, this is right good! this is what I wanted!"

"Then why not ask for it before?"

WATCHES, JEWELRY, ETC. LEWIS LADOMUS & CO. DIAMOND DEALERS & JEWELERS. WATCHES, JEWELRY & SILVER WARE. WATCHES and JEWELRY REPAIRED. 802 Chestnut St., Phila.

Ladies' and Gents' Watches, AMERICAN AND IMPORTED. Of the most celebrated makers. FINE VEST CHAINS AND LEONTINES, in 14 and 18 karat. DIAMOND on other jewelry of the latest designs. Engagement and Wedding Rings, in 18-karat and 22k.

G. W. RUSSELL, No. 22 N. SIXTH STREET, PHILADELPHIA. WILLIAM B. WARNE & CO. Wholesale Dealers in WATCHES AND JEWELRY. S. E. Corner SEVENTH and CHESTNUT Streets, No. 221, Second floor, and late No. 53, THIRD St.

H. S. K. G. Harris' Seamless Kid Gloves. EVERY PAIR WARRANTED. EXCLUSIVE AGENTS FOR GENTS' GLOVES. J. W. SCOTT & CO., 527th No. 514 CHESTNUT Street.

PATENT SHOULDER-SEAM SHIRT MANUFACTORY, AND GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING STORE. PERFECTLY FITTING SHIRTS AND DRAWERS made from measurement at very short notice. All other articles of GENTLEMEN'S DRESS GOODS in full variety. WINCHESTER & CO., No. 206 CHESTNUT Street.

A. S. ROBINSON, FRENCH PLATE LOOKING-GLASSES, ENGRAVINGS, BEAUTIFUL CHROMOS, PAINTINGS, Manufacturer of all kinds of LOOKING-GLASS, PORTRAIT, AND PICTURE FRAMES. NO. 910 CHESTNUT STREET, 319 Fifth door above the Continental, Phila.

THE NEAPOLITAN ICE CREAM AND WATER ICES. THE PUREST AND BEST IN THE WORLD. This celebrated Brick Ice Cream and Water Ice can be carried in a paper to any part of the city, as you want. Fifteen or twenty different kinds of them are kept constantly on hand, and ONLY FINEST QUALITY OF FLAVOR can be made to order for those who desire to have something never before seen in the United States, and superior to any Ice Cream or Water Ice ever prepared. French Depot—No. 124 WALNUT Street. Branch Store—No. 102 SPRING GARDEN Street, F. J. A. LEBLANC.

PAPER HANGINGS, ETC. BEAN & WARD, PLAIN AND DECORATIVE. PAPER HANGINGS, NO. 261 SOUTH THIRD STREET, BETWEEN WALNUT AND SPRUCE, PHILADELPHIA. COUNTRY WORK PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

LOOK! LOOK! LOOK!!!—WALL PAPERS Lined and Paper Shades Manufactured in the city at JOHNSTON'S Depot, No. 1043 SPRING GARDEN Street, below Eleventh, Branch No. 307 FEDERAL Street, Camden, New Jersey. 1115.—HOPKINS' HOOP-SKIRT AND CORSET MANUFACTORY AND SALESROOMS, No. 1115 CHESTNUT STREET.

Our CHAMPION SKIRTS better and cheaper than all others. 19 to 50 springs, \$6 to \$12. Our Keystone Skirts, 20 to 40 springs, \$6 to \$14; New York made Skirts, from 20 to 40 springs, \$5 to 7. W. Worley Corsets, \$2.50, \$3.50, \$4.50. Bevel Corsets, from \$1 to \$7. Thomson's "Glove-fitting" Corsets, from \$2.50 to \$5. Mrs. Moody's patent self-adjusting abdominal supporting Corsets, from \$5 to \$7—highly recommended by physicians, and should be examined by every lady. Over 40 other varieties of Corsets, from 75c to \$9.50. Skirts and Corsets made to order, altered and repaired.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. WILLIAM T. HOPKINS. WINDOW GLASS. The subscribers are manufacturing daily, 10,000 feet best quality of AMERICAN WINDOW GLASS. They are also constantly receiving importations of FRENCH WINDOW GLASS. Rough Plate and Ribbed Glass, Enamelled, Stained, Engraved, and Ground Glass, which they offer at lowest market rates. EVANS, SHARP & WESTCOATT, 529th No. 618 MARKET Street, Phila.

BARGH, FARRELL & WARREN DEALERS IN PAPERS OF ALL KINDS, NO. 631 CHESTNUT STREET, AND NO. 624 JAYNE STREET, PHILADELPHIA. STATE RIGHTS FOR SALE.—STATE RIGHTS of a valuable invention just patented, and for the SILING, CUTTING, and CHIPPING of dried wood, cabbage, etc., are offered for sale. It is an article of great value to proprietors of hotels and restaurants, and it should be introduced into every household. Models can be seen at TELEGRAPH OFFICE, COOPER'S POINT. HUNDY & HOFFMAN, 527th

ALEXANDER G. CATTELL & CO., PRODUCE COMMISSION MERCHANTS, No. 12 NORTH WILKES STREET, PHILADELPHIA. TO THE PUBLIC.—THE FINEST AND largest assortment of the latest styles of Boots, Gaiters, and Shoes for Men and Boys can be had at WILKES' SOLE, Large Establishment, No. 202 N. NINTH Street.

FRUIT PRESERVING POWDER, In warranted to keep Strawberries superior to any known fruit, with no other fruit, without being all-right. Price, 50 cents a package. Sold by the grocers. ZANE, NORRY & CO., Proprietors, No. 126 NORTH SECOND St., Phila.

DR. KINKELIN CAN BE CONSULTED ON all diseases of a certain speciality. Office hours, 9 to 10, No. 338, ELEVENTH STREET.

SHIPPING. FOR LIVERPOOL AND QUEENSTOWN—James Line of Mail Steamers are appointed to sail as follows: City of London, Saturday, August 21, at 1 P. M. Eliza, via Halifax, Tuesday, August 24, at 1 P. M. City of Paris, Saturday, August 28, at 10 A. M. City of Brooklyn, Saturday, September 4, at 1 P. M. And each succeeding Saturday and alternate Tuesday, from 4 to 10, NINTH Street.

RATES OF PASSAGE. BY THE GREAT BRITAIN STEAMSHIP COMPANY. FIRST CABIN.....\$100 STEERAGE.....\$50 To London.....\$100 To Liverpool.....\$80 To Paris.....\$100 To London.....\$50 To Paris.....\$80 To London.....\$100 To Paris.....\$80 To London.....\$100 To Paris.....\$80

CHARLESTON, S. C. THE SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST. FAST FREIGHT LINE. EVERY THURSDAY. The Steamships PROMETHEUS, Captain Gray, WILL FORM A REGULAR WEEKLY LINE. The Steamship J. W. EVERHART will sail on TUESDAY, August 19, at 4 P. M. Through bills of lading given in connection with S. C. R. R. to points in the South and West. Insurance at lowest rates. Rates of freight as low as by any other route. For freight, apply to J. & S. BOWLER & CO., 45 No. 41 CHESTNUT Street, Philadelphia.

ONLY DIRECT LINE TO FRANCE. THE GENERAL TRANSCONTINENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY'S COMPARTMENT SHIPS BETWEEN NEW YORK AND HAVRE, CALLED THE S. S. "THE GENERAL." The splendid new vessels on this favorite route for the Continent will sail from Pier No. 20, North river, every Saturday.

PHILADELPHIA, RICHMOND, AND NORFOLK STEAMSHIP LINE. THROUGH FREIGHT AIR LINE TO THE SOUTH AND WEST. At noon, from FIRST WILKES above MARKET Street. THROUGH RATES to all points in North and South Carolina, via Seaboard Air Line Railroad, connecting Portsmouth and Norfolk, Virginia, and Tidewater and West via Virginia and Tennessee Air Line and Norfolk and Annapolis Railroad. Freight is carried BUT ONCE, and taken at LOWER RATES THAN ANY OTHER LINE. American travelers and shippers of goods, by this route can carry their goods at a cheaper rate than by any other route crossing the channel, besides saving time and expense. GEORGE MARKENZIE, Agent, No. 124 WALNUT Street, Philadelphia, apply at the LEAF, 127th No. 320 CHESTNUT Street.

WILLIAM P. CLYDE & CO., No. 128 WHARF STREET, PHILADELPHIA. W. P. CORWELL, Agent at Richmond and City Point, T. F. GORRELL & CO., Agents at Norfolk.

LORILLARD'S STEAMSHIP LINE FOR NEW YORK. Sailing on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. REDUCTION OF RATES. Freight by this line taken at 12 cents per 100 pounds, per cent per foot, or 1 cent per gallon, ship's option. Advance charges cashed at office on Flax. Freight received at all times on covered wharf.

NEW EXPRESS LINE TO Alexandria, Georgetown, and Washington, D. C., via Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, with connections at Alexandria from the most direct route for Philadelphia, Baltimore, Annapolis, and the South. Steamers leave regularly every Saturday at noon from first wharf above Market Street. Freight received daily.

WILLIAM P. CLYDE & CO., No. 14 North and South Wharves, M. EDWARDS & CO., Agents, No. 611 N. 14th Street, Philadelphia. NOTICE.—FOR NEW YORK, VIA DELAWARE AND RARITAN CANAL. EXPRESS STEAMBOAT COMPANY. Steamers leave daily from first wharf below Market Street, Philadelphia, and from West Street, New York. Freight forwarded by all the lines running to New York, New Haven, and West, free of commission. For freight, apply to W. P. CLYDE & CO., Agents, No. 128 DELAWARE WHARF, PHILADELPHIA. W. P. CLYDE & CO., Agents, No. 119 Wall Street, New York.

NOTICE.—FOR NEW YORK, VIA DELAWARE AND RARITAN CANAL, SWITZERLAND, PHILADELPHIA, AND NEW YORK. The business by these lines will be continued on and after the 1st of September. For freight, which will be taken on accommodating terms, apply to W. M. HAIRD & CO., No. 132 South Wharves.

ROBERT SHOEMAKER & CO. N. E. Corner FOURTH and RACE Sts. PHILADELPHIA. WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS! Importers and Manufacturers of White Lead and Colored Paints, Putty, Varnishes, Etc.

AGENTS FOR THE CELEBRATED FRENCH ZINO PAINTS. Dealers and consumers supplied at lowest price for cash. CARPENTERS AND BUILDERS. R. R. THOMAS & CO., DEALERS IN Doors, Blinds, Sash, Shutters WINDOW FRAMES, ETC., N. W. CORNER OF EIGHTEENTH and MARKET Streets, PHILADELPHIA.

GEORGE FLOWMAN, CARPENTER AND BUILDER, No. 134 DOCK STREET, PHILADELPHIA. WIRE GUARDS FOR STORE FRONTS, ASYLUMS, FACTORIES, ETC. Patent Wire Railing, Iron Bedsteads, Ornaments, Wire Work, Paper-makers' Wires, and every variety of Wire Work, manufactured by W. WALKER & SONS, No. 11 N. SIXTH Street.

FRUIT PRESERVING POWDER, In warranted to keep Strawberries superior to any known fruit, with no other fruit, without being all-right. Price, 50 cents a package. Sold by the grocers. ZANE, NORRY & CO., Proprietors, No. 126 NORTH SECOND St., Phila.

DR. KINKELIN CAN BE CONSULTED ON all diseases of a certain speciality. Office hours, 9 to 10, No. 338, ELEVENTH STREET.