REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

THE EARTHLY PARADISE, by William Morris. Part III. Published by Roberts Brothers. Philadelphia agents, Porter & Coates. The most ardent lovers of poetry are noto-

riously shy of long poems, and more than one work of real merit has fallen into neglect because the poet has undertaken to cover too large a canvas, and inspired a fear lest beauties might not be worth seeking amid so much prospective dulness. Indeed, it has been asserted many times that the age of long poems was past, and that the writing of epics wse a lost art. It is therefore something very remarkable that a new poet, one of whose most marked characteristics is the length of his effusions, should spring into such immediate popularity as the author of "Jason" and "The Earthly Paradise," Life is short, and there must be many good volumes left unread by the most industrious bookworm. We have, therefore, a right to be suspicious of the quality of an author who astonishes us in the first place by his quantity. "The Earthly Paradise," considered as a consecutive work, will, when it is completed, be one of the longest, if not the longest, poem in existence; and yet there has scarcely been a poetical work produced during the present century that has received more hearty and unqualified praise from all the critics of Europe and America that have been called upon to notice it. Under these circumstances, there must certainly be some sterling qualities of excellence that commend the verses of Mr. Morris not only to the critieal faculty of those who are called upon to dissect them with a view of finding out the secret of their excellence, but to the popular fancy that is content to enjoy what it finds to be enjoyable without question as to the why or wherefore. The secret of Mr. Morris' success is, however, not difficult to discover-he is a genuine story-teller: in the embellishment of his theme he never forgets that the main object of the story-teller's art is to interest his readers, he never assumes the functions of the philosopher or attempts to soar into those higher regions of fancy where poetry becomes metaphysics, and where men weary of the labors of life hesitate to follow. Mr. Morris acknowledges Chaucer to be his master, and it is necessary to go back to the dawn of English poetry before we can find any writer with whom a comparison can be instituted. Mr. Morris, however, is no more of an imitator of Chaucer than Dante is of Virgil. His genius, though distinctively original, is akin to that of Chaucer, and his poetry has all the unconscious freshness and sympathy with nature that distinguishes the writings of the early poet. The verse of Mr. Morris glides on with an easy flow that never wearies, never satiates; it neither sinks into the level of commonplace norrises to the heights of the sublime, but is evenly good throughout, and the reader is lulled by its music, and feels that it is just what it ought to be. There are no poetical works before the public to which so little critical objection can be made as those of this writer; he understands his own capabilities so thoroughly, and he writes with such an easy unconsciousness of effort, that he places himself in exact sympathy with the mood of his readers, or rather his poetry creates a mood that will accord with the theme. Mr. Morris fills a place exclusively his own among the poets of the day, and he is deserving of a heartier welcome than has been accorded to any of the new verse writers of the last decade, because of the placid beauty of his style, the pure and healthy tone of all that he writes, and its adaptability to the tastes of a very large circle of readers. It would not be doing justice to this fine poet, however, to leave the impression that the chief merits of his writings consist in placidity and quietness. He is a story-teller, and he knows how to interest his readers in his stories because he is thoroughly interested in them himself. His themes are old, old as humanity; they have been told and retold many times, and a majority perhaps of the tales in "The Earthly Paradise" are old legends that will be recognized by many as among their earliest recollections of imaginative literature. It is not enough to say that these gain a new charm from the treatment of Mr. Morris, but in the telling of them he touches all the chords of human interest and sympathy, so that the reader is surprised at every page by revelations of the longings, hopes, and disappointments of humanity that seem so naturally to belong to the subject, but that the bare outlines of the antique theme scarcely hinted at. This is especially remarkable in the exquisite story of "The Land East of the Sun and West of the Moon," in the present volume, which will astonish and delight those who have hitherto only known it

The first volume of "The Earthly Paradise," besides a long prologue relating to the adventures of the wanderers, the failure of their search for the earthly paradise, and their final arrival and hospitable entertainment in the Greek city, where with the elders of the place, they beguile the months by drawing upon their stock of legendary lore, contained twelve tales covering the spring and summer months. The volume before us, which is of nearly equal bulk, only gives six tales for the autumn months, and the winter tales are yet to be told. This shows that Mr. Morris is disposed to be more prolix than ever as he goes on, and his readers may well be almost in despair at being able to keep up with him. These poems of the autumn, however, are not only longer, but they are of a higher quality than those that have preceded them. They are full of exquisite landscape effects, but they deal less with the outward appearances of nature, and more with inner experiences of humanity. Without losing anything of their true narrative character, they are more dramatic in style and manner than anything that is yet written, and they indicate a meserve force that is possibly training for more ambitious work than that of the storyteller, although Mr. Morris may well be con-

as a singularly imaginative Norse fairy tale.

has won in that particular ephere.

The six stories in this Autumn volume are "The Death of Paris," "The Land East of the Sun and West of the Moon," "The Story of Accontins and Cydippe," "The Man Who Never Laughed Again," "The Story of Rhodope," and "The Lovers of Gudran. The first, third, and fifth are classic, and the others, with the exception of "The Man Who Never Laughed Again," which is an oriental story, are Norse. The Greek subjects have a simplicity and directness that are much in the Greek manner, while those of Northern origin are more or less discursive, in the true Gothic style. It would be impossible within the limits of a newspaper review to give a description of these stories, even if it were desirable, and it is sufficient for us to commend them to our readers, with the assurance that we have been delighted in their perusal. The last and longest story in the series, "The Lovers of Gudrun" is an Icelandic legend, and is a noble poem nobly told. It is stronger, more vigorous, and distinguished by higher poetic qualities than anything that Mr. Morris has yet written. We have no hesitation in praising it as one of the very finest English poems that have been given to the world during the present generation, and it would of itself be sufficient to place Mr. Morris in the front rank of living poets. The scenery, costumes, and characters of this story are set before the reader with remarkable vividness, and even the apparent aimlessness-if we may so term it-of portions of the narrative is perfectly in keeping, and seems to give a verisimilitude to this perfect picture of Icelandic life and society at the time of the introduction of Christianity. The three principal personages are drawn with a skill that shows Mr. Morris to be possessed of a genius that if not dramatic nearly approaches to that quality. The conclusion is a fine example of tragic writing that approaches the intensity of the drama, but that never forgets the style of the story-teller. We cannot refrain from quoting the following magnificent passage where the tender-hearted lover of Gudrun mourns over the body of his prouder rival who has fallen by his hand, although we know that very much of its force will be lost by being transferred from its proper place in the nar-

Fair is the night and fair the day. Now April is forgot of May, Now into June May falls away; Fair day, fair night, O give me back, The tide that all fair things did lack Except my love, except my sweet! Blow back, O wind! thou art not kind, Though thou art sweet; thou has no mind Her hair about my sweet to wind; O flowery sward, though thou art bright, I praise thee not for thy delight. Thou hast not kissed her silver feet. Thou know'st her not, O rustling tree, What dost thou then to shadow me, Whose shade her breast did never see? O flowers, in vain ye bow adown! Ve have not felt her odorous gown Brush past your heads my lips to met. Flow on, great river-thou mayst deem That far away, a summer stream, Thon sawest her limbs amidst the gleam And kissed her foot, and kissed her knee, Yet get thee swift unto the sea! With naught of true thou wilt me greet. And thou that men call by my name, O helpless one, hast thou no shame That thou must even look the same, As while agone, as while agone, When thou and she were left alone, And hands, and lips, and tears did meet, Grow weak and pine, lie down to die, O body in thy misery, Because short time and sweet goes by; O foolish heart, how weak thou art! Break, break, because thou needs must part From thine own love, from thine own sweet

Remarkable as is the merit of "The Lovers of Gudrun," it is doubtful whether it will gain from the majority of readers the same amount of unqualified admiration as the exquisite dream-like tale of "The Land East of the Sun and West of the Moon," which shows Mr. Morris at his best in the capacity of a legendary poet and story-teller. We refrain from making any quotations from this, although much tempted by numerous passages of great beauty, for it is simply impossible to give any adequate idea of the style of Mr. Morris in this manner, and we will be doing our readers a better service by simply inviting them to read and enjoy for themselves. The following song, however, from "The Story of Accontius and Cydippe," is complete in itself, and we therefore give it as a specimen of the lyric quality of the post:-

Men say that those who went the corpse to bring To Bathstead thence, found Bodli muttering Over the white face turned up to the sky, Nor did he heed them as they drew anigh Therefore they stood by him, and heard him say:

Perchance it is that thou art far away From us already; caring not at all For what in after days to us may fall— O pitcous, pitcous!—yet perchance it is That thou, though entering on thy life of bliss, The meed of thy great heart, yet art anear, And somewhat of my feeble voice can hear; Then scarce for pardon will I pray thee, friend. Since thus our love is brought unto no end, But rather now, indeed, begins ancw; Yet since a long time past naught good or true My lips might utter, let me speak to thee,

If so it really is that thou art free, At peace and happy past the golden gate; That time is dead for thee, and thou mayst wait A thousand years for her and deem it naught. O dead friend, in my heart there springs a

That, since with thy last breath thou spakst her And since thou knowest now how longing came Into my seul, thos wilt forgive me yet That time of times, when in my heart first met Anger against thee, with the sweet, sweet love Wherewith my old dull life of habit strove

o weakly and so vainly-didst thou quite Know all the value of that doar delight As I did? Kinrtan, she is changed to thee: Yes, and since hope is dead changed too to me, What shall we do, if, each of each forgiven, We three shall meet at last in that fair heaven he new faith tells of? Thee and God I pray mpute it not for sin to me to-day, no thought I can shape thereof but this : friend, O friend, when thee I meet in bliss, Will thou not give my love Gudrun to me, Since now indeed thine eyes made clear can see

That I of all the world must love her most? The moral purpose of this remarkable series of poems is the more apparent from the fact that it is never allowed to obtrude itself, and the poet is above everything an artist. But all true art carries its moral with it; and these songs of an unsatisfied heart. as they might be termed, indicate the impal-

tent to rest satisfied with the laurels that he | pable character of earthly happiness, and the futility of the search for the Earthly Paradise. In the beautiful apologetic verses prefixed to the first volume the poet declares his

purpose to —"Strive to build a shadowy isle of blies Midmost the beatings of the steely sea, Where tossed about the hearts of men must be," and there is an impalpable quality even in the most vigorous of the poems that leaves the reader unsatisfied and impressed with the thought that not even in poetry, in art, in failing human love is perfect happiness to be realized. There is always something beyond, and still beyond, that the heart longs for, and that the poet's allegory gives us but a glimpse of, like the view that greeted the pilgrims from the summit of the Delectable Mountains. The verse flows on and on in a clear, steinless current, as does the Lethe of Dante's terrestrial paradise, bringing for a season forgetfulness and oblivion of the world and its noises, and leaving the reader's heart softened and his mind purified even by the pictures of fading joy and unsatisfied hopes that it presents. Higher than this the

poet does not aim, for, as he says in his "Apology"-Of Heaven or Hell I have no power to sing. I cannot ease the burden of your fears, make quick coming death a little thing. Or bring again the pleasure of past years, Nor for my words shall ye forget your tears. Or hope again for aught that I can say, The idle singer of an empty day. The heavy trouble, the bewildering care

That weighs us down who live and earn our brend. idle verses have no power to bear So let me sing of names remembered, Because they, living not, can ne'er be dead, Or long time take their memory quite away From us poor singers of an empty day.

Why should I strive to set the crooked straight? Let it suffice me that my murmuring rhyme Beats with light wing against the avory gate, Telling a tale not too importunate To those who in the sleepy region stay, ulled by the singer of an idle day.

Dreamer of dreams, born out of my due time,

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All the above envelopes and wrappers to be embossed with postage stamps of such denominations on the styles, and colors, and to bear such printing on the face, and to be made in the most thorough manner, of paper of approved quality, manufactured specially for the purpose, with such water marks or other devices to prevent imitation as the Postmaster-General

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width across the end.

All envelopes and wrappers must be banded in parcels of twenty-five, and packed in strong pasteboard or straw boxes, each to contain not less than two hundred and fifty of the letter or extra letter size, and one hundred each of the official or extra official size, separately. The newspaper wrappers to be packed in boxes to contain not less than two hundred and fifty each. The boxes are to be wrapped and sealed, or securely fastened in strong manifes paper, so as to safely fastened in strong manifes paper, so as to safely fastened in strong manilla paper, so as to safely bear transportation by mail for delivery to postmasters. When two thousand or more enveostmasters. When the order of a postmaster oppes are required to fill the order of a postmaster of the straw or pasteboard boxes containing the lopes are required to fill the order of a postmaster, the straw or pasteboard boxes containing the same must be packed in strong wooden cases, well strapped with hoop-iron, and addressed; but when less than two thousand are required, proper labels of direction, to be furnished by an agent of the Department, must be placed upon each package by the contractor. Wooden cases containing envelopes or wrappers to be transported by water routes, must be provided with suitable water-proofing. The whole to be done under the inspection and direction of an agent of the Department.

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The envelopes and wrappers must be furnished and delivered with all reasonable despatch, complete in all respects, ready for use, and in such quantities as may be required to fill the daily orders of postmasters; the deliveries to be made either at the Post Office Department, Washington, D. C., or at the office of an agent duly authorized to inspect and receive the same; the place of delivery to be at the option of the Postmaster-General, and the cost of delivering as well as all expense of packing, addressing, labeling, and water-proofing, to be paid by the contractor.

Bidders are notified that the Department will require, as a condition of the contract, that the envelopes and wrappers shall be manufactured and stored in such manner as to ensure security against loss by fire or theft. The manufactory must at all times be subject to the inspection of an agent of the Department, who will require the stipulations of the contract to be faithfully observed.

The dies for embossing the postage scamps on the envelopes and wrappers are to be executed to the

satisfaction of the Postmaster-General, in the style, and they are to be provided, renewed, and kept in order at the expense of the contractor. The department reserves the right of requiring new dies for any stamps, or denominations of stamps not now used, and any changes of dies or colors shall be made without extra charge.

Specimens of the stamped envelopes and wrappers now in use may be seen at any of the principal post offices, but these specimens are not to be restricted as the style and quality fixed by the depart.

garded as the style and quality fixed by the department as a standard for the new contract; bidders are therefore invited to submit samples of other and different qualities and styles, including the paper proposed as well as the manufactured enwrappers, and boxes, and make their bids The contract will be awarded to the bidder whose

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justment of accounts.

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COTTON SAIL DUCK AND CANVAS, of all numbers and brands. Tent, Awning, Trunk, and Wagen-cover Duck. Also, Paper Manufacturers Drier Felts, from thirty to seventy-six inches, with Paulins, Belting, Sail Twine, etc.

JOHN W. EVERMAN, 168 CHUECH Street (Chy Stores.

CAMUEL SMITH & CO., No. 4 S. SEVENTH Street, STEAM AND GAS FITTERS AND PLUMBERS, Tube, Fittings, and BrassWork constantly

m hand. All work promptly attended to. Galvanized Tube for Cemetery Lots furnished.

STEVENSON, BRO., & CO., No. 133 S. SECOND Street.

DR. M. KLINE CAN CURE CUTANEOUS Month, and Nose, Sore Logs, and Sores of every conceivable character. Office, So. 3 S. ELEVENTH, between Chesnut and Market streets. SHIPPINO.

LORILLARD STEAMSHIP

JOHN F. OHL,

NEW YORK.

RUNNING REGULARLY EVERY TUESDAY, THUE DAY, AND SATURDAY, AT NOON, would

SPECIAL NOTIOE. Great Reduction of Rates. On opening of Spring Navigation the steamers line will run DAILY, at 5 cents per 100 lbs , I cents per foot, or % cent per gallen, ship's option.

No. 19 NORTH WHARVES. N. B.-Extra rates on small packages icon, metals, etc.

GUEENSTOWN.—Intend Line of Mail Steamors are appointed to sail as telluly of Raltimore, Saturday, Feb. 19, at 8 A. M. City of New York, via Hahrax, Tuesday, Feb. 22, 10 A. M. City of Brockiyn, Saturday, March 6, 8 A. M. City of Brockiyn, Saturday, March 6, 8 A. M. City of Boston, via Hahirax, Tuesday, March 8, at 10 A.M. And each succeeding Saturday and altoruate Taesday, from Pier 45, North River.

City of Boston, via Halifax, Tuesday, March 8, at 10 A.M. And each succeeding Saturday and (altornate Tuesday, from Pier 45, North Eiver.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

BY THE MAIL STEAMER SHILING EVERT SATURDAY.

Payable in Gold.

FIRST CABIN.

200 STRERAGE.

TO London.

105 To London.

40 To Peris.

115 To Paris.

12 To Paris.

13 To Paris.

14 To Paris.

15 To Paris.

16 To Paris.

17 FERRAGE BY THE TUESDAY STEAMER, VIA HALIFAX.

EXCEPTABLE.

Payable in Gold, Payable in Currency.

For further particulars apply at the Company's Offices,
JOHN G. DALE, Agent,
JOHN G. DALE, Agent,
Or to
O'DONNELL & FAULK, Agents,
No. 462 CHESNUT Street, Philadelphia. ONLY DIRECT LINE TO FRANCE THE GENERAL TRANSATLANTIC

BETWEEN NEW YORK AND HAVRE, CALLING AT The splendid new vessels on this favorite route for the Continent will sail from Pier No. 50, North river, every Saturday. PRICE OF PASSAGE

NORTH GERMAN LLOYD.—
STEAM BETWEEN NEW YORK AND
BREMEN, VIA SOUTHAMPTON.
THE SCREW STEAMERS OF THE NORTH
GERMAN LLOYD run regularly between New York, Bremen, and Southampton, carrying the United States, English, and Continental mails.
EROM BEREMEN.
EVERY SATURDAY

men, and Southampton, carrying the United States, English, and Continental mails.

FROM ERFMEN. EVERY SATURDAY FROM SOUTHAMPTON. EVERY TUESDAY FROM NEW YORK. EVERY SATURDAY FROM NEW YORK. EVERY SATURDAY Price of Fusage from New York to Bremen, London, Havre, and Southampton.

First Cabin, \$120; Second Cabin, \$72; Steerage, \$30, Gold. From Bremen to New Fork.

First Cabin, \$120; Second Cabin, \$72; Steerage, \$40, Gold. These vessels take Freight to London and Hull, for which through bills of lading are signed.

An experienced surgeon is attached to each vessel. All letters must pass through the Post Office.

No Bills of Lading but those of the Company will be signed. Bills of Lading will positively not be delivered before goods are cleared at the Custom House.

Specie taken to Havre, Southampton, and Bremen at the lowest rates. For freight or passage apply to OELRIUMS & CO.,

PHILADELPHIA, RICHMOND,
AND NORFOLK STEAMSHIP LINE.
THROUGH FREIGHT AIR LINE TO
THE SOUTH AND WEST.
LINE AND REDUCED RATES
FOR 1890.
Steamery leave every WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY,
at 19 o'clock noon, from FIRST WHARF above MARKE? Siree. PHILADELPHIA, RICHMOND,

at 12 o'clock noon, from Fixed

KET Street.

HETURNING, leave RICHMOND TUESDAYS and
FRIDAYS, and NORFOLK WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS.

No Bills of Lading signed after 12 o'clock on sailing No Bills of Lading signed after 13 o'clock on sailing days.

Th ROUGH RATES to all points in North and South Carolina, via Seaboard Air Line Railroad, connecting at Portsmouth, and to Lineabourg, Va., Tennessee, and the West, via Virginia and Tennessee Air Line and Richmond and Danville Railroad.

Freight HANDLED BUT ONCE, and taken at LOWER RATES THAN ANY OTHER LINE.

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Steamships insure at lowest rates.

Evenight received daily commission, drayage, or any expense of Steamships insure at lowest rates,
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State Room accommodations for passengers.
William P. Ulyde & CO.
No. 12 S. WHARVES and Pier I N. WHARVES.
W. P. PORTER, Agent at R.chmond and City Point.
T. P. GROWELL & CO., Agents at Norfolk. 618

FOR CHARLESTON. SOUTH CAROLINA,
THE SOUTH, SOUTHWEST,
AND FLORIDA PORTS. The Steamship

PROMETHEUS, Captain GRAY,

Captain GRAY,
will leave Pier 17, below Spruce street,
On THURSDAY, February 17, at 4 P. M.
Comfortable accommodations for Passengers.
Through Passage Tickets and Bills of Lading issued in
connection with the South Carolina Railroad to all points
South and Southwest, and with steamers to Florida ports.
Insurance by this Line ONE-HALF PER CENT.
Goods forwarded free of commission.
Bills of Lading furnished and eigned at the office.
For freight or passence, apply to Bills of Lading furnished and to For freight or passage, apply to E. A. SOUDER & CO., Dock Street Wharf

FROM CHARLESTON TO FLORIDA, VIA SAVANNAH, TRI-The following steamers will leave Charleston for Florida, via Savannah, three times a week, after arrival of the New York steamships and the North-PILOT BOY (Inland Route), every SUNDAY MORN-ING at 8 o'clock.
DICTATOR, every TUESDAY EVENING at 8 o'clock.
CITY POINT, every FRIDAY EVENING at 8 o'clock.
Through tickets to be had of all Charleston and Savannah Steamship Line Agencies in New York.
J. D. AIKEN & CO.,

L. J. GUILMARTIN & CO., FOR ST. THOMAS AND BRA-

ZIL.—UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL MAIL STEAMSHIP OOMPANY. Begular Mail Steamers sailing on the of every month:

MERRIMACK, Captain Wier.

SOUTH AMERICA, Captain E. L. Tinklepangh.

NOUTH AMERICA, Captain G. B. Sloeum.

These splendid steamers sail on schedule time, and call
t St. Thomas, Para, Pernambuco, Bahia, and Rio de

aneiro, going and returning.
For engagements of freight or passage apply to
WM. R. GARRISON, Agent,
14 No. 5 BOWLING GREEN, New York

FOR NEW ORLEANS DIRECT.
THE CROMWELL LINE
Steamships of this Line will leave Pier
No. 9, North Hivor, at 2 o'clock P. M. on No. 9, North Elver, a.

BATURDAYN.
GEORGE WASHINGTON, Gager.
MARIPOBA, Kemble.
Mobile, and Galveston at
through rates. Cabin passage, 250.
For passage (first and second class) or freight apply to
H. B. CHOMWELL & CO.,
No. 86 WEST Street.

U. S. MAIL TO HAVANA.—
ATLANTIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.
sailing regularly EVERY THURSDAY
as at 8 o'clock P. M., precisely, from Pier

No. 4 North River.

No. 4 North River.

COLUMBIA, Captain R. Adam.
COLUMBIA, Captain E. Van Sice.

RAGLE, Captain M. R. Greene.

For freight or pleasage amply to
S. G. WHILELER, JR., President
No. 5 BOWLING GREEN, New York

NEW EXPRESS LINE TO Alexandria, Georgetown, and Wachington, D. 1888 C., via Chesapeake and Delaware Caust, with nections at Alexandria from the most direct route for abburg, Briatol, Knoxville, Nashville, Dalton, and the bases.

Steamers leave regularly every Saturday at noon from o first wharf above Market errest.

Ereight received daily.

WILLIAM P. CLYBE & CO.,

NO. 14 North and South was view.

HYDE & TYLER, Agents, at Georgetown, X

ELDRIDGE & OO., Agents at Alexandria.

NOTICE.-FOR NEW YORK, VIA PATCH AND SWIFTBURE LINE.
The business of these lines will be resumed an anti-street the 8th of March. For freights, which will be taken on accommodating torms, supply to

No. 188 South Wharene