## LITERATURE.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS

-There are a thousand indications that the classics will not in the future maintain the same ascendancy that they have from the revival of learning almost to the present time; not that there is any danger of the study of classical literature falling into absolute neglect, for although it may be in a great measure superseded as a mere educator, it will be treasured, just as are the works of antique art, for its own great worth, and as a standard of taste and a means of culture. There is no doubt, however, that the study of the classics in the original will be confined to a comparatively small circle of scholars; but whatever may be the neglect into which they may fall, the subjects of which they treat have been so incorporated into our own literature that a certain amount of acquaintance with them will be necessary to every reader of books who wishes to read intelligently. For the benefit of such as have not the time, or perhaps not the inclination, to study the classic authors, the neat series of hand-books entitled "Ancient Classics for English Readers," edited by Rev. W. Lucas Collins, M. A., and published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., will be found to contain just the kind of information that is needed. We have before us abstracts of Homer's "Iliad" and "Odyssey," prepared by the editor, and "Cæsar," prepared by Anthony Trollope.

These books give in a concise shape the story told by the respective authors whom they represent, together with the passages from the best translations as specimens of their style; and while they may not be satisfactory to scholars, they will be appreciated by ordinary readers, who will be able to gather from them just the kind of knowledge of the poets, philosophers, historians, and dramatists of Greece and Rome that is necessary to a proper understanding of the allusions constantly made to them by English writers. Of the projected series, "Homer," "Herodotus," and "Cæsar" have already been issued, and these will be followed by "Virgil," "Horace," "Æschuylus," "Sophocles," "Ci-

cero," "Aristophanes," "Juvenal," and others. -"The Feminine Soul," by Elizabeth Strutt, published by Henry H. and T. W. Carter, is a book that will scarcely suit the advanced ideas of the female reformers of this day, most of whom appear to have a standing grievance against the Almighty because He did not make them men, and against the masculine portion of the human race because they are incapable of assuming some of the most important duties that have by Providence been delegated to the sex feminine, and are therefore obliged to content themselves with such comparatively insignificant privileges as voting and earning bread and butter for their families. Miss Strutt is well as the feminine bedy is cast in a different mould from that of the masculine, and that as a natural consequence the abilities, tastes, feelings, and aspirations of women must be different from those of men. While the spheres of action of the two sexes are in some respects widely divergent, one is nevertheless quite as important as the other, and according to Miss Strutt's view of the case, a woman with a mission will accomplish the object of her creation better by not forgetting that she is a woman than by attempting to usurp the prerogatives of masculinity. The book contains many sound and sensible ideas and some thoughts upon marriage and feminine duties that are worthy of the attention of the class of readers to which they are particularly addressed. Received from J. B. Lippincott & Co.

-T. B. Peterson & Brothers send us "Aunt Margaret's Trouble," a very pleasantly written story by the daughter of Charles Dickens, which originally appeared in All the Year Round, and which has achieved considerable popularity.

-Part 39 of "Zell's Popular Encyclopedia" brings the work down to the title "Milford." In the article "Medici" a great mistake is made in styling the monument upon which are placed Michael Angelo's statues of Night and Day and the famous Il Pensieroso the tomb of Lorenzo the Magnificent. One of our contemporaries, in correcting the error of the editor of the "Encyclopedia" a few days ago, also made a mistake in stating that the statue of "the man thinking" represented Lorenzo II, Duke of Urbino, grandson of Lorenzo the Magnificent, and father of Catherine de Medici. The fact is that the statue in question represents Giuliano de Medici. Duke of Nemours, and son of Lorenzo the Magnificent, while the statue above the figures of Morning and Evening is that of Lorenzo II. We refer the editors of "Zell's Encyclopedia," and all others interested, to Herman Grimm's "Life of Michael Angelo." where the mistake of Vasari and others with regard to the statues in question is explained and corrected.

-The September numbers of Arthur's Home Magazine and The Children's Hour are nicely illustrated, and are-filled with entertaining reading for old and young. Received from Turner & Co.

-The Lady's Friend for September, which has also been sent us by Turner & Co., has a steel-plate frontispiece entitled "The Twin Sleepers," a double-page colored fashion plate, and a variety of other illustrations. The literary contents comprise stories, sketches, poetry, and practical articles on housewifery that will be appreciated by the fair sex.

-The Central News Company, No. 505 Chestnut street, sends us the August numbers of The Cornhill Magazine, Temple Bar, All the Year Round, and London Society.

- A confidence operator, named W. H. Hall, recently attempted to work upon the sympathies of the Freemasons of Danbury, Vt., by saying that he had come from California, and had lost \$500,000 by the way. He was obliged to haul off precipitately, in order to save himself from a ducking in a neighboring horse-

THE SEPTEMBER MAGAZINES.

"LIPPINCOTT'S." The contents of the September number of Lippincott's Magazine are as follows:-

"Admetus," illustrated by E. B. Bensell, by Emma Lazarus; "The Story of the Sapphire," by Lucy Hamilton Hooper; "By Steam and Paddle to Manitoba," by John Lesperance; "About Dogs," by Donn Piatt; "Sir Harry Hotspur of Humblethwaite, Part V, by Anthony Trollope; "Mexican Reminiscences;" "A Pilgrimage," by Barton Hill; "The House of Pennypacker & Son," by J. W. Watson; "Waifs from Field, Camp, and Garrison," by James Franklin Fitts; "On the Hypothesis of Evolution," III, concluded, by Edward D. Cope; "A Glimpse of Quebec," by John Esten Cooke; "My Story," by J. F. Stone; "Errata," by George H. Calvert; "Our Monthly Gossip;" "Literature of the Day."

The following graceful sketch of a "pilgrimage" to the late home and the grave of Dickens, from the pen of Barton Hill, is as interesting as anything in the magazine. Mr. Hill's admirers will be pleased to see that he can write as well as he can act, although there is nothing surprising in this, as he had considerable experience as a printer and as a journalist before he adopted his present pro-

Wellington street, Strand! Close to the arteries of London, one of its important veins, and keeping ap a healthy circulation. Teeming with life, a busy yet quiet thorough-fare. Among that hive of men too intent upon their labor to notice it or you, and heeding them as lightly, you make your way to a plain, unobtrusive, little-noticed corner house, claimed by Wellington and York streets—the nursery, for many years, of a world-famed journal. How often you have observed that building, and wished to look upon its owner! How you long to look upon him now! How willingly you would give up a part of your own existence to see him at this moment, a living man and entering that doerway! You cannot realize that he is dead: you listen vainly for the footfall that will never come, for the sound of a voice that none will ever hear

All the Year Round is published in that building: all the year round privileged fingers have put into leaden type the golden fancies of his master mind. Who shall take his place hereafter? An idle pen, a deserted desk, a vacant chair: who is worthy to assume that throne? Willing but sad hearts are there, working with honest purpose to fulfil his wish, paying his memory the tribute of the sighs they could not, if they would, conceal. Fill as they may the column, the page must be a blank: the leaf is withered, the book is closed, the building is in mourning, the temple is a ruin. The illustrations of his works alone lie on the window shelves. The works themselves adorn the walls within. You enter and purchase the latest number issued in his life. and look your last upon a spot you will not wish to see again; yet linger on the threshold for the sad interest attaching to it. There is a sense of desolation upon everything around it that you cannot wonder at, and that you of the opinion that the feminine soul as fully share. It is no longer a habitation: it is a tomb. You cast your eyes upon the opposite walls, and they rest upon these words "The Tablet;" "Catholic Truth Society. Strange! The catholic truths have emanated from this tomb: its tablet is the title-page, The Story of our Lives from Year to Year." Turn aside, pilgrim: you are intent upon the Story of a Death, for which you are but one of many million mourners.

> Along the crowded Strand to the Southeastern Railway. So many flowers greet you on each side that it might seem the country had responded to your wish and sent its roses to invite your coming. No man so poor but wears a flower in his coat—the driver of the omnibus, the cabman, the newsboy, the bootblack, the fusee-vender-and one among them but would drop flower as a token of respect and love upon Charles Dickens' coffin: they would hide his grave with roses. It is not strange that you associate all things with him: humanity itself recalls the man who drew its scenes with such a wondrous and graphic power. His writings lie on every bookstand, and the walls yet bear the promise of that never-tobe-unraveled "Mystery of Edwin Drood." No one seems to notice them: why should they? He died a week ago: the whole world felt the blow upon the following morning, and now the pain alone remains-the dull, dead, ceaseless, aching sense of something lost for ever. The very engine shrieks its amentations as it ploughs its way through villages and fields that knew him almost as he knew them. How lately he admired the flint-bordered gardens of yonder signal-sta-tion—the varied colors of the wild "dragon'shead" upon the chalky sides of the excavated road—the red poppies in yon field of oats that bowed to him as he passed by! They droop their heads as if in mourning now.

> Higham! Here he left the noisy train to walk or drive a mile up yonder hill, to what was yesterday his home. You travel on to Strood, and thence by omnibus—the "short, squat omnibus, with a disproportionate heap of luggage on the roof-like a little Elephant with infinitely too much Castle"-to Rochester, for you are seeking the home of his childhood. You leave the omnibus, or, rather, it leaves you, at the "Clock" in High street, and find yourself in Cloisterham.

Every stone in this old city was known to him. You cannot look upon an inch of space he has not seen and analyzed. Cloisterham He has so well described it in his latest chapters that it seems familiar to you too. You enter that old gateway and wander round the cathedral close, meeting an acquaintance at every step. You recognize each face, for you have seen it in his books. Turn from the living to the dead, and the first tombstone that meets gaze bears the name of "Dorritt." You have his own authority for saying that, excepting appellations coined for the wise purposes of his sermon-stories, he found the names for almost all his characters in the graveyard of that old cathedral. On a sign in the High street you meet the name of "Barnaby," and look involuntrily for "Rudge."

A few steps farther on, upon "Star Hill," is the "drooping and despondent little thea-tre" (where he first saw a play), "with its poor strip of garden" of "scarlet beans or oyster-shells, according to the season." Returning to the "one narrow street" of Cloisterham— High street—you soon perceive the "Nuns' House," and look up at the leaden-latticed, diamond-shaped panes of glass for a glimpse of "Rose Bud," Miss Twinkleton or Mrs. Tisher. One of the three houses opposite was once, evidently, the home of Mr. Sapsea. They would be interesting relics of antiquity at any time, how much more so are they from being pictured in his "Mystery!"

And that old building near to the "Nuns' House," with the stone tablet and inscription over the door, is "Watts' Charity," known to you in the "Seven Poor Travellers." Why, "Cloisterham" teems with dear old friends: it is the moss-grown well from which he drew the sacred truths of much that is simple, homely, and honest in his writings.

Even "old Weller" might have lived here once, for the man whom you engage to drive you to Gadshill looks so wonderfully like him you are tempted to ask his name. "The Old George," "Crown and Anchor," and other signs, familiar in most English towns, are more familiar here by reason of his mention. You select the paths you think he would have chosen, and they lead you through the oddest windings of the choicest of old cities; you make the circuit of the castle walls and enter its gates.

Rochester Castle! Perhaps the grandest ruin in Old England, mentioned in King John's time as an ancient structure then. The most is now a kitchen garden; apricot and fig trees dispute with ivy possession of the crumbling walls, and the ruin looks grimly down on beds of careful cultivation; You penetrate the winding passages and stairways, the halls, corridors and dungeons, and ascend, by the aid of ropes nailed to the walls, the stone steps of the castle towers. From the highest of these you look down on the city-"its ruined habitations and sanctuaries of the dead; its moss-softened, red-tiled roofs and red-brick houses of the living; its river winding down from the mist on the horizon, as if that were

And, looking out from this grand old ruin upon the ruin that surrounds it, musing on the words above, in which he pictured "Cloisterham" so deftly, it does not need much stretch of fancy to believe that the shadow of his form still rests upon the time-bleached castle wall-that the echoes of his voice still linger on the silent summer air.

The road from Rochester to Higham-onthe-Hill forms part of the old highroad from Canterbury to London. Every foot of it is holy ground, for by this road the pilgrims journeyed centuries ago. The shrine you seek, sadder pilgrim than they, is built upon Gadshill, where Ned Poins and Prince Hal conjured visions to the doughty knight of "thirteen men in buckram," and the "Falstaff Arms" opposite commemorates the revel. You give little thought to associations with the past: you quaint brick building, from which as it seems but yesterday he "went the silent road into which all earthly pilgrimages merge, some sooner, and some later," absorbs your feelings and enchains your thoughts.

Sixteen years back it was the vicarage of Higham, and how its late tenant, as a boy, admired it, he has oddly told us in his "Uncommercial Traveler"

"So smooth was the old high-road, and so fresh were the horses, and so fast went I, that it was midway between Gravesend and Rochester when I noticed by the wayside a very queer small boy.
"'Hallo," said I; 'where do you live?

"'At Chatham,' says he.
"'What do you do there?' says I. "'I go to school,' says he.

"I took him up in a moment, and we went on. Presently the very queer small boy

says—
"This is Gadshill we are coming to, where Falstaff went out to rob those travellers, and ran away. said I.

"'All about him,' said the very queer small boy. 'I am old (I am nine), and I read all sorts of books. But do let us stop at the top of the hill, please, and look at the house there. "You admire that house?' said I.

"Bless you, sir!' said the very queer small boy, 'when I was not more than half as old as nine it used to be a treat for me to be brought to look at it. And now I am nine I come by myself to look at it. And ever since I can recollect, my father, seeing me so fond of it, has often said to me—"If you were to be very persevering and work hard, you might some day come to live in it.' "Though that's impossible,' said the very

queer small boy, drawing a low breath, and staring at the house with all his might. "I was rather amazed to be told this by the very queer small boy, for that house happens to be my home, and I have reason to believe

what he said was true." It became his home through the mere accident of his hearing, at a dinner party, that the old vicarage was suddenly for sale. The din-ner was left untasted, the bargain made, and Gadshill Place became as immortal as Stratford-on-Avon. The grounds had been embellished from his own designs, but the house would seem to have been left untouched except by time. There is a tunnel under the high-road connecting the two gardens, and the noble cedars upon either side stand like watchers at a grave and mourn the nobler dead. Ivy and the Virginia creeper overhang the walls and the arched entrance to the tunnel, and red geraniums dot the velvet lawn and crowd the windows in rich profusion.

On the couch by the bay window in the dining-room he breathed his last, too weak to be moved to the bed that had been brought down from his chamber. His portrait by Maclise (so lately gone before him) and other pictures by Frith, Cameron, Stanfield, Cattermole, Frank and Marcus Stone, etc., many representing characters of his own creation—hang on the walls, while in the halls and the sleeping-rooms above stairs lie the many books that have been crowded out of his well-stocked library, rich in treasures, chief of which are the bound manuscripts of his various works, interlined with his own corrections. The library doors are covered over with imitation covers of odd works, christened in merry moments by himself and kindred spirits: - Catt's Lives, in nine volumes; Life of Zimmerman, by him-self;—Oatalogues of Statues to the Duke of Wellington, 29 large volumes; The World, one very thin 8vo.; Hanging the Best Policy by Our Wise Forefathers;—A Brief Auto-biography, 3 large quartos; Encyclopedia of Knowledge, a skeleton duodecimo; A Peep at the Pyramids, 5 vols., Five Minutes in Ohina, 4 gigantic folios, etc.

Back of the library is the billiad-room to which a miniature table had been fitted the amusement of his friends, and where Fechter, Marcus Stone, Lord Darnley (his near neighbor), Charles Collins, and like companions, whiled away the pleasant hours, lightened as they were by the polished wit and kindly satire of their host, who, as marker of the game, contributed not a little to the spirit of the

It is a strange waking from the dreamings of the past to the sorrow of the present, as, turning toward the "Falstaff Arms," the landlady, dressed in deep mourning—you need not ask for whom: her unaffected sadness speaks a volume—remarks: "Ah! he was a kind friend, sir, to every one, and a kind man to us!" You ask if the surviving family still remain at Gadshill House. "Yes, sir, but not for long: it is to be sold in a few

days." "Sold! that's strange!" "Why, they couldn't live there, you know, sir: why be died in that dining-room: they couldn't live there now!

With all its wealth of cultivated land, its fields of fruits and flowers, this is the saddest ruin you have seen. To the broken hearts within, the rooms his taste adorned are far more desolate than the barest wall in Cloisterham; the flowers have lost their perfume, the foliage its vitality: the life of all the house departed with him. It is a ruin!

Plucking, in sad remembrance, a sprig of ivy from the garden wall, you turn towards London by the road over which, only five days before, all that remained of him was borne to its final rest.

POET'S CORNER! Surrounding an enclosure ef rude oaken benches, an ever-changing crowd look down upon a cross composed of scarcely-withered flowers, dropped since yesterday upon the hallowed stones that overlie the coffin. For a few days it was exposed to view, until the six feet of space above it were all but filled up with flowers fallen from the hands of those who thronged Westminster Abbey to pay tribute to the last comer among these mighty dead. He sleeps in goodly company, and you feel that since it was Heaven's will to call a noble spirit to its home, the earthly frame lies in "the only spot in Eng-land worthy to receive it." Mark the great and cherished names carved on the walls or graven in the ground, and see what spirits welcome him to his eternal rest.

Death boasts no richer harvest, and the scythe of time shall mow the earth in vain to find a nobler sheaf than it has just cut down. Your pilgrimage is over. His office, his home, his cherished town—his grave. His undying works alone exist for mankind to share in common: he lives but in the memory of man, whence he shall never die.

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Personal accounts.... THIRD.

Amount of losses resisted by the Company -fraudulent claim.
Amount of all other claims against the \$5,000.00 

FOURTH.

Amount of cash premiums received...... \$17.939-69 Premium notes on Policies issued previous 

Amount of expenses paid during the year, including commissions and fees paid to Agents and officers of the Company.... \$3,701.63

Amount of taxes paid by the Company.... 607.62

Amount of all other expenses and expenditures—salary of officers and general expenses. expenses.

Amount of promissory notes originally forming the capital of the Company... 1. Amount of said notes held by the Company as part of or the whole of the capital thereof... 1.

Par and market value of the Company's

tol Life Insurance Company, and find them correct as above.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal, this 22d day of July, A. D. 1870.

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