

LITERARY GOSSIP.

In the late Mr. Palgrave's second series of the *Golden Treasury of English Songs and Lyrics* appear two of Kendall's poems, "Owara" and "After Many Years"—poems which every admirer of Kendall will think worthy of their company.

Mr. Michael Davitt, M.P., is at present engaged on a work dealing with the resources of the various colonies of Australasia.

One of the results of the new terminus for the Orleans railway in Paris will be the dispersion of the old bookstalls along the adjoining quays. Nearly every savant of the century has found delightful recreation amongst these treasured volumes.

The English journals received by last mail contain many sympathetic notions of the late Madame Couvreur, ("Tasma.") The London "Times" makes this reference to her journalistic work at Brussels for that paper:—"On her husband's death, in 1894, Mme. Couvreur took up the duties of the 'Times' correspondent which he had so ably fulfilled. As a journalist she showed herself most conscientious and painstaking, and at the same time keenly alive to all political, intellectual, and social movements likely to interest her readers. Though she had, like her husband, strong liberal convictions of the Belgian type, she showed judgment and moderation in her comments on the conduct of other parties—virtues which are not common in a country where political passions run exceptionally high."

Mr. Wilfrid Ward, we learn from the "Athenaeum," has just completed the revision of the last proof-sheets of the long-delayed "Life of Cardinal Wiseman."

The centenary of Robert Pollok occurs next year, and a proposal is already being made for the erection of a granite monument near the place of his birth. "The Course of Time" has rather dropped out of sight in recent years, but it contains many passages of great beauty.

Four editions of Professor Saintsbury's "Short History of French Literature" having been exhausted, a fifth is about to be issued from the Clarendon Press. It will be thoroughly revised throughout, while the section on the nineteenth century has been practically rewritten and very much enlarged.

Another new publishing house is to take up business in London directly. Mr. Gerald Duckworth, stepson of Mr. Leslie Stephen, is the principal member of the new firm. He has been connected with J. M. Dent and Co. A number of relatives of literary people have adopted this career. Mr. George Meredith's son is a partner in Constable and Co. Mr. Maxwell, the husband of Miss Braddon—one cannot help the look of this statement—has long been her publisher, and Mr. Grant Richards is a nephew of Grant Allen.

Tennyson has incurred the disapproval of Scotsmen for neglect of Caledonia. Although he was in the Western Highlands and visited Staffa and Iona in 1853 the "land of the mountain and the flood" has left little or no impress upon his writings. Wordsworth poured forth sonnets and poems by the yard in his Scottish tour in 1803, but save for the "Daisy," written in Edinburgh, and which is reminiscent of a Continental tour, Scotland does not figure in his poetry.

Messrs. Kegan Paul are to issue a novel called "Marcus Ward, Atheist," the study of a character who at the outset regards criminal law as immoral and vicious, on the ground that our own lives revenge what is wrong in them. The author

lives revenge what is wrong in them. The author of the novel is a South Australian lady, Miss Alice M. Dale.

Mr. Elkin Mathews is to publish the "Selected Poems" of the late Roden Noel. The volume has been prepared by Mr. Percy Addleshaw. He has had the assistance of Noel's sister, Lady Victoria Buxton, the wife of the Governor of South Australia. She also inherited literary tastes from her father, the first Earl of Gainsborough.

Among more recent Scottish papers, one that is certain to receive much appreciation is the "Scots Pictorial." This is a weekly paper published in Edinburgh, Glasgow, and London. It covers the field of distinctly Scottish sports and interests, but has room to spare for matters of wider concernment. Particularly to be noticed are its excellent reproductions of photographs; some of these portraits, landscapes, and interiors, are of the highest refinement. A note in the issue of October 23 discusses Sir George Dibbs in connection with the New South Wales Agency-General. In the sporting section golf and deer stalking take chief place. A description of the noble Crichton Institution at Dumfries, a foundation of Dr. James Crichton for treatment of the insane, testifies to the charity of the wealthy that does so much to lessen the burdens of the poor.

"Austral-English" is the title of a dictionary of Australasian words, phrases, and usages. The compiler is Professor Morris, of Melbourne University, and Messrs. Macmillan publish the book. Dr. Murray invited assistance for his great Oxford dictionary, upon words peculiar to Australasia. In answer to this call Professor Morris began to collect information. When his parcel of quotations had grown into a considerable heap it occurred to him that the collection, if a little further trouble were expended upon it, might first enjoy an independent existence. Friends contributed more quotations, and so the volume came to be.

The "Frankfurter Zeitung" publishes some statements about the condition of Friedrich Nietzsche, who, as is known, after the death of his mother, was taken from Naumburg to Weimar by his sister, Frau Dr. Förster-Nietzsche. Villa Silberblick is at the country end of the Luisen Strasse, on a hill. It is a smart one-story building, and the quiet and retirement has had a beneficial effect on the patient, whose nerves are as delicate and sensitive as they were in the days he enjoyed good health. At the present moment he is better. He seems to like to listen when his sister reads to him, and he often nods his head as if he understood what was being read. In any case, he finds the rhythm and sound of a language agreeable. His sister lately read something to him by a French author, and when she had finished she heard him say, "Très bien." Strange faces always excite him, and, as this is to be avoided, nobody is admitted to his presence. Frau Förster-Nietzsche gives herself up with rare devotion to the task of nursing her brother and arranging and publishing his works. Of these she is endeavouring to make the collection as perfect as possible. At the villa there is a large, tasteful, and comfortably-furnished room on the ground floor—the library. The light enters it on two sides. Down in the valley lies Weimar, and the horizon is bounded by wooded hills. At the sides of the room are bookshelves and bookcases full of valuable manuscripts and letters, while pictures of Schopenhauer and Wagner hang on the walls.

Zola is still living in his country house at Medan—a small village with few houses—retired and tranquil. He is extremely nervous when he is at work upon one of his novels, but when it is

and tranquil. He is extremely nervous when he is at work upon one of his novels, but when it is once finished he puts it entirely away from him and thinks no more about it. "I am a very bad father," he said once, in allusion to the manner in which he loses interest in his literary offspring. Now that he has written *finis* to "Paris," he is doing no literary work at all, and amuses himself with the society of his friends and with cycling. He talks of soon beginning work on his new novel, "London," the material for which he amassed during his recent visit to England; but he does not seem very enthusiastic about it, and it is not, indeed, certain that it will ever be written.

The London "Daily Chronicle" declares that the last of the Carlyles is living in a Canadian city. This is Thomas Carlyle's youngest sister, Mrs. Janet Hanning, now more than four-score years, who resides at Toronto. In 1878 her husband died, and three years later came the death of her brother Thomas, by whose will she was left comfortably provided for. During her brother's lifetime Mrs. Hanning was in constant correspondence with him, but of recent years her mind has begun to fail, although there are occasional brief flashes of that vigour and brusqueness peculiar to the Carlyles.

In a recent number of "The Book Buyer" it is stated that to lovers and collectors of Emerson's works one of the most interesting volumes in existence is that owned by Mr. R. S. Smythe, of Melbourne. This is a copy of the first edition of Emerson's *Essays*, published in England, and has a rather long preface by Carlyle. It was issued by Fraser, proprietor of the famous magazine in whose pages "Sartor" first saw the light. Ordinary copies of the earliest English edition of the essays which introduced Emerson to the British nation must be very scarce, but Mr. Smythe's copy consists of the actual proof-sheets, which bear marginal notes and corrections in Carlyle's handwriting. Many of these are said to be very curious and interesting.