Great Britain.

In the case of Great Britain, as in that of the United States further on in this Review, we shall confine our writing largely to general terms, remembering the considerable extent to which English literature is reflected or repeated in American, and the measure of familiarity with it afforded by our successive issues of the year. We shall mention only the leading authors and the few representative titles, attempting no exhaustive enumeration, indicating simply the main divisions of the literary map of the year, and its more important or more noticeable centers of activity. Let us premise, also, that the border land between English and American literature is in some places vaguely defined, and occupied by stragglers whom it is not always easy to fix where they belong. Mr. James, for example — is he an ornament of American letters or of English? And Mr. R. L. Stevenson, whose home is England, who camps out in the Adirondacks, and who writes with English ink under an American copyright — where is his professional domicile?

Lord Tennyson, for the year 1887, has rested on his laurels, which some say have faded. Now nearly eighty, the laureate's bough seems to have about ceased bearing, and we are left to enjoy the fruits of his earlier years. Mr. Browning, who has just turned the third quarter of his century, has given us the — uncouth, shall we call them? but strong and vivid "Parleyings with Certain People of Importance in their Day;" Lord Lytton has published a volume of "Legends and other Poems;" Mr. Swinburne has "done some poetry" for the magazines, one fragment of which was lately cabled to a New York paper; Edwin Arnold signalizes the closing month of the year with a volume of oriental verse; Philip Bourke Marston's "Garden Secrets," and companion collection of "Stories," lie under the shadow of his untimely death; Mr. Stevenson has published a first volume of verse, and Mr. Wm. Morris has undertaken nothing more than a new translation of the "Odyssey" of Homer. In poetry this is all. Where is the once broad and glorious stream of English poesy? Narrowed and dried into insignificant proportions.

The English novelists — where, too, are they? We had almost said there are no English novelists in a year of grace which gives Mr. Rider Haggard's "She," "Jess," and "Allen Quatermain" the place of honor and the reward of largest circulation. Mr. Wilkie Collins's "Little Novels" is one of the titles of 1887, but where is the hand which wrote "The Woman in White" and "The Moonstone"? Mr. Wm. Black is represented by "Sabrina Zembra," Mr. R. D. Blackmore by "Springhaven," Mr. Thomas Hardy by "The Woodlanders," each a deterioration from past standards. Edna Lyall's "Knight Errant," Baring-Gould's "Red Spider," and "The Gaverocks," Grant Allen's "Beckoning Hand," Mr. Stevenson's "Merry Men," and other short stories, and Mr. Westbury's "Frederick Hazzleden," are the few chiefly notable works in the long list of current English fiction of the year. The rank and file of the novelists, who write for the circulating libraries, have been active and productive, but have given us little, if anything, to be remembered.

In literary biography two important and permanently valuable works are Dowden's "Shelley" and Colvin's "Keats," enough in themselves to redeem this department of the year's product and establish its claim to recognition. But besides these independent lives has been started the series of "Great Writers," to which Mr. Knight has contributed a sketch of "D. G. Rossetti," Mr. Hall Caine one of "Coleridge," and Mr. Marzials an admirable one of "Dickens." A "Shelley Primer" is one of the signs of the times. Charles Reade's "Memoir" has been compiled out of his Literary Remains, and Dr. Charles Mackay's "Through the Long Day" is an interesting retrospect of a busy literary life running through half a century. Lee's "Dorothy Wordsworth" and the "Coleorton Memorials" have thrown counter lights upon some of the distinguished figures and fascinating precincts of the literary life of the earlier half of the century. To Mr. George Saintsbury we are indebted for a history of "Elizabethan Literature," which reaches us only as we prepare this article.

The "Works of Edward Fitzgerald," "The Life and Writings" of the gifted Anne Gilchrist, and the authoritative "Life of Darwin," in two volumes, lie where literary biography leaves off and general biography begins; and we have next to mention the unimportant "Life of Agnes Strickland," the unpleasant if not scandalous "Life of Rosina, Lady Lytton," and Thomas Adolphus Trollope's autobiographic "What I Remember." Ruskin has continued his "Praeterita," Laurence Oliphant has related "Episodes," and Mr. W. Beatty-Kingston has told of "Monarchs I Have Met." On the religious side the two noblest biographies of the year are Thomas Hughes's life of "Bishop Fraser" of Manchester, and Dawson's of "Bishop Hannington" of Central Africa. To "English Worthies" Mr. Mowbray Morris has added a sketch of "Claverhouse," and to "Famous Women" Miss A. Mary F. Robinson one of "Margaret of Angoulême." The irrepressible John Cordy Jeaffreson has published a two-volume "Historical Biography of Lady Hamilton and Lord Nelson," and Archibald Ballantyne a one-volume "Political Biography of Lord Carteret." We append here Chase's "Chrysostom," Collette's "Cranmer," Lee's "Cardinal Pole," and Lupton's "Dean Colet;" and then by way of as sharp a contrast as possible Norman's "Corsairs of France," and the biographical volume in Laughton's "Studies in Naval History." Mr. Frith's entertaining autobiography is one of the last but best books of the year; and another is Armstrong's recension of Munz's "Raphael."

The completion of the Victorian Half-Century has given a special turn to history, and the writings on her Majesty's reign hold the first place. Mr. Thomas Humphrey Ward's two edited volumes on "The Reign of Queen Victoria" are an impressive compendium of the progress of Great Britain on all lines, during Victoria's fifty years. A "History of India under Queen Victoria" has come from Captain Trotter. A third part of the "Greville Memoirs" in two volumes is substantially a "Journal of the Reign of Queen Victoria" from 1852 to 1860. The occasion has also been improved by Mr. Loftie for an interesting history of "Windsor Castle," so closely associated with the British royal line, and by no fewer than three writers for new histories of England complete from the beginning, viz.: "A Concise History" by Rev. Sir J. W. Cox, "A Short History" by Cyril Ransome, and "A History for Beginners" by Arabella B. Buckley. Passing to sub-divisions of the general subject Hubert Hall has sketched "Society in the Elizabethan Age," Dr. S. R. Gardiner has brought out a first volume of his great "History of the Great Civil War," Mrs. Brown Delves Broughton has edited the journals of her grandmother Papendiek, assistant keeper of Queen Charlotte's wardrobe, and reader to her Majesty, for the sake of the light they throw on "Court and Private Life in the Time" of that lady; the University of Oxford has had two historians at work, Mr. Maxwell Lyte, Deputy-Keeper of the Public Records, and Warden Brodrick of Merton College, and "Scotland as it Was and Is" has been sketched by the Duke of Argyle, and the "Great Historic Families of Scotland" by James Taylor, each in two volumes. Mr. Lecky has got through a fifth and a sixth volume of his "History of England in the Eighteenth Century." Dr. E. A. Freeman has printed his Oxford (1885) lectures on "The Chief Periods of European History," and Dr. William Stubbs his eighteen Regius Professorship "Lectures on the Study of Mediæval and Modern History." After a long delay have appeared the third and fourth volumes of Mr. Creighton's "History of the Papacy during the Period of the Reformation." From Mr. J. A. Doyle have come "Vol. II," in two volumes, of his "English Colonies in America," and from Mr. George Hooper a masterly piece of military history in "The Campaign of Sedan."

The religious and theological list is slender, comprising as chief items Dr. Sayce's Hibbert "Lectures on the Origin and Growth of Religion as illustrated by the Religion of the Ancient Babylonians," Dr. Biggs's excellent account of "The Christian Platonists of Alexandria," Dr. Hatch's evolutionary if not revolutionary treatise on "The Growth of Church Institutions," Dr. Edwin A. Abbott's anti-supernatural dissection of the "Kernel and the Husk" in Christianity," Mr. Haweis's completed studies of "Christ and Christianity" in the interest of the new criticism, and Dr. Cheyne's scholarly monograph on "Job and Solomon." It is impossible to miss the fact that every one of these influential works is off the traditional lines of philosophy and interpretation, and that together they make a strong showing of the change of base which religion is slowly undergoing in these closing years of the nineteenth century.

For scientific literature we always look eagerly to England, but this year we find little of note. Mr. Herbert Spencer has published on "The Factors of Organic Evolution," and Mr. E. D. Cope on "The Origin of the Fittest;" that is about all on this subject. Mr. Norman Lockyer's "Chemistry of the Sun" is really a review of the growth of spectroscopy, but not as original and authentic as it ought to be. Sir Henry Roscoe's address before the British Association at Manchester in August is valuable as a partial review of scientific progress during the Victorian era. The official report of the "Scientific Results of the Voyage of H. M. S. Challenger" drags its slow length along; four volumes have appeared during the year, three on "Zoölogy" and one on "Botany." Jeans has written comprehensively for the first time on "Railway Problems in Different Countries," and Bucknall Smith practically on "Cable or Rope Traction as Applied to the Working of Street and other Railways," a treatise which ought to find large use in the United States. There have appeared a first part or volume of Fowler's "Coleoptera of the British Islands," a third of the Britton-Holland "Dictionary of Plant Names," and a seventeenth of Swainson's "Folk-lore and Provincial Names of British Birds."

In the essay, pure and simple, once so strong an ingredient in the composite English literary life, we recall nothing to speak of beyond Sir John Lubbock's "Pleasures of Life," Mr. Walter Pater's "Imaginary Portraits," and a second series of Mr. Augustine Birrell's charming "Obiter Dicta." Or we may add here Mr. Ruskin's "Hortus Inclusus," a book *sui generis*.

Along the line of special investigation appear Max Müller's "Science of Thought," Andrew Lang's "Myth, Ritual, and Religion," W. A. Clouston's "Popular Tales and Fictions," Rev. W. W. Skeat's "A Beginning of Principles of English Etymology," and Dr. Gaster's "Lectures

on Græco-Slavonian Literature and its Relation to the Folk-lore of Europe during the Middle Ages." Upon an adjacent line stands Dr. Augustus Jessop's "Arcady," a unique and delightful social study of rural life in England. In Art and Architecture we have had two volumes on "The Castellated and Domestic Architectures of Scotland from the 12th to the 18th Century," by Macgibbon and Ross, a collection of "Impressions from Copper-plates and Wood-blocks engraved in the Bewick Workshop," edited by Boyd, an illustrated description of "Ornamental Interiors, Ancient and Modern," by Smith, and a fascinating "History of Miniature Art" by Propert; in Music an elaborate illustrated "History of Musical Instruments" by Hipkins, and "Lectures on Musical Analysis" by Banister; in numismatics two works on Greek coins, one a "Manual" by Head, the other a "Catalogue" by Percy Gardner; and a new and desirable edition of Dr. Doran's "Annals of the Stage."

Under Travels and Description the list is long and rich, but our limits will restrict us to a few titles only. In point of scholarship the first place belongs easily to Mr. Jackson's "Dalmatia, the Quarnero, and Istria," and in that of grace and personal interest to the late Mrs. Craik's "Unknown Country," and Mr. Hamerton's "Saône," side by side. A unique narrative is that of Mr. Riley of his and Mr. Owens's visit to "Athos, the Mountain of the Monks;" with Mr. Butler we have tasted "Court Life in Egypt," with Mr. Laurence Oliphant "Life in Modern Palestine," as seen at Haifa, under the shadow of Mt. Carmel, and as first described in letters to the New York *Sun*, and with Mr. Cecil Torr we have explored "Rhodes in Modern Times." South Africa in various aspects has been touched by three writers, Theal, Fielden, and MacKinnon; South American provinces by two, Rumbold and Simson. Capt. S. P. Oliver, R.A., has given us in two encyclopædic volumes an exhaustive exposition of "Madagascar." Chalmers, Guillemard, and Churchward have written respectively of New Guinea, Formosa, and the Navigator Islands.