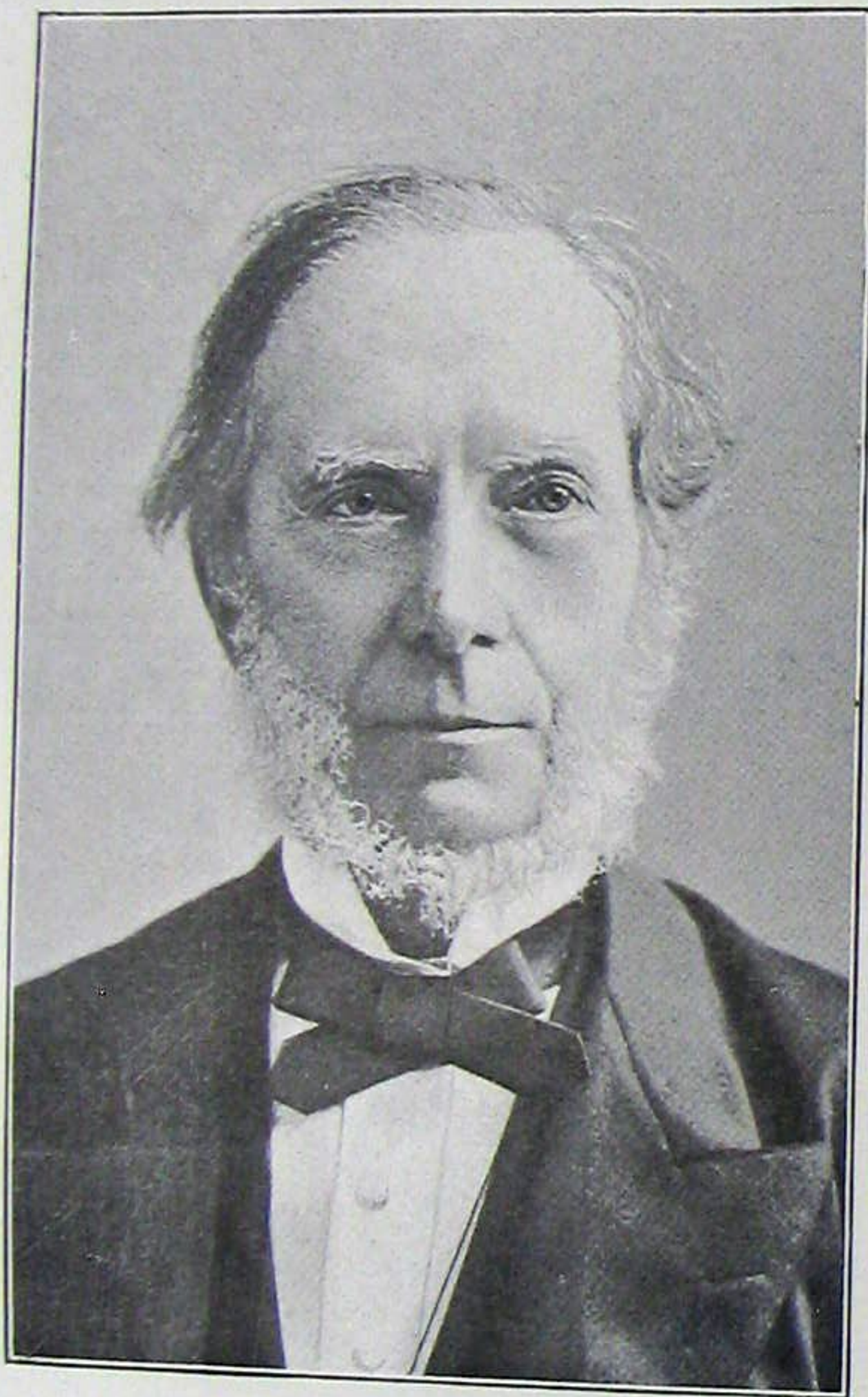


## In Memoriam.



**M**R. GEO. BELL, head of the well-known publishing firm of George Bell & Sons, York-street, Covent Garden, died on November 27th, after three weeks' illness. George Bell was born in 1814 at Richmond in Yorkshire, where his father carried on the business of a bookseller. He received his education at the Richmond Grammar School, the head master of which, the Rev. Jas. Tate, a well-known Horatian scholar (editor of "Horatius Restitutus" and afterwards Canon of St. Paul's), prided himself on the fact that from his school twelve



THE LATE MR. GEORGE BELL.

Fellows of Trinity had proceeded. It was his wish that George Bell should also try his fortune at the University; but circumstances did not allow of this, and he left school at the age of sixteen to assist in his father's business. Very soon he came up to London and entered the house of Whittaker & Co., Ave Maria-lane, then one of the largest wholesale bookselling and publishing businesses in London. About 1838 he began business as a bookseller in Bouverie-street. His aim, however, was to become a publisher, and it was not long before he made a move in this direction. There were then but few annotated editions of classical authors, and these almost entirely of German

publications. His idea was to found a library of annotated classics, representing the best English scholarship of the day. He sought help of Messrs. Goldwin Smith, Donaldson, George Long, Maclean, Paley, and Blakesley (afterwards Dean of Lincoln), and the "Bibliotheca Classica" was the result, undertaken in partnership with Messrs. Whittaker & Co. This and similar enterprises led to the formation of a good educational business. He moved to No. 186 Fleet-street, where he became associated with Mr. F. R. Daldy. He had for some time acted as agent for Cambridge University publications, and in 1856 acquired the old-established business of Messrs. J. & J. Deighton, of Cambridge, still carried on under the style of Deighton, Bell & Co. In 1864 he and his partner purchased Mr. H. G. Bohn's well-known libraries, and transferred their business to York-street, Covent Garden. In 1872 his partnership with Mr. Daldy terminated, and since then two of his sons have been taken into the business. He next acquired the publishing business of Whittaker & Co., the bookselling portion having been previously disposed of. Two years ago Mr. Bell retired from business, though he never lost his interest in it, and visited the office to within a few weeks of his death.

Those who have had the most pleasant business relations with Mr. Bell for many years bear record to his sterling worth and uprightness of character. He was one of those thoughtful quiet men who never obtrude themselves, but, notwithstanding his innate modesty, he could not altogether hide his light under a bushel, for he has long been regarded in the trade as one whose opinion on all matters connected with the publishing business was invaluable, and consequently his advice was frequently sought whenever trade changes or specially difficult questions arose: and that advice, always freely and ungrudgingly given at whatever personal inconvenience, was always regarded as authoritative. We are told that not only advice but also generous pecuniary support have been during his lifetime bestowed on many charitable works and on many poor dependents, but always with remarkable judgment as well as with kindly sympathy. Mr. Bell's death will be regarded by his many friends as a great loss.

Two old and respected members of the bibliopegist craft have recently joined the majority. Mr. E. Symmons, of Bouverie-street, E.C., died on December 12, and Mr. W. G. Eeles (formerly in business with Mr. Matthew Bell), who was seized with paralysis on the evening of Friday, December 11, and died early on Saturday morning.

THE bookbinders in Hanover are asking for a ten hours' workday, the abolition of overtime and Sunday work, a lowest wage of 16.50 marks, and payment for the weekly holiday.

"BAIT FOR BOOKWORMS" is the quaint title of a catalogue of second-hand books for sale by Mr. Chas. King, Olde Booke Shoppe, 113 Lower Union-street, Torquay.

HURRIED binding means bad binding. Let your books dry thoroughly after each process.