

programme was of a high order, and the choir (of about fifty voices) gave evidence of careful training. The best sung choruses were two by Gounod, "Send out thy Light," "Unfold the Portals" (Redemption), and Sullivan's "Watchman, What of the Night?" Miss Ella Cole took the solos in this remarkably well. In Sullivan's charming part song, "Evening," the choir sang considerably out of tune—a defect which could have been set right by a few notes of accompaniment, judiciously introduced. The same fault was apparent in the quartette "Peace and Love" (set to Barnby's "Sweet and Low") and also unaccompanied. To Mrs. Tanner too high praise can scarcely be given. Her greatest triumph was, perhaps, in the "Inflammatus," which she sang with a fervor and smoothness seldom heard. The accompanying chorus in this grand work did good service, supporting without ignoring the soloist. In the "Let the Bright Seraphim," "O, had I Jubal's Lyre," "I Know that my Redeemer liveth," and in Mendelssohn's exquisite "O, for the wings of a Dove," Mrs. Tanner proved herself to be a true artist. The concert on the whole was a decided success, and reflects great credit upon its energetic and painstaking promoter, Mr. Birks.—*Marcia*

MADAME PAPPENHEIM, who is announced to sing at Messrs. Suckling's concert in Toronto on Wednesday next, is preceded by a fanfaronade of good opinions gleaned from the press of England and the United States. She is spoken of as "worthy to wear the mantle of Titians," fit to "stand in the first rank among contemporaries in her own line," as having secured an "immediate and decided success" in London (England), a "dramatic soprano of the first order," and as having "a power of endurance, quality of tone, and a perfect method of pleasing." Such distinctions as these ought to secure for her, and for the artists associated with her, a hearty reception.

THE PERIODICALS.

THE April number of the *Century* completes volume twenty-nine. The opening paper is the second of Mr. W. D. Howells' entertaining "Florentine Mosaic," in which are lessons that might with advantage be taken to heart by fortune's favourites in greater cities. The description of Florence under Lorenzo de Medici, and the attempted assassination of that luxurious despot, is a piece of dramatic word-painting quite in Mr. Howells' powerful style. Theodore Roosevelt contributes a frank and intelligent article on "Phases of State Legislation," with special reference to the government of New York City—in connection with which, by the way, one of the editor's "Topics" might with advantage be read. In strange contrast with the revelations made by Mr. Roosevelt is the graphic description of the character and mode of life of early American pioneers: "The Colonists at Home." Mr. Henry W. Grady joins issue with Mr. Cable ("In Plain Black") on that gentleman's position regarding the negro question. Mr. Cable writes from a sentimental rather than from a practical standpoint, we are assured. The South will never adopt Mr. Cable's suggestion of the social intermingling of the races. The intelligence of both races moves further from that proposition day by day. Mr. Cable comes out in another rôle and gives a pathetic account of "New Orleans Before the Capture"—aptly followed by a description of the taking of that ill-fated city, by Admiral Porter: the War Paper of the number. Other valuable papers are included, Mr. Howells and Mr. James advance their popular serials by several chapters, poems, editorials, notes, etc., add further variety, and the illustrations are well up to the average of the widely-popular magazine.

THE *St. Nicholas* also brings another volume to a close—Vol. XII. The illustrations in "The Young Folks" magazine are marvels of the graver's art, and form not the least valuable part of it as an educational medium. The picture of "Jack in His Sailor's Suit" is a veritable *chef d'œuvre*, and even more charming, if not so perfect in detail, is "Easter Morning." Equally attractive to the juvenile artist are "The Gilded Boy," the catchy pictures accompanying the story of a "Conscientious Cat," and many others. "Who's Afraid in the Dark?" is an exceedingly happy idea, poetically and artistically. The reading matter, as usual, reflects the highest credit upon the judgment of the able editress, aptly combining instruction and amusement.

MESSRS. LEONARD SCOTT send reprints of the *Contemporary* and the *Fortnightly* reviews. The opening article of the first-named is by Sir Richard Temple, and is a somewhat heavy contribution to the Eastern Question. It is followed by Mr. Goldwin Smith's paper on "The Organization of Democracy"—already well known in Canada. One of the most prominent and important articles is Mr. R. H. Hutton's "George Eliot"—looked upon by many English journals as amongst the most acute, profound, and far-reaching of all the criticisms which have appeared since the publication of Mr. Cross's memoirs. Mr. R. A. Watson has a trenchant essay entitled "Professor Drummond's New Scientific Gospel." The numerous fallacies, the defective analogies, the general inconsequence of that much-discussed book "Natural Law in the Spiritual World" are admirably exposed. Mr. W. Clarke Russell gives one of his stirring papers on "The Shipping Commission Reviewed from the Forecastle," and the remaining items of a capital number are "Amiel's Journal," "Native Faiths in the Himalayah," "The Suffrage for Women," and "Contemporary Records."—"Imperial Federation" is discussed by Mr. J. A. Farrer and Mr. Arthur Mills in the *Fortnightly*, but nothing practicable is produced. Sir Lepel Griffin and Mr. Wilfred Blunt tilt on the subject of "England's Place in India." Mr. Frederic Harrison's name is appended to an absorbingly-interesting criticism of George Eliot, albeit there is not quite as much as one might expect on her relations with Positivism. No person is more entitled to speak of the Bank of England than Mr. Henry May, and everybody ought to read what he has to say about that institution. There are also able papers as follows: "The Coming Land Bill," "Radical Theorists on Land," "Organic Nature's Riddle," "Squires, Spires, and Mires," and "Tasso."

THOUGHTFUL theologians are directing their attention with some degree of earnestness to the consideration of the pressing social problems of the time. The *Andover Review*, which is fully abreast of the age, devotes two papers to the sermons of Newman Smythe, D.D., relating to the Labour Question. Professor Charles F. Richardson discusses "The Moral Purpose of the Later American Novel;" Rev. J. H. Johnson writes on "Co-operative Creation," and Professor Blodgett has an excellent paper on "Bach and Handel." The department chiefly devoted to criticism is full, free and varied. In all respects the April number is an excellent one.

A TIMELY article on the "Framers of the Constitution," with twenty portraits, is the opening gem of the *Magazine of American History* for April. It is the first instance in the historic literature of America of the successful grouping of the whole forty-five of these

remarkable men in one vivid pen-picture. Dr. Charles W. Parsons, of Providence, writes of "Bellomont and Rasle in 1699," touching with new material on Lord Bellomont's connection with piracy; Rev. Charles H. Parkhurst, D.D., writes forcibly on "Work as an Educating Power"; Rev. William Barrows, D.D., treats of "Ancient Chicago" in a most agreeable fashion; Mr. Frederic N. Luther contributes a bright and readable paper on "Jefferson as a Naturalist"; Professor Theodore W. Dwight adds a short article on the "Fairfax Family"; John Esten Cooke furnishes an argument on the Pocahontas question; and Charles Ledyard Norton continues his Political Americanisms. Original documents contain a "Curious Petition of the Boston Ministers in 1709." Notes, Queries, Replies, Societies, and Book Notices are crowded with agreeable material.

THREE travel papers, each ably written and all freely illustrated, are given in the *Canadian Methodist Magazine*—"Wanderings in Spain," "On the Rhine," and "The Cruise of H.M.S. Challenger." An article by Dr. Withrow on "Barbara Peck," which first appeared in the *N.-W. Christian Advocate*, is also reproduced. Mr. Dunn continues his essay on Charles Wesley, a contribution which is appropriately followed by "John Wesley's Ancestry." Some thoughts of the late Mr. Punshon upon Easter are good and timely reading, and other articles and stories are "Successful Books," "Higher Life," "Skipper George Wetman," "The Lugan Boy's Defence Fund," and the editorial department.

THE *Brooklyn Magazine* for April appears clothed in its new form and dress, and is so thoroughly improved as to make it hardly recognizable as the same periodical. Rev. Henry Ward Beecher opens with a delightful article on "Thoughts of Spring-Time." A beautiful poem on Easter is printed, as also is a sonnet by William H. Hayne, the Southern poet. Hon. J. S. T. Stranahan discusses "The Future of Brooklyn" in a paper strongly favouring its annexation with New York; Miss Maggie Mitchell, the actress, relates some of her experiences on the stage; Martin F. Tupper, the English poet, writes concerning his straightened circumstances; Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher gives an indirect slap at the question of woman suffrage; another instalment of "The Battle of Brooklyn" is also given.

THE *North American Review*—to which we hope to return in another column—contains, in its April part: "A Study of Prison Management," by Charles Dudley Warner; "The Law's Delay," by Chief Justice T. F. Hargis; "Free Thought in America," by Robert Buchanan; "Characteristics of Persian Poetry," by Ainsworth R. Spofford; "The Agricultural Crisis in England," by William E. Bear; "How to Reform English Spelling," by Prof. T. W. Hunt; "The Army of the Discontented," by T. V. Powderly; and (a new feature) "Comments."

BOOK NOTICES.

THE STATESMAN'S YEAR-BOOK FOR 1885. Edited by John Keltie. Twenty-second year. London and New York: Macmillan and Company. Toronto: Williamson and Company.

THERE are some books which, once having known, one does not care to be without. This is pre-eminently the case with "The Statesman's Year-Book"—not alone with one class of the community, but with politicians, literarians, business men—in a word, with all. The present issue, which is even more bulky than its predecessors, amongst other new features, gives comparative tables of the area and population of colonial possessions and statistics of the trade of each country with its colonies, of the relative growth of the trade of the European countries and their colonies, and of the proportion of the colonial trade to the entire trade of those countries.

ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND, AND THROUGH THE LOOKING-GLASS. By Lewis Carroll. With ninety-two illustrations by John Tenniel. New edition in One Volume. New York: Macmillan and Company. Toronto: Williamson and Company.

WHO that has read these ever-fresh juvenile books—and who has not?—but will rejoice that they are now published at a popular price, and that without losing any of their artistic beauties? It is so unfortunately common to find the proprieties sacrificed to a laugh that we ought to value these charming productions—these valued friends of our childhood—in which there is abundance of fun without vulgarity. There is much to admire, moreover, for children of a larger growth in Mr. Tenniel's exquisite burlesques and caricatures.

OBITER DICTA. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Toronto: Standard Publishing Company.

SEVEN most charming essays, the subjects being: "Carlyle," "On the Alleged Obscurity of Mr. Browning's Poetry," "Truth-Hunting," "Actors," "A Rogue's Memoirs," "The Via Media," and "Falstaff." The author's apology, given in his preface, for presenting the septette is one which will appear uncalled for after perusing them. Though unpretentious, the essays are evidently the work of a cultured writer, and ought to obtain as wide a popularity here as they have won in England. The author is understood to be Mr. Augustine Birrell.

HOW SUCCESS IS WON. By Mrs. Sarah K. Bolton. With portraits. Boston: D. Lothrop and Company.

THE story of the lives of twelve men who, from small beginnings, have risen to greater things, is here told as it ought to be in a book principally intended for the use of the young—simply, with a sufficient fund of anecdote to impart a zest to its perusal. In each case advancement was made by steady industry, the biographies being those of Peter Cooper, John B. Gough, John G. Whittier, John Wannemaker, Henry M. Stanley, John Hopkins, William M. Hunt, Elias Howe, jun'r, Alexander H. Stephens, Thomas A. Edison, Dr. William T. G. Morton, and Rev. Dr. J. H. Vincent.

ON THE SUBLIME AND BEAUTIFUL. By Edmund Burke. New York: John B. Alden.

STUDENTS—and particularly those whose means are limited—have already been under considerable obligations to Mr. Alden for his handsome reprints of classical works. We understand that Burke's famous essay has never before been presented to American and Canadian readers at a popular price, and it is scarcely to be doubted that the present edition will readily find its way on to thousands of book-shelves. "Burke was one of the first thinkers, as well as one of the greatest orators of his time," said Sir James Mackintosh. "He is without parallel in any age or country, except, perhaps, Lord Bacon or Cicero, and his works contain an ampler store of political and moral wisdom than can be found in any other writer whatever."

THE FUTURE DESTINY OF THE UNSAVED. By Enquirer. Montreal: Herald Office.

BRING an enquiry or brief reply (in five letters) to two lectures delivered in Canada Presbyterian College by Rev. Prof. Shaw and Rev. Prof. McLaren. Referred to in "Topics of the Week."