

The standard of the *Youth's Companion* is evenly maintained and more than commonly high.

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"Black and White Rights in Africa," by H. R. Fox Bourne, is one of the notable articles in *Littell's Living Age* for January 29th.

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"Notes on Open Letters," in the *Sunday School Times* for January 22nd, contains a mention of the mysterious and vague but fascinating figure Melchizadek. The constant service which is rendered to the students of the Bible by this publication it would be hard to overestimate. The number of Sunday School teachers who regularly look to it for the greater part of their information is continually increasing.

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"A Brief History of our Late War with Spain" is concluded in the February *Cosmopolitan*. This has been one of the odd and visionary experiments in futurity which is characteristic of the magazine. But its place has been taken by an excellent continued story of adventure, with admirable characterizations. Col. Geo. E. Waring, in the series "Great Business Operations," tells of the management of the waste of a city. One of the greatest opportunities of the present generation in city government, it is also the least regarded.

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"Across the Sub-Arctics of Canada," by J. W. Tyrrell. Toronto, William Briggs. The imagination of the general public in Canada is becoming more and more affected by the vast unexplored region in our country that lies to the north. We are interested to hear what has been seen there, we want to learn what adventures, trials

and experiences may be met with there; and this being the case we are fortunate in possessing a Nansen of our own in the person of Mr. Tyrrell, who has been gifted with the spirit of an adventurer and with the talent of a recorder. The book is interesting from many points of view, not the least from that of a botanist, who will find an appendix giving systematically the plants collected on the expedition.

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"American Literature," by Katharine Lee Bates. The Macmillan Co., New York. The first chapter of this interesting book is devoted to the Colonial period of American literature, the second to the Revolutionary, after which the author in four chapters speaks of the National era, when the individual spirit of the States became more manifest. The question of indebtedness is a weary one and may as well be dropped, for the nations of the world do not promise to become more various as they grow older, literature is but a reflection of life. In explaining the position of American (of the United States) literature the author wisely confines herself to few rather than to many names and treats of broad distinctions.

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We have also received: "Books: A Guide to Good Reading," by John Millar (William Briggs, Toronto); "The Children's Fourth Reader," (Ginn and Company, Boston); and "Helbig's Komodie auf der Hochschule," edited by B. W. Wells (D.C. Heath, Boston).

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"The Study of Children," by Francis Warner, M.D. The Macmillan Co., New York. The systematic and scientific study of children is becoming every day a more necessary