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POET-LORE
THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF
LETTERS
Browning Anniversary Number.
May, 1895.
ANNALS OF A QUIET BROWNING CLUB. I. N.
Cox (Historian).
"MR. SLUDGE, THE MEDIUM" Rev. Francis B.
Hornbrooke.
RUSKIN'S LETTERS TO CHESNEAU: A Record of
Literary Friendship. II. Pre-Raphaelitism. Wil-
liam G. Kingsland.
THE COST OF A POET: Elizabeth Barrett Brown-
ing's "A Musical Instrument." Prof. Hiram Corson.
URIEL ACOSTA. IV. Karl Gutzkow. Translated by
Richard Henry and Francois Stewart Jones.
"THE AIMS OF LITERARY STUDY." P. A. C. Some
Elizabethan Books: Spenser, Lyly, and Ford.
P. & C.
SCHOOL OF LITERATURE: Poems illustrative of
American History; Discoveries; Lowell's and Whit-
man's Columbus. (Conclusion.) P. A. C.
NOTES AND NEWS. In Memoriam Miss Helen Bell.
Ibsen.—Boston Browning Society. E. E. M.

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The scales used in weighing diamonds are so delicately poised that the weight of a single eyelash will turn the balance.

A curious fact has been noted by Arctic travelers—snow when at very low tempera-
ture absorbs moisture and dries garments.

It has been computed that a hole one-
sixteenth of an inch in diameter, with a water
pressure of 45 lbs. per square inch, will liber-
ate 648 gallons per day.

"Louisiana and Ohio," says *The St. Louis Republic*, "are noted localities for petrified trees. In the former State, several years ago, in turning up the ground, an ancient forest was unearthed, and in succession two others below the first. Scientists, judging from the state of the trees, say that at least 50,000 years elapsed between the growth of the first and the last forest."

"It has been discovered," says *The National Druggist*, "that the famous tree from the bark of which quinin is obtained furnishes no quinin except in malarial regions. If a tree is planted in a malarial district it will produce quinin; if it is planted in a non-malarial district it will not produce quinin. It is therefore claimed that quinin is a malarial poison, drawn from the soil and stored up by this wonderful tree."

Among the requirements for coffee-culture, according to a recent Australian report on the subject, are a rich soil, deep and effective drainage, and shelter from wind. The latter is best attained by leaving strips of standing timber as wind-breaks when making the clearing for a coffee plantation. In preparing for a coffee plantation, stumps and all timber should be removed, so that labour-saving implements may be used in the cultivation of the plants.

A new, and, it is claimed, a perfect means of distinguishing diamonds from imitations, has been invented by the chemist of the Physical Institute, at Geneva, Mr. Margott. He uses an aluminium pencil, with which it is possible to make a mark or write upon glass or any other substance containing silicates. Upon such surfaces, which are first moistened, the pencil will leave a perfect white mark of silver-like metallic brilliancy, which cannot be destroyed even by the use of chemicals. Only diamonds, which, as is well known, consist of pure carbon, are impermeable to the touch of the new aluminium test. All the other gems contain more or less silicic acid, and the aluminium pencil will, there-
fore, leave its mark on them.

An old estimate of the frequency of earth-
quakes was that not a day passed without a
shock being felt somewhere on the earth. In
a new determination (*Comptes Rendus*, vol.
cix, pp. 577-579), M. de Montessus de Ballore
obtains a much higher figure. Dividing all
the registers we possess into historical, seismo-
logical, and seismographical, and assuming
the latter to be perfect, he finds by comparing
the different classes for the same region, that
in the first 96.24 per cent., and in the second
84.48 per cent., of the total number of shocks
escaped record. In a group of well-studied
earthquake districts, with a combined area of
11,691,000 square kilometres, the average
yearly numbers of shocks for the three
classes are 341.35, 878.57, and 2,222.24 re-
spectively. Hence, multiplying by the proper
factors for the first two classes it would ap-
pear that the total number of shocks actually
occurring in the above area must be estimated
at 16,957 a year, or one in every half-hour.—
Nature.

LIBERAL PRIZES.

Those of our readers who are of a literary
turn of mind will appreciate the liberal offer
made elsewhere in this issue by the Dr. Wil-
liams' Medicine Co., of Brockville, Ont., who
announce a series of prizes amounting to \$300
for the five best short original stories submit-
ted in the competition. The amount offered
is, we believe, the largest ever awarded in a
competition of this kind in Canada, and any
part of it will be a liberal recompense for a
story of the length named. We will be glad
to hear that any of our readers have succeed-
ed in capturing one of the prizes.



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buds, young wo-
men just entering
the doors of soci-
ety or woman-
hood, require the
wisest care. To
be beautiful and
charming they
must have perfect
health, with all it
implies—a clear
skin, rosy cheeks,
bright eyes and
good spirits. At
this period the
young woman is
especially sensi-
tive, and many
nervous troubles,
which continue
through life, have
their origin at this
time. If there be

pain, headache, backache, and nervous dis-
turbances, or the general health not good,
the judicious use of medicine should be
employed. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescrip-
tion is the best restorative tonic and nerve-
line at this time. The best bodily condition
results from its use. It's a remedy speci-
ally indicated for those delicate weak-
nesses and derangements that afflict wo-
menkind at one period or another. You'll
find that the woman who has faithfully
used the "Prescription" is the picture of
health, she looks well and she feels well.

In catarrhal inflammation, in chronic dis-
placements common to women, where there
are symptoms of backache, dizziness or
fainting, bearing down sensations, disor-
dered stomach, moodiness, fatigue, etc.,
the trouble is surely dispelled and the
sufferer brought back to health and good
spirits.

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excellent health now.
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man, who is troubled
with 'women's ills,'
will try the 'Prescrip-
tion' and be benefited
as I have been."



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