

Now these tactics have been abundantly transparent to ordinary observers. Are the people of the United States so devoid of common sense and intelligence that they alone of all people are in such a condition that they must take these devices for serious, sober realities? How is it with ourselves? Are we not ready to applaud the astute politician who can formulate a taking election cry? Of course we wouldn't believe it, but it would be a fine thing for catching the popular vote. Is there not much that is demoralizing and degrading in thus treating the common people as deficient in intelligence and common-sense? From the length to which United States politicians have gone during the campaign just concluded it is clear that there has been an ominous lowering of the moral tone. Has the popular conscience become as devoid of sensitiveness as is that of the average political leader? If so, the outlook is rather ominous. When a people's rulers have parted with honour, integrity and righteousness, when they seek ascendancy by palpable humbug, and when the people acquiesce in such methods, there is a danger that both ruler and ruled will come to be despised.

## Books and Magazines.

**LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.** (Boston: Littell & Co.)—This indispensable weekly publication continues to keep its readers fully supplied with the best current literature.

**OUR YOUNG FOLKS AND THE NURSERY.** (Boston: The Russell Publishing Company.)—This little monthly gives its interesting circle of readers the best material in the shape of story, poem, brief article and illustration that can well be imagined.

**HARPER'S YOUNG PEOPLE.** (New York: Harper & Brothers.)—Every week this delightful and instructive magazine gives to its young readers much that is useful, entertaining, and well fitted to promote their moral and intellectual improvement.

**THE OLD TESTAMENT STUDENT.** Edited by William R. Harper, Ph.D. (New Haven, Conn.)—It is doubtful whether this valuable help to a thorough, comprehensive and scholarly study of the Old Testament Scriptures is so well known, as it deserves to be. Among the contributors to its pages are to be found the names of men distinguished for their attainments in sacred scholarship. The New Testament supplement is a recent and valuable addition to this most excellent monthly.

**THE CANADA EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY.** (Toronto: The Canada Educational Monthly Publishing Co.)—Professor Clark's paper on the "Formation of Opinion" is concluded in the October number of this magazine published in educational interests. It is followed by a good and timely article by Dr. H. P. Yeomans on "Sanitary Supervision of schools." Another valuable feature of the *Monthly* is its "Scripture Lessons for School and Home" department.

**CAPITAL AND ITS EARNINGS.** By John B. Clark, M.A., professor of History and Political Science, Smith's College, (Baltimore.)—This is one of the publications of the American Economic Association, of which Richard T. Ely, of Johns Hopkins University, is secretary. The object of the Association is to disseminate sound economic principles by means of the press. Professor Clark's little treatise on "Capital and its Earnings," is a clear and masterly contribution designed to help a solution of one of the stirring problems of the time.

**KNOX COLLEGE MONTHLY.** (Toronto.)—An earlier notice of the October number of this decidedly excellent monthly would have appeared had it arrived at the usual time. The principal papers are "Presbyterian System and Spiritual Life," by Principal Caven; "Spencer on Kant," by J. E. Wells, M.A., and "Dr. Samuel Johnson and His Opinions," by the Rev. A. M. McClelland, D.C.L. The missionary department is fresh and interesting. *Knox College Monthly* is gaining health, strength and vigour as the time goes on.

**WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AS AN INSTITUTION?** By George Lansing Taylor, D.D. (New York: Wilbur B. Ketcham.)—This little treatise was delivered originally as an essay at a ministerial meeting, and subsequently read at several Sabbath school conventions, and pub-

lished by request. It has already gone through four editions. It is an able and judicious criticism of the Sunday school as an institution by one who is fully alive to its importance, and who urges what he deems to be greatly needed reforms in Sunday school methods. It deserves careful and thoughtful perusal.

**SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE.** (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.)—This high class magazine has taken its permanent place in the first rank of periodical literature. The November number presents many attractions. The engravings are numerous and finely finished. An interesting paper by General Philip Sheridan, abounding in personal touches, describes the progress of the German army "From Gravelotte to Sedan." Augustine Birell contributes a paper on "Matthew Arnold." "The Every-Day Life of Railroad Men" is interestingly told. "First Harvests" is concluded, and Robert Louis Stevenson begins a new novel, "The Master of Ballintrae." Other attractive features help to make up an excellent number.

**HARPER'S MAGAZINE.** (New York: Harper & Brothers.)—The number of this standard monthly presents a fine appearance. Its illustrations are good specimens of artistic excellence, and they are given with no stinted hand. "The Lower St. Lawrence," affords a fine theme for literary and artistic treatment in which the writer of the paper and the artist have been successful. Other illustrated papers in which average readers will feel interested are "A Museum of the History of Paris," "Elk Hunting in the Rocky Mountains," "Boats on the Tagus," "The New York Real Estate Stock Exchange," and the third and concluding paper of "Our Journey to the Hebrides." "The New Orleans Bench and Bar," and "Invalidism as a Fine Art," also afford interesting reading. The serials by William Dean Howells and William Black are concluded. The other contents of the number are up to the high standard maintained by *Harper's*.

**AIMS AND OBJECTS OF THE TORONTO HUMANE SOCIETY.** Edited by J. George Hodgins, M.A., LL.D. (Toronto: William Briggs.)—In furtherance of the praiseworthy benevolent work undertaken and successfully carried on by the Toronto Humane Society a handsome volume has recently been published by them. It is edited with great care. The original matter, and selections, judiciously and aptly made are admirably arranged and classified by Dr. Hodgins, one of the vice-presidents of the Society. It is in five parts: What the Society Will Seek to Prevent; Care of the Wufs and Strays of Our Cities; Lessons in Kindness to Animals and Birds, the Human Education of Children; and miscellaneous Objects. The book is made attractive by a large number of illustrations, several of them of more than average excellence, while poem and story, judiciously interspersed, will make it deeply interesting as well as instructive to young readers who will learn valuable lessons in the virtue of kindness from reading its pages.

**THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY.** (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)—There is uncommon fascination in the brilliant novel entitled "Passe Rose," by Arthur Sherburne Hardy, a fresh instalment of which appears in the *Atlantic Monthly* for November. "A November Chronicle," by Bradford Torrey, describes, in a charming way, the possibilities of an out-door excursion at this season of the year. Ellen Terry Johnson contributes an article on "The After Suppers of the King." Much of the genuine value of the *Atlantic* lies in the terse, clear-cut and vigorous articles on American history, by John Fiske, the latest of which is entitled "The Eve of Independence." Lillie B. Chace Wyman continues her "Studies of Factory Life," Miss Murfree her serial story entitled "The Despot of Broomsedge Cove," and William Howe Downes his papers on "Boston Painters and Paintings." William Roscoe Thayer contributes an article on "The Makers of New Italy," John Trowbridge writes on "Economy in College Work," and Philander Deming, of Albany, writes a bright skit entitled "A Lover's Conscience." The poetry of this number is, "The Fifth Symphony," by Lucy C. Bull, and "Dante and Beatrice," by the California poet, Walter Kelly. A review of Mrs. Deland's book, "John Ward, Preacher," and Mrs. Ward's "Robert Elsmere," is timely reading. There are other excellent notices and reviews of new books, the usual "Contributors' Club" articles, etc.

## THE MISSIONARY WORLD.

### A NEW MISSION ON LAKE NYASSA.

Recently an ordination took place at Graaf-Reinet, which marks a great extension in the sphere of mission operations undertaken by the Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa. Such work hitherto has been chiefly carried on within or on the frontiers of the Colony and of the Transvaal, and that is on a more extensive scale than is generally known. The resolution, however, has been formed, and so far carried out, to begin missionary operations in a region outside of South Africa; and Lake Nyassa has been chosen as that field. The Rev. A. C. Murray, of Graaf-Reinet, has volunteered for that work, and proceeds this month to Quilumane, on his way to the lake.

There he will join the Livingstonia Mission for a time, and be received as one of the force now at work. Arrangements between the committees of the two Churches have been made to this effect. Later on, if it shall be found desirable or practicable, the Dutch Reformed Church may found a separate mission, or may continue to work in conjunction with the Livingstonia Mission, in which, as is well known, two of the Scottish Churches have from the commencement worked together with harmony and success. These are the Free and United Presbyterian Churches of Scotland. It will be a happy omen and a consummation to be devoutly wished for, should the distant future find the Dutch Reformed Church working permanently in conjunction with two of its old historical allies.

The Rev. A. C. Murray is a Stellenbosch student—passed through the theological curriculum there, and has also spent rather more than a year in Europe chiefly in acquiring such medical knowledge as may be useful to him in his distant sphere of work. For that, his missionary enthusiasm and devotion seem to peculiarly qualify him.

There is a unique feature in this new mission which cannot fail to commend it to the sympathies of all Christians. It is, strictly speaking, a ministers' mission, the funds for its support being contributed exclusively by a certain number of ministers of the Dutch Reformed Church from their own original stipends.

### SUMATRA

The Rhenish missionaries in Sumatra report well of their work. In the southern part of the island among the Passumahs, two Dutch missionaries are settled, but have not yet got permission from the Dutch Government to begin their proper work as missionaries. The east of the island may be said to be under the spiritual care of three Rhenish missionaries and their native helpers. In Battaland, in the north of the island, a sudden and unexpected raid of a band of robbers, headed by an escaped prisoner, threatened for a time to put a stop to mission work. Happily, the career of these ruffians was soon stopped by the Dutch soldiers, and in and around Balge the time of fear and distress seems to have tended to draw the native Christians more closely together. Both at this station and at that of Lagaboti there has been considerable increase of membership. The members at the two stations number over 1,000, and further additions to this number are likely soon to be made. On the further side of the Toba Lake a colporteur and several voluntary evangelists have done good work. In the district of Silindring, for instance, the Church at Pantgar-na-pitu has become quite an important one.

### JAVA.

In the central district of Java there are some 5,000 native Christians in connection with the Netherlands Reformed Missionary Society. For many years this field has been under the exclusive care of one missionary, who is stationed at Poerworedjo. Recently two other missionaries have been sent to Poerbolingo, one of whom is to be engaged in training native evangelists and preachers. Still more recently a young medical missionary has been sent out. He is to be supported by the Dutch Reformed Missionary Society in London. An attempt is being made to form the various churches or stations into a Presbytery, presided over by a Synod. Meanwhile, Christianity is spreading also in the Djogjokarta district, and some 5,000 natives have accepted the truth.