

unusually interesting part of the number, as is also "The Home and Haunts of Shakespeare." The other articles and departments are all interesting reading.

QUITE apart from the regular departments which go to make *Literary Opinion* one of the brightest, crispest and cleverest of the literary magazines of the day, its readers will delight in Christina G. Rossetti's reminiscences of Tudor House, under the caption, "The House of Dante Gabriel Rossetti," with a sketch of its fine old front by Miss Margaret Thomas; and the very able notice in appreciation of "Renan's Feuilles Détachées," from the hand of the Right Hon. Sir Mountstuart Grant Duff. The portrait and notice of Professor J. A. Froude are a welcome addition to the number.

A STRANGE, weird story is "The Bible Oracle," by the Rev. F. G. Scott, which opens the June number of the *Dominion Illustrated*. Mrs. Harrison, who is accomplished in music as well as in literature, contributes an article on "Music and Musicians in Toronto." Both the poems of Mrs. Hensley and the late Goodrich Roberts are good. The first of a series of papers, under the caption, "A Century of Legislation," is from the pen of Mr. Frank Yeigh. Mr. John Reade's article bearing on Canadian folk lore, and Mamae's on "Canoeing in Canada," will find the one literary and the other sporting readers. It is a pity that the illustrations are not better.

VERY entertaining to present day readers is Lord Bra-bourne's leader in *Blackwood* for June on "Old Elections." Though the proceedings of elections change they never lack humour; the following placard speaks for itself: "TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Tuesday, the 11th Nov., 1806, at the Hustings, in Covent Garden, the UNREDEEMED PLEDGES of the Rt. Hon. R. Brinsley Sheridan, Treasurer of the Navy, etc., pawned previous to his coming into power; etc., etc." "The Case for Moderate Drinking" is temperately yet forcefully put by Dr. Farquharson, M.P. "Contemporary German Novelists" is interesting from a literary standpoint, dealing as it does with such writers as Hermann Sudermann, Dr. Max Nordau, Julius Rodenberg and Karl Emil Franzos. William Greswell's scholarly comparative article on "Europe and Africa" is also good reading.

THE June *Bookman* brings us a portrait of the calm, intellectual face of Mrs. Humphry Ward, and an excellent critical notice of her from the pen of G. T. The critic says: "Unfortunately, Mrs. Ward has an unfortunate habit of arresting our interest in her people's actions while she is looking after her hero's soul or her heroine's education, or drawing out the spiritual experiences of the supernumeraries," and again: "Critics do her wrong by turning and rending her because she is lacking in what is not hers to give. Stripped of their outer garb of culture, her works belong to an order of writing to which critics as a rule pay but little attention," etc., etc. The Carlyle Recollections sustain their interest, and there are good contributions relating to Edmund Gosse, Literary Dublin and Russel of the *Scotsman*, apart from an overflowing mass of excellent literary items, book notices, etc.

JAMES LANE ALLEN contributes the complete novel in *Lippincott's Magazine* for June, entitled "John Gray; a Kentucky Tale of the Olden Time." It is a long story well told, and will raise Mr. Allen's already enviable reputation. Murat Halstead's paper on his "Early Editorial Experiences" is rather overweighted with the bogie of Henry Clay. In the Athletic Series, Frederick Weir writes on lacrosse. Prof. John Bach McMaster's sketch of "The Struggle of the West" is worth reading. Another good Western article is that on "The Great American Desert," by Wm. F. G. Shanks. There are short stories by Maurice Thompson and Patience Stapleton, and poetry by James Whitcomb Riley, Ella Wheeler Wilcox, Susie M. Best, Robert Loveman, Carrie Blake Morgan and St. George Best.

IN the *New World* for June Benjamin Andrews opens the number with a thoughtful paper on "The Social Plait." The writer says: "I expect a moral growth of society which will bring with it many changes." The Rev. Minot J. Savage's contribution on the subject "Religious Evolution," is strong if not convincing. "The Origin and Meaning of the Story of Sodom" is a critical and learned commentary on its subject. In the striking presentation of "The Foundation of Buddhism," by Maurice Bloomfield, we are told that "Gautoma the Buddha, under the name of St. Josaphat, is now officially recognized and worshipped throughout the whole of Catholic Christianity as a Christian saint." If this be true, Buddhism and Catholicism are not unrelated religions. The article in the number which may find the most readers is that on "New Forms of Christian Education," from the clever pen of the author of "Robert Elsmere" and "David Grieve," but we must leave to our readers the perusal of this able paper, as well as others worthy of mention from prominent thinkers and writers. The forty-six pages of book reviews contain admirable work by competent specialists. The short record of the *New World* has already given it very high standing in its class.

AUTHORS must not, like Chinese soldiers, expect to win victories by turning somersaults in the air.—*Longfellow*.

HE who is certain, or presumes to say he knows, is, whether he be mistaken or in the right, a dogmatist.—*William Fleming*.

LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

A LIBRARY edition of the novels of Anthony Trollope is in preparation by Dodd, Mead and Company.

"THE IRISH PEASANT," a sociological study, is the title of a book which will shortly appear in London.

UNDER the title "From Punch to Padanaram: Essays by a Roving Philosopher," Mr. Elliot Stock announces for immediate publication a new volume of sketches by Alfred T. Storey.

MR. R. L. STEVENSON has written for the *National Observer* a long article describing the great hurricane at Samoa in March, 1889. It will be published in that journal.

"THE Practical Working of the Australian System of Voting in Massachusetts" is the title of a monograph by Richard H. Dana, of Boston, which the American Academy of Political and Social Science has published.

A SMALL volume by Mr. James Baker will shortly be published, entitled "Our Foreign Competitors, their Life and Labour," dealing with the keen competition for English, and especially colonial, trade on the Continent.

BRET HARTE'S young daughter, Miss Jessamy Harte, will make her literary début in the *July Ladies' Home Journal* with a most entertaining description of "Camp Life in the Adirondacks." Miss Harte is still in her teens, and has artistic as well as literary proclivities, as one of the illustrations accompanying her first article shows.

THE sad death by drowning of the late Mr. Thomas Cross, late Chief Clerk in the Department of Railways and Canals at Ottawa, has deprived THE WEEK of an able and valued contributor. Mr. Cross was widely read in German literature, and was a kind, courteous and accomplished man. His loss we greatly regret, and we extend our sympathy to his family.

"TALES of a Garrison Town," by the Rev. Arthur Wentworth Eaton and Craven Langstroth Batts, is to be published within a month by the D. D. Merrill Company of New York and St. Paul. It consists of short stories of modern Halifax society, and is to appear in two volumes of about a dozen stories each, to be illustrated in pen-and-ink by Charles Howard Johnson.

SEVENTEEN portraits of American anthropologists will accompany Prof. Frederick Starr's article on "Anthropological Work in America," which is to open the *Popular Science Monthly* for July. The article shows that both in quality and amount the work of Americans in this field compares favourably with that of Europeans, described by Prof. Starr in an earlier number.

MR. HALL CAINE enjoys the distinction of being the first Christian who has been made an honorary member of "The Maccabees," a new Jewish community, which is destined, we imagine, to do great things for the Hebrew race, as it will attract to itself all that is most intellectual in Judaism, and shows an unusual desire to obtain the sympathy of the Gentile world.

MR. WALTER BESANT is evidently of opinion that it is not wise for the ordinary author to indulge in dreams of immortality for his work. "Immortality," he says, "in fact is limited, save for the very, very few. Happy is the man who can please or instruct his own generation; happy he who can make them listen to him; more happy still if he does not in the least trouble his head about posterity."

HARPER AND BROTHERS have published a new novel by Miss M. E. Braddon, entitled "The Venetians"; a practical manual of horsemanship for ladies, entitled "How Women Should Ride," by C. de Hurst; "Diego Pinzon," a story of the discovery of America, written for young people by John Russell Coryell; and "Vesty of the Basins," a new novel by Mrs. S. P. McLean Greene, author of "Cape Cod Folks," etc.

MR. BLISS CARMAN, the young Canadian poet, has resigned his editorial position on the *Independent* to accept a position with *Current Literature*, where he will assist Mr. Harold Godwin, who has lately taken charge of that magazine. Mr. Carman will be followed on the *Independent* by Mr. Elbert F. Baldwin, a young graduate of Williams College, subsequently trained in the German universities, so says the *New York Critic*.

Public Opinion says that a copy of the first edition of Gray's "Elegy Wrote in a Country Churchyard" was sold recently for £59. It originally cost sixpence (if there were no discount booksellers then!); but that was 141 years ago. A copy of the first edition of "The Vicar of Wakefield" went for £94; it came from the press 126 years ago. A still higher price—£210—was given for an original "Compleat Angler," 239 years old. In these cases the proportion in age and monetary value is pretty well preserved.

G. A. SALA says of himself that for seven-and-forty years he has laboured as a journalist. For six years he toiled "in poverty, in obscurity, and very often in dire sickness, and often suffering the pangs of hunger." Another six years' apprenticeship to literature and journalism he served under the fostering care of Charles Dickens, in *Household Words*; and in 1857 he joined the *Daily Telegraph*, for which paper he has written about 12,000 leading articles. Rather an uncommon record for a "common journalist."

MR. GLADSTONE has just entered upon a new literary study. A remarkable theory of the gospels was published recently by a Cambridge clergyman, the Rev. J. J. Hal-

combe, M.A. Articles upon it have been appearing in the *Expository Times*, which have come under Mr. Gladstone's notice. He writes to the editor as follows:—

I have read with great interest, though sorely pressed for time, the whole series of notes with which the *Expository Times* for May opens, and after returning to London I shall certainly do my best to obtain an acquaintance with Mr. Halcombe's work.

April 22.

W. E. GLADSTONE.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS announce "Lord Chesterfield's Letters," edited with introduction, notes and index by John Bradshaw, LL.D., in three volumes, with six full-page plates. The present edition contains all the matter published by Lord Mahon in his five-volume edition (1845-1853): and the omitted passages, printed for the first time in 1853, now appear in their proper places. The same firm announce "The Scottish Clans and their Tartans," containing introductory note, list of native dyes, badges of the clans, war cries, coloured map of Scotland in 16th century divided into clans, ninety-six coloured plates of tartans and historical account of each clan.

A RETIRED diplomatist, the Viscount de Grouchy, has discovered among the papers of a notary in Paris several highly interesting documents relating to the affairs of the poet Racine. Among them (says the Paris correspondent of the *Telegraph*) are his certificate of marriage and the inventory of his property and of his library. It is hoped that a careful examination of these papers will set at rest a long-standing dispute as to which of two houses that both claim the distinction was the scene of Racine's death. The documents completely refute the prevailing idea that Racine died poor, as among them is an acknowledgment of a debt of 20,000 francs from a prince.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS announce "The Contemporary Science Series," edited by Havelock Ellis, which will contain, among other volumes, the following: I. "The Evolution of Sex," by Professor Patrick Geddes and J. A. Thomson, with ninety illustrations (second edition); II. "Electricity in Modern Life," by G. W. de Tunzelmann, with eighty-eight illustrations; III. "The Origin of the Aryans," by Dr. Isaac Taylor, illustrated (second edition); IV. "Physiognomy and Expression," by P. Mantegazza, illustrated; V. "Evolution and Disease," by J. B. Sutton, F.R.C.S., with one hundred and thirty-five illustrations; VI. "The Village Community," by G. L. Gomme, illustrated, and VII. "The Criminal," by Havelock Ellis, illustrated.

ACCORDING to R. H. Sherard, in the *Author*, notoriety is in England so much considered a pass to commercial success in authorship that if a man, who might never have tried his hand at literature before, could manage to stand on his head on the point of Cleopatra's Needle for, say, twenty-four consecutive hours, he would very probably be asked to write for some of the most important magazines, and as probably would receive offers from enterprising publishers of books. In America he would be asked to undertake a series of lectures. In France, however, the best he could hope for would be an engagement either as a waiter in some *brasserie* or *café*, or as a "number" in the programme of the Folies-Bergères. Literature is, in France, considered as much a *métier*, requiring training and apprenticeship, as the craft of the locksmith or of the jeweller.

THE seventy-fourth annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Quebec Bank was held at the Banking House in Quebec, on Monday, 6th June, 1892. The chair was taken by R. H. Smith, Esq., President. The report of the Directors showed that the net profits of the past year were \$160,488.64. The balance brought over from last year was \$112,382.61. In all, \$272,871.25. The half-yearly dividend of 3½ per cent. paid in December last amounted to \$87,500, and a half-yearly dividend at the same rate is payable June, \$87,500. There has been a transfer to the Rest of \$50,000, making a total of \$225,000. This leaves a balance at credit of Profit and Loss of \$47,871.25, the Rest being \$550,000. The report refers to the Quebec timber trade, in which the Bank is largely interested, and to new Canadian Bankers' Association of Canada. The capital stock of the Bank remains unchanged at the sum of \$2,500,000. The total of liabilities being \$9,689,824.68 is well set off by the Bank's valuable assets. This conservative institution gives its shareholders a satisfactory showing, and warrants the confidence reposed in it by the financial public of Canada.

MAY we not well believe that nearly all persons, save the politicians and venal voters, think our Presidential elections are too frequent? Who would think Presidential elections once in two years endurable? If we now had a Presidential term of six years, who, except party managers, office seekers, the buyers and sellers of votes, and the storm birds of partisan politics, would wish to see the quadrennial term restored? Indeed, we are not justified in believing that if the members of the convention of 1787—the leaders of a generation which saw no removals for party ends, and no interference by officials with elections—could be their own revisers, in the light of our experience, they would provide for a Presidential term of six or seven years, a term which they twice approved, and never abandoned until their confidence had been won by a device of Presidential electors, the failure of which would be their great disappointment in contemplating their glorious creation.—From "The Perils of Re-electing Presidents," by the Hon. Dorman B. Eaton, in *North American Review*.