

talk inflamed men's minds for still wilder deeds. These were not wantings. Evictions, no doubt, were in many cases attended with great cruelty and hardship, but the many instances of barbarous revenge that followed were appalling in their brutality. These startling crimes culminated in the Phoenix Park murders, and civilized humanity exclaimed against the wanton ferocity of the hideous and unprovoked crime.

The next chapter of the agitation began with the cowardly use of dynamite. Attempts were made both in England and Scotland to inflict all the damage this deadly agent is capable of. It is marvellous that so few fatalities have resulted from its reckless use by those who profess to advance the cause of Irish nationalism. This immunity from destruction cannot be accorded to the humanity of the patriots who are indifferent to the fate awaiting the innocent victims, women and children, their own countrymen even, who may be within the walls or near to the buildings marked out for deadly experiment.

It is intelligible why Irishmen inflamed by real or supposititious wrongs might in an unreasoning phrensy wish to avenge themselves on an obnoxious official. If a down-trodden race could achieve deliverance by a bold but criminal act, the striking such a blow could be understood if it could not be justified, but the wanton, indiscriminate and aimless scattering of dismay and death by means of dynamite is to any one outside Fenian circles, and vagabonds of the O'Donovan Rossa coterie, an act without meaning.

The attitude of Charles Stewart Parnell, whenever an outrage of more than common magnitude has been perpetrated in the name of the Irish people, has caused no little astonishment. When Cavendish and Burke were murdered he could not altogether evade an expression of disapproval, but it was of the mildest kind, and related principally to the damage it would inflict on the cause he was promoting. If the expressions attributed to him in relation to the late explosions are even approximately correct, he must be a wonderfully callous man to lead so impressionable a people as the Irish. They do not present him in the light of a humane man. A leader whose patriotism was above suspicion would not maintain a studied silence in view of the attempt to wreck the Parliament House of which he is himself a member.

The prompt action taken by the United States Senate on the Edmunds Bill, and the outspoken condemnation of the leading American journals are not only acts of international courtesy but significant indications that the order-loving and law-abiding citizens of the United States are convinced that it is an unprofitable amusement playing with Fenianism and permitting free scope to dynamiters. There is a limit to the tolerance and good-natured indifference of the American people. That astute representative of Romanism, Monsignor Capel, whose mission by the way is not to the masses in American cities, but to the well-to-do and wealthier portion of the community, knows the value of putting himself on record in reference to the recent London explosions. In doing so, he reveals nothing particularly new but gives emphasis to one of the main reasons why Irish desperados traffic in dynamite. These repeated explosions are of great service in procuring liberal contributions to the "skirmishing fund" which, being secret service money, is unaccounted for. The poor Irish labourers and domestics in American cities have heavier burdens imposed upon them by their indolent and swindling fellow-exiles, than the hated Saxon would ever think of inflicting. But unfortunately in every land charlatan and dupe are co-relates.

It is a mystery why in the south and west of Ireland, where the Romish Church has it all her own way, that an otherwise docile race should prove chronic irreconcilables. What object have the dignitaries and priesthood of the Church of Rome in allowing this rampant disaffection to continue? What do they teach their people? The Gospel of Jesus is peace on earth and good will to men. Is the Gospel of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland different? Certainly if the Gospel of peace is preached in the south and west of Ireland it is not practised there to any great extent.

Books and Magazines.

OUR LITTLE ONES AND THE NURSERY. (Boston: The Russell Publishing Co.)—This bright and beautiful magazine, fresh every month, is just the very thing for our little ones and the nursery.

HARPER'S YOUNG PEOPLE. (New York: Harper & Brothers.)—A weekly magazine that has attained great popularity and success because of its intrinsic merits. The reading matter is varied and instructive and the illustrations plentiful and good.

ST. NICHOLAS. (New York: The Century Co.)—*St. Nicholas* has the power of attracting to its services several of the most popular literary celebrities. E. P. Roe begins a new story in this number, and Gail Hamilton is also among the contributors. The midwinter *St. Nicholas* is varied, attractive and instructive, and contains a number of beautiful illustrations.

BIBLICAL EXPOSITOR AND PEOPLE'S COMMENTARY. By Jacob M. Hirschfelder. (Toronto: Rowell & Hutchison.) The first volume of this valuable contribution to Old Testament literature is completed, and the first number of the second volume is just issued. Professor Hirschfelder, after a brief introduction, begins a critical examination of the text of Genesis. His exposition is scholarly and devout.

THE BUNTING BALL. (New York: Funk & Wagnalls.)—This is a clever piece of social satire. It holds the mirror up to nature, and it cannot be said that the image reflected is one of surpassing loveliness. The publishers offer \$1,000 to the purchaser of the book who correctly guesses its authorship. The illustrations are decidedly good and finely executed. The get up of the book is in every respect most handsome.

OUR INDIANS. By Rev. George Bryce, LL.D. (Winnipeg: Manitoba Free Press.)—Professor Bryce, of Manitoba College, has very wisely given in pamphlet form a lecture delivered before the Winnipeg Y. M. C. A., on a most interesting subject. He has been successful in condensing within narrow limits a great amount of information, the result of much research, on the primitive inhabitants of our great North-West.

CHILDREN'S HYMNAL. (Toronto: Assembly's Hymnal Committee.)—The Assembly's Hymnal Committee have done a commendable thing in issuing an excellently selected collection of hymns with accompanying tunes for use in the Sabbath schools of the Presbyterian Church. It is neatly and tastefully got up, and contains hymns that breathe a healthful devotional spirit. The book ought to be adopted by all the Sabbath schools throughout the Church.

THE CANADA EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY. (Toronto: The Canada Educational Monthly Publishing Co.)—The January number of this magazine, specially adapted to the teaching profession and all interested in educational progress, shows that there is no falling off in either the ability or attractiveness with which it has hitherto been conducted. A choice variety of excellent articles, original and selected, appears in this number, and the usual amount of carefully prepared technical work. It deserves the success to which it has attained.

THE MENTOR. By Alfred Ayres. (New York: Funk & Wagnalls; Toronto: William Briggs.)—The author properly assumes that really good manners must spring from a good disposition, a kindly nature, and correct principles. These essential elements of true politeness, however, often fail from lack of knowledge and culture. It is his object to give good sensible advice "for the guidance of such men and boys as would appear to advantage in the society of persons of the better sort." The subjects discussed in the neat little volume are Personal Appearance; At the Dinner Table; In Public; Conversation, Calls and Cards, Odds and Ends, and What is a Gentleman?

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)—"A Marsh Island" occupies the place of honour in the *Atlantic* for February. It is a delightful series of pictures of the country and country-folk, and in it Miss Jewett is at her very best. Mr. Craddock's "Prophet of the Great Smoky Mountains" is continued. A striking episode also occurs in Mrs. Oliphant's "Country Gentleman," and in fact all three of the *Atlantic* serials, which began in January, are exceedingly interesting. Among the most important articles of a more solid nature are an account of the revival of interest in antique sculpture, by William

Shields Liscomb, under the title of "The Quest for the Grail of Ancient Art;" a second paper on Madame Mohl's Salon; and a clever article on "Vernon Lee," by Harriet W. Preston. Dr. Holmes' charming paper, "The New Portfolio," is simply delightful. A number of other papers, several of them excellent critiques of recent works, with poetry and the usual books of the Month and the Contributors' Club, complete a splendid number.

TRUE, AND OTHER STORIES. By George Parsons Lathrop. (New York: Funk & Wagnalls; Toronto: William Briggs.)—A new volume of the Standard Library Series is "True," a tale of North Carolina life, the scene being laid, for the most part, near Pamlico Sound. It has the merit of being thoroughly an American story, though the basis for the plot is laid in the separation of two English lovers in the early days of American colonization, the lady going with her father to the new world, her lover being at the last moment forced to remain in England, never again to rejoin his sweetheart. From this separation and the chance meeting, after two hundred years, of a descendant of the young Englishman with representatives of his sweetheart's line, Mr. Lathrop weaves a tale of uncommon interest, and of much dramatic power. The other stories in the volume, "Major Barrington's Marriage," "Bad Peppers," "The Three Bridges," and "In Each Other's Shoes," are good, each in its own way, and afford a pleasant variety of excellent reading.

EDWIN ARNOLD AS POETIZER AND AS PAGANIZER; or, "The Light of Asia" Examined for its Literature and for its Buddhism. By William Cleaver Wilkinson. (New York: Funk & Wagnalls; Toronto: William Briggs.)—This is much more than a mere critique; it is a valuable exposition of the main facts in the life of Buddha, and the claims which his religion can justly make upon mankind. Mr. Wilkinson believes that Mr. Arnold's poem has had a weakening effect on the faith and conscience of America, and in a most trenchant yet courtly fashion he lays bare the discrepancies between the facts and the fictions in reference to Buddhism. His dealing with the literary qualities of "The Light of Asia" startles one at the very outset with the boldness and calmness of his denunciation. He recognizes the strength of the popular sentiment, and literary sentiment as well, with which he has to contend, but he is apparently too sure of his footing to be flustered thereby. The conscience of the critic is felt on every page, and the skill of the dialectician is plainly revealed.

THE CENTURY MAGAZINE. (New York: The Century Co.)—The February Midwinter number of *The Century*, the first edition of which is said to be 180,000 copies, contains—besides such notable contributions as General Grant's article on Shiloh—the beginning of a novel by Henry James, entitled "The Bostonian." Mr. Howell's descriptive papers, entitled "A Florentine Mosaic," also begins in this number. Perhaps the most timely illustrated feature of this number is Dr. Beers' paper on "Canada as a Winter Resort," with Sandham's graphic and spirited pictures. Mr. Howell's novel, "The Rise of Silas Lapham," is continued, and Miss Litchfield's "The Knight of the Black Forest" is concluded. The "short story" of the number is by Mark Twain, entitled "Royalty on the Mississippi." In this issue a large number of interesting contributions by well-known writers will be found. The splendid historical papers are continued by those who made history twenty years ago, and are now engaged in writing it. The illustrations are both very numerous and very excellent.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE. (New York: Harper & Brothers.)—*Harper's Magazine* for February is an unusually interesting Number, beautifully illustrated. The Frontispiece is an engraving by King from F. S. Church's painting, "The Mermaid and the Sea-wolf." The illustrated articles embrace a wide variety of subjects—interesting to the student of history, of biography, of science, and of art, as well as to the general reader. Henry W. Lucy contributes a finely illustrated article on Hatfield House, the home of the Marquis of Salisbury. Louise Livingston Hunt writes a good historical paper, from an American point of view of course, on General Montgomery. There are a number of other interesting articles by able and experienced writers. The fiction and poetry of the number sustain the high reputation these departments of *Harper's* have attained. The Editorial Departments are up to their usual standard of interest and excellence. In the introduction to the Drawer, Charles Dudley Warner gives an entertaining description of a novel Casuistry Class in the Elmira Reformatory.

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