

The illustrations greatly aid the text. By no means the least interesting article in this number is that entitled "Tail-like Formations in Men." From researches by Dr. Bartels, Professor Ecker, Dr. Mohnike, Dr. Ornstein and others, it appears that authentic tails have been discovered in human beings.

For simple, graceful, though perhaps not over-ambitious illustrations, one can commend this month's number of *Cassell's Family Magazine*. And the letter-press deserves equal and similar praise. A practical and well-illustrated article on the Mount Mellic embroidery will be useful to all needle-women. And Deborah Platter teaches better than any cookery book the art of broiling, grilling, and frying. Under the heading "Treasure-Trove in Central Canada" is a short description of mining activity at Sudbury—a region which cannot be too widely known. The article is rightly highly laudatory and sanguine.

THE first place in the latest number of *Greater Britain* is given to "Canada" by Daniel Watney. It is a criticism of "A Canadian Editor's" "What Englishmen are Doing for Canada," a polemic against the scheme of Mr. Howard Vincent, and a strong advocacy of free trade for the Dominion as the best and only condition for a rapid, healthy, and normal development of our natural material resources. "How long," asks the writer, "would the tariff wall stand with freedom on one side and the McKinley duties on the other?" But he makes no attempt to grapple with the difficulties in the way of a definite answer to this very suggestive question.

FROM the sceptical character of David G. Ritchie's article entitled "The Logic of a Ghost Advocate," which opens the *Westminster Review* for January, the psychical reader would be led to infer that the writer had never seen a ghost and to remark that Mr. Ritchie may yet "see and believe." "The Colonial Government of Great Britain" is an article of Imperial interest. Walter Lloyd disposes of "Inspiration and Truth" to his own satisfaction. Mr. D. F. Hannigan reviews "Surgeon Parke's African Experiences," and J. Dacosta treats of "Our Indian Frontier Expeditions." Matilda M. Blake asks the question, "Are Women Protected?" and from the records of the criminal courts provides a negative answer. Lady Florence Dixie, in "The Horrors of Sport," says that she "has taken part in sport of many and varied kinds, in many and varied parts of the world. I can handle gun and rifle as well and efficiently as most 'sporting people,' etc., and then proceeds to read a lecture to sportsmen which would delight the heart of a vegetarian, but which will certainly not find favour with the lovers of "the roast beef of old England." Other articles and a review of contemporary literature complete the number.

THE *Magazine of Poetry*: a quarterly review (Buffalo: W. Moulton) astonishes us regularly four times a year. Here is the January number, the commencement of a fourth volume, with one hundred and twenty-four pages, chiefly poetry; with seventeen portraits; and with twenty-nine distinct and separate biographical notices of poets or poetesses. Is there not cause for fear lest, at this rate, the stock of poets and the volume of poetry will not long hence run out, and the *Magazine of Poetry* come to a unique but untimely end owing to a sheer lack of material for subjects or copy? Is there not also still greater cause for fear lest, from the self-imposed necessity of reproducing the features and blazoning abroad the merits of some score and a half of American writers of verse every three months, the gentlemen connected with this arduous task may possibly be a little put to it to find, even in their spacious and populous country, men and women deserving of this high honour? Other features of this unique magazine there are which are significant. What a taste for poetry must exist throughout the length and breadth of America to delight in some four hundred double-columned pages of reprinted poems yearly. For this feature of the magazine it must be which gives it life and brings it fame. Certainly it cannot be the stiff portraits, all or nearly all merely reproductions of photographs. Neither can it be the biographical notices, which are brief to a fault, and as stiff as the portraits. Neither can it be the reviews, for, despite its title, not one single sentence of criticism does the *Magazine of Poetry* permit itself. Yet another peculiarity is noticeable. One and all of the seventeen personages to whose histories we are treated are angelic: they come of wonderful pedigree, they are born with "fertile minds," they evince "absorbing love" for the good or the beautiful or some other such thing; they have the honour to belong to this or that celebrated body or institution—in short their biographies lead us to think that a country that can produce such a crop is indeed a goodly country, and perhaps really the greatest country on the face of this earth—which we understand to be its own firm belief. But the personages are not quite all denizens of the United States. We are pleased to see Mrs. Annie (sic) Rothwell brought to public notice even under this curious nomenclature. Mrs. Rothwell's name is well known in Canada, and there are many who would be greatly interested in knowing much more of her life and writings than is given in the three short paragraphs devoted to the biographical notice appended to her name and portrait.

ALL our readers, probably, will see the *Century Magazine*, and will also know what to expect in it. No lengthened notice of it, therefore, is necessary here. Messrs. Kipling and (the late) Wolcott Balestier's "The Naulahka" has reached an interesting stage—the plot thickens.

The same may be said of *Scribner's Magazine* for the current month and its serial story, "The Wrecker," by Messrs. Robert Louis Stevenson and Lloyd Osbourne. It is more difficult in this piece of fiction to determine the respective shares in the composition of the twin collaborators than in the case of "The Naulahka." Mr. Lloyd Osbourne, it must be remembered, was also Mr. Stevenson's collaborator in that exquisitely funny story, "The Wrong Box." This magazine also contains a beautiful six-stanzaed poem by Mr. Archibald Lampman, entitled "Comfort of the Fields." It has been remarked that the bulk of Canadian poetry is purely descriptive, objective. Mr. Lampman's present poem bears out this assertion. "What would'st thou have for easement after grief

What would'st thou have for easement after grief  
When the rude world hath used thee with despite,  
And care sits at thine elbow day and night,  
Filching thy pleasures like a subtle thief?  
To me, when life besets me in such wise,  
'Tis sweetest to break forth, to drop the chain,  
And grasp the freedom of this pleasant earth,  
To roam in idleness and sober mirth  
Through summer airs and summer lands, and drain  
The comfort of wide fields unto tired eyes.

This is the first stanza; the next four and a-half are occupied with pastoral descriptions of summer scenery—very beautiful, very rhythmical, very poetical; and only in the concluding four lines does he return to himself:—

The mighty mother brings us in her hand  
For all tired eyes and foreheads pinched and wan  
Her restful cup, her beaker of bright wine;  
Drink, and be filled, and ye shall understand!

Those ultra-patriotic readers who delight in detecting in the poetical productions of their own country a distinct flavour of that country (a questionable taste: is not the severest indictment brought against Shakespeare—that by Goethe, in his criticism of "Hamlet" in "Wilhelm Meister"—the reproach that he was insular; and is not his highest praise that he was of no age and for no time?) will be more than pleased to find this in more than one phrase or sentence of "The Comfort of the Fields"—in "through hallowed slopes of pine, where the long daylight dreams, unpierced, and only the rich-throated thrush is heard;" in "by broken beaches tangled with wild vine, and log-strewn rivers murmurous with mills;" in "old fences overgrown with briar, muffled in vines, and hawthorns, and wild cherries, rank poisonous ivies, red-bunched elder-berries;" in "gray mullein towering into yellow bloom;" in "some foam-filled rapid charging down its rocks with iron roar of waters;" in "across wide-reeded meres, pensive with noon, to hear the querulous outcry of the loon." Some of these are exquisite. This is the way Keats would have written had Keats been Canadian.

#### LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

CARLYLE'S niece, Mrs. Carlyle, née Mary Aitkin, is said to be engaged on a work dealing with the character and genius of her uncle. She was for some years his literary assistant.

MR. JEROME or his publishers are certainly possessed of a very venturesome spirit. He is about to launch the *Idler*, a new monthly magazine, and of the first number he intends to print a first edition of 100,000 copies.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN AND COMPANY announce for publication early this month a practical work on electric lighting, entitled, "A Guide to Electric Lighting for Householders and Amateurs," and the author is S. R. Bottone.

SCARCELY a dozen persons were present at the marriage of Mr. Rudyard Kipling with Miss Balestier, which took place on the 18th ultimo. Among these were Mr. Henry James, Mr. Edmund Gosse, Mr. A. M. Poynter, and Mr. W. Heinemann.

THE editor of THE WEEK is still confined to his house and incapacitated from work by the sequelæ of the malady now so general—"la grippe." His coadjutors, however, look forward to his being enabled to resume charge of the paper during the course of next week.

M. RENAN, who, we are glad to learn, is improving in health, is engaged on the correction of the last proof-sheets of his "Mélanges," or collection of articles and documents, most of which have already appeared in print; the book will be brought out in the course of a few weeks.

"BURNS Americanised; Burns with 'no crudities of expression, no expletives, no vulgarisms, and no allusions to alcohol.' Who will buy? Here's a chance for the untutored dwellers in 'the land o' cakes.' It is an expurgated edition by an American lady-editor."—*Literary World, London*.

D. APPLETON AND COMPANY announce a new book by that deservedly popular writer, Miss Arabella B. Buckley, author of "The Fairyland of Science," "Life and Her Children," etc. The title of this work will be "Moral Teachings of Science," which the author is said to have invested with special interest.

"MUTINY Memoirs; being Personal Reminiscences of the great Sepoy Revolt of 1857," by Colonel A. R. D. Mackenzie, C.B., Hon. A.D.C. to the Viceroy, is the title of a new book published by the *Pioneer Press*, Allahabad, India. The price is two rupees. Many of our readers will recognize the name from personal acquaintanceship with the author's son, now resident in Toronto.

MESSRS. HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND COMPANY will publish in March the first number of a new quarterly review devoted to religion, ethics and theology. It will be under the charge of an editorial committee consisting of Profes-

sors Charles Carroll Everett and Crawford Howell Toy, of Harvard; Rev. Orello Cone, D.D., President of Buchtel College, and Rev. Nicholas Paine Gilman (managing editor).

AN Association for the Promotion of Profit Sharing has recently been formed in New York. The U. S. Labour Commissioner, Carroll D. Wright, is President. It is their intention to establish a bureau of information for the benefit of firms interested in profit sharing, and by various publications and addresses before commercial and other clubs to promote the discussion and extension of this industrial reform.

THE title of Tyndall's forthcoming book is "New Fragments." Among the subjects which are treated are The Sabbath, Life in the Alps, The Rainbow and its Congeners, Common Water, and Atoms, and Molecules, and Ether-Waves. In addition to the popular treatment of scientific themes, the author devotes several chapters to biographical studies. Among the subjects of these studies are Count Rumford and Thomas Young, and there are also chapters on Louis Pasteur, his Life and Labours, and Personal Recollections of Thomas Carlyle.

PROFESSOR A. C. COOK has edited Shelley's "Defence of Poetry," which is published by Messrs. Ginn and Company, uniform with Sir Philip Sidney's work on the same subject issued somewhat more than a year ago. The notes are fewer, but Thomas Love Peacock's essay on "The Four Ages of Poetry," which called forth Shelley's "Defence," is given entire. In the Introduction, Professor Cook makes a comparative study of the views of Shelley and Sidney, discusses Shelley's literary style, and considers the question of the relative value of inspiration and labour as factors in poetic creation.

THE *Halifax Mercury* has inserted a new and extremely happy feature in its columns, namely a page devoted to the higher aspects of the humanities: a literary miscellany embracing criticism, comment, poems (usually those of Canadian production), light and interesting narratives and descriptions—in short a fragrant *pot-pourri* very pleasant to the busy man who, in addition to the politics and news which a newspaper supplies, is glad to devote "A Quiet Hour" (as this page is entitled) to reading matter of a more æsthetic description. Such a page ought to—and no doubt does—find many admirers, especially as it is uncommonly well edited.

Books in elucidation of Browning continue to fall from the press, and distinguished among the rest is a really excellent, if late-born, "Primer" (Macmillan). The author, F. Mary Wilson, confines the introductory portion to a short sketch of Browning's life, and a somewhat longer one of his genius, more remarkable for frankness than for originality; the remainder, that is to say, four-fifths of the volume, is occupied with introductions to the separate poems, in which each is described and its relation to the philosophy of Browning, as understood by her, is set forth. The volume is the result of careful study, and unites with an admirable simplicity a very welcome freedom from obtrusive hero-worship.

"It is supposed by unthinking people that all that is wanted is a mere collection of current literature for the use of the common people. Those who reason thus mistake the object and purpose of a great library. The successful study of any subject requires access to collections far beyond the reach of persons in ordinary circumstances, and which few, excepting public libraries, could be expected to possess. Education is the great problem of the day. A great library furnishes the arms and weapons wielded by the educator, without which he would be powerless. The clergy, the teachers, the scholars, the students in every branch of knowledge, the artists—here find the materials which they work up into forms of usefulness and benefit to society."—*Sir James Picton, from his son's "Biography."*

PROFESSOR ROGER B. JOHNSON, of Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, contributes a long and appreciative review of Professor J. Mark Baldwin's second volume of the "Handbook of Psychology," that devoted to Feeling and Will, to *Science* (New York), in the number for January 29. "The promise made by Professor Baldwin in the preface to his first 'Handbook,'" he says, "has been fulfilled. The expectation aroused by this promise has perhaps been more than gratified, since in the 'Psychology of Feeling and Will' we have the same rigorous scientific treatment which characterized the former volume, applied to subject matter which, for reasons now known to be suicidal, has been worked over for college text-books with far less care and satisfaction than the strictly intellectual operations. It must be a source of congratulation to teachers of psychology to know that we are now having given us year by year psychologies which deal with the stubborn complexities of mind from a standpoint that bids fair to give us soon, if it has not done so already, a veritable 'New Psychology.' . . . To read Baldwin's chapters on the will (for these were well worth the space of a separate review), is to feel that a mind of admirable scientific temper has been at work throughout. Approaching the phenomena of mind from the naturalist's point of view, he has guarded against the tendency, all too common in these days, of trying to drive the principle of physical causality through a multitude of facts, naturally and philosophically recalcitrant to such treatment. The great lesson of his two volumes is, that in psychology the application of scientific methods and canons to mental phenomena affords no results which a cautious metaphysic may interpret as casting discredit on spiritualism in philosophy."