

any magazine. Bliss Carman has a characteristic poem entitled, "The Green Dancers," but the two most charming parts of the magazine are "Midsummer—eight illustrations in color," by Henry McCarter, and "How Granny Reads Her Omar," by Mary Young.

Mrs Rorer, for good reasons, is gradually reducing our menu card. In the August *Ladies Home Journal* there appears an article by her entitled "Why I Am Opposed to Pies." Many people will be inclined to reserve the pies in spite of it. But at the same time Mrs. Rorer expresses a sadly over-looked principle in cooking when she says that forms of preparing food that increase labor and do not increase the usefulness of the food in any way should not be encouraged. "Grandmother Winslow's Precious Plates," by Joseph Blethen, and "My Summer with Some Chipmunks," by Alaric Stone, are two of the most interesting contributions in the August number of this magazine.

"Queen Log and Queen Stork" is a charming story for older girls, by Susan Coolidge, published in the August number of *St. Nicholas*. A story of boys to keep the balance even, is written by Reginald Gourlay—"The Lucky Lieutenant." There are two extremely interesting articles in this holiday number of *St. Nicholas*: the first called "The Greatest Explosion of Historic Times," is an account by Dr. Murray-Aaron of the great eruption of Krahutua in 1883; the other is "Some Literary Cats," by Miss Helen Winslow. The article is made up of extracts from a book recently published written by Miss Winslow and entitled "Concerring Cats."

Among the many books that have been issued by *The Copp, Clark*

*Company* during the spring and summer, Mr. Winston Spencer Churchill's "London to Ladysmith," and Mr. James Lane Allen's "The Reign of Law," hold a deservedly popular place. Mr. Churchill's book is esteemed by many the most interesting book on the war that has so far appeared. His escape from Pretoria is the most exciting episode in the book, but it does not by any means render the remainder uninteresting by contrast.

Mr. Allen's work has lately become exceedingly popular in Great Britain, where his books are regarded as being amongst the strongest from across the sea. "The Reign of Law," which has for a second descriptive title, "A Tale of the Kentucky Hemp Fields," is appearing in England, under the name of "The Increasing Purpose," which might almost be preferred to the name in use on this side. The story itself is an example of the reviving interest in mental problems as opposed to the plots of circumstance. The illustrations are unusually attractive.

Among the stories issued by the same firm which are sure to become more popular as the year advances are "The Kings of the East," by Sydney Grier, and "The Bath Comedy," by Agnes and Egerton Castle. The first is a long story, "a story of the near future," to quote from the title page which will serve to keep the reader interested for a longer time than goes to the reading of the average novel. "The Bath Comedy" is as light, as gay and pretty a story as "The Pride of Jennico," was, or "Young April." That is sufficient to ensure it a wide popularity.

It is not every novelist who can venture on a volume of short stories but Mr. Rider Haggard can do so safely. "Black Heart and White