

Magazines.

The article on Arthur Henry Hallam, by Mr. Gladstone, in the New Year's number of *The Companion*, is one of the most fascinating literary papers ever written by the great English statesman. It carries one back to a past full of charm. The remainder of this number abounds in interest. There is the beginning of a new serial story by C. A. Stephens, a good story of a reporter's interview with the late Emperor Dom Pedro of Brazil, several other short stories of exceptional merit, and the usual rare selections of miscellany.

Leslie's Popular Monthly.

An important and interesting article on Mexico occupies the leading place in *Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly* for January. It is written by Frederick Stone Daniel, and treats in an entertaining manner of the country's history, and the character and occupations of the people. There are many excellent illustrations. Other illustrated papers are "Beet Sugar Culture in California," by Frederick M. Turner; "The Lance in the German Army," "New Year's Day Festivities," "A Probable Giorgione," and "San Carlos Indians." There is an interesting instalment of the serial, "The Catspaw," which appears to be drawing to a close; several short stories, contributed by J. Frederick Thorne, Eleanor C. Scott and others; a number of really good poems, and the always attractive young folk's department.—Frank Leslie's Publishing House, New York.

A Companion for All Ages.

A gentleman who used to read the *Youth's Companion* when a boy, and reads it with the same interest now that he is a middle-aged man, was asked the other day if he had not outgrown the *Companion*. "I don't believe," said he, "that I can ever outgrow it. I find in it not only the cheery, hopeful spirit of youth, but the wisdom and experience of age. I like it just as much as when I was a boy, though perhaps in a different way. But I know that it is the same *Youth's Companion* with which I grew up, for my boys and girls like it as well as ever I did. It is a good paper to grow up with."

The *Youth's Companion* will contain the best thought of the best thinkers of

America and Europe during 1898. It will print serial and short stories of absorbing interest, and true tales of adventure. The various departments of the paper will be a current record of the best work that is being done in the world. Present readers of the *Companion* who renew their subscriptions, and all new subscribers, will receive free a beautiful illustrated calendar, printed in twelve colors, and embossed in gold. It is the richest and costliest calendar ever sent to *Companion* subscribers. New subscribers will receive the *Companion* every week from the time the subscription is received until January, 1898, and then for a full year to January, 1899.

An illustrated prospectus of the *Companion* for 1898 may be had by addressing Perry Mason and Company, 205 Columbus Avenue, Boston, Mass.

The Ladies' Home Journal for 1898.

To make *The Ladies' Home Journal* for 1898 "the best of all the years; the most cheerful and helpful magazine that a woman can possibly have in her home," is the purpose of its editors, as disclosed by a prospectus outlining a few of the projected features for the coming year. While the *Journal* will be more useful and practical than ever before, it is made apparent that its literary features will be strengthened, and that pictorially it will be more attractive and artistic than ever.

A notable feature, "The Inner Experiences of a Cabinet Member's Wife," a series of letters from the wife of a Cabinet member to her sister, will, it is said, reveal some startling and graphic pen-pictures of Washington social and official life. They are so realistic that the letters will be published anonymously and are likely to attract national attention. The biographies of President McKinley, Mrs. Cleveland, Mark Twain, Thomas A. Edison and Joseph Jefferson will be presented in a novel way by a series of anecdotes, giving the vital characteristics of each. Rev. John Watson, D. D. ("Ian Maclaren"), will contribute a series of articles on matters close to the interest of every man and woman; Edward W. Bok will have a special page for young men, in addition to his usual editorial discussions; Lillian Bell will continue her bright, crisp letters from European capitals; Mrs. Burton Harrison will describe society at the beginning of the century; and ex-President Harrison is to write on "The Flag in the Home."

Two fiction issues, in all over thirty short stories, are promised during the year. The stories will be by Mark Twain, F. Marion Crawford, Hamlin Garland, Mary E. Wilkins, Julia Magruder, Clara Morris, Mrs. A. D. L. Whitney, and other well-known authors.

The musical announcements for next year include Sousa's latest composition, "The Lady of the White House," dedicated by special permission to Mrs. McKinley, sacred songs and hymns by Fanny Crosby, the blind hymn writer, Ira D. Sankey, and others quite as prominent in their respective fields.

"Inside of a Hundred Homes" will be continued and supplemented by other articles upon fitting, furnishing and beautifying the home, and in addition to the *Journal's* "Moderate Cost Houses," churches, schools, farm buildings, etc., will be given, with detailed plans and specifications.

Mrs. S. T. Rorer, it is announced, will continue to write exclusively for the *Journal*. In addition to her "Cooking Lessons" she will write of foods, their value and their healthfulness. Special articles for children—young and middle grown—on needlework, fashions, home entertainments, church work, etc., are all promised. This is but a passing glance at the 1898 *Ladies' Home Journal*, which is aimed to meet the literary and practical needs of every member of the household. By The Curtis Publishing Company, Philadelphia. Ten cents per copy; one dollar per year.

Iodovasal.

Iodovasal is introduced as a stable iodised ointment basis. It is prepared by treating an excess of oleic acid with iodine chloride, washing the resulting oily liquid first with water, then with dilute solution of sodium thiosulphate, finally drying with anhydrous sodium sulphate, and mixing with a prescribed quantity of vaseline. A little absolute alcohol is then added and the mixture treated with a stream of ammonia gas until the oleic acid is saturated. The resulting brown liquid contains seven per cent. of iodine. It is very hygroscopic, and should, therefore, be kept in well-closed vessels. *Phar. Zeit., (Ph. J.)*

Messrs. E. D. and J. S. Cohen, of Cohen Bros., manufacturing opticians, have just returned from a two weeks' trip among the optical houses of the east. They report optics as booming in the United States, and state their arrangements for '98 will ensure the same condition among the Canadian trade.