

Miscellaneous

THERE IS ROOM AND WORK FOR ALL.

BY E. A. BROWNE.

Somewhere, in some dusky corner
Of the poet's busy brain,
With a ceaseless, measured music,
Beats an old and wise refrain :
" Though a million eager claimants
Crowd the rank of Duty's call,
Hold your chosen place, undaunted—
" There is room and work for all ! "

If, amid the stress and tumult
Of the surging conflict, Life,
Footsteps flag, and hands grow weary
Of the rude, unequal strife :
If the strong and selfish seeking,
Crowd the weaker to the wall,
Hold your rightful place undaunted—
" There is room and work for all ! "

Oft the earnest striver, toiling,
With the heavy load of care
Crushes heart and hope and courage
To the black erge of despair
Lifts again the irksome burden
That her tired hands let fall,
Nerved anew by the assurance :
" There is room and work for all ! "

Ye who miss the chosen pathway,
Still with patient diligence
Seek some field, however lowly—
Earn a worthy recompense.
Do not fold your hands, desponding,
Lo ! the writing on the wall
Was not meant for drones and idlers—
" There is room and work for all ! "

When you strive with earnest purpose,
When you build with careful skill,
And the ruthless demon, Failure,
Thwarts your honest efforts, still
Try again : sincere endeavor
Wins reward, however small ;
While industry holds the balance :
" There is room and work for all ! "

" Luck " may set her face against you—
Fickle Fortune prove unkind—
But however the fates may use you,
Keep this maxim in your mind :
Till the heavens are rolled together,
And the world's foundations fall,
There is a place for honest labor !
" There is room and work for all ! "

HOW WHITTIER BECAME AN EDITOR.

Whittier, the poet, is reported as saying to an interviewer recently : " Trifles sometimes have an important bearing on one's life. A copy of the *Hartford Review* fell under my eye, and I determined to send its editor, George D. Prentice, a few poems, which he kindly published. My contributions continued, and when he resigned in order to live in Louisville, where he made for himself a reputation as one of the most brilliant journalists, as well as pungent and witty paragraphists in America, he advised the publisher to send for me to take his place. I was out in the corn field hoeing when the letter came to me inviting me to take editorial charge of the paper. I could not have been more surprised if I had been offered the crown of England. What education, what experience had I for such a task ! I knew little of

men and things or books. I was singularly deficient in knowledge of the affairs of the day. And yet the task, formidable as it seemed to me, was worth attempting. So I accepted the trust. I had much to learn, but I set myself resolutely to till the position, and I succeeded, after hard work and patient study, in making the paper acceptable to its readers.

WHEN THE YEAR BEGINS.

The year never begins at 12 midnight, of December 31st. The good people who go to church, watching for the new year to commence, when the midnight hour strikes, do a good thing religiously, but they might as well wait till morning, or till noon of January 1st, and would be just as nearly right. The new year may commence anywhere between midnight of December 31st, and midnight of January 1st. The year contains 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, 57 seconds and a fraction. Hence, if it should commence exactly at midnight, in any given year, it would commence the following year at 11 minutes of 6 a.m., the following year at 22 minutes of 12 noon, the next year at about half past 5 p.m., and never in a million years, or even a cycle of ages, would the year commence again at 12 midnight.—*National Educator*.

Literary Review.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE. The number of *The Living Age* for the week ending January 10th contains men of Letters on Themselves, *Fortnightly Review* : Life in a Druse Village, by Laurence Oliphant, *Blackwood* ; Boroughdale of Boroughdale, *Macmillan* ; Under a Green Bough, *Blackwood* ; Wurzburg and Vienna—Scraps from a Diary, *Contemporary Review* ; Dorothy, an Interlude, *Blackwood* ; General Gorgey, *Saturday Review* ; and the usual amount of choice poetry, including "Compromise" by Lord Tennyson.

This is the second number of the new volume. For fifty-two numbers of sixty-four large pages each (or more than 3,300 pages a year) the subscription price (\$9) is low ; while for \$10.50 the publishers offer to send any one of the American \$400 monthlies or weeklies with *The Living Age* for a year, both postpaid. Littell & Co., Boston, are the publishers.

The editors of *The Youth's Companion* seem to have put their fingers on the pulse of every boy and girl of healthy tastes and instincts in America. *The Companion* is full every week of interesting stories with a thoroughly wholesome influence, tales of adventure, articles that entertain and instruct at the same time, and most carefully selected miscellany. It is a weekly treasury of good reading, and is already read and prized in 325,000 families. The price is only \$1.75 a year, and the publishers Perry Mason & Co., Boston, offer for that sum to send *The Companion* free from the time the subscription is received until January, 1886.

We are glad to learn that *The Week*, Canada's leading literary paper, is achieving the success the enterprise of its publisher so well merits. Taken all in all *The Week* would stand high amongst its class anywhere. Its columns are well filled with editorial and contributed matter, and enriched from number to number by the productions of some of the ablest and most graceful pens of which the English literature of the day can boast.

The Chicago Current deserves success and seems to be winning it. Though it has only just reached the close of its second volume it has gained widespread reputation and influence. The paper is certainly an ornament to Western Journalism. It has we believe a very large circulation in Canada, and means to keep it if we may judge from the welcome given in its columns to Canadian writers.

The *North American Review* for February is to hand with the following attractive Table of Contents.

- I. HOW SHALL THE PRESIDENT BE ELECTED? President F. A. P. Barnard, William Parcell, Senator H. L. Daines, Roger A. Pryor, Senator L. B. Vance.
- II. HOLMES'S LIFE OF EMERSON, George Bancroft.
- III. NEW DEPARTURE IN EDUCATION, Prof. G. Stanley Hill.
- IV. THE CERTAINTY OF ENDLESS PUNISHMENT, Rev. A. G. T. Shedd.
- V. THEORIES REGARDING THE SUN'S CORONA, Prof. C. A. Young.
- VI. SHALL CLERGYMEN BE POLITICIANS? Rev. Dr. H. J. Van Dyke jr. Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.