

Literary Notes.

The Council of University College, London, have appointed Mr. Augustine Birrell, Q.C., M.P., Quain Professor of Law in succession to Mr. Thomas Raleigh.

The Queen has approved of Sir Hercules Robinson, Bart., G.C.M.G., taking the title, on his elevation to the Peerage, of Baron Rosmead, in the County of Westmeath, and of Tafelberg, in South Africa.

Chapman & Hall will commence in October the issue of their Centenary Edition of the works of Carlyle, which will be complete in thirty large octavo volumes, and will be based upon the text of the last edition revised by the author.

We beg to apologize to Miss Constance Fairbanks for having inadvertently printed "Boston Athenæum" instead of "St. Johnsbury Athenæum," in her interesting article, "Notes by the Way," which appeared in THE WEEK of the 14th August.

Octave Uzanne has published "Physiologie des Quais de Paris," a collection of curious lore about the old bookstalls and the people who hunt them along the Paris banks of the Seine—a delightful place to wander, as every book-loving visitor to the French capital knows.

The leading article in The Critic of August 22nd is as striking as one might expect it to be from its unusual heading—"Hullabaloo." It is a story of the convention as "the billboard of modern thought," on which are advertised our noble desires or posted our national sins. The recent episode at Chicago is taken as a text. The article is full of pungent truths, forcibly and effectively expressed. There is a letter from Andrew Lang, a string of bantering verses on the water-cure fad ("The Barefoot Brigade") and a number of little pictures illustrating Burns's birthplace and favourite resorts.

Tolstoi recently told a French interviewer that "Alphonse Daudet has a certain talent; Paul Bourget is a brilliant essayist, but a poor novelist, his head being too crammed with facts; Marcel Prévost is worth more than his books, which are 'inqualifiables.' Guy de Maupassant knew how to see and tell what he had seen. His style was as pure as a precious metal. He was miles ahead of Flaubert, Zola and everybody. Zola is a diligent and plodding writer. I liked his 'Germinal,' and 'La Terre' is a novel of pleasant humanity. As for 'Lourdes,' I stopped at the hundredth page, and 'Rome' I never opened."

It is announced that the publishers of the old standard eclectic weekly, "Littell's Living Age," founded by E. Littell in 1844, are about to introduce several new and valuable features in their magazine. The most important of these is a Monthly Supplement, given without additional cost to the subscribers, which will contain readings from American Magazines, Readings from New Books, and also a list of Books of the Month. It is also proposed to extend their field by giving occasional translations of noteworthy articles from the French, German, Spanish and Italian reviews and magazines.

Mr. Dykes Campbell's well-known "Life of Coleridge" is about to be re-issued by the Macmillan Co., with a memoir of the author by his friend Mr. Leslie Stephen, who tries, in his own words, "to show why Campbell's premature death has not only been regretted by lovers of literature, but brought sorrow to a very wide circle of personal friends." Of the "Life" itself, Mr. Stephen takes occasion to say that it was "a remarkable contribution to the history of English literature," and "for the first time fixed many dates and facts, cleared up misunderstandings and unravelled tangled passages for the benefit of all future students." In his early life Mr. Campbell was for a year or two, a resident of Toronto, and carried on business in a store on Wellington Street East. By several old Torontonians he is lovingly remembered, and his decease sincerely regretted.

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