

"Too much of a good thing is good for nothing," and so, to take away the too strong flavour of sermons, let us turn to Oliver Wendell Holmes and dip into his latest, perhaps indeed his last, contribution to American literature. This time it is *Over the Teacups*.^{*} Many years ago we made the acquaintance of the author at a certain "Breakfast Table." He was then a comparatively young man. Morning and mid-day have passed. It is late in the day now and the slant rays of the evening sun strike in through the window and light up the room with a touch of melancholy glory. The lights and shadows are different, but the dear old man that made the breakfast table of long ago a joy and gladness is still the same. The tea-table is not the breakfast-table, and the teacups are not so capacious and exhilarating as the old fashioned cups of morning coffee; but bless your heart we are not the same ourselves. Our tastes have changed; and much as we enjoyed the toast and coffee of the morning, we sit down in the evening with a satisfaction then unknown. We are not in a hurry. Business is over. Let us sit longer to-night, *Over The Teacups*. Aye, man, but its good to have a young heart in an old body.

You see how this wizard has still his charming power. Even the Shelf, stiff old knotty board that it is, yields to his genial influence. Holmes has crossed the time-limit but his right hand has lost none of its cunning. If you have read the "Autocrat," the "Poet" and the "Professor," do not miss this most delightful book of the season, "*Over the Teacups*."

Here and Away is being crowded out into the cold world, but before it goes it would call attention to a series of important articles. The "Great Missionary Series," the full announcement of which is made elsewhere in this number, will be a stong feature of the MONTHLY during 1891. These articles will be welcomed by hundreds and, if deserved attention is directed to them, by thousands who are desirous of studying the history of the missionary efforts of our Church. The different writers have given special attention to the Missions of which they write and are pledged to do their best. The MONTHLY feels warranted in promising a most valuable series of articles and requests friends everywhere to assist in making this announcement more widely known.

Since the Announcement was printed fuller arrangements have been made. The sketch of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society will be written by Mrs. D. J. Macdonnell, Toronto, instead of Mrs. Ewart, whose name, by an oversight, appears in the list. The Rev. Alex. Falconer, Pictou, N.S., who spent several years in Trinidad and has always taken a great interest in the work there, will contribute a sketch of the West Indies Mission. The history of the Home Mission work in the Maritime Provinces will be sketched by the Rev. John McMillen, B.D., Halifax, N.S., than whom no man can write with more accurate knowledge. A few other changes may be made which will render the series still more complete and valuable.

^{*}Over the Teacups. By Oliver Wendell Holmes. Boston. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Toronto: Williamson & Co., 1891.