

tures by Messrs. Harington Bird, Raphael, Walker, and other leading artists, and the number also contains the Carnival Poem, appropriately illustrated, for which a prize of \$100 has been paid, and a special Supplement representing the various athletic clubs and their leading men.

THE *Century* for February possesses unusual attractions from a Canadian point of view, as it contains a paper on "Canada as a Winter Resort," by W. George Beers. The paper is charmingly written and illustrated in the *Century's* usual profuse style. Entertaining as the contribution is we trust it will not further spread the erroneous opinions which exist in other countries in regard to the climate of Canada. Mr. Beers likewise commits some grave errors in regard to fact and detail. The article on Oliver Wendell Holmes is a thoughtful and just estimate of the writer and his work. The fiction in the number is liberal and of excellent character, Mr. Howells and Mr. James being the principal contributors. Another instalment of the "war" articles, together with Mark Twain's amusing sketch, add to a very readable number. Many of the illustrations are especially beautiful.

WE are indebted to the Hon. John Eaton, United States Commissioner of Education, for the preliminary programme of the International Congress of Educators, to be held at New Orleans, on February 23rd to 28th. The Honorary President is President Arthur, and the Deputy Minister of Education, J. George Hodgins, LL.D., is Honorary Secretary. Sections are to be formed under the following names:—A.—Elementary Education. B.—Secondary Instruction. C.—Superior Instruction. D.—Instruction of the Defective, Dependent, and Delinquent Classes. E.—Architecture and Hygiene of Buildings for Instruction, Libraries, and

Museums. Among the names of the officers of these sections occur the following:—J. G. Fitch, H. M. Inspector of Schools, London, England; Philip Magnus, President London City Guild Schools, London; President Porter, of Yale College; Professor A. Graham Bell, of Washington; F. Buisson, Inspector-General of Elementary Education, Paris, France; H. E. Kuki Riuchi, Japanese Minister, Washington. Such a congress can hardly fail to be a great event in the history of education in America.

THE *Atlantic* monthly for February is an excellent number. The second instalment of a novel entitled, "A Marsh Island," by Sarah Orne Jewett, is given the place of honour. The story moves well and is full of incident. "Winter Birds about Boston," by Bradford Torrey, shows great observation, and the real interest displayed in these tireless visitors is greatly enhanced by the charming style of the writer. "A Sheaf of Sonnets," by Helen Gray Cone, contains some pretty verses, as indeed does the number generally one of the chief characteristics of the *Atlantic*. "Mr. Parkman's Montcalm and Wolfe" is a review of one of the most notable books of the past year. The reviewer is, however, in fault when he imagines that Mr. Parkman's work "becomes one of dignity and consequence only when it is taken as a constituent part of the history of great movements in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and especially when it is considered with reference to the genesis of the United States." The work which Wolfe effected was of far greater moment to Canada as she now is than it ever was to the United States, and it is highly probable that were it not for his untimely end the United States would be now enjoying the healthful influences symbolized by the "red cross" flag. The number throughout is an excellent one and shows the scholarly hand of its editor.

CORRESPONDENCE.

HIGH SCHOOL CHANGES.

To Editor of EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY:—

DEAR SIR,—We have reason to believe from the utterances of the Hon. the Minister of Education in the Legislative Assembly last session, as well as from the answers given to certain deputations that have waited upon him during the year, that we may

shortly expect the introduction of an Education Bill, amending in some important points the present Act. I am sure, sir, it is a matter of much regret to the friends and well-wishers of education in this Province, that we should have so many periodical fits of legislative patch-work in education. We do not mean to imply that our legislators should be unprogressive or stationary in this—one