

NOTES ON CURRENT LITERATURE.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS since the commencement of the year has given a very large amount of interesting illustration. We find a fine double page portrait of the late Robt Browning, well worth a good frame. A pretty, full page picture is "Stirring the Christmas Pudding"; and two others not less so are "Off to See the Old Year Out" and "Left at Home to Fret and Pout". Another very pretty full page is "A Game of Speculation". An exceedingly touching one is "What's Left", the dozen faces of which form a sad and most suggestive study. "A Visit from an Old Friend" is very nice, "Angelica" is charming, and "The Influenza and Other Influences" is very good. There have been many illustrations, double page and smaller, of Lord Lonsdale's travels in the Arctic Regions of North America, and of Stanley's Emin Pasha Relief Expedition. The above named are but a few of the many good things of the past few weeks. In the number for January 18th is commenced a finely illustrated "Romance of To-day", "Armored of Lyonesse", by Walter Besant. Every number contains a store of illustrated and briefly described events, historical and others. It is easy to understand that the low priced American edition of this fine old weekly is superceding all other illustrated weeklies on this Continent.

THE CENTURY, midwinter (February) number, is notable among other things for the final instalment of the Lincoln biography. The chapters include the "Capture of Jefferson Davis," "The End of Rebellion," "Lincoln's Fame," and supplementary papers on the "Pursuit and Capture of Jefferson Davis," by General Wilson, who commanded the Union cavalry, and W. P. Stedman, who was an eye-witness. The publication of the artist La Farge's letters from Japan, with illustrations prepared by the author, is begun. Every paragraph is full of that extraordinary sense of color which has given him his fame as an artist. There are two timely papers on what Milton calls "The Realm of Congo." The first describes a trip made by the United States Commissioner, Tisdell, in 1884, and the second gives an idea of the Congo River of to-day. The latter is written by E. J. Glave, one of Stanley's former officers, who is mentioned several times in Stanley's last book. Professor Fisher, in the third paper of his series on "The Nature and Method of Revelation," describes the differentiating of Christianity and Judaism, and devotes a good deal of space to the work of

the Apostle Paul. Professor Fisher says that Paul "took a stand at Jerusalem like that which Luther took at Worms." He adds that "but for Paul there would have been no Luther."

IN ST. NICHOLAS for February the leading article is "The Story of the Great Storm at Samoa," retold by John P. Dunning, who was correspondent at Samoa for the Associated Press, when the great disaster occurred. It is richly illustrated. "A Wonderful Fair of Slippers" is a correspondence between Mark Twain and Elsie Leslie concerning a testimonial constructed for the little actress by Mr. Clemens and Mr. Gillette. The humor of the letters is not exceeded by the originality of the slippers. Another strong and well-illustrated paper is Walter Camp's football article, for which some unusually excellent instantaneous photographs have been reproduced. Prof. Charles G. D. Roberts, of New Brunswick, tells a historical story of the "United Empire Loyalists," called "A Blue-nose Vendetta," an interesting episode of history.

VICK'S FLORAL GUIDE for 1890 (James Vick, Rochester, N.Y.) in beauty of appearance and convenience of arrangement surpasses anything in this line which we have ever had the privilege of seeing before. Although called a "floral guide," it is devoted to vegetables as well, and includes a full list and description of both flowers, vegetables and small fruits. In all that the Vicks have undertaken their aim seems to have been to attain as near to absolute perfection as possible. We have used many of Vick's seeds, flower and vegetable, successively for a number of years and they never fail. So we can confidently recommend them.

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