

## LITERARY NOTES.

The review of the world's doings which stands first among the departments in "Current Literature," (The Current Literature Publishing Company, West 29th Street, New York City), in the September number, devoted largely to the attack upon Mayor Gaynor, or the conflict between the Vatican and the more progressive elements in Spain, and to the several political movements that are now attracting attention in the republic to the South. The education of the new Prince of Wales is an article that will appeal particularly to Canadian readers.

The September number of that excellent publication, The Studio, can not fail to be satisfying to the lovers of art. There are numerous beautiful reproductions in colors of oil paintings and water color drawings. There are articles on Alfred Philippe Kroll, painter and sculptor, by Leopold Honore, 23 illustrations; A Glasgow Painter, by William Wells, R.B.A., 10 illustrations; Japanese Art and Artists of To-day, No. 1, by H. Shugio, 13 illustrations; the National Competition of Schools of Art, 1910, at South Kensington, by W. T. Whitlay, 33 illustrations. "Studio Talk" contains valuable notes by correspondents from nearly every capital in Europe.

"Blackwood" is never opened without finding in its pages much that is interesting and informing. The September number is no exception to this rule, containing as it does a dozen articles by able readers on a wide variety of subjects, as well as a dozen or more timely topics treated in a bright way under the heading: "Musings Without Method," and Chaps. XXV and XXVII of "Fancy Farm," the continued story, by Neil Munro. "The Committee to Promote National Self-Government for Scotland" is handed without gloves, and "Home Rule" for North Britain, which this committee is said to be aiming at, is denounced in terms that leave the reader in no doubt as to the writers' meaning.

The September fortnightly is particularly rich in political papers of present interest. In the article on imperial and foreign affairs, current topics, having reference to large questions such as Spain, Egypt have a "Constitution" by Felina Edgar, a name not unknown to Canadian readers; the British in Egypt, by Max Monteleone. In What Does India Want Politically? a native writer, Sami Nihal singh, says: "In the past five years the native of India has cast aside his abject, slavish state of mind. To-day the slogan of Hindostan no longer is 'Good Government.' The banner around which the Indians are gathering is 'Self Government.' Other articles are The Personality of America, An Old Time Colonial Secretary, Divorce for the Poor, Cardinal Rampoli, Motorists and the Roman Road, and a story, The Witness, by Violet Hunt. Leonard Scott Publication Co., New York, \$4.50 per year.

From Cassell and Company, 42 Adelaide street, Toronto, we have received the September Little Folks, The Girls' Realm and Cassell's—three popular magazines. Children will find the first full of attractive letter press illustrated by numerous engravings; the second furnishes for the young folks wholesome stories, choice poems, along with many helpful articles dealing with amusements, educational matters and suggestions on "Health and Beauty"—all profusely illustrated; while the third is so well known as to require no words of commendation. This number of Cassell's is rich in short stories of more than average merit, Katharine Tyman, J. J. Bell, and Eleanor M. Ingraham being among the writers. The Girl With the Red Hair, a striking serial by Max Pemberton, is completed. The illustrations are numerous and well done. The current issue of another favorite publication of Cassell's—the Quiver—has not yet come to hand. When it does we shall have a word to say about it. It is safe to take into your homes any of the publications of Cassell's; and their Toronto office renders it easy to reach them.

The mere mention of the items in The Nineteenth Century's table of contents for September will furnish some idea of its attractiveness to the man in search of solid mental pabulum: Free Trade in its Relations to Peace and War, The Blight of the Land Taxes, Canada Growing, the Problem of Army Remounts, Middle Class of Two Hundred Years Ago, The Diary of Mrs. Gaskell, Heredity as the Direct Action of Environment, Sedan—and the Human Aspect of War: a Recollection, Towards Educational Peace, the Genius of Gibbon —1. Gibbon the Man, Folk-Lore in Word-Lore and the Librarian Problem. New York: Leonard Scott Publication Company, \$4.50 per year.

Mind and Voice; Principles and Methods in Vocal Training, by S. S. Curry, Ph.D., Litt.D., President of the school of Expression, Boston. To any one aiming at correctness in public speaking and the proper use of the voice we commend this book of nearly 500 pages. The hints given will be found suggestive and helpful. Of the author Dr. Matthews of the Chicago University says: More than any man of recent years Dr. Curry has represented sane and scientific methods in the training of the speaking voice. He has never been a teacher of young men and women who wished to declaim lunny pieces or who wished to be coaxed as to tears and gestures; he is in this regard, Yale, Boston University, Newton Theological Institution, and in his own school of Expression in Boston, he has educated preachers, public readers, and, above all, teachers. This is high praise, but we believe it to be well deserved. The book may be ordered from James Hope and Sons, Ottawa.

Dr. E. J. Dillon, in his usually bright and incisive style, tells the readers of the Contemporary of September how the fight between Spain and the Vatican goes on. In part he says: "How the real battle will be fought time will tell. On the side of the enterprising premier are the parliamentary majority, the army, the most influential press organs of the kingdom and several powerful and well-organized parties. On the opposite side stand the Episcopate, which is powerful and wealthy; the clergy, the monks and the friars whose influence over good, believing Catholics is enormous, the Conservative party, and Spanish women, of whom in religious matters it may still be said with some truth, 'C'est que femme veut, Dieu veut.' We are told that Cardinal Merry del Val has made serious tactical errors." Dr. Dillon continues: The Spanish Cardinal who advises Pope Pius X., has risked too much for too little. \* \* \* What in the interests of his cause he should have done was to grant far-reaching concessions to the Spanish Congress in the matter of the congregations, the treatment of "heretical sects" and other contentious matters still pending. That would have strengthened the hand of Senor Maura and given a new lease of power to the only political party with which the Vatican can hope to strike up a modus vivendi. \* \* \* The issues were so clear even to the undiplomatic, the adjustment of means to ends so simple and obvious that one cannot explain Cardinal Merry's policy by any theory that would harmonize with his claims to the name of possible statesman. Meanwhile the opposing forces face each other, and there is little sign of weakening on either side. The premier says clearly "Our aim is not anti-religious. It is merely to exercise the sovereignty inherent in every independent state. \* \* \* Why should the Vatican have it in its power to produce deep-reaching political convulsions among us? It is we ourselves who have hitherto conferred this power upon Rome. It shall be so no longer. This is a domestic matter, and I will treat it as such, and whoever desires the good of the nation will support me." Other articles of more than passing interest are High Churchmen and the Crisis in English Education, Nationalism in Ireland and Asia for the Japanese. The literary supplement contains reviews of a number of recent books. New York: Leonard Scott Publication Co., 218 Fulton street, \$4.50 per year.

## SPARKS FROM OTHER ANVILS.

Presbyterian Standard: God commands all men to repent. This command lies await every man's path. To make one step, to live one moment without it is disobedience. This fact carries solemn responsibility. Christians have enough to repent of daily. And if Christians are not in a penitent frame they justify impenitent sinners.

Presbyterian Witness: One of the greatest barriers to good city government is the influence of party politics. It is a common thing for a party to support an incompetent or inferior man rather than accept a superior man of a rival party. Until national and provincial politics are left out of our civic government, we cannot hope for much progress in this direction.

British Weekly: A tender-hearted man is, by that token, in touch with the Absolute and the Everlasting. Amid time's shadows and illusions, he has experience of the One enduring reality. He is united with that love which was in the beginning, and is now, and ever shall be. For God is love, and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

Presbyterian Witness: The utterances on the subject of temperance in the Roman Catholic Congress as well as in the Anglican Congress have been in sympathy with advanced legislation. This is very pleasing to hear. It is never a matter of indifference for us what brethren of other denominations believe and teach. The influence of the Roman Catholic church is deservedly great in this direction.

United Presbyterian: We should use our experience for the benefit of others. We live in fellowship, and should ever be ready to lend a helping hand. Often there is no way in which this can be better done than by giving to others that which we have suffered or grieved. Others are plodding along, seeking the way, stumbling and sometimes falling; it is true manhood to give them the benefit of our experience to indicate the right path and how to walk in it. In this there is the touch of life for which everyone is so grateful, and by which so many are saved.

Canadian Baptist: The inspired writers evidently firmly believed that when spiritual conditions are complied with, the needful material results will follow. They said "then shall the earth yield her increase." "I will open the windows of heaven," etc. If each believer and each church would begin each day's work in the spirit of the question asked by St. Paul: "Tarry, there would be a large increase of the reservoir of spiritual power, and there would be a prompt stopping of many of the leakages by which churches and individuals fritter their strength away.

Lutheran Observer: There is scarcely a community anywhere in which there is not enough decency to vanquish the evils that afflict it. But the task of cleansing it is left to the few. It is no more their duty than it is the duty of other citizens. The responsibility is one which they all alike share. The man who complaining that nothing is done, yet does nothing himself, is adding his part of a common burden to the load which is being carried by the little company of earnest people who are honestly trying to improve conditions. That is why so many reform movements fail. In the community, as in the home and in the congregation, each member most surely and effectively helps others by doing his own part well. He bears others' burdens by faithfully bearing his own.

Mrs. Alfred Sidgwick's "The Severns," which is now running serially in The Living Age, is of quite different quality and range of interest from "The Story of Hauksgarth Farm" which was recently completed in that magazine; but its vivacious portrayal of present-day social conditions and types in London, and its record of the vagaries of a rather Bohemian household make it extremely entertaining.