

from any word of this sort that I had only its irregular appearance during the past fall to judge by; Therefore, I was surprised to know how serious the fight, that you have been waging for so long, really was. My informant gave it as his opinion that if a fair proportion of your magazine's friends and well-wishers (and who among its readers is not both of these?) could understand the situation, appreciating the effort to popularise geography and its cognate sciences that you are making, they would promptly come to your aid with advance subscriptions, with the subscriptions of everyone they could interest in the magazine, and with free-will offerings of MSS suitable for your use.

"This idea struck me favorably as eminently practical. I cannot contribute to your pages, unless you see

fit to publish this as such (minus my name, please) but I can spare the enclosed, I wish I could spare more, and I hope to be able to scare up a dozen or so new subscribers for you among my acquaintances.

"These have been wretched times, but they will seem doubly wretched to many of us if the G. G. M. stops coming to our library tables. You owe it to us all to keep it going, if you possibly can; but we surely owe it to you to lend shoulders for the wheel. Here is mine; I only hope it may prove to be one of a thousand to join together in the good work!

"With the sincerest wishes that in some way my good intent may benefit you and that times may soon be better for us all, I am,

"Ever yours, geographically,"

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE.

St. Nicholas, always interesting, is a welcome visitor to anyone's library table. A new serial by Howard Pyle, and beautifully illustrated by the author, begins in the April number. Mrs. Jamieson, the author of the pretty stories "Lady Jane" and "Toinette's Philip" is the subject of a biographical sketch which is sure to be eagerly read by her thousands of young friends. The verse, the articles, and the smaller contributions, which go to make up the number are all up to the high standard of *St. Nicholas*.

The April *Eclectic* is a good number, containing several important papers, among which we notice Sir Robert Ball's "Significance of Carbon in the Universe," and Mr. W. S. Lilly's "Philosophy of Crime. A most interesting review by Sir Mount-

Stuart Duff, of the "Life and Letters of Arthur Stanley" also appears, and Professor Mallock's discussion of "Fabian Economics," in which the arguments of Socialists are carefully reviewed, is a valuable contribution.

Table Talk for this month opens with a sensible article on "The Effect of Competition upon the Terms of Domestic Service." Nine pages are then devoted to "'Housekeepers' Enquiries," and the remainder of the magazine contains recipes, hints, novelties, letters, etc. This is always a good magazine.

The April *Scribner's*, as usual, is beautifully illustrated by A. B. Frost and other artists. An impressive short story by Thomas Nelson Page is entitled "The Burial of the Guns," and the serials by Geo. W. Cable and W. H. Bishop are continued. Art