

was Flaubert. Though well-educated and very painstaking, he had no talent for writing novels. He had all the faults of Balzac, being even more immoral; his style was labored, he had no power of imagination and he left no work that really deserves fame. He developed the realism of Balzac into naturalism, a refined immodesty. Contemporaneous with Flaubert were two brothers, Edmond and Jules de Goncourt, the first of whom was the master of Zola. Exceedingly vain, they aimed at inventing a new and perfect style of writing, but they only succeeded in turning out one that irritates the reader. They tried to outdo Flaubert in naturalism and they succeeded, parading in their writings all the features of the Paris slums. The principle of the Master of Zola was, "In art, only the moral can be immoral," and indeed, neither of the brothers can be accused of writing anything that would create a moral impression. Such were the predecessors of Zola, a man whose talent as a writer is praised even by some who are ashamed to praise his works. By studying the master, we can get some idea of the pupil.

In the Christmas number of the *Delineator*, besides a large section devoted to fashions, we find a large quantity of literature which is very entertaining and, at the same time, useful, and the whole number is handsomely illustrated. These features, together with many other departments of special interest to women, make the *Delineator* a most useful home magazine.

As usual, the Christmas *Gael* is rendered very attractive by its large stock of entertaining Irish stories and well-written pieces of poetry. "The Brancher," "Co-operation," and a "Losing Game" are very readable pieces of fiction, and "Christmas Reminiscences," by Clock-Au-Cuine, are another feature of this number. "An English View of the Gaelic Movement," is an interesting article, but it asserts that there is small hope for the preservation of the Gaelic language. A special department in the magazine is given to Irish books and authors, and a short story, "The Horseless Carriage," is given both in Gaelic and English.

V. M. '04.