

## Literary Notes.

Mathuen & Co. will publish in their Colonial Library early in October, "Vailima Letters," by Robert Louis Stevenson. This very charming and important volume is being awaited with the keenest interest. It consists of a series of long journal letters written from Samoa to Mr. Sidney Colvin during the last five years. They form an autobiography of Mr. Stevenson during this period, giving a full account of his daily life and literary work and ambitions. Mr. Colvin has written a Prologue and Epilogue, and has added numerous notes. There are also several illustrations.

It is said that *The Century* has secured Mrs. Humphry Ward's new novel, the first chapters of which will appear in its January number. The story is still unfinished, but was, at last reports, within a few chapters of completion. It is about 100,000 words in length, and will run through twelve numbers. Mrs. Ward is not allowing much time to elapse between her latest books. "Marcella" will not have been published quite two years before the new one is begun, and in the meantime "The Story of Bessie Costrell" has appeared. The last story is a short one, 25,000 words or so.

"Dr. Vincent recently reported to the Academy of Sciences at Paris," says *Modern Medicine* (April), "the result of experiments for the purpose of determining the best disinfectants for rendering fecal matters innocuous. He required of each disinfectant that it should kill all pathogenic microbes, including the bacillus coli communis and the bacteria of putrefaction. His experiments showed that the best of all disinfecting agents for the destruction of fecal matters in vaults and cesspools is sulfate of copper employed in connection with one per cent. of sulfuric acid. The quantity of sulfate of copper required was one pound for every three cubic feet of fecal matter mixed with urine. Half this quantity was found sufficient to destroy the cholera bacillus. It was found necessary that the disinfectant should remain in contact with the infectious material for at least twelve hours.

Macmillan & Co. are about to publish two new volumes in their series of "Commercial Class-Books." *A Handbook of Marine Insurance*, by Mr. Wm. Gow, of Liverpool, and *A Handbook of Book-keeping*, by Mr. James Thornton, whose smaller books on the subject have been well received. Mr. Gow hopes that his book, which has grown out of a course of lectures delivered at University College, Liverpool, may satisfy the needs of beginners, and of those who may desire to obtain a general knowledge of the principles and practice of marine insurance. Macmillan & Co. have in preparation a Text-book of "General Pathology and Pathological Anatomy," by Professor Richard Thoma, of Dorpat. It is translated by Alexander Bruce, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S.E., Lecturer on Pathology, Surgeons' Hall, Edinburgh, Pathologist to the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Assistant Physician and formerly Pathologist to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

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Personal.

Attorney-General Clifford Sifton, of Manitoba, has been appointed a Queen's Counsel.

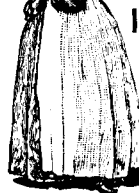
Lieut.-Governor Daly, of Nova Scotia, whose term of office expired on the first of this month, has been re-appointed for a second term.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell left Ottawa yesterday for the North-West to be present at the opening of the Territorial Exhibition at Regina next Monday.

The British Society of Authors has appointed Mr. Hall Caine a delegate to confer with the Canadian authorities and statesmen on the copyright question. He will sail for Canada in September. His utterances on the subject so far have been characterized by marked ignorance and insular prejudice. It is to be hoped that his visit to Ottawa will not be unproductive of good to the distinguished novelist.

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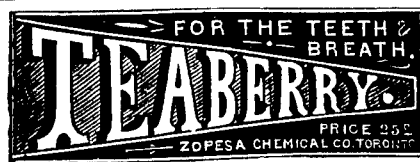
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Private T. H. Hayhurst, of the 13th Battalion, and the star marksman of Hamilton, has won the Queen's Prize at Bisley. It is an honour to Hayhurst, to Hamilton, and to the Dominion. The prize consists of the N. R. A. gold medal, the N. R. A. gold badge, and £250. He who wins this prize is considered the best marksman in the world, and his fame is noised abroad amongst all the nations.

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