

LITERARY NOTES.

EDMUND GOSSE lately said :—" Walt Whitman is a wonderful old man, so serene and lovely, so unaffected and beautiful, with his long white hair. You know his rhapsodies—for I must not call them poems—have always had a larger audience in England than with you."

JOHN G. SAXE, the poet, lives at Albany with his eldest and only remaining son. For more than a year past he has not left his bed-chamber, where he is confined by the sufferings of an accident received some years since. The poet receives no visitors, and no one is permitted to converse with him save his son and the faithful house-keeper who has been with him for a score of years.

ARISTOTLE gives a beautiful though not complete definition of poetry when he says: The historian and the poet differ, not because one writes in prose and the other in verse, but because the historian narrates what has happened, and the poet writes of that which can or should happen. Poetry is therefore more grave and moral than history, because it treats of generalities, while history relates particular facts.

JULIAN HAWTHORNE is an athlete and a sportsman, fond of long walks and out-doors. He talks in low tones, both on the lyceum platform and off of it. "His manners," says the *Portland Transcript*, "are private and reserved, without shyness or affectation. He is about five feet eleven inches high, and weighs about one hundred and seventy-five pounds. His friends say that he can prepare more 'copy,' and feel less tired over it, than any other American author."

M. DARYLL, the French critic, expresses the following opinion of Anthony Trollope: "A good father, a good husband, a good post-office official, a great fox hunter, and, moreover, a man of letters. He does not leave behind him the name of a great author, but that of a man who succeeded in the business of