



STEAM TRAM-CAR, SYDNEY, N.S.W.

Through the Magazines

THE NEW ENGLAND MAGAZINE.

The September number of this magazine leads off with a very interesting article on "The Brass Cannon of Campobello," by Mrs. Kate Gannett Wells. The description of the quaint old-fashioned life led on the island by its former owners is very interesting; and the account of the recent visit of the descendant of the reigning family to the island is charmingly told and with much pathos. Several illustrations accompany the article, one of which is a portrait of the old Admiral who ruled the island for so many years. Another article of special interest to Canadians is that by Dr. Prosper Bender on "The French Canadian Peasantry"; it is a clever, well-written paper, and many of his sketches are true to the life. Unfortunately, the writer's reputation as an Annexationist detracts materially from the merits of his writings; and in the article under notice his sentiments on this exhausted topic have again found expression. The comparisons employed are misleading, and not a few statements are inaccurate. "Edward Burgess and his Work" is a timely paper on a man who has done much to further the interests of yachting in America. Space does not permit us to mention all the attractions of this number; they are many. An excellent illustrated sketch of the University of California calls for special attention. Boston; New England Magazine Corporation.

THE POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY.

Carroll D. Wright, U. S. Commissioner of Labour, opens the October *Popular Science Monthly* with the first of a series of "Lessons from the Census," in which he traces the growth of the census, and shows that it has come to be a somewhat unwieldy instrument. Mr. W. F. Durfee, in the series on American Industries, gives the history of

"The Manufacture of Steel," from colonial times to the introduction of the Bessemer process. Under the title "Metamorphoses in Education," Prof. A. E. Dolbear traces the necessary connection between the new character which human life has taken on and the rise of scientific education. In "Exercise for Elderly People," Dr. Fernand Lagrange tells what sort of exertion should be chosen and what avoided by persons who have passed their prime. "Life on an Ostrich Farm" is described in a very bright and instructive way, with several helpful pictures. The second paper of Prof. Frederick Starr's notable series on "Dress and Adornment" is in this number. Lieutenant-Colonel A. B. Ellis, writing on "Polyandry," shows how the former existence of this practice is indicated by the prevalence of marital customs that grow out of it. G. Maspero tells what has been learned, from mummies, paintings and inscriptions, about "The Dogs of Ancient Egypt." There is a pleasant and very seasonable article on spiders—"The Spinning Sisterhood," as they are called by the writer, Mrs. Olive Thorne Miller. M. Pierre Bonnier treats of "Hearing in the Lower Animals, and there are a sketch and portrait of John Winthrop, one of the ablest among the Harvard professors in the times just before the Revolution. In the Editor's Table are an examination of Herbert Spencer's latest book, on Justice, and a sketch of the work done in the School of Applied Ethics, at Plymouth, during the past summer. New York: D. Appleton & Company.

BIBLE LANDS.

We have received from the Rev. Dr. Withrow, Toronto, a copy of the Illustrated Programme of his Excursion to Egypt and Palestine. We understand that it will be sent free to any address on request.

OUTING.

The nineteenth volume of *Outing* opens with the October issue, and never has a finer number left the presses. If the standard of the coming volume is to be gauged by the initial number, readers of this excellent magazine have a rare treat in store for them, for such number and beauty of illustrations and wealth of interesting reading are seldom

found between two covers. The contents are: "Saddl and Sentiment," by Wenona Gilman; "Harry's Career at Yale" (continued), by John Seymour Wood; "Field Trial Winners in 1890," by Edwin H. Morris; "Deer Stalking in the Indian Territory," by Francis J. Hagan; "A Study in Black," by Clarence B. Moore; "Yacht Clubs of the East," by Capt. A. J. Kenealy; "Mississippi National Guard," by Lieut. R. K. Evans, U.S.A.; "Goose Shooting in the Sacramento Valley," by "Parson"; "The Rose Tree Hunt Club," by Alfred Stoddart; "Ripples and Paddle Flashes," by E. Pauline Johnson; "How We Ride Our Wheels," by Grace E. Denison; "The Running Broad Jump," by Malcolm W. Ford; "Horseback Sketches," by Jessie F. O'Donnell; "Mackerel and Mackerel Seines," by Jno. Z. Rogers; "The Last Wild Horse of the Kanab Desert," by "Honda"; "Obeying the Poet," by Marion Hill; "Early Morning on the Prairie," by E. Bernard Foote; "Recent Football at Harvard," by "A. Longdrop"; "Upper Peninsula Runways," by Ed. W. Sandys, and the usual editorials, poems and records by the standard writers on sport, etc. New York: The *Outing* Co.

NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW.

The element of timeliness is predominant in the first three articles in the October *North American Review*. The first of them (in two parts) deals with that most interesting question, "Can We Make It Rain?" An affirmative answer is furnished by General Robert G. Dyrenforth, who had charge of the recent rain-making experiments in Texas. He describes in detail what was done there, pronounces the experiments a success, and concludes that the making of rain by explosions of powder and dynamite is practicable and not excessively expensive. The negative side is strongly put by Professor Simon Newcomb, who contends that sound can produce no changes in the atmosphere or clouds and can have no influence in causing rain. The cause and progress of the civil war in Chili are described by Captain José Ma. Santa Cruz, late commander of the Chilean man-of-war *Huascar*, who has been in this country as a representative of the now successful con-