

mathematics useful to be known." Whether it is a problem in pedagogy or cube root, the author is equally clear and direct: "Teaching which is not fresh and lively is harmful;" "Wearisome over-practice and iteration and needlessly long sums should be avoided;" "Even influential persons occasionally speak of mathematics as 'that study which knows nothing of observation, nothing of induction, nothing of experiment,—a ghastly but prevalent error which has ruined more teaching than perhaps any other misconception of that kind.'" The book is brimful of clearly expressed thought and tangible suggestions.

**THE POETRY OF LIFE.** By Bliss Carman. Cloth. Pages 258. The Copp Clark Co., Toronto.

This is a beautifully bound volume, appropriate to the Christmas season, made up of sixteen prose essays of Mr. Carman. The subject of the greater number of these is poetry—The Poetry of Life, The Purpose of Poetry, How to Judge Poetry, The Defence of Poetry, The Permanence of Poetry, The Poet in Modern Life, The Poet in the Commonwealth, etc. Written in Mr. Carman's vigorous and healthy English, they furnish a choice collection of the best specimens of his prose writings.

#### Recent Magazines.

The *Atlantic Monthly* for November is a notable number both in the importance and interest of its papers. Among these are several dealing with prominent subjects in literature and topics now engaging the attention of the public. Other attractive features are short stories and poems, a charming essay upon The Country in November, by Henry Child's Merwin and Reverend Mother's Feast, the concluding instalment in Agnes Repplier's series of engaging sketches of a girl's life in a convent school. The *Atlantic* is the literary magazine of America, and is every month increasingly interesting in the variety and excellence of its contents. The *Atlantic* for December is a notable Christmas number. There are seasonable articles, fine stories, and distinctively Christmas poems.

The November *Canadian Magazine* is largely a sportsman's number. There are sporting sketches and illustrations, stories of animals by Chas. G. D. Roberts and W. A. Fraser, and a history of Golf in Canada. The article on the New High School, by W. L. Richardson, should wake up Canadian schoolmen to the importance of manual training. The excellence of the articles and illustrations and the superior make-up of this number show that the *Canadian* is successfully meeting the wants of its readers. The Christmas number of the *Canadian Magazine* is quite worthy of the season. The contents show a great variety, ranging from articles on art and special book reviews to stories and interesting comment on the passing phases of our existence.

For colorwork, presswork and general beauty and usefulness, the December *Delineator* is conspicuous among the Christmas magazines. Eight paintings by J. C. Leyendecker, illustrating and interpreting the Twenty-third Psalm, is the most extensive color feature of the number. The short fiction of the number comprises stories by Hamlin Garland, John Luther Long, Sir Gilbert Parker, and there are many attractive articles on topics of interest.

The pastimes for children are filled with the spirit of the season, and there is an abundance of matter of housewifely interest.

*Littell's Living Age* occupies a field peculiarly its own. It gives sixty-four pages every Saturday of selections from the best and most popular English periodicals, and is almost indispensable to any one who wishes to keep informed upon public affairs and current discussion. Fiction, essays, travel sketches, poetry, critical and biographical papers, literary and art articles, and much else besides will be found in the magazine. The subscription price is six dollars a year, but a trial subscription of three months, thirteen numbers, may be had for one dollar. *The Living Age Company*, 6 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Early, while I'm still asleep,  
The sun arranges things for me;  
It takes the chill all off the air,  
And lights the day so I can see.

It beams upon me all day long,  
And when at last it sinks away,  
It hustles round the other side,  
To be in time for me next day.

*Lippincott's Magazine.*

What is the thought of Christmas? Giving.  
What is the heart of Christmas? Love.

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