worth reading; "A Florentine Episode" is a pleasant short story by Ellen Olney Kirk; Theodore Roosevelt's "Political Assessments in the Coming Campaign" is characteristic of the writer, i.e., manly and straightforward; Mr. Thomas Bailey Aldrich's poem "Unguarded Gates" is a fine peem, but rather late in the day, alas!

THE frontispiece and opening article of the July St. Nicholas describe an incident that is said to have occurred last year during the French celebration of the taking of the Bastille, in which two American boys figured. "The Spare Bedroom at Grandfather's" is by Mary Hallock Foote, and is a paper of reminiscences. "The Voyage of Columbus," by Royall Bascom Smithey, tells the story of the great first voyage. A poem by Emma Huntington Nason is on the branch of scarlet thorn that was "The First to Greet Columbus," and Mr. John Burroughs tells of the plant and its life history. On revolutionary topics there are two stories; one in prose and one in verse. Jack Bennett celebrates the cleverness of "Ben Ali the Egyptian" in a comic poem. Richard and Anne Gibson, the celebrated dwarf artist and his wife, are described by Mary Shears Roberts; "What Things Befell the Squire's House are told by Virginia Woodward Cloud, and "The Rendezvous at East Gorge" is a story of Western life by E. Vinton Blake.

"WHAT SHALL THE RATIO BE?" is discussed in the North American Review for July by Senator Stewart, of Nevada, Representative Springer, of Illinois, Senator Hansbrough, of North Dakota, Representative Bland, of Missouri, and Representative Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, respectively. They are of the opinion that a ratio of about 15½ to 1 will establish the parity of gold and silver. Frederick Douglas denies the need of "Lynch Law in the South"; W. H. Mallock replies to Lady Jeune's article on London Society; in "Politics and the Pulpit" Bishop Doane, of Albany, and Bishop Mallalieu, of New Orleans, argue for the discussion of politics in the pulpit when it is warranted by bad morals; Archibald Forbes treats of "Abraham Lincoln as a Strategist"; Sir J. William Dawson continues his able articles on "Prehistoric Times in Egypt and Palestine"; the Dean of St. Paul writes on "The Use of Cathedrals"; "Organized Labour in the Campaign" is by Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labour; and ex-Prime Minister Crispi has an article on "The Situation in Italy.

" A GLANCE AT THE EUROPEAN ARMIES" is the title of a paper in the July Forum by Col. Theodore A. Dodge. The writer complacently asserts that England "cannot claim to be a military power," and discusses the merits and demerits of other powers, such as France, Germany and Russia"; "Thomas Hardy and His Novels," William Sharp discusses. Mr. Sharp forms a very high estimate of that author; he says that to him "the realism of Mr. Howells is thin and that of Mr. Henry James superficial compared with that of his author," and further says: " But Hardy brings home to the reader a sense of profound sadness. Without ever unduly obtruding himself as the theologian or the philosopher, he touches the deepest chords of spiritual life, and having wrought his subtle music therefrom, turns away with a loving, sorrowful regret at all the by play of existence beneath such dim darkness behind, above, and beyond. Yet to speak of him as a pessimistic writer would be misleading, because inadequate. He does not preach pessimism, for he has the saving grace of having no 'ism' to support or exemplify. He is tolerant and patient, seeing at once the good and the weakness in all. In a word, the pessimism of which so many complain is a revelation rather than an exposition."

LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

WILL CARLETON'S latest poems, under the collective title of "City Festivals," will be published very shortly by Harper and Brothers. The volume will be handsomely illustrated and uniform in style with Mr. Carleton's earlier

THE forthcoming authoritative biography of John Ruskin, written by his private secretary, Mr. W. G. Collingwood, will contain, besides a large amount of new material and numerous unpublished letters, portraits and sketches by Mr. Ruskin and Mr. Arthur Severn.

LORD COLERIDGE has, we are informed, been enticed into the controversy over the handwriting of Junius. His lordship has reviewed all the evidence, carefully weighed the pros and cons in the judicial scales, and delivered a written judgment, which will shortly be published.

S. C. GRIGGS AND COMPANY, Chicago, announce a work treating of English History in an entirely novel manner, under the title of "England and its Rulers," by H. Pomeroy Brewster and George H. Humphrey, as well as a work by Samuel Jefferson, F.R.A.S., F.C.S., entitled "Columbus, an Epic Poem," which purports to give an accurate history of the great discovery in rhymed heroic

LORD TENNYSON, who is in exceptionally good health, has not yet left Farringford for Aldworth, said the Athenaum of June 4. "He is much interested in the Artillery Volunteer Corps that his son has been raising in the Isle of Wight. 'Riflemen, Form,' it will be remembered, was one of the first things to stir Englishmen to become volunteers in 1859, and it has always been a great desire of his to see the movement extend much more widely than it has done."

THE older Mr. Gladstone gets, the more work he seems to undertake, says the London Literary World. Some time ago he put himself down for a lecture at Oxford in October on the history of universities, and now he has booked another engagement to lecture in September, before the Oriental Congress in London in the section of "Archaic Greece and the East."

AT the recent installation of the Duke of Devonshire as Chancellor of Cambridge University, Honorary degrees were bestowed on a number of eminent statesmen and scholars. The prize Greek ode was recited by Mr. Cuthbert McEvoy, Scholar of Christ's College, who has this year taken the Sir William Browne's gold medal for Greek elegiacs. Mr. McEvoy is the clever son of that able journalist Mr. Bernard McEvoy of the Toronto Mail.

"QUESTIONS OF FAITH AND DUTY" is an instructive little volume covering some of the most vital questions of Christian thought and conduct, and is from the pen of the Right Rev. Anthony W. Thorold, D.D., Lord Bishop of Winchester, and is published by J. B. Lippincott Company. The same firm announce a new work on astronomy, entitled "In Starry Realms." The new edition of "Chambers' Encyclopædia" is rapidly nearing completion. The IXth volume has just been issued.

More than half of Stephen's "Dictionary of Biography" has now been published by Messrs. Macmillan and Company; thirty out of a total of fifty volumes have already appeared. The work when completed will contain at least thirty thousand articles by writers of acknowledged eminence in their several departments. The memoirs are the result of personal research, and much information has been obtained from sources that have not been previously utilized. The same firm announce a new and extensively revised edition of Mr. Bryce's "American Commonwealth."

An important contribution to the history of pedagogy, a comparatively new subject, says the Speaker, is M. Dejob's "L'Instruction publique en France et Italie au XIX Siècle." Perhaps the most interesting chapter is that dealing with Napoleon I.'s pedagogic experiments in With the help of Prince Eugene, it seems he brought about a moral revolution in the education of girls in Italy—a more durable change than many that he made, if it be true, as the French flatter themselves, that it aided powerfully in making the Italian women good wives and mothers. But the whole book is entertaining, for M. Dejob is in love with his subject.

THE Boston Weekly Bulletin says of Mr. Gosse's "Literary Gossip" of the time of the Fifteenth Louis that he notes that English ladies of quality, whether at home, in Paris, or sojourning beyond seas, had then no magazines or newspapers. If they cared to read or to dawdle over grandiloquent romances, that class of literary leaven was supplied by the French. For "Le Grand Cyprus" 100,000 crowns was paid to Mile. de Scudéry. While he was in prison, unhappy Charles the First read Calprenède's "Cassandra." Nicely formed were the French novels of that day. A single volume could be put in a woman's pocket. Her half-spread fan could completely hide it. Some of the Gallic fiction was extended o a dozen miniature books, while during the same period English publishers issued huge clumsy folios and quartos.

MR. W. MINTO says, in the Speaker, that the first great "author by profession," the first man who made a ving by his writings and at the same time a classic reputation, was Samuel Johnson himself. His independent and practical spirit first put the profession or trade of authorship on a sound footing, and substituted the capitalist for the patron. One of the letters recently published by Mr. Birkbeck Hill is a curious evidence of his businesslike spirit. He writes to a correspondent and mentions various literary schemes suitable for "an inhabitant of Oxford." But he adds: "I impart these designs to you in confidence, that what you do not make use of yourself shall revert to me uncommunicated to any other. The schemes of a writer are his property and his revenue, and therefore they must not be made common."

THE first of five volumes of "The Poetical Works of Percy Bysshe Shelley," published under the editorship of Mr. Forman Buxton, has just appeared, constituting a notable addition to Messrs. Bell's well-known "Aldine Edition." The memoir extends to fifty six pages, and concludes with a glowing eulogy of Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley. She had not only (writes Mr. Buxton) the mental gifts requisite for a sympathy in the poet's high aims and aspirations, not only the critical faculty to appreciate what his literary work meant, and what its place was in English literature, but her heart, which had beaten for eight years close to his, knew and acknowledged that, as Shelley the poet had been the supreme lord of song in a prosaic world, as Shelley the propagandist had been through faith the lord of hope, so Shelley the man had been, to those who hung upon him, the lord of love.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Booth, Chas. Pauperism and the Endowment of Old Age. \$1.25.
London: Macmillan & Co.; Toronto: The Williamson Book Co.
Gaskell, Mrs. Cranford. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons; Toronto: The Williamson Book Co.
Fessenden, C. E. Elements of Physics. 80 cts. London: Macmillan & Co.; Toronto: The Williamson Book Co.
Kipling, Rudyard and Balestier, Wolcott. Naulahka. London: Macmillan & Co.; Toronto: Copp, Clark Co.
Palgrave, R. H. Inglis, F.R.S. Dictionary of Political Economy.
\$1.00. London: Macmillan & Co.; Toronto: The Williamson Book Co.

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REV. SYLVANUS LANE

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