

Did time permit, the information (?) concerning the mineral products of Canada—especially Ontario, would be dealt with; but a mere reference to the omission of any mention of the plumbago, phosphate, or iron mines throughout this province is all space affords. Kingston is slighted, no account being given of the "Loyal Military College," or of the "Penitentiary." Only one tribe of the Six Nations is mentioned. Some railways (two) are mentioned in the text, and the ordinary reader need only glance over the map to detect error on error in the location of the roads there outlined. There is no definition of a Province, a County, or a Town, nor of the functions pertaining to each. The "county towns," as such are not named: the "united counties" are not named; yet is it not of importance in many departments of life to know that Lennox and Addington, Northumberland and Durham, Leeds and Grenville, Dundas, Stormont and Glengarry, and Prescott and Russell are the united counties in Ontario? The canals are not classified. The courses and centres of commerce are not specially noted. The great inland lakes and rivers which form a net-work throughout the province, of invaluable service to the lumbermen, the farmer, &c., are not set forth.

The following towns and villages of more importance than many named are omitted entirely: Thamesville, Ridgetown, Dresden, Vienna, York, Pt. Maitland, Ft. Erie, Chippawa, Queenston, Grimsby, Beansville, Merrittton, Waterdown, Ancaster, Burlington, Yorkville, Parkdale, Leslieville, Markham, Thornhill, Weston, Ailsa Craig, Wardsville, Glenora, Komoka, Drumbo, Palmerston, New Hamburg, Elmira, Hespler, Arthur, Harriston, Harrisburg, Erin, Oil Springs, Wingham, Brussels, Teeswater, Flesherton, Stayner, Shelburne, Port Perry, Fenelon Falls, Campbellford, Haliburton, Norwood, Lakefield, Rondeau, Saugeen, Scarboro', Stouffville, Vankleek Hill, Loughborough, Lucknow, Minden, Morpeth, Woodbridge, Odessa, Orangeville, Orono, Highland Creek, Keene, Kemptville, Kingsville, Leamington, London East, Forest, Georgina, Hagersville, Heidelberg, Alliston, Bayfield, Clifford, Coldwater, Cookstown, Embro, Fingal, Wellington, Concession, Marmora, Deseronto, Bridgewater, Almonte, Lanark, Exeter, Blyth, Wiarton, Waterford, Watford, Penetanguishene, Pickering, Richmond Hill, Ridgeway. Many of these are incorporated towns. How can such a book be said to be adapted for use in Ontario? Yet the immaculate G. M. Adams gazes fondly on it and the other books edited by himself, and in the most "independent" manner pronounces them to be perfect. Perfect with 100 errors on a page!

We have said nothing about the general make up of the book. The maps are inaccurate and badly executed, the printing is inferior, the paper is poor, the binding is of the most discreditable character, and is done in such a style as to benefit the publisher much more than the parents of the children who use the books. The Minister of Education has control of these matters, and on him rests the responsibility for the disgrace of having such a book in our schools. There is not one of the many American Geographies which is not infinitely superior to it in every respect. Lovell's new geographies, while not all that could be desired, are greatly superior to it in most respects, especially in typography and binding.

The sooner the Minister of Education takes action in regard to this remarkable compilation, which has been palmed off as a Canadian production to the great discredit of Canada, the better for himself and his country. By longer allowing its use, he becomes an associate in misleading and injuring the pupils of our schools.

THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW.—We have received the February number of this ably conducted monthly, which is now in the sixty-seventh year of publication. The first article on "Do the Spoils Belong to the Victors," by the President of Cornell University, is upon reform of the civil service in the United States. The second, "A Remedy for Railway Abuses," has an interest for Canada as well as the United States. The author points out what these abuses are, discusses the solutions that have been proposed, and suggests that the entire matter of railway transportation should be placed in the hands of the people of the United States. The third article, on "Reputation in Virginia," is clearly and forcibly written. The fourth, on "The

Lancet and the Law," is a violent attack on compulsory vaccination, the writer endeavoring to prove that vaccination is no preventative of small-pox, and that the introduction of vaccine into the human system poisons and corrupts the blood. The last article, on "The Christian Religion," by Prof. Geo. P. Fisher, should be carefully read and re-read. A great mistake was made by the Editor of the *Review* when he asked, some time ago, a contribution on Religion by Col. Ingersoll and gave insertion to it. It was too coarse for the pages of such a periodical, and the arguments against Revealed Religion were too superficial to command respect or attention. The present contribution is from an opposite stand-point, is written with great perspicuity; the tone is attractive, the range of thought traversed is extensive, and the effect must be to convince the disciples of Christ that they have not followed a cunningly devised fable when they received the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament as the Word of God.

THE MONOGRAPH.—This is the title of a serial collection of Indexed Essays, published fortnightly. Each number is occupied with one essay. The numbers before us treat of Captain Kid; The Legend of Frederick Barbarossa; The British in India; and Calvin and Senectus. The articles are pleasantly written.

#### MAGAZINES.

HARPER'S WEEKLY continues "For Cash Only," and "Christowell." "Resurgo," a comedy by "Ouida," was begun in No. 2307. Quite a variety of subjects are dealt with, as "The United States Essay Office at New York," "Mount Washington," "The New Sea-wall of San Francisco," "Loss of the Jeannette," "The Aesthetic Visitor, Oscar Wilde," &c. The last month's numbers have been excellent.

THE MIDWINTER (FEBRUARY) CENTURY.—After the new cover, the first "midwinter issue" of *The Century* is chiefly distinguished by its usual range of popular contributions, whose names of themselves awaken in the reader the desire to see their contributions. Of these are Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry W. Longfellow, the late Dean Stanley, Mrs. Burnett, Mr. Howells, Frank R. Stockton, "H. H.," E. C. Stodman, H. C. Bunner each of whom has its special audience. Add to those attractive names the other features: a fine frontispiece portrait of George W. Cable, author of "Old Creole Days" and "The Grandisimes," engraved by Cole, with a sketch by Col. Waring; another of the unique and amusing "Tile Club" papers, illustrated by ten of the members of the Club, the text (somewhat abridged) of Mrs. Burnett's play of "Esmeralda," now running successfully at a New York theatre; an illustrated account of the growing sport of Lawn Tennis, with full directions, a review of "The Significant Features of the Atlanta Exposition" by Edward Atkinson, Esq., who, we believe, was the prime mover in that enterprise, and a beautifully illustrated paper on "The Phidian Age of Sculpture"—and it will be soon that the number contains rare elements of popularity.

ST. NICHOLAS FOR FEBRUARY opens with a story of the adventures of a Mexican prince, illustrated with a beautiful frontispiece by F. H. Langren. Other short stories are: "The Man in the Moon," a tale full of humor, by Sophie Swett, with pictures by George D. Brush; "The Round Stone," a Hungarian folk story, contributed by the Hon. Jeremiah Curtin, and strikingly illustrated by Alfred Breese; "Cornwallis's Buckles," an incident of Revolutionary times, in which figure a small girl, a cow, and the English commander in-chief—the illustrations being by G. W. Edwards; and "Lady Ann's Valentine," a tale full of interest and tender feeling, by Sarg and Flint, with a fine picture by Frank T. Merrill. "Men and Shows, and How They are Moved About," is the title of an entertaining article by William O. Stoddard; crammed with information about the doings and fittings of circus-menageries. There are many illustrations to this, the first half of the article; the conclusion, which is to be even more fully illustrated, is printed for the March number. "Mrs. Mary Mapes Dodge, the editor relates in this month's installment of her serial, "Donald and Dorothy," a gallant rescue by the hero, who bravely stops a runaway horse that was bearing off the heroine, a picture of the exciting scene being furnished by Frank T. Merrill, and Edward Eggleston, in his serial, "The Hoosier School-Boy," carries the young people of the story through stirring scenes of frontier school-life, as it was in his own boyhood; a fine picture, by George D. Brush, adorns the present instalment. Dr. Eggleston also describes, in a short article, "A Curious Drama" which he saw in London, and in which Mr. George MacDonald and his family represented scenes from the second part of the "Pilgrim's Progress," of John Bunyan. Mr. Harry M. Kelfer, in "Recollections of a Drummer-Boy," gives graphic accounts of camp-life in winter during the late war, and of the terrible scenes on the field after a battle; the illustrations are by Allen C. Redwood. Several poems and humorous verses, besides comical single pictures, help to enliven the pages of this number. The "Very Little Folks' Department" has a short illustrated story by Charles Barnard; "Jac. in-the-Pulpit," the "Letter-Box," and the "Riddle Box," are full of short and interesting paragraphs, letters from young readers, puzzles, etc., and there is a long Report concerning the St. Nicholas Agassiz Association, which now has 1,700 members.

THE POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY.—The contents for February are: "The Seven World-Problems," by Emil Du Bois-Reymond; "How Animals Breathe," by H. L. Fairchild (illustrated); "Dreams and the Making of Dreams," by J. Mortimer Granville, M.D.; "Sanitary Relations of the Soil," II., by Dr. Max von Pettenkofer; "Longevity of the Oyster," by Professor Samuel Lockwood; "A Glimpse Through the Corridors of Time," by Robert S. Hall, LL.D., F.R.S.; "Epidemic Convulsions," by David W. Yandell; "Extension of the Signal Service," by Prof. J. Trowbridge; "The Fundamental Problems of Physiological Chemistry," by Dr. Edmund Droschel; "A Botanist of the Ninth Century," by C. Hartwich; "Wild Animals as Man's Associates," by Professor E. S. Morse; "The Philadelphia Academy," by J. S. Kingsley; "A Little Matter," by A. E. Outerbridge, Jr.; "Vibration of Rocks in Pataasco Valley," by Frederic Garretson, M.D.; Sketch of Sainte Claire Deville (with portrait); Entertaining Varieties; Correspondence, Editor's Table, "The Practical Study of Mind"; Literary Notices; Popular Miscellany; Notes.

#### Publishers' Department.

CORRESPONDENCE.—Subscribers desiring solutions to problems or answers to questions, would confer a favor by writing the questions on separate sheets and not mixing them amongst business matters.