

Literary Notices.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.—The numbers of the *Living Age* for January 22 and 29 contain some striking articles. We note "Locksley Hall" by Mr. Gladstone, "Lady Duff Gordon," "The Letters of Chas. Lamb," and "The Land of Darkness," a sequel to "The Little Pilgrim's Journey to the Unseen" in the February 5 number.

THE *Century* midwinter number, besides Abraham Lincoln's history, has an interesting article on "The Stars," and a life of President McCosh, of Princeton. *St. Nicholas* keeps up its character as in the forefront of magazines for the young.

THE *Homiletic Monthly* (Funk & Wagnalls) and *The Pulpit Treasury* (E. B. Treat) are both fully up to their average.

THE BRITISH NATIONAL ANTHEM.

ADAPTED FOR THE YEAR OF JUBILEE.

God save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen.
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious;
Long to reign over us,
God save the Queen.

Thy choicest gifts in store
On her be pleased to pour,
Long may she reign.
May she defend our laws,
And ever give us cause
To sing with heart and voice,
God save the Queen.

Seed sown through fifty years,
Sown in smiles or tears,
Grant her to reap;
Her heritage of fame,
Her pure and stainless name,
Her people free from shame,
Guard Thou and keep.

O'er lands and waters wide,
Through changing time and tide,
Hear when we call;
Where'er our English tongue
To wind and wave hath rung,
Still be our anthem sung;
God save us all.

—Dean Plumptre, in *Good Words*.

THE Rev. Joseph Cook has commenced his new course of lectures in Tremont Temple.

A MEMOIR of the late Dr. Wilkes, of Montreal, is to be prepared by Dr. J. Munro Gibson, of London.

PROFESSOR FLINT has been lecturing on Socialism to the Edinburgh United Trades Council in the Tron Church.

DR. SCHOOLER, Dean of the Iowa School of Physicians and Surgeons, has been arrested, on a charge of complicity in a grave robbery.

THE entire framework of the main building which is being erected in London for the coming American Exhibition is of steel rails, such as are used in the construction of railways.

THERE is no abatement in warlike rumours from Europe. Each day brings with it a new budget of what purports to be facts, and much that is purely conjectural. Now, attention is directed mainly to France and Germany. The relations between these two nations are said to be strained. The money markets of Europe are as changeable as our Canadian winter weather. It has to be borne in mind that a keen election contest is in progress in Germany, and as it turns mainly on the increase of armament, not a little of the belligerent talk may be reasonably discounted. One thing is certain, that the terrible tension cannot be long continued. In a few weeks, at least, the momentous question of Peace or War will be decided.

RECENT events revealing the corrupt state of things in English social life has led to a movement for legislation to check the progress of disgusting vice. Vigilance societies, acting together, intend to bring as much pressure as they can to bear on members of Parliament to induce them to support a Bill prohibiting the press from publishing the prurient details of the divorce and criminal courts. They will also urge the Government to exercise its power to control vice in foreign countries occupied by British troops. This step is due chiefly to revelations which have been made by William S. Caine, M.P., who has just returned from Egypt. He declares that the presence of the British troops is inoculating the Arabs with habits of drunkenness, and familiarizing them with the worst forms of vice.

It is certainly better, says the *New York Independent*, not to have the Bible read at all in the public schools than to have it read unsympathetically, or with a hostile purpose. The latter is unfortunately sometimes the case where the reading is required, and the teacher is, it may be, an unbeliever. Such cases may occur in any public school, as they have occurred in the New York City College. Thus we are informed that Professor Werner, Secretary of the Faculty, who occasionally reads the Bible in the college chapel in the absence of the president, has made it his habit, daily, to make the same selection, that of the story of the Tower of Babel; and it was understood by the students that he chose it as a story to cast discredit on the Bible. Professor Doremus read, last year, during President Webb's illness, the story of the Creation, and, it is said, remarked, as he read one portion, "Science approves of that," and upon reading of another portion, "Science has not approved of that," or words to that effect. His comments provoked marked expression of feeling by laughter and hissing, and frequent comments during the day. That kind of religious instruction we can well dispense with.