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Scribner's Magazine for January marks the beginning of the fifteenth volume. The first great fiction feature for the year is the serial, "John March, Southerner," by George W. Cable, the author of "Old Creole Days." This the first long novel that Mr. Cable has published in many years. Another feature of this year will be a series of special frontispieces selected by the eminent art critic, Philip Gilbert Hamerton, to represent the tendencies of contemporary art. Each picture will be accompanied with a brief article by Mr. Hamerton and a portrait of the artist whose painting is reproduced. In this number Manet's "Fifer" is the striking picture chosen. A new name in magazine literature, though one of the best known and most popular to the general public, is that of John Drew, who contributes to this number his reminiscences of the every-day life of "The Actor," elaborately illustrated by W. L. Metcalf. The Hon. R. C. Winthrop (who studied law in Daniel Webster's office, and afterward when Speaker of the House of Representatives nearly fifty years ago was associated closely with Webster in his public career), has contributed his reminiscences of "Webster's Reply to Hayne, and his general Methods of Preparation." "Stories in Stone from Notre Dame," by Theodore Andrea Cook, is a description of those grotesque figures adorning the pinnacles and niches of the great cathedral, which Victor Hugo has put into fiction as the familiars of Quasimodo. The illustrations are among the most novel and interesting recently seen in this Magazine. There is a brief paper of interest to all students of sacred history in regard to the "Place of the Exodus in the History of Egypt." The author is A. L. Lewis, an authority and investigator.

Frank R. Stockton, in his own delightfully humorous way, continues to make the irrepressible "Pomona" interesting in the second installment of her correspondence with her old "Ruddler Grange" mistress. These letters, under the title of "Pomona's Travels," can only be found in the January Ladies' Home Journal. "How I became an Actress" is the theme of a valuable bit of autobiography from the pen of Adelaide Ristori del Grillo. A sketch, with portraits, of Mrs. Donelson Wilcox, who was born in the White House during the administration of Andrew Jackson, and whom he affectionately termed "The Sunshine of the White House," furnishes the biography. The editor discusses the vexed question of the education of our American girls. Miss Julia Magruder's serial, "A Beautiful Alien," which grows in charm and interest as it proceeds, furnishes the fiction. The four prize hymns to which were awarded the prizes in "The Journal's Musical Series" of last year, are given in their entirety. Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett and Mr. Birch continue to delight with fact and picture concerning "Little Lord Fauntleroy." Harriet Ogden Morison gives an exquisite piece of "Ecclesiastical Embroidery," and J. Macdonald Oxley writes of "Literary Recreation Clubs." Mothers will be interested in Miss Sewill's "Kindergarten Work at Home," and all housekeepers will be helped by Miss Parlow's "Household Hints." Altogether this New Year Journal, with its exquisitely designed cover, is an ideal number, and worth many times its price. The Ladies' Home Journal is published by The Curtis Publishing Company, of Philadelphia, for ten cents per number and one dollar per year.

The Shipping Manufacturers' List, of which Mr. M. J. Henry, Toronto, is proprietor and publisher, is now out, and is being received with much favor. The book contains 560 pages, and gives in detail a list of all articles manufactured in Canada, and the names and addresses of the manufacturers. It is a valuable reference for buyers of Canadian goods, as well as those having goods to sell to Canadian manufacturers. For the benefit of the latter the publisher has had the names contained in the list compiled in alphabetical order, and printed in pamphlet form, making 40 pages of names and addresses, and which cannot but be of great value to those who may wish to address circulars or catalogues to Canadian manufacturers. The pamphlet is compiled from a personal canvass by Mr. Henry throughout the Dominion, and contains the names of proprietors of all steam plants in Canada.

No journalistic visitor to the sanctum of the CANADIAN MANUFACTURER is more welcome than Onward, of Toronto, which Dr. Withrow, the editor, persists in calling "A paper for Young People." We have taken pains heretofore to advise Dr. Withrow that there is a tinge of selfishness in his doing this when there is not a line or an expression in Onward that is not quite as interesting to older people as to the young ones for whom he so regularly prepares his recherche literary feast. It is possible that some people might imagine, when observing Onward, that it claims to be a paper for young people, and therefore that it is not particularly adapted to the literary tastes of those who cannot be considered children, especially those who may have left behind them many years ago the milestone of life that indicates a half century of existence. We have knowledge that some who are not young do

not thus view Onward; for is it not a fact that frequently when one looks into such a young people's paper something is seen there that reminds of the long ago, and that between the paper and the eye intervene the forms and scenes that went so far to make childhood happy. The forms may have rested beneath green mounds for many years, and the scenes may have existed in far away lands, but they will re-present themselves on occasion with wonderful accurateness, and dissolve the realities of later life into the happier days of childhood, and inspire and strengthen the abiding hope and faith that at some time there will be a reunion of the dear ones where love will never more be pained by separation. We hope that Dr. Withrow will amend the heading of Onward so as to more strongly commend it to those who cannot claim to be young people.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING OF FACTORIES.

The lighting of mills by artificial means is something that has always been a subject of much moment with manufacturers. It was not many years ago when daylight alone could be depended on for perfect work in some branches of textile manufacturing, especially where the work required unremitting attention, as in the weaving of many styles of fabrics, both cotton and wool. The condition of things, in this respect, has greatly and permanently changed for the better in the utilization of electricity in a commercial form. The distribution of light, from whatever source it may come, in a factory is a matter of immense importance in the economy of manufacturing. Perfection of work is independent upon it; in fact, it cannot be attained if the light is imperfect and shadows prevail in any intense form, as is apt to be the case when the greater power of illumination comes from one direction.

Any practical method for the general diffusion of light is a desideratum of the very first importance, second only to the intensity of that light. Shadows that will throw any portion of the work in relief are to be avoided as conducive to defects in work that are unavoidable and costly. It is to avoid these that corrugated glass for windows for the admission of daylight is preferable to plain glass, to say nothing of the further fact that more light is thus obtained. The new method referred to in the article in question is to do away with all the troubles that often attend the employment of the are light system of lighting factories, that of glare and shadows.

The lighting of factories by electricity is practically the growth of the past ten or twelve years. Very little of it was done before then, gas and oil being the only means of illumination. In 1882, or thereabouts, it seemed to jump in general favor, and its introduction became extensive. The insulation at first was very defective, being the occasion of a number of fires, not of a nature to cause much loss of property, but sufficient to excite the attention of underwriters to its hazardousness. Investigation immediately followed and improvement insisted upon and carried out for a more thorough insulation of the wires. With the system of wiring them inaugurated the fire risk from such a source has been reduced to almost nothing; in fact, it is now considered to be safer than any other form of lighting yet introduced. There is always some danger from so-called wild currents of electricity; or in the diversion of a high tension current of electricity, as was exemplified in a disastrous fire that happened in Boston a few years ago. But the danger of fire is very slight from a well-installed electric lighting system.—The Manufacturers' Gazette.

ELECTRICAL LAUNCHES.

Some timely figures have been given by R. H. Chamberlain on the operation of the fifty-four electric launches on the World's Fair lagoon. Notwithstanding that these crafts were operated under new and trying conditions, they made a most promising record. The total cost per launch per day was \$1.484, and although the actual average cost per launch mile for labor and material, exclusive of office expenses, was 5½ cents, Mr. Chamberlain believes that the expense can, and will be, in the near future, be brought down to as low a figure as 3 cents per launch mile. The total number of trips run at Chicago was 56,207, and the average number of miles run by each launch was 3122. The general average of miles per launch per day was 25.57. On busy days the average run of the launches would reach 77½ miles, and one launch day broke the record by a score of 54 miles. The total number of passengers carried from May 1, to October 1 was \$10,000. The greatest number of passengers carried in one day by one launch was 464, and the maximum number of people carried by one launch for one round trip was 40. A fact of great significance in the determination of the value of the electric launch for general use is that, although over three-quarters