

Literary Notices.

SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE for October provides as usual a fully spread table containing the solid food, strong but not heavy, and the lighter trifle for dessert. First comes "The Paris School of Fine Arts," by Henry O. Avery, fully illustrated. A Collection of the Unpublished Letters of Thackeray, written home from America, gives an account of his visit there. "Caverns and Cavern Life, by N. S. Shaler, with illustrations from drawings, tells of our underground world. "Municipal Government," is treated by Nathanael Bradford, and "French Traits," by W. C. Brownell. Several completed and two or three serial stories are also given. Price 25 cents, monthly; \$3.00 per year. Chas. Scribner's Sons, New York.

JOHN BRIGHT ON THE COST OF WAR.

"Since Jan. 1, 1800, the nations of Christendom have indulged in some forty-seven great wars, and leaving minor squabbles and indirect expensess out of view, our sacrifices on the altar of wars since that day may be roughly estimated at \$13,000,000,000 or just about 500,000,000 pounds of gold—sums which may be pronounced in two seconds, though a freight train transporting the gold in American box cars of the average size, and running at the usual rate of speed, would be two hours in passing any given point, for such a train would be twenty-two miles long. An equivalent in one thousand pound bank notes might be crammed into a box that could be carried on a medium-sized express wagon, but with the contents of that box we might have built double track railroads from Halifax to Valparaiso, from Paris to Pekin, from Cape Town to Stockholm; we might have bridged or under-tunnelled the English Channel, the Straits of Gibraltar, the Kattegat and the Hellespont, the Mississippi at New Orleans and the Amazon at Para; we might have drained the Zuyder Zee and the Florida swamps, covered the hills of Asia Minor with cedars and the Libyan desert with palm trees, converted Greece and Persia into garden lands, and Timbuctoo into a seaport town; we might have done all that, and have money enough left to celebrate the birth of a new era by a grand international thanksgiving day.

A paper well adds: "The gospel of peace might have been carried to millions of perishing souls who pass into Eternity at the rate of three thousand six hundred every hour."

Far, far away is the millennial dawn when men spend such vast sums in destroying their fellow men, and so little to save them.

A GRAND WORK.

The Free Church of Scotland has a Christian college in Madras, which is accomplishing a grand work. The following is from the *Free Church of Scotland Monthly*:

"This year the College has opened with all its classes fuller than ever, while the school department is also crowded to its fullest capacity. In the latter, more than a thousand lads are pursuing their studies, preparatory to their entering, if found qualified, upon a university course. In the college department something like six hundred and forty undergraduates are in attendance on the various lectures. To all these young men the truths of the gospel are constantly presented by missionaries through the medium of the Bible class. It may be doubted if there is anywhere in the world such another institution, where under one roof so large a number of the flower of the non-Christian youths are to be found under constant Christian influence and systematic Christian training.

"As tested by the University examinations, the success of the College is as remarkable as its popularity. At the first examination in arts, which gauges the work of the first two years of the College course, the Christian College headed the list of institutions with seventy-six successful candidates. The results of the B. A. examinations in languages were even more remarkable—one hundred and twenty-three students having passed, the Presidency College following with eighty-three. The highest honor of the University for metaphysical studies—the Miller Prize—fell to the Christian College. Thus it is evident that faithful adherence to a high standard of religious instruction is no barrier either to the favor of the Hindus or to success at the University."