

NOTES ON CURRENT LITERATURE.

EQUINE ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY, number 12 of "Blakiston's Quiz Compend," by Wm. R. Balon, M.D. (Prof. in N. Y. Col. of Vet. Surg.) has recently been issued. It is a neat volume of 200 pages, from which any one may obtain a very good knowledge of the structure and functions of the different parts of the horse. It contains twenty-nine graphic illustrations selected from Chauveau's Comparative Anatomy, and the facts and descriptions are given concisely, and are arranged under heads and sub-heads, making it easy for the reader to comprehend and remember.

IN THE ILLUSTRATED NEWS OF THE WORLD (Judge Building, 5 ave. New York) "The wonderful Adventures of Phra the Phoenician," retold by Edwin Lester Arnold, with its graphic illustrations, is becoming weekly more and more interesting; as also are the sketches of "Our own Garth Grafton," "An American Girl in London." The last issue, Nov. 8th, gives a full page portrait of Count Von Moltke; some funny sketches of "Cricket in India," by the natives; and others, pretty too, from "Carmen up to Date," as just played at the Gaiety Theatre, London. The number contains a dozen full page illustrations and sketches besides many smaller ones.

THE POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY will make a new departure in 1891 by publishing a series of comprehensive and fully illustrated articles on The Development of American Industries since Columbus. What shall we do with the "Dago"?—A puzzling question that seems likely to take rank with the Chinese problem—will be discussed in the December number by Mr. Appleton Morgan.

THE GRAPHIC, Chicago, for November 1st is an admirable number, containing some very fine and very pretty illustrations. The other three numbers of the past month have been rather above previous ones. This handsome weekly is printed on excellent paper, with clear type, and is only \$3 a year.

"ART IN HOUSE BUILDING" contains 20 large engravings of cottages, a school house and a church, which have been designed with a view to style, comfort and economy and are very pretty, with a full and complete description of all the designs and reliable estimates. The book is 7x9½ inches and printed on excellent paper, price 75 cents, post paid; Smith & Robinson, Architects, Altoona, Pa.

A GREAT AMERICAN MAGAZINE.

THE SUCCESS OF "THE CENTURY" AND ITS PLAN FOR 1891.

THE CENTURY MAGAZINE is now so well known that to tell of its past success seems almost an old story. The N. Y. Tribune has said that it and its companion, St. Nicholas for Young Folks issued by the same house, "are read by every one person in thirty of the country's population," and large editions of both are sent beyond the seas. A few years ago it was found that seven thousand copies of The Century went to Scotland. The Century about doubled its circulation with the famous War Papers, adding many more readers later with the Lincoln History and Kennan's thrilling articles on the Siberian Exile System. One great feature of '91 is to be

"THE GOLD HUSTERS OF CALIFORNIA," describing that remarkable movement to the gold fields in '49, in a series of richly illustrated articles written by *sartrios*, including the narratives of men who went to California by the dilletent routes, accounts of the gold discoveries, life in the mines, the work of the vigilance committees etc., etc. General Fremont's last writing was done for this series. In November appears the opening article, "The First Emigrant Train to California," crossing the Rockies in 1841,—by General Bidwell, a pioneer of pioneers.

MANY OTHER GOOD THINGS ARE COMING,—the narrative of an American's travels through that unknown land Tibet (for 700 miles over ground never before trod by a white man); the experiences of escaping War-Prisoners; American Newspapers described by well-known journalists; accounts of the great Indian Fighters, Custer and others; personal anecdotes of Lincoln, by his private secretaries; "The Faith Doctor," a novel by Edward Eggleston, with a wonderfully rich programme of novelettes and stories by most of the leading writers, etc., etc.

It is also announced that The Century has purchased the right to print, before its appearance in France or any other country, extracts from advance sheets of the famous Talleyrand Memoirs, which have been secretly preserved for half a century—to be first given to the world through the pages of an American magazine. All Europe is eagerly awaiting the publication of this personal history of Talleyrand.

The November Century begins the volume, and new subscribers should commence with this issue. The subscription price (\$4 00) may be remitted directly to the publishers, The Century Co., 33 East 17th St, New York, or single copies may be purchased of any newsdealer. The publishers offer to send a free sample copy—a recent back number—to any one desiring it.

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE.

WHAT "ST. NICHOLAS" HAS DONE FOR BOYS AND GIRLS. Up to the time of the issue of the St. Nicholas Magazine seventeen years ago literature and children's magazines were almost contradictory terms, but the new periodical started out with the idea that nothing was too good for children; the result has been a juvenile magazine genuine with conscientious purpose.

It has been the special aim of St. Nicholas to supplant unhealthy literature with stories of a living and healthful interest. It will not do to take fascinating bad literature out of boys' hands, and give them in its place Mrs. Barbauld and Peter Parley, or the work of writers who think that any "gooly-y" talk will do for children, but they must have strong, interesting reading, with the blood and sinew of real life in it,—reading that will waken them to a closer observation of the best things about them.

In the seventeen years of its life St. Nicholas has not only elevated the children, but it has also elevated the tone of contemporary children's literature as well. Many of its stories, like Mrs. Burnett's "Little Lord Fauntleroy," have become classic.

The year 1891 will prove once more that "no household where there are children is complete without St. Nicholas." J. T. Trowbridge, Noah Brooks, Charles Dudley Warner, and many well-known writers are to the spirit of St. Nicholas into a prospectus, but the contributors during this coming year. Full features for 1891 and a sample copy sent to the address of any person mentioning this notice. Price \$3.00 a year. The Century Co., 33 East 17th St., New York.