

## LITERARY NOTES.

Blackwood's for September opens with an article on Undiscovered Switzerland. Another descriptive bit of writing is To Madrid in a Motor-car. Sir Theodore Martin has an article on Dante's Paolo and Francesca, in which he defends the characters of these historic lovers. In An Eighteenth Century Wooling, Mr. J. H. Lobban writes of the brilliant Lady Mary Montagu. Hesketh Pritchard's description of Hunting Among the Caribou of Newfoundland is of timely interest at this season of the year.

The following are a few of the titles of articles in the September Contemporary:—The Development of an International Parliament; St. Paul's Philosophy of History; The All-India Moslem League; Gothic Architecture and the Gothic Race; The Conditions of a Japanese-American War; The Purposes of Art; and The Turkish Army.

The October Current Literature discusses at some length the question, Is Roosevelt destroying the nation's prosperity? and also reviews the political situation. Under the department headed Religion and Ethics, we have articles on Ellen Key and her Subversive Gospel, What is the Matter with our Theological Schools? Is Monism to Supplant Christianity? and The Growing Spirit of Unrest in the Roman Catholic Church. The Tug of Love, one of Zangwill's Ghetto Comedies, is quoted, and comes as a relief after the tragedies we have had from him of the Ghetto.

In looking over the table of contents for the September Fortnightly one cannot fail to note the number of women writers. Katie Macdonald Goring gives a description of the formation of a children's society called The Friends of Living Creatures, in which she enlisted the interest of John Ruskin, from whom she received several letters which are given in the article. Mary Crawford Fraser has an extremely clever reproduction of a conversation in Japan, in which several Japanese statesmen take part. Then Edith Sellers writes of Sidelines on Latter-day Montenegris, and Mrs. John Lane one of her bright articles, criticizing the erection of monuments. "In southern countries, under a cloudless sky and the golden sunshine, in a clear, pure atmosphere, untouched by fogs, and free from the burden of soot, there statues may be erected in the open to the joy and glory of humanity. But here, if a great man cannot be remembered unless his dirty effigy on a dirty pedestal stands forlorn in the midst of 'busses and four-wheelers, then let him in Heaven's name be forgotten! The erecting in the open of statues to the great in our North is not so much a solemn duty as a very bad habit. Oh, the humor of the eternal untidiness of things." And lastly, probably the most striking piece of work in the number is by Katherine Tynan, on The Irish Priests, caused by Bernard Shaw's statement that "The Irish Catholics hate their priests with an intensity of which Englishmen have no idea." Speaking generally, Mrs. Tynan does not admit that there is anything in Mr. Shaw's statement. But, she concedes in an interesting passage, he is a rebellious soul the Celt; and occasionally in his sayings he will round on his good friend, the priest. "A priest's marriage is never lucky" is one of his sayings: the "priest's marriage" being, of course, a marriage in which a priest has interfered.

Mrs. Robert Louis Stevenson and her son, Lloyd Osbourne, are in England. Edmund Gosse has obtained from them much personal material for the introduction which he is contributing to the "Pentland Stevenson." Osbourne is the stepson of Robert Louis Stevenson, and his collaborator in such great works as "The Wrong Box," "Ebb Tide," etc.

Later achievements have proved that he must have contributed his full share to the work, and, indeed, Stevenson's letters are full of his praise.

The subject of the special Winter number of the Studio, the gardens of England in the southern and western counties, is one of general acceptability on account of the beautiful scenes which the title suggests, and also because of the renewed attention which, in recent years, has been given to the art by architects and lovers of garden-land in general. The gardens of England are famous all the world over. The older ones possess characteristics peculiar to themselves, the charm of picturesque surroundings and peaceful tradition, while the modern ones are scarcely less interesting, as they display many new and charming features introduced by those who have devoted much close study and artistic ability to the question. In the selection of gardens represented in this volume, especial care has been taken to give prominence to those artistic features which lend so much value to the effective setting out or planning of the garden, so that the book may become not only a pictorial record of all that is most beautiful in the art, but also of real practical value to all those to whom the subject appeals. Every care has been taken to make the number as perfect as possible, and the full-page illustrations, which number nearly 150, are of the most beautiful description, and include several in color by G. S. Elgood, R.I., E. Arthur Rowe, and others. It is anticipated that there will be a great demand for this book, and those wishing to secure copies should place their order at once, as in accordance with the custom of "The Studio" it will not be reprinted. Price: In wrappers, 5s. net; in handsome cloth binding, 7s. 6d. net (postage extra; inland, 6d.; abroad, 1s. 6d. to 2s.). The work may be obtained through any bookseller, or direct from the offices of "The Studio," 44 Leicester Square, London, W.C.

The American Bookman reprints Kipling's anathema maranatha on America, which appeared in a newspaper in 1889, after "Departmental Ditties," "Plain Tales, from the Hills," and "Soldiers Three" were written, and he was approaching world-wide fame. I believe it has not been reprinted before. It is done in Kipling's forthright, downright vigorous style:—

"Then I cursed the Seaside Library and the United States that bred it very copiously, in these terms and others unreported:—

"Because you steal the property of a man's head, which is more his peculiar property than his pipe, his horse, or his wife, and because you glory in your theft, and have the indecency to praise or criticize the author from whom you steal, and because your ignorance, which is as dense as a pickpocket's ignorance of anything outside his calling, leads you to trifle with his spelling, and because you print the stolen property aforesaid very vilely and uncleanly, you shall be cursed with this curse from Alaska to Florida and back again.

"Your women shall scream like peacocks when they talk, and your men neigh like horses when they laugh. You shall call 'round' 'raound,' and 'very' 'varry,' and 'news' 'noos' till the end of time.

"You shall be governed by laws that man and the German, the vendor of drinks and the keeper of vile dens, that your streets may be filthy in your midst, and your sewage arrangements filthy.

"You shall be given over to the cult of tin-pot secret societies and the organizing of 'tuppenny-hapenny' processions, the spouting of nonsense, and the perpetration thereof.

"You shall be governed by laws that you cannot enforce and sentiments that

you cannot control, that the murderer may walk among you a vision of delight to young women and the darling of old maids, while you are engaged in shooting the wrong man.

"You shall prostitute and pervert the English language till an Englishman has neither power nor desire to understand you any more.

"You shall be cursed State by State, Territory by Territory, with a provincialism beyond provincialism of an English country town—you and your governors and what you are pleased to call your literature, your newspapers, and your politics.

"You shall buy your art from France and considerably spoil it in the buying because you are dishonest.

"Your hearts will be so blinded that you shall consider each one of the curses foregoing a blessing to you as it comes about, and finally I myself will curse you more elaborately later on."

## TURNING THE KEY UPON WORRY.

I remember the story of a public man who bore his responsibilities very hard-ly, worried and agonized over them, saying to Mr. Gladstone, who was at that time in the thick of a fierce political crisis: "But don't you had you be awake at night, thinking how you ought to act, and how you ought to have acted?" Mr. Gladstone turned his great, flashing eyes upon his interlocutor, and said, with a look of wonder: "No, I don't; where would be the use of that?" And again I remember that old Canon Beadon—who lived, I think, to his one hundred and fourth year—said to a friend that the secret of long life in his own case was that he had never thought of anything unpleasant after 10 o'clock at night. Of course, if you have a series of comparisons in your brain, and at 10 o'clock can turn the key quietly upon the room that holds the skeletons and nightmares, you are a very fortunate man.

But still, we can all of us do something. If one has the courage and good sense, when in a melancholy mood, to engage in some practical piece of work, it is wonderful how one can distract the great beast that, left to himself, crops and munches the tender herbage of the spirit. For myself, I have generally a certain number of dull tasks to perform, not in themselves interesting, and out of which little pleasure can be abstracted, except the pleasure which always results from finishing a piece of necessary work. When I am wise, I seize upon a day in which I am over-whelmed with a shadow of sadness to clear off the work of this kind. It is in itself distraction, and then one has the pleasure both of having fought the mood and also of having left the field clear for the mind, when it has recovered its tone, to settle down firmly and joyfully to more congenial labors. —The Thread of Gold."

## CANADIAN TICKET AGENTS AT WINNIPEG.

The annual convention of the Canadian Ticket Agents' Association will be held this year at Winnipeg, Man., from October 10th to 14th. The members of the Association from Ontario will make the Western trip via the Grand Trunk Railway System to North Bay, thence via C. P. R. to destination. Many will return via Chicago and the Grand Trunk Railway—The International double track route—thereby enjoying the change of scenery this route affords, besides giving the members the opportunity of visiting Chicago and other Western points. The meeting gives promise of being a most representative one and in this season of Western prosperity the trip is being looked forward to with unusual interest by the members.