

acteristic of the German people. The grand historic memories that Luther's deeds recall will touch their hearts. He freed the Fatherland from the grasp of the papal tyranny. He proclaimed the Gospel of Jesus Christ in opposition to the superstitions of Rome. He gave them a graphic translation of the Sacred Scriptures, and thereby laid the foundation of that noble fabric, the literature of modern Germany. He has left an example of a great and true life, transparent in its simplicity and sincerity, intensely human in its laughter and its tears. His bearing is that of a true hero as he stands before the Imperial and papal magnates in the Diet of Worms; in beautiful simplicity he plays with his children in the home at Wittenberg. This many-sided German, the four hundredth anniversary of whose birth is about to be celebrated, is

"The solitary monk who shook the world."

STRIKE OF THE TELEGRAPHERS.

THE strike of the telegraph operators has evoked a large amount of popular sympathy. Both sides—the representatives of the Great North Western and the Western Union, and the Brotherhood of Telegraphers—have been very pronounced in their antagonism. A spirit of determination has been expressed that there can be no compromise. Each is determined to grasp the victory. So long as this attitude is maintained no satisfactory solution of the difficulty can be reached. Up to the present writing the strike has only been partial. The railway service has not been interfered with, nor have the press despatches been cut off. Commercial telegraphy has suffered most. Business men have had to submit to vexatious delays, but hitherto they have with exemplary patience endured the inconvenience.

The operators have formulated their grievances. They want increased pay for their work and fewer hours of labour. This demand the officials declare to be unreasonable. They also state that they did not receive proper and courteous treatment by those who proffered the request. In view of the contradictory statements given to the public it is difficult to arrive at a proper comprehension of all the facts. Two things are plainly apparent: the operators are earnest and united in their endeavour to obtain an improvement in their circumstances, and the companies are equally determined to resist the demand of the employees.

The telegraph service on this continent has become a gigantic monopoly. Virtually that monopoly controls the lines in Canada and the United States. When competition was possible, and rates lower than at present, far more money was expended in trying to outstrip rival companies than would have satisfied the present demands of the operators. Since the competing companies have been amalgamated there has been rigid economy in some directions. The shareholders and prominent officials have profited by the cessation of competition, but the operators have derived no benefit in an arrangement that has been so profitable to others. The Western Union has been subjected to considerable criticism on account of its method of doing business. The stock has been manipulated by what is known as the watering process. By this means its shareholders obtain large dividends from fictitious capital. This fact and the arbitrary manner in which the employees have been treated has excited general sympathy for them. Their conduct has throughout justly entitled them to that friendly consideration which has been so largely extended.

The conflict between capital and labour is one of the serious problems of modern civilization. If other considerations do not come in to modify the antagonism between them it is easy to see that the contest will be far from equal. On the side of capital there is power. The lot of labour will become more difficult if existing tendencies continue in their present direction. The Gospel of Christ throws light on this as on so many other questions of practical human interest. The embittered relations between employer and employed come of forgetting that the principles of Christianity have a direct application to the affairs of every-day life. The golden rule is applicable to more conditions of existence than the Church and the home circle. Look at the business relations between man and man and the painful discovery is soon made that the application of that divinely simple rule is much too limited. It is but a poor compliment to

pay it in moments of reflection merely to admire its beauty, and whenever there is opportunity for its exercise to displace it by an "enlightened" or any other kind of selfishness.

There is a growing conviction that strikes are barbarous. No doubt they are. So often are the conditions that impel men to resort to them. It is idle to declaim against unions among workmen. The laws imposing penalties against them have been removed. According to the laws of most modern States such unions are legitimate. At all events it is not with a good grace that objections from gigantic monopolies can come. The next step in advance will be the agreement of employer and employed on some authoritative method of arbitration by which disputes can be settled and fair and reasonable remuneration for labour be satisfactorily agreed upon. The sooner strikes become a thing of the past the better for all parties. They entail much suffering and loss to all concerned. They widen the gulf between employers and employed, giving rise to resentments difficult to allay. The less friction there is in the industrial machinery the better for society as a whole. The application of that fair and just rule, "Do unto others as ye would that they should do unto you," would work wonders. This is the essence of practical Christianity, the day will arrive when it will become a recognised maxim of political economy.

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

ST. NICHOLAS. (New York: The Century Co.)—"St. Nicholas" is for the young what the "Century" is for older readers, one of the most attractive magazines that issues from the press. A large staff of writers possessed of the happy talent of securing the interested attention of young people, and a profusion of fine specimens of pictorial art, make the midsummer "St. Nicholas" a number that will delight every reader.

OUR LITTLE ONES AND THE NURSERY. (Boston: The Russell Publishing Co.)—The publishers of this attractive magazine thoroughly understand how to adapt it to the readers for whom it is intended. It is a regular joy-bringer to the little ones. Its contents are varied; there is an amount of judicious and instructive reading, and plenty of the healthy innocent fun in which children delight. The pictorial illustrations are beautiful and life-like.

HARPER'S YOUNG PEOPLE. (New York: Harper & Brothers.)—This first-class juvenile weekly continues as bright and attractive as ever. Much useful information is communicated in a most interesting manner. There is the usual variety of sketch, story and poetry admirably adapted to the large class for whom the magazine is specially designed. The very fine artistic illustrations with which it is embellished are alone more than worth the subscription price.

INDIA: WHAT CAN IT TEACH US? By F. Max Müller, with an Introduction and Notes by Prof. Alexander Wilder, M.D., (New York: Funk and Wagnalls; Toronto: William Briggs.)—This is another of the excellent publications of the "Standard Library." It is the aim of the publishers to place within reach of general readers what is best in religious, scientific and general literature. Recent works issuing from the British press at high prices are reproduced in this series at rates which enable those of slender means to enjoy the luxury of the best class of new books. It would be a difficult thing to name a living scholar occupying a higher place in successful philological research than the author of the volume now under notice. Max Müller has gained the highest place in comparative philology by his life-long devotion to this his favourite pursuit. The present volume contains his latest contribution to Indian research. He has mastered the subject. It was discussed by him in a series of lectures recently delivered at Cambridge University. These lectures form the present volume, are of absorbing interest, and are very instructive. The religious views of the author will not be at all times regarded as accurate, but the American publishers append corrective notes wherever in their judgment they are considered necessary.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin and Company.)—Though destitute of pictorial adornment, the "Atlantic Monthly" is by no means deficient in enterprise. In solid literary merit and general excellence it is abreast of all competitors.

Writers of the highest rank in American literature are among its regular contributors. Brooke Harford writes on "The Trustworthiness of Early Tradition." Henry James continues his descriptive sketches "En Province," and Charles F. Lummis gives interesting "Glimpses of Nahant." "Academic Socialism" is discussed by Herbert Tuttle. Ernest W. Lonnellow gives very readable "Reminiscences of Thomas Couture," the French artist. "In the Old Dominion," by F. C. Baylor is an interesting though brief paper. Olive Thorne Miller made a "Study of a Cat bird" with the results of which she acquaints her readers. "Around the Spanish Coast" is by Charles Dudley Warner. John Bach McMaster's "History of the United States" and the Memoirs of John A. Dix supply subjects for two critical articles. The first work comes in for rather severe, though apparently just treatment. "Reminiscences of Ernest Renan." The Contributor's Club and Books of the Month complete the contents of the August number of the "Atlantic Monthly."

FRANK LESLIE'S SUNDAY MAGAZINE. Edited by T. De Witt Talmage, D.D. (New York: Mrs. Frank Leslie.)—The exposition of episcopacy as one of the "Religious Denominations in the United States" is continued by the Rev. Charles H. Hall, D.D. The present contribution is free from the confident assumption so marked in a former paper on the Protestant Episcopal Church. Among noteworthy articles in the August number of the "Sunday Magazine" may be mentioned "An Esthetic Poet," by Ida E. Harvey; "Historical Influence of Christianity," by Rev. W. W. De Hart, S.T.D.; "Michelangelo Buonarroti," "Sacred Musicians of the Nineteenth Century: Mendelssohn," by Alfreton Hervey; "Among the Natives of the North," by Lieut. Schwatka, U. S. A.; "The Home Pulpit—Spice in Religion," by the Editor; "The American Pilgrim in Palestine," by Edwin De Leon. In addition to these there are several serial stories and a variety of articles of devotional and general interest. A number of poems, some of more than average excellence, appear in the present number. The illustrations are numerous and in several instances superior to any that have yet appeared in this magazine. The "Sunday Magazine" is a marvel of cheapness. For general family reading it is most admirably adapted.

DIO LEWIS'S MONTHLY. (New York: Clarke Brothers.)—This is a new competitor for public favour, but it is a magazine with a mission. The title of this new publication will to most readers indicate what its mission is. The Editor, Dio Lewis, has long been known as a practical and popular writer on medical subjects. If any man should be able to make such an undertaking a success he should. There is every reason to believe that he will. There has been in the past and there is still much apathy regarding most matters pertaining to health. Too often it needs the presence or the apprehension of an epidemic to dispel the indifference of guardians of the public health, and to arouse the interest of people generally. There is a useful sphere for this laudable enterprise of Dio Lewis. The publishers state that the aim of the magazine is to popularize sanatory science. They promise to make the subject of bodily health as simple and interesting as a story. The principle contents of the first number of this new monthly are "A Ride for Life," "Parental Impressions," "A Signal Triumph," "Woman's Figure," "The Pale and Melancholy Young Man," "The good Old Times," and "The Weight of Brains" to the Editor; "An Italian City," by Anna Ballard; "India," by Amrita Lal Roy; "Insane Asylums," by M. Eugenia Berry; "Out-of-Door Life for Girls," by M. L. Holbrook, M.D.; "Herbert Spencer and Grumblers," by Adele Gleason, M.D.; "Health for Women," William B. Garside, M.D.; and "A Raverie of Forgotten Girls," by Lillie Devereux Blake. In addition to these, there is a Hygienic Department and Function of Sunshine under which short but useful health counsels are given. The care of the body is now generally inculcated as a Christian duty. This magazine is designed to spread information of the greatest practical value. It is intended to enlighten the ignorant and thoughtless of the terrible risks they run if they give way to vicious indulgences. To desire a successful career for "Dio Lewis's Monthly" is to wish for the advancement of intelligence and morality.

RECEIVED—"The Canadian Independent"; "Official Guide Book to the Canadian Pacific Railway Lands Situated in Manitoba and the North West Territory."