

Literary Notes.

A CHOICE CHRISTMAS GIFT.—In the selection of a choice Christmas gift, or an addition to one's own library, both elegance and usefulness will be found combined in WEBSTER'S INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY, which is the last of the various revisions and enlargements of the original "Webster." The International represents fifty times the amount of literary labor that was expended upon the earliest edition, and is, without question, the most complete and reliable work of the kind ever published in a single volume. It is warmly endorsed by eminent scholars throughout the English-speaking world, and is a most useful book for the library, the school, the family, the student, and in fact for all who read or write the English language.

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THE Christmas Number of Scribner's Magazine presents a remarkable list of popular writers, including Rudyard Kipling, Robert Grant, H. C. Bunner, Brander Matthews and George W. Cable. In illustration it shows a number of novel features. The number opens with a noble poem by Rudyard Kipling, entitled "McAndrews' Hymn," which gives the philosophical reflections of the old Scotch engineer of an ocean liner. Another poem with striking pictures is "The Woodcutter's Hut," by A. Lampman. H. C. Bunner contributes another of his suburban sketches, in which he quaintly tells "The Story of a Path" from its origin to the present day. Robert Grant, whose story, "A Bachelor's Christmas," was the great success of the last December number, contributes another Christmas tale which should meet with equal favor. It is called "The Matrimonial Tontine Benefit Association." Other fiction is an amusing railway story by Francis Lynde, entitled "By Special Invitation;" the pathetic tale of a spiritualistic medium entitled "Minnehaha," by Eva Wilder McGlasson; the story of a sensational discovery in Egypt, "The Mantle of Osiris," by Walter L. Palmer, and the concluding chapters of "John March, Southerner," together with the fine pictures by clever artists with which almost every article is copiously illustrated, complete one of the most entertaining and artistically attractive numbers of this magazine.

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THE Atlantic Monthly for December contains a memorial article on Dr. Holmes, by the editor, in which mention is very properly made of Dr. Holmes' constancy to that magazine, which had the honor of giving to the public so many of his earlier productions. Mr. William Sharp gives certain letters of Walter Pater, together with some interesting personal reminiscences. An Old-Time Sorosis is an exceedingly interesting account of a Ladies' Literary Society in Norwich, Conn., early in this century. Mr. Franklin Eastman, whose pungent Letter to a Western Friend attracted a good deal of attention, contributes an equally plain-spoken epistle to an English friend. Miss Agnes Repplier considers "Ghosts" in her most delightful manner, and rightly deprecates the attempts now made to lure them from the seclusion in which they habitually dwell. The study of Reginald Pole is concluded, his life as Archbishop of Canterbury being also a history of the attempted restoration of the Church of Rome in the England of Queen Mary. A Christmas flavor is given to the number by Sir Edward Strachey's Christmas at an English Country House, a charming contemporary sketch; and the graceful tale, "The Christmas Angel," Mr. C. Edward Walker's "Suggestions on the

Architecture of Schoolhouses," is an earnest plea for greater beauty in such structures in America. The most noteworthy pieces of fiction in the number is the conclusion of Mrs. Foote's striking novelette, "The Trumpeter," Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.

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MESSRS. HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN & Co., of Boston, New York, and Chicago, have recently published as Number 68 of their Riverside Literature Series (paper, 15 cents) Oliver Goldsmith's "The Deserted Village, The Traveller, and Other Poems." This edition which has been prepared especially for use in schools, contains a Biographical Sketch, an Introduction, Explanatory Notes, and several pages of some of the best known familiar quotations from Goldsmith's writings. In this book will be found all of Goldsmith's most famous poems. The auxiliary matter is new, interesting, instructive, and of high literary merit. Every boy and girl should have an adequate acquaintance with Goldsmith. This excellent number of an admirable series makes it easier to do so.

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The Youth's Companion has just published a calendar for 1895 which is a work of art—indeed, three works of art in one. Scenes typical of three seasons of the year, Winter, Summer, Autumn, are shown. The first picture represents a mother and son pausing in their walk in a snowy field, across which a rabbit is running, much to the amusement of the boy. The artist in the summer scene has pictured three children rowing down a winding river; and were it not for the apples which fill the pan in her arms, one would scarcely imagine that the graceful girl in the third picture was typical of Autumn. Around the pictures are grouped the monthly calendars, tied together by ribbons. This attractive calendar and a full Prospectus for 1895 will be sent free upon application, to anyone considering a subscription to The Companion. From no other paper can so much entertainment and instruction be obtained for so little money (only \$1.75 a year). If you subscribe now you will receive the paper until January 1, 1895, and for a full year from that date, including the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Double Numbers. The Youth's Companion, Boston, Mass.

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THE complete novel for the December issue of Lippincott's is "Mrs. Hallam's Companion," by the well-known writer, Mrs. Mary J. Holmes. It follows from America to Europe, and back again, the fortunes of a young lady who deserved a better position than that of a "companion"—and found it. A short story by the author of "Dodo" will attract general attention. In this case expectations will not be disappointed, for Mr. E. F. Benson has written nothing better than "A Creed of Manners." Miss Ellen Mackubin tells of "A Live Ghost." "A Western Daisy Miller," by Claude M. Girardeau, has the flavor of the prairies, if not of the newer regions beyond. Dr. Charles C. Abbot's account of "An Odd Neighbor" reads like truth rather than fiction. True, too, and historical, are Charles Howard Shinn's recollections of "Don Jaime, of Mission San José." Calvin Dill Wilson has an interesting paper on "Shooting Bob White," and Alvan F. Sanborn another on "Living Pictures at the Louvre." Under the caption "Shall I Study Medicine?" Dr. A. L. Benedict gives some valuable figures and facts concerning doctors and their various experiences. Esmé Stuart writes of "Some Notable Women of the Past," and copies some of their letters. The closing instalment of "Talks with the Trade" discusses "The Personal Element" in literary

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Book Notices, etc.

A Tale of Two Cities, by Chas. Dickens, Boston, U.S.A.: Ginn & Company, 1894.

It is sufficient to say of this book that it belongs to the admirable series of CLASSICS FOR CHILDREN, published by this firm, and is uniform with the numerous other volumes of the series. It is, therefore, beautifully printed on good paper, and neatly bound, and in every respect a most attractive and healthful volume to put into the hands of children, young and old.

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