THE general evenness of excellence of The North American Review is so marked and so widely recognized that it is not easy to find new words of commendation to utter in regard to this sterling periodical, which is absolutely indispensable to every one who wishes to keep abreast of the freshest thoughts on the subjects of greatest interests to the world as furnished by writers of world-wide reputation and specialists in the various fields to which they have devoted their life-work. To say that the high standard of The Review is fully maintained in the issue for May is simply to state the plainest of truths. There is a long array of timely topics treated by notable writers; but the two most interesting to Canadian readers will be "The Hatred of England," by Prof. Goldwin Smith who very clearly shows that there is no ground for the existing Anglophobia in the United States; the other, by Sir. Richard J. Cartwright in the tariff question, in which he discusses the effects of our protective policy on the country. More than the customary space is given to Notes and Comments.

WITH the May number Harper's Magazine very worthily completes its eightieth volume. For frontispicce it has a fine engraving of Aime Morot's painting "Charge of Cuirassiers at the Battle of Resonville." The opening paper by Theodore Child is "Some Modern French Painters," with portraits of several of them, and engravings from some of their best works. "Old New York Taverns," by John Austin Stevens, is illustrated by Howard Pyle, whose drawings of quaint interiors and old time costumes and pastimes embellish almost every page. "Through Bush and Fern," by William Sharp, is an illustrated description of Australian scenery and life in "the bush." Many readers will turn with relish to "English Lyrics under the First Charles," in which Louis Imogen Guiney give a critical account of the chief singers of the period, with portraits from old prints and paintings. Besides the concluding part of Mr. Howell's "The Shadow of a Dream," there are three short stories, "An Ex-Brigadier," by S. B. Elliott, "Susan's Escort," by Edward Everett Hale, illustrated, and "Steam from a Samovar," by E. H. Lockwood. The index of the volume just completed comes with this number.

THE May number of The Forum contains "Republican Promise and Performance," by Ex-Speaker Carlisle, who writes a reply to Senator Dawes' review of the present administration ; "Canada through English Eyes," by Prof. Goldwin Smith, which is a criticism of a portion of Sir Charles Dilke's book on "Problems of Greater Britain; "Literary Criticism," by Archdeacon F. W. Farrar, a review of notable mistakes that have been made by critics about great pieces of literature; "Bible Instruction in Colleges," by the Rev. Benjamin W. Bacon, a statement of the scientific method of studying religious literature as it has recently been begun at Yale; "Jury Verdicts by Majority vote," by Sigmund Zeisler, of the Chicago bar, an argument to show the desirability of a majority instead of a unanimous vote by juries; "Woman's Intuition," by Grant Allen, a study of the peculiar qualities of the mind of Woman as distinguished from the mind of man; "Government by Rum sellers," by the Rev. Dr. Howard Crosby, who shows the controlling power in politics, especially in New York City, and points out the remedy; The May Forum is now at all news-stands. [The Forum Publishing Company, 253 Fifth Ave., N. Y. 50 cents a copy ; \$5.00 a year.

THE frontispiece of the May Cosmopolitan is "The Viking," drawn by Arthur Jule Goodman, to illustrate a short poem with the same title, by Minnie Buchanan Goodman. "Artists and Art Life in Munich," is the subject of 'the opening paper by Prof. E. P. Evans. Kasimis Dzickonska, a Polish fellow-student, gives some very interesting personal reminiscences of Marie Bashkirtseff and Richard Wheatley writes about "The Thieves of New York." "Mouching" will not to some at least suggest the subject matter of a well written paper by Dewey-Bates, but a little lesson in etymology, with which it opens satisfactorily, explains the word and its origin. Dr. D. A. Sargent describes the Hemenway Gymnasium in connection with Harvard University, and Elizabeth Bisland the second stage of "A Flying Trip Around the World." In "A Modern City's Factors of Growth," J. B. Walker gives an account of Denver, which has become from a few tents pitched near a few wigwams in 1860, "the best built and most beautiful city on the continent, with a population of 140,000." All these and "At the Home of a Corean Gentleman," by Col. Charles Chaille Long, "The Rise of the Tall Hat," by Edw. Hamilton Bell, and "The Duc de Morny," by Molly Elliot Seawell, are richly illustrated. The story of the number is "A Schnakerndorf Episode," a posthumous sketch by Porte Crayon, also illustrated.

LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

Kossuth has nearly ready for publication three additional volumes of his memoirs.

MR. AUSTIN DOBSON is writing a series of literary studies to appear, from time to time, in *The Christian* Union.

THE Queen of Roumania, though she is a woman of advanced ideas, and a writer of some repute, does not believe in women speaking in public.

MR. H. D. TRAILL is about to publish under the title of "Saturday Songs," a selection from the political verse contributed by him in the course of the last few years to *The Saturday Review*.

Blackwood's Magazine for May will contain the opening chapters of "A Secret Mission," a novel founded on events arising from the present state of armed tension between the great European Powers.

"PASTELS in Prose," recently published by Messrs. Harper and Brothers, contains a complete translation of Maurice de Guérin's "Centaur," fragments of which the late Matthew Arnold rendered into English for his essay on de Guérin.

THE Authors' Co-operative Publishing Company, limited, announces for next month an *edition de luxe* of "Livingstone in Africa," with in introductory poem on Stanley, by the Hon. Roden Noel, and twenty one original illustrations by Hume Nisbet.

LONGMANS, GREEN AND COMPANY announce the appearance of Mr. W. O'Brien's book, "When We were Boys." They have sole authority to publish this novel in America; and editions issued by them are the only ones from which the author derives any profits.

MR. J. M. OXLEY, of Ottawa, has been more than usually successful of late in placing his stories and articles. He has recently won a prize of \$100.00 for an article to appear in an United States periodical, and is, besides, regularly engaged in work for first-class magazines.

THE April number [No. 46] of the Riverside Literature Series, (published quaterly during each school year, at fifteen cents a single number, by Houghton, Mifflin and Company, Boston) contains Old Testament Stories in Scripture language, from the Dispersion at Babel to the Conquest of Canaan.

THE bass fisher in Rideau Lake, who tells in the May number of *Outing* how he went to scoff and stayed to fish, is the Hon. J. W. Longley. He takes the public into his confidence and tells the story of his conversion in a way to shake the scepticism of others. To read "Bass Fishing in Rideau Lake" is to desire to participate in it.

Too many of our secondary verse-writers seem to have been heedless of the fact that—in Mr. Stedman's words in literature, as in architecture, construction must be decorated, not decoration constructed; that invention must precede both; and that if the imagination be clouded, and the flow of passion be unfelt, it is mere jugglery to compose at all.

MARY E. WILKINS' volume of New England short stories "A Humble Romance," etc., is exciting considerable attention on the other side. The London *Literary World* remarked recently :—" It is to be hoped that these charming idyls will inspire some writer in Old England to crystallize for us some such quaint or curious types of character and idiosyncrasy."

HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND COMPANY published last Saturday "Robert Browning: Personalia," by Edmund Gosse; "Liberal Living upon Narrow Means," by Christine Terhune Herrick; "The Church's Certain Faith," by George Zabriskie Gray, D.D.; and a new edition of "Matthew Calbraith Perry: A Typical American Naval Officer," by William Elliot Griffis, D.D.

THE game of lawn bowls, beloved of the early settlers, and to which the bowling green of New York was devoted in "ye ancient days," has a very interesting and enthusiastic chronicler in Mr. James Hedley, of Toronto. His article in *Outing* for May will introduce this pleasant outdoor pastime, so popular in Canada and Scotland, to many in the States to whom it will be another outdoor sport worth cultivating.

EARLY in the autumn Messrs. W. H. Allen and Company will publish a life of Mrs. Carlyle by Mrs. Alexander Ireland, containing several original letters. who are all men of taste, and not opposed to his candidature. Still, I believe that he will have to wait awhile. Later on, perhaps ; for the Academy must faire des bêtises de temps en temps ; c'est nécessaire."

It would seem that *The Transatlantic* must win the support of the musical public all over the country, judging by the succession of attractions which it has offered to that class of readers. In its issue of April 15th it adds another to its brilliant strokes in this line by giving a selection from Camille Saint-Saëns' new opera, "Ascanio," as well as a fine half-tone portrait of the composer, accompanied by a personal sketch, delightful extracts from his letters, a synopsis of his libretto, and analytical estimates of his works by the best French critics.

SAYS the London Literary World:— The lady whose real name is Olive Schreiner, but who published "A South African Farm"—the popular novel which, with "Robert Elsmere" and "John Ward, Preacher," may be classed as semi-religious, though not on the lines of orthodox Christianity—under the nom de plume of Ralph Iron, has contributed the first of two remarkable papers to The New Review. It is a description of Hell, to be followed, presumably, by one of Heaven. It is an exceedingly bold allegory, and the way in which God is introduced as a speaker may strike some readers as irreverential.

DR. E. N. SNEATH, lecturer on the History of Philosophy, at Yale, has been inspiring the preparation of a series of small volumes of selections from the leading philosophers from Descartes down, so arranged as to present an outline of their systems. Each volume will contain a biographical sketch of the author, a statement of the historical position of the system, and a bibliography. Those so far arranged for are Descartes, by Prof. Ladd, of Yale; Spinoza, by Prof. Fullerton, of the University of Pennsylvania; Locke, by Prof. Russell, of Williams; Berkeley, by ex-President Porter, of Yale; Hume, by Dr. Sneath, of Yale, and Hegel, by Prof. Royce, of Harvard. Kant, Comte and Spencer will certainly be added to the series, and others if encouragement is received. The publishers will be Henry Holt and Company.

A LONDON correspondent remarks in the Manchester Examiner that the 35th exhibition of the Society of Lady Artists confirms the lesson taught by all those that have preceded it. It shows once more that women, although they may sometimes paint strongly, although they may often paint with grace and sympathy, seldom or never have any touch of true pictorial imagination. The present show is made up of no less than 577 works of art, all but some six or eight being pictures in one medium or another. In this appalling list there is not, so far as I can discover, a single thing with a true pictorial reason for existing. Good colour is to be found here and there ; sound drawing, though rare, is not entirely absent; the dexterity of hand which results from keen competition is common enough. But all these good qualities are wasted upon ideas which are essentially non-picturesque. There is not a picture in the place in which design, colour-handling, and light and shade unite to bring out a pictorial conception. The best things are those which are frankly imitative.

In the article on Millet in Scribner's for May, T. H. Bartlett tells of the meetings in Millet's house in Barbizon of "the most illustrious company of artists that ever sat around a table together "-Corot, Daumier, Barye, Rousseau, and Diaz. The following anecdote is related: At all these gatherings, when Diaz was present, there was an accustomed break in the ceremony. He had a wooden leg, and hated above all things talk on art; and whenever the moment of exhausted patience came he would pound the table with his hands, imitate a trumpet with his mouth, bring the end of his stump up against the under side of the table with a fearful thump, and cry out like a wild man, "Thunder of all the Gods, give us peace ! Can't you content yourself by making art all day without gabbling about it all night? Close up !" For each and everyone he had some special designation: of Rousseau, whenever he began to speak, "O there, Rousseau is going to unscrew his chair." When his own opinion was sought he would always reply, "Oh, yes, oh, yes," no matter what the question was or subject discussed. As they did not "close up," Diaz would get up and leave in high indignation, hearing as he passed out of the room this comforting assurance, "Blessed is the door that hides you."

Some of Bismarck's epigrams : "The Bavarian is something midway between an Austrian and a man." "If Austria has astonished the world by her ingratitude, England will astonish it by her cowardice." "God made man in his own image, and the Italian in the image of Judas." "You will recognize the ambassador of France by this,—that he never speaks the language of the country to which he is accredited."

some of them fac-simile which have never before been published. Since the memorials were brought out by Mr. Froude other very valuable matter has appeared, throwing additional light on the character of Mrs. Carlyle, and rendering it desirable that her life should be written.

THE London *Times* has lately given a leader to the career and attainments of Rudyard Kipling. The New York *Critic*, April 26th, contains a long reprint from the *World* (London) of a paper upon the same subject. Readers of THE WEEK will, we hope, recollect that Mr. Kipling was first introduced to American readers in our pages, by allusion and by extracts from his wonderful stories. Mr. Kipling is fond of styling himself "the man who came from nowhere." He is, however, the lion of the present London hour.

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY .- The assets of the North American Life have now reached the handsome figure of \$823,250, as shown in the balance sheet. To this sum must be added the uncalled guarantee fund, which makes the security to policy-holders no less than \$1,063,000; while the surplus on policy-holders account, after deducting reserve, is \$380,000. To have reached this point of success at the end of nine years is remarkable. It is further gratifying to find the assets in excellent shape, of safe character, and well looked after-\$557,000 of them is in first mortgage on real estate. The semi-tontine investment policies issued by this company have become widely popular. An insurant is offered a variety of choices under them, and the power of compound interest is forcibly exemplified in them. It is to be remarked, by the way, that in respect of per centage of surplus to assets the North American shows better than some bigger and older foreign companies, which reflects additional credit upon its wide awake and prudent managers. - Monetary Times, February 7, 1890.

See advt. on page 338.