

mendicant friars, filled him with pain. The effort to build St. Peter's at Rome according to Michael Angelo's magnificent design revealed the venality to which the papacy had sunk. The indulgence-mongering of Tetzel made Luther's silence impossible. This kindled a conflagration which neither Church nor State could extinguish.

Loyalty to his convictions made Luther fearless. Courage on the battle-field is great, but moral heroism is greater still. Posting his theses on the door of Wittenburg Cathedral was more than a highly dramatic incident. The miner's son, a hitherto obscure Augustinian monk, undertook a task from which the boldest baron would have recoiled. He took his life in his hands when he challenged the mightiest power of his age. This undaunted courage never forsook him. And it was true courage, not mere brazen audacity. His readiness to face all danger on his journey to Worms and the moral grandeur of his conduct and speech before the Imperial Diet has few parallels in history.

Another element of Luther's strength was his broad humanity. He was an ideal German in his strong attachment to his home, with its simple pleasures. His love for his children evoked the wealth of his affectionate nature. He could say and write bitter things of his antagonists. He had his faults and the age in which he lived was to some extent responsible for them. Even at a later day Samuel Johnson liked a good hater. If at times his words were half battles there were far more frequent occasions on which they dropped as the dew of Hermon.

He was the champion of religious freedom. He broke the fetters by which the souls of men were enslaved. He gave the German people the Word of God in their own tongue, by which the knowledge of the truth would make them free. Many were the blessings conferred through Luther's instrumentality. No wonder then that at the present time his memory and his work should be commemorated.

The remembrance of the past will give a new impulse to the present, and stimulate to greater endeavour for the advancement of the cause of righteousness and truth. If it were only a mere glorification of the past it would signify but little. It would be a sorry affair merely to garish a prophet's sepulchre if we misunderstand the meaning of his mission and message. The Reformation is a thing of the past. We cannot rest in it. We must go forward. The Church has her reformation work of to-day to accomplish. It is a great and a noble work to which she is called. It is not merely to pull down but to build up. The Gospel which Luther found such a blessing to himself, and which he proclaimed is still the power of God and the wisdom of God, whose command to the Church is "preach the Gospel to every creature."

## BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

**THE MINNEHAHAN.** Professor William R. Dobbin, Literary Editor. (Minneapolis: Cochrane & Dobbin.)—The enterprising publishers of this new and worthy representative of western literature are bound to make it a success. The contents of the October number show that it deserves to succeed.

**HARPER'S YOUNG PEOPLE.** An illustrated weekly (New York: Harper & Brothers.)—Every week this beautiful magazine sheds pleasures in the many thousand homes into which it enters. Its articles, poems and stories, with many fine pictures, are admirably fitted to instruct, delight and amuse the large class of readers for which it is intended.

**ELECTRA.** A Belles Lettres Magazine for Young People. Edited by Annie E. Wilson and Isabella M. Leyburn. (Louisville, Ky.: Isabella M. Leyburn.)—"Electra" is steadily advancing in public favour. The October number presents its readers with a number of short readable articles on a variety of subjects. It also contains a clear cut steel engraved portrait of Professor Edison. "Electra" has a career of usefulness before it.

**CASSELL'S FAMILY MAGAZINE.** (Toronto: J. P. Clougher.)—Although the October number of this excellent magazine has been somewhat late in arriving it is not behind in any other respect. Its conductors have a good idea of what a serial intended for family reading ought to be. Every household into which it comes will be the better for its coming. It fully merits the favour with which it is received. Its con-

tents are varied, interesting and instructive. Its illustrations are profusely supplied and well executed.

**ST. NICHOLAS.** Edited by Mrs. Mary Mapes Dodge. (New York: The Century Co.)—"St. Nicholas" has entered with this number on a new volume. It has achieved an immense success. The favour with which this splendid magazine for the young has been received is an excellent augury for the future. Its educative power must tell powerfully for good on the minds of its readers. The arrangements made by the publishers for future numbers are on a most liberal scale, and the result is sure to be that "St. Nicholas" will become a greater favourite than ever.

**KNOX COLLEGE MONTHLY.** (Toronto: Printed by C. Blackett Robinson.)—Academic literature begins to effloresce with the winter season. The reappearance of "Knox College Monthly" is cordially welcomed, and its conductors are to be congratulated on the marked improvement of the November number. There is an admirable and appreciative sketch of the Rev. William Rintoul. It is followed by the now famous lecture with which Professor MacLaren opened the present session of Knox College, "Calvinism in its Relation to other Theistic Systems." The editorials are written with considerable *verve*, and the personals—yes, they are personals.

**THE CATHOLIC PRESBYTERIAN.** (New York: Anson D. F. Randolph & Co.)—That the present number maintains the acknowledged excellence of this magazine will be seen from the following summary of articles and their writers: "Montanism and its Modern Representatives," by Professor Philip Schaff, D.D., LL.D., New York; "Our Lord's Method of Dealing with Different Classes," the Editor, Dr. W. G. Blaikie; "Friends in Council concerning Presbyterianism," by Rev. A. C. Murphy, D. Lit., London; "Bible Revision in Germany," by Professor Blanke, D.D., Aberdeen; "Land Tenure in Bible Times—IV.—Bearing on Recent Questions," by Richard Reid, Kirkintilloch; and "Bogatky as a Lay Preacher," by Rev. John Kelly, London. Then come Portfolio Leaves, Notes of the Day, American Notes, by the corresponding editor, Dr. G. D. Mathews, of Quebec, General Survey and Open Council. Several of these papers are of great interest and value.

**THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY.** (Boston: Houghton Mifflin & Co.)—"The Atlantic Monthly" appeals to an intellectual constituency. It rests its claims on the vigorous thought and literary excellence of its contents. It is one of the leading magazines of America. Month by month it lays before its readers a varied series of articles. Its contributors are recognized celebrities of our time. Among them are such writers as George Parsons Lathrop, Henry James, Charles Dudley Warner and many others of equal eminence. In the present number are papers on "The Trustworthiness of the Hebrew Traditions," a sketch of Ezra Ripley, D.D., by Rolph Waldo Emerson. "A Noble Lady," by Maria Louise Henry; "Recollections of Rome During the Italian Revolution," by William Chaney Langdon; "The New Departure in Negro Life," by O. W. Blackhall; and "What Instruction Should be Given in our Colleges?" by Albert S. Bolles. "A Roman Singer," "En Province," and "Newport" are continued. Poetry and Criticism are well represented in the present number of "The Atlantic Monthly."

**THE HOMILETIC MONTHLY.** (New York: Funk & Wagnalls.)—The November number of the "Homiletic Monthly" contains many excellent contributions. Besides sermons by preachers of acknowledged eminence and usefulness and sermon outlines there is much that the Christian minister will find valuable and useful. Dr. Ormiston's "Commentary on the Epistle of James"; Dr. Chambers' series of papers on "Misquoted Scriptures"; Dr. Broadus' "Critical Estimate of certain Preachers," and "Best Methods of Preaching" are continued; while "New Reading of Familiar Texts in the Old Testament," by Dr. Samson, and "Light from the Post-Biblical Literature of the Jews" by Rabbi Max Moll are begun. A brief paper, of more than ordinary interest by Dr. Philip Schaff on "The Oldest Christian Sermon" appears in this number. It is a translation of a portion of Clement's second Epistle, recently discovered in a Constantinople convent library. There is also the usual amount of varied, useful and interesting reading to be found in the pages of the "Homiletic Monthly."

**THE CENTURY MAGAZINE.** (New York: The Century Co.)—The November number, the first of a

new volume of the "Century" is a charming one. An autograph and portrait of Queen Victoria at the age of nineteen, engraved from Thomas Sully's picture, is given as the frontispiece. Mrs. Oliphant contributes a paper on Queen Victoria which is illustrated by an engraving of Bassano's portrait. The principal illustrated articles—and the illustrations are for the most part very beautiful—are "The Bull Fight" by Charles Dudley Warner; "An American Artist in England," by Mrs. Schuyler van Rensselaer; "The Scenes of Cable's Romances," by Lafcadio Hearn; "Tourgenieff in Paris," by Alphonse Daudet; "Glimpses of Paris," by J. D. Osborne; "Nature in England," by John Burroughs. George W. Cable begins "Dr. Sevier," in this number, and chapter IV. of "The Bread-Winners" appears. There are a number of short papers, stories and poems, as also the usual departments with which readers of "The Century" are familiar. "The Century" starts out on a new volume with a magnificent number.

**THE EMIGRANTS.** A Tale of the Last Century. From the German of Franz Hoffmann, translated by Mrs. H. D. Conrad. (Philadelphia: American Sunday School Union.)—The celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of the landing of the first German settlers in the United States adds a fresh interest to a work like that now before us. The early emigrants to this continent were not all impelled by ambition and the desire to achieve worldly success. Many were driven by persecution. They sought freedom to worship God. The translator, in a brief preface gives an account of the circumstances leading to the early settlement of Protestant Germans in the New World. She says "the interesting story of Emanuel Wackerman and his family, which Franz Hoffmann has so vividly related in the following pages, presents a striking illustration of the best traits of German Protestants, exiled from their country for conscience' sake; also of the peculiar kindness and sympathy, or *gemuthlichkeit* of the true German character, to express which there is no equivalent word in English." It is a good story and it teaches valuable lessons.

**FRANK LESLIE'S SUNDAY MAGAZINE.** Edited by T. De Witt Talmage, D.D. (New York: Mrs. Frank Leslie.)—"The Sunday Magazine" is brightened in appearance by a new design for its cover. The familiar face of its editor is replaced by plain but tasteful lettering. The contents are varied, useful and instructive. As public attention is now largely directed to Martin Luther, considerable space is given to articles bearing on the life and times of the great German Reformer. There is an admirable paper, by Professor Conrad on "Luther and His Work." Then there are "Lutheriana" and "Albert Durer: A Christian Artist" in which characteristic specimens of his work are reproduced and "The Luther Festival in Germany." There come an excellent sketch of the late John Angell James of Birmingham; A Sermon by the Editor; "St. Elizabeth of Hungary and Her Church"; "Sacred Musicians of the Nineteenth Century—Richard Wagner," by Alfreton Harvey; and the "Apostle of Greenland." In addition there is a large selection of varied and profitable reading. "Mr. Burke's Nieces," short sketches and tales, and a large number of engravings make this number specially attractive.

**HARPER'S MAGAZINE.** (New York: Harper & Brothers.)—The November number of "Harper's" completes the sixty-seventh volume of this standard magazine. It has not only grown in years it has also gained steadily in excellence. The frontispiece presents to the reader a realistic picture of a scene that belongs to the past. The stage coach has arrived and the wearied passengers are glad their tedious journey is over. It bears the suggestive title "At Last," and illustrates a poem by Austin Dobson. Amongst the principal articles in the present issue may be mentioned "A Vacation in Vermont," "Some Glimpses of Artistic London," "The Metropolitan Opera House," "Sir Moses Montefiore," and "Evacuation of New York by the British in 1873." These are all profusely illustrated with engravings of that high standard of excellence with which the readers of "Harper's" are familiar. "The Castle in Spain" is concluded, while several short stories enliven the number. Poetry is also well represented by a translation from Victor Hugo, and contributions from E. C. Bradley, Herbert E. Clarke, Sarah Orne Jewett and Edgar Fawcett. The Easy Chair, Drawer and Records are entertaining, instructive and curious. "Harper's Magazine," maintains its accustomed excellence.