

EXCHANGES.

The number of "McGee's Illustrated Weekly" which now lies before us is replete with interesting matter. It contains a lengthy biographical sketch, with portrait, of the Honorable William E. Robinson, M. C., Brooklyn; the Holly Gatherers; Mixing the Christmas Pudding; Scenes on the Blackwater, Ireland; Map of Modern Russia, showing its "resources of civilization"; Sir Walter Raleigh in Ireland, by SIR JOHN POPE HENNESSY; Madeleine, from the French of Jules Sandeau, of the French Academy; editorials, poetry, literature, etc. Altogether a most interesting number.

The Wyoming Monthly is the title of a literary magazine lately published in Buffalo, N.Y. This magazine will, undoubtedly, fill the void long felt in the literary world, since its columns are exclusively devoted to poetry and prose from the pens of the ablest American writers in the English language. The present number, which now lies open before us, contains a masterly article on "Miracle Plays," a well conceived review of the life and works of Sir Walter Scott; a short article on Tennyson, and interesting notes concerning several of our American colleges. We trust that a bright career in the literary arena may crown the editors of *The Wyoming Monthly*.

The Treasury comes to us, for the first time, from Shannock, R.I. It presents a very neat appearance, and contains many short but well written articles on Christmas, New Year, Peace, etc. We would call the attention of the Editor to the collocation of the editorials. In our opinion, there should be a particular place assigned to them. It greatly detracts from the merits of the journal to find its editorial articles scattered here and there without any fixed order. We welcome *The Treasury* to our sanctuary.

Donohoe's Magazine, published monthly in Boston, Mass., contains this month an article on the life of the late Archbishop McHale. The character of the illustrious prelate is vividly portrayed in terms worthy of the pen of the great Boswell. The sanctity, patriotism, and great erudition of the deceased John of Tuam awaken in our minds sentiments of devotion akin to worship. Another article worthy of the highest encomiums is a review of the "British Empire" by Cardinal Manning. In the January number the *Magazine* opens a new serial story entitled, "True to His Memory;" it emanates from the gifted mind of Justin F. McCarthy. We are glad to learn that Rev. Abram J. Ryan, the poet priest of the South, will regularly contribute to *Donohoe's Magazine*. We wish the *Magazine* the success it justly merits.

The College Message, from Cape Girardeau, is, in our estimation, the ablest of our College Exchanges. Indeed, its neat arrangement predisposed us to expect a remarkable degree of interior worth, nor have we been disappointed. The poem which covers the first page demanded

our attentive perusal, though it was not the offspring of a mind sheltered under the Girardeau roof. We do not condemn any college journal, professing to be original, which occasionally reproduces such a masterpiece as Bryant's "Thanatopsis." It should be read by all students, since it exhibits a grand model of poetic composition. The essays are carefully composed, and are, withal, substantial and logical. The editorials are happily selected and the "Messages" and "Rakings" are amusing, and have a great tendency to the humorous. Would, we could say that the typography of the *College Message* was as bright as its literary contents. Why not rectify this, and enable us to gainsay ourselves? Welcome to our table!

DIVERSA.

—The teaching in English schools is gradually and surely passing out of the hands of the clergy.

—English astronomers acknowledge indebtedness to American art for moon photographs.

—A new Irish paper, edited by John Finnerty, will make its debut at Chicago on Jan. 14th.

—Bovier has been elected President of the Swiss Confederation, and Riechacouet, Vice-President for 1882. Bovier was Vice-President for 1881.

—The points of gold pens consists of an alloy of iridium, osmium ruthenium and rhodium, which is called iridosmine—the hardest metal known.

—Though commonly supposed to be so, platinum is not the heaviest of the elements; the specific gravity of osmium (not rolled) is 22.477, whilst that of platinum (not rolled) is only 21.5.

—A good idea is given of the wonderful increase in the number of books, by the statement that 15,000 are printed yearly in Germany alone.

—Professor Seeley is of the opinion that historical societies should become more political and less archaeological, and create a public to whom the scientific historian might address himself.

—The graduates and undergraduates of the university at Toronto have decided to produce Sophocles' play of "Antigone" in the original Greek, after the manner in which "Œdipus Tyrannus" was presented at Harvard.

—The *aqua regia* of the old alchemists was a mixture of one volume of nitric and three volumes of chlorhydric acid, which alone has the power of dissolving gold, the rex metallorum of the Ancients.

—Herr Schott, one of the great European tenors, has signed an engagement for a six months' trip in America. The European votaries of the arts seem not averse to American admiration and money.

—The number of elementary substances now known is seventy-seven. Within five or six years fourteen new ones have been recognized