

tration of mediæval folk-lore. The introduction is a monograph on the literature of *Exempla*, brimful of information and suggestion. In the "Analysis and Notes" every *exemplum* is traced (where possible) to its origin and followed through all the stages of its history down to the present. Carefully compiled indexes to the *Exempla* and Notes complete a work which does honour both to Prof. Crane and to the Society.

Through the Magazines.

THE 'VARSITY,

the organ of the students of the University of Toronto, now in its tenth volume, is by no means the least praiseworthy of college journals. It is edited with judgment, and its comments on current events, its essays, poetry, criticism and budget of news are pointed, forcible and readable. In a paper on "The Decay of Fiction," in the last number, Mr. S. B. Leacock, one of the associate editors, makes the following remarks: "Only in two or three points has a decided advance been made in fiction. The author's *répertoire* of characters has been overhauled, and several personages formerly great favourites and considered as the first essential of a novel have been discarded. The hero and the heavy villain have been the most important victims; we have grown to recognize the fact that no man is utterly bad or utterly good, that there are infinite shades of complexity in our nature which forbid such a rough classification. The fiendishness of a Bill Sykes is as unnatural as the sickly sinlessness of a Nicholas Nickleby. Strangely enough, though, the heroine keeps her place still. Though the author must feel that her universal excellence is totally impossible, he abates no jot or tittle of her virtues, except perchance to say as a sacrifice to the consciousness of her impossibility, that her mouth was a trifle too large. Until the heroine is dethroned and the depiction of character restored to its proper place, modern fiction can never attain to its past brilliancy." The office of the *'Varsity* is in Rooms 3 and 5, Bank of Commerce building, corner of Spadina Avenue and College Street.

TRAVEL.

The periodical that bears this title is published by Mr. W. M. Griswold, of Bangor, Maine, at \$2 a volume of twenty-four numbers. As the name implies, it is devoted to the record of recent travel in parts of the world as yet little known, having regard, however, to the style of the narrator as well as to the interest of his experiences. Mr. Griswold gathers his material from various sources and he invites co-operation from all who are interested in his enterprise. He concerns himself exclusively with the reprinting of what he deems of permanent value in the contributions to magazines and newspapers, and will be grateful for any information as to articles worthy of republication. Among the contents of late numbers of *Travel* is an account of a visit to the Pyrenees by Dr. J. Burney Yeo, reproduced in an abridged form, from the *Fortnightly Review* of August, 1880. "On the Mosel," is the title of an article by C. W. R., taken from *Fraser's Magazine*, of October, 1863. This is also abridged. "To and from Zermatt," by the Rev. G. Carless Swayne, is from the same periodical (August, 1870). "In the Eastern Pyrenees" (*Good Words*, April, 1880); "In the Sabine Mountains;" "Sicilian Days," by A. J. Cuthbert Hare (*Good Words*, March and April, 1882); "Wiesen" (*Gentleman's Magazine*, March, 1886), by G. Burnaby; "In the Eifel" (*Fraser's Magazine*, January, 1885); "The Bohemian Forest" (*Cornhill Magazine*, September, 1884), are others of Mr. Griswold's selections, and an index to numbers 1-60, which accompanies the specimen sent us, gives the titles of a considerable number of other records of travel in Spain, France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Scotland, Ireland, Austria, Belgium, Holland, England and the United States. The articles that we have had an opportunity of reading are all bright, entertaining and instructive, and would certainly be serviceable to persons intending to visit the localities described. Mr. Griswold appends notes to each article, indicating changes that call for a modification of the writers' statements or referring the reader to other authorities on the topic treated. He has also adopted certain alterations in spelling, as "throu," "ruf," "tollo," instead of "through," "rough," "follow," etc. The reader who is desirous of learning more about this undertaking may obtain full particulars by writing to him. (Bangor, Maine; W. M. Griswold.)

THE DIPLOMATIC FLY-SHEET.

This publication is issued from the office of the *Diplomatic Review*, with which some of our readers are, doubtless, familiar. It deals, as its name indicates, with great international questions from a thoroughly independent point of view—the editor and his colleagues holding very strong convictions on certain subjects. It depends for support entirely on the sympathy and generosity of students of international law, and such questions as come under the head of diplomacy. Important documents and comments on public matters have appeared in both the *Review* and the *Notes*. The number of the latter for October has a long article on "The Future of China;" the continuation of an article on the Newfoundland French Shore question, and a paper on the Prerogative of the Crown and Mr. Gladstone's misrepresentations. The first of these is by Demetrios C. Boulger; the second and third by Mr. C. D. Collet (the editor). They are all worthy of careful study. The *Diplomatic News* and the *Diplomatic Review* are printed at the Bedford Press, 26 and 27 Bedfordbury, London, W. C., and published by C. D. Collet at 7 Coleridge Road, Finsbury Park, London, N.

THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER.

The Canadian Manufacturer, Toronto, announces that its subscription price will hereafter be one dollar per year instead of two dollars as heretofore. The size of the pages and the number of them will remain unchanged, and it will be issued twice a month as it has been ever since its establishment in 1882. It is devoted to the manufacturing interests of Canada, and is a staunch supporter of the National Policy.

POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY.

A timely article, in view of the recent visit to this continent of the Iron and Steel Institute, appears in the December number of the *Popular Science Monthly*. It is from the pen of Mr. W. F. Durfee, and is entitled "First Steps in Iron-Making." It is the opening paper in a series of illustrated articles dealing with "The Development of American Industries Since Columbus," which is sure to be of exceptional importance. The problem presented by some features of Italian immigration is treated wittily by Mr. Appleton Morgan. Students of natural history will enjoy Dr. Henry McCook's illustrated paper on the "Defences of Burrowing Spiders." Some of the "Experiences of a Diver" are disclosed by Prof. Herman Fol. A timely and readable contribution on "Prairie Flowers of Late Autumn" is from the pen of Prof. Byron Halstead. Some of our readers may have heard some interesting things about the "Point Barrow Eskimos" during the visit to this city of the British Association. Fresh light is shed on the subject by Mr. John Murdoch. Other important articles are Mr. G. C. Branner's account of "The Pororoca; or, Bore of the Amazon," Dr. Henri Hertz's popular presentation of his recent discoveries in an article entitled "The Identity of Light and Electricity," Dr. Handfield Jones's answer to the question "What is Individualism?" and Prof. E. du Bois-Reymond's biographical sketch of Adelbert von Chamisso, to whom is assigned the place of honour in the frontispiece. The *Popular Science Monthly* was established by the late Prof. E. L. Youmans, and is edited by Dr. W. J. Youmans. The price of subscription is \$5 per year. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.

After nearly fifty years of useful life, the *Living Age* is as worthy as ever of its suggestive name. It represents the best literary outcome of the time to-day as ably and fully as it did when the great Victorian era was in its infancy. A weekly magazine, it gives over three and a quarter thousand large and well-filled pages of reading matter—forming four large volumes—every year. Its frequent issue and ample space enable it to present with freshness and completeness the ablest essays, reviews and criticisms, the choicest serial and short stories, the most interesting sketches of travel and discovery, the best poetry and the most valuable biographical, historical, scientific and political information from the entire body of foreign periodical literature, and from the pens of the most eminent writers of the time. It is, in short, the only satisfactorily complete compilation of current literature; and with the constant growth of this literature in extent and importance, the value of the *Living Age* has steadily increased. It is an indispensable magazine in these busy times, as it easily enables one to keep abreast with the intellectual progress of the age. The subscription price (\$8 a year) is low for the amount of reading furnished, while the publishers make a still cheaper offer, viz.: to send the *Living Age* and any one of the America four-dollar monthlies or weeklies, a year, both postpaid, for \$10.56; thus furnishing to the subscriber at small cost the cream of both home and foreign literature. To any subscriber desiring to take more than one other periodical in connection with the *Living Age*, the publishers will forward clubbing rates on application. They also offer to send to all new subscribers for the year 1891, remitting before Jan. 1st, the weekly numbers of 1890 issued after the receipt of their subscriptions, *gratis*. Messrs. Littell & Co., Boston, are the publishers.

NEW ENGLAND MAGAZINE.

There is a sufficiently diversified feast of good things in the last issue of the *New England Magazine*. The reading matter takes in many interests. There is abundant food for reflection in the Rev. A. D. Mayo's estimate of "The Third Estate in the South" and its potency for good and evil—the former, especially. The author corrects some traditional misconceptions in a kindly spirit, and what he says of the duty of Southern freemen towards themselves and towards Southern freedmen is fair and timely. The article may be studied along with Dr. Charles Levermore's "Impressions" and some telling comments on the situation in the Editor's Table. The Rev. E. E. Hale treats, with his accustomed clearness and insight, of a subject—"The Professor in America"—which he has mastered and which gives him occasion for some striking and very suggestive comparisons. An interesting chapter in new-world biography is offered by Mr. Ashton K. Willard in his illustrated sketch of the life and work of Charles Bulfinch, the architect. Mr. W. Henry Winslow has something worth heeding to say about "Japanese Popular Art," of which some curious examples are given. "The New England Newgate," by Mr. Edwin A. Start, is an account of a spot that is haunted by the memories of nearly two centuries—the old Newgate prison of Connecticut—"a unique place," as the author justly describes it, "among the antiquities of New England." Its story introduces us to many changing scenes, and constitutes a really remarkable by-path in the industrial, penal and military development of New England. The illustrations are extremely effective. Mr. W. Blackburn Harte takes us by stage coach into the Adirondacks, whither no one will regret accompanying him.

"Fifty years in a Canadian University, by Mr. J. J. Bell, M.A., is a concise historical sketch of Queen's College and University, Kingston, fully illustrated. Portraits of the Chancellor, Sandford Fleming, Esqre., C.M.G., LL.D., the Principal, Dr. Grant, Profs. Watson and Williamson, and the registrar, the Rev. George Bell, LL.D., with views of Kingston, Queen's, as it is now, and its first home, adorn the article. The rest of the number, including poems by Laura E. Richards ("General Kukusha"), Sarah K. Bolton, C. G. Rogers, Jefferson Fletcher, etc., and a story by Dorothy Prescott, "Poor Mr. Ponsonby," is up to the usual high standard. The frontispiece is a beautiful view of the central building of the McLean Asylum, in illustration of Bulfinch's style. The magazine is published by the New England Magazine Corporation, 86 Federal street, Boston.

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

We have been favoured with copies of the Christmas Number of the *Illustrated London News* and "Father Christmas," the children's issue of that admirable paper. Of them both we need hardly say that they are very handsome and worthy of the high literary and pictorial reputation of that leader in illustrated journalism. "Idle Moments," by Madrazo; "The Swing," "Little Jack Horner" (from J. Van Beer's picture, in possession of the Comte de Flandre), and "Happy Times," a reproduction of the painting of Fred. Morgan, R.A., make up the tale of the supplements, and no one will regret investing in them. Messrs. Ingram Brothers (London and New York) are the publishers.

We have received, as we go to press, the last number of the *Canadian Indian*, the *Magazine of American History* (which has an article on the La Salle Homestead by Mr. John Fraser), of the *Kindergarten* and of that always welcome organ of the Canadian book trade, *Books and Notions*.

The Sun's Return.

Yesterday the rain was falling,
(Half alive all things were crawling),
Falling without stop and steady
On the roads, a muck already.
Four long days the rain had lasted;
Grain and fruit so long had fasted
From the sun, they lacked their ruddy
Colour and looked dull and muddy;
Could the flowers and trees have uttered
All they felt, they would have muttered
Something like this: "Quantum sufficit!
Dear me, dear me, pretty rough isn't it!"
The cut grain lay all soaked and sodden
In the fields, fit to be trodden
Under foot, and the poor farmer,
Who, some say, seldom waxes warmer
In praise of things than facts will warrant,
Eyed gloomily the endless torrent.
Horses, poultry, sheep and cattle
Watched the elemental battle
From the fold, or helter skelter
Scoured the fields in quest of shelter.

Within doors it was not much better,
To follow truth's self to the letter;
If naught was said, the very silence
Oppressed, and banished every smile hence;
Or old men grunted, children fretted;
It seemed as though each soul were wetted,
As though the rain, like rum and toddy,
Had soaked us all, both soul and body.
If in the roof was chink or cranny
Or nail-hole, fell the drops uncanny;
Not only on the floor they fell,
Into the heart and soul as well.

I looked abroad; the sky was black,
Covered with clouds the Sun-god's track;
The Storm had piled his cloud defences,
As if to hide all evidences
Of possible sunshine, giant barrier
O'er which in truth could pass no carrier
Of message to or from the Sun-god,
Ruled were not all gods by the One God.
No Grecian, Roman, Gothic structure;
No theatre or aqueduct, sure;
No pyramid on plain Egyptian,
Could so outdistance all description
As those cloud battlements and towers
Reared by the elemental powers
To guard their conquest from their foemen.
With golden shafts, the Sun's brave bowmen.

This morning told another story;
I woke in a warm bath of glory;
Around me and upon my pillow
Was poured a flood of red and yellow;
I heard, or thought I heard, one say:

"No cloud walls can keep me away
From those I love, and I love all;
No wind or rain-god can enthrall
The world for long; my gold I scatter
And soon must cease the long rain's patter.
Who know me knew that not deserted
Were men when I my face averted;
For the world's sake alone I leave it,
And to enrich it, not bereave it!
When rain and storm their work have done,
The earth is ready for the Sun;
Then cloud and wind before me fall,
And I return, the lord of all."