

A NEW VOLUME OF THE LIVING AGE.—The two hundred and eighth volume of *Littell's Living Age* opens with the issue of the week ending January 4th. For 1896 the subscription price will be six dollars. The reduction in price means no reduction in size or falling off in value, or any lowering of the high standard which it has always maintained. Foreign periodical literature continues to grow not only in bulk but also in the variety, interest and importance of the topics treated: and it absorbs to a greater extent every year the works of the most prominent authors of the day. Littell & Co., Boston, are the publishers.

VIKINGS OF TO-DAY.—Through the kindness of H. C. Burchell, Esq., of St. John's, Newfoundland, we have received a copy of Dr. Grenfell's admirable book on the "Vikings of To Day; or, Life and Medical Work Among the Fishermen of Labrador." (London: Marshall Brothers.) We had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Grenfell, a zealous young physician, who has devoted himself with a rare enthusiasm to ministering to the hardy toilers of the sea who visit the stormy coasts of Labrador. Dr. Grenfell gives a graphic account of the country and its natural features and resources, describes how fish are caught, the peculiar features of the truck system, with chapters on seals and sealers' dogs and difficulties, deeds of heroes, and the like. It is a contribution of permanent value to some little-known aspects of Canadian life and work. It has numerous engravings from photos taken by Dr. Grenfell.

At a meeting of the General Executive Committee of the Ontario Sunday-school Association, the General Secretary made the following reference to the Home Class Department:

"The Home Class Department grows apace. No phase of our work has commended itself so unanimously as this seeming solution for the problem for the 'ingathering' of the 80 per cent. of our population which is now outside the circle of 'Bible searchers.' In every county convention I have attended the scheme has received more enthusiastic attention, and in not a few a special secretary in charge of this Department has been appointed. Inquiries are almost daily received through the mail for information and specimen circulars etc., with a view of organizing the work on this plan for letting the 'light shine.' In demonstration of the out-reaching influence of this new department in our work, an interesting circumstance was related to me by one of the prominent Sunday-school workers of our province. Finding himself in a remote hamlet on the shore of the island of Jamaica, he entered a small store to make a purchase, and, finding the store in charge of an old colored woman, enfeebled and crippled, he questioned her as to her familiarity with the Word of God, when, with eager pride, she pointed to her Home Class card and

lesson list, saying, 'I'm too old and lame to join the Sunday-school, but I long to de Home Class 'partment, and I keeps dis Bible side me all de time.' Most discouraging is the attitude of church members to the Sunday-school. If the Sunday-school is part of the Church, those who are members of the Church must be members of the Sunday-school in some capacity, else they are but partial members."

Book Notices.

The Soul-Winner; or, How to Lead Sinners to the Saviour. By C. H. SPURGEON. Toronto: Fleming H. Revell Co. Price, \$1.25.

In these pages the eloquent and evangelical Spurgeon, being dead, yet speaketh. The motto, taken from Keble, "The salvation of one soul is worth more than the framing of a Magna Charta of a thousand worlds," expresses the key-note of this volume. Mr. Spurgeon was by his preaching and writing one of the greatest soul-winners; and by his printed words still continues to be the means of the conversion of many all over the world. This book was designed as a course of lectures to the students of the pastor's college on that most royal employment—soul-winning; and it was almost ready for the press at the time of his death. It treats of such important subjects as: What is it to win a soul? qualifications, obstacles, etc. One chapter has the striking title, "How to Raise the Dead," an address to Sunday-school teachers. Another is, "The Cost of Being a Soul-Winner." Others are, "The Soul-Winner's Reward," "Soul-Saving Our One Business," "Instruction and Encouragement in Soul-Winning."

Antipas, Son of Chuza, and Others Whom Jesus Loved. By LOUISE SEYMOUR HOUGHTON. New York: Anson D. F. Randolph & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, \$1.50.

More and more is the life of our Lord made the subject of deep and thoughtful study, and more and more is the effort made to realize the environment and conditions of society in the time of our Lord, and other influences affecting the early spread of His doctrines. Not only is this shown in the higher criticism of the day, which is throwing such light upon the Scriptures, but also in the stories which seek to reproduce the times of Christ and give a verisimilitude of their local conditions. If this be done with devout and reverent feeling, with careful study and with a due exercise of the historic imagination, it cannot but be helpful to the better appreciation of the life of our Lord. These conditions have been more than usually well met, we judge, in the story under review. It gives vivid pictures of life and society in Palestine in the times of Jesus, and gives a new setting to familiar incidents of the gospels. The book has fifteen engravings, most of which