

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE.

UNPUBLISHED letters of Andrew Jackson are in the February *Overland*.

Littell's Living Age for February 13 contains an excellent short story entitled "A Trim Exploit," from *Longmans*. Milton's "MacBeth," from the *Nineteenth Century*, is a notable article.

AN article on the labour question begins the February *Popular Science Monthly*. It is entitled "Personal Liberty." "An Experiment in Education" by Mrs. Aber is concluded. "Homely Gymnastics" is a valuable paper by Miss Tweedy. Other papers are by M. E. Blanchard, Daniel Spillane and others.

THE second paper on "American Illustrations of To-day" is given in the February *Scribner's*. The examples of work given are numerous and beautiful. The short stories are by Octave Thanet, E. C. Martin and Bliss Perry. "The Wrecker" continues in interest and mystery. "Station Life in Australia," by Sidney Dickinson, is an especially interesting paper.

"JOHANNA," by Mary E. Wilkins, is the opening story in the *Youth's Companion* of February 18th. "How to see Famous Cities." Paris is by Louise Imogin Guiney. There is a paper by Sir Morell MacKenzie of special interest now since the author rests from his labours. A Canadian, E. W. Thompson, has lately become one of the editors of the *Youth's Companion*.

THE *Review of Reviews* has selected David B. Hill as the most conspicuous American for February. Two character sketches are given, one by Charles A. Collin and the other by an unknown author. Mr. Albert Shaw describes "The Polytechnic and its Chicago Excursion." Russia is freely and ably treated in this month's issue. The illustrations touch on all recent events.

"A GIRL OF THE PERIOD," by Mrs. Oliphant, appears in the February *English Illustrated Magazine*. It is in the author's happiest vein. A portrait of Mr. Balfour is the frontispiece. Henry James contributes

an able and timely article on Mrs. Humphry Ward, also accompanied by a portrait. "Locomotive Works at Crewe" and "How Pianos are Made" are two especially interesting industrial articles.

Goldthwaite's Geographical Magazine for January opens with an interesting article by Mr. W. M. Davis on "The Ancient Shore Lines of Lake Bonneville" (Utah.) This magazine is of great value to teachers, and its departments are full of fresh and useful material for class-work. Several of the articles are illustrated.

A Short History of the English People. By John Richard Green. Illustrated edition. Part V. 1s. (London and New York: Macmillan & Co.)

University of Toronto Examination Papers. 1891. (Toronto: Rowsell & Hutchison.) It has become necessary, owing to the very large number of Examination Papers, to omit the list of graduates and undergraduates, etc., which formerly prefaced this volume and made it valuable as a book of reference. Great is the learning displayed.

Macmillan's Elementary Classics:

Tales from Herodotus. Edited by G. S. Farnell, M.A. (London: Macmillan & Co. and New York.) Twenty tales from Herodotus are here presented, arranged suitably for easy Greek reading. Some difficulties, especially dialectical difficulties, have been removed, and the notes are admirably clear, condensed and scholarly. The vocabulary is very good.

Studies in English Composition. By Harriet L. Keeler and Emma C. Davis. (Boston: Allyn & Bacon.) 80c. "Two obstacles lie in the way of successful composition work. The first and greatest is that the pupils are rarely made to understand how they are to do what is required of them. . . The second obstacle is the self-consciousness of the pupil." . . . We regret that space will not allow us to quote the rest of this paragraph taken from the preface to the "Studies." These lessons form one of the