

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE.

THE *Overland Monthly* for May.

Shakespeareana, now conducted under the auspices of the Shakespeare Society of New York, publishes in a recent number several excellent articles, including a study in "Much Ado About Nothing," and "The Children in Shakespeare," by Helen Mar Bridges.

THE May *Bookbuyer* has biographical sketches and beautiful portraits of three authors — George Bancroft, Ellen Olney Kirke and Sally Pratt McLean. Its "English Notes" and "Boston Letter" are always worth reading, as well as its book reviews.

THE *Dominion Illustrated* for May 18th has pictures of scenes in British Columbia, Manitoba, Muskoka, etc., portraits of two Canadian clergymen, and a group-portrait of a Canadian lacrosse team. Among the editorials is a brief and sensible one on "Arbor Day and Forestry." Mr. J. C. Hopkins' articles on Australia are continued.

THE numbers of the *Living Age* for the first two weeks of May contain some of the best current reading from *Blackwoods*, *Temple Bar*, *The Leisure Hour*, and other sources. Among the articles may be mentioned those on "The Unripe Fruit of Education in India," "Common Sense in Military Dress," "The Eiffel Tower," "The Brain-Power of Plants," and "The Political Situation in France."

THE June *Lippincott* is a good number, containing a complete story by General Bryce, called "A Dream of Conquest," somewhat after the "Battle of Dorking" style of narrative. It tells of the easy capture of New York by the Chinese navy, etc. The first of a series of "Recollections," by George W. Childs, also appears in this number. Judge Tourgée contributes a short story, R. H. Stoddard writes of Fitz-Greene Halleck, and several poems, one of which is by Ella Wheeler Wilcox, add to the attractiveness of the magazine.

THE controversy about "Agnosticism" between Prof. Huxley and Dr. Wace and others, which has recently been carried on in the pages of the *Nineteenth Century*, is being republished in the *Popular Science Monthly* and in the *Eclectic Magazine*. This is evidently to be an important controversy, and it is by no means ended yet. Other articles in the *Popular Science Monthly* for June are on "The Production of Beet Sugar" and "Christian Science." An illustrated article on "Glaciers on the Pacific Coast," by Professor G. F. Wright, is interesting reading, as are several other articles. We regret to observe that too many of its contributors have an Agnostic bias.

THE *Eclectic* for May, besides the articles already mentioned, publishes the following: "The Panama Canal," "The Imperial Succession of Austria," "Prohibitionism," by Goldwin Smith; "The Modern Young Man as a Critic," by Robert Buchanan; "The Pleasures of Sickness," by Alexander Innes Shand; "The Usefulness of Foreign Missions," by a distinguished African explorer.

Sadler's Commercial Arithmetic. (Baltimore: W. H. Sadler.) \$1.50.—This new arithmetic is specially adapted for use in Business Colleges. It contains 4,000 problems of an exceedingly practical character, and the method of treatment of the subject is at once simple and thorough. "Business Arithmetic," as it is sometimes called, should be carefully attended to in our public schools.

Handbook of Rhetorical Analysis. By Professor John F. Genung. (Boston: Ginn & Co.)—A pleasanter book we have not read. It is divided into "Studies in Style," and "Studies in Invention." They are truly studies—twenty-six of them (from about the same number of authors), selected and analyzed with such scholarly taste and judgment that we simply do not see how one could fail to learn from the book and enjoy it.