

Literary Notices.

SCRIBNERS MAGAZINE for September is to hand. It opens with a fully illustrated article on "The Modern Nile," by Edward L. Wilson, a most enthusiastic and skilful traveller and photographer. Rev. W. S. Rainsford contributes from his own experiences of adventure in the Rocky Mountains, "Camping and Hunting in the Shoshones," fully illustrated. Moncure D. Conway gives "An Unpublished Draft of a National Constitution, by Edmund Randolph." There is a large instalment of the hitherto unpublished "Letters of Thackeray." These will be concluded in the October issue. Mr. E. H. House, for many years a resident in Japan, has contributed a story of Japanese Life "The Sacred Flame of Torin Je." "The Development of the American University," by Prof. Ladd, of Yale; and "English in newspapers and novels," by Prof. A. S. Hill, of Harvard, furnish food for the scholar and literateur. There is the usual instalment of fiction both complete and serial. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York; \$3.00 per annum; 25 cents per copy.

CLAIMS OF MISSIONS.

The work of missions is the *business* of the church.

Disposition to give grows by exercise.

Spiritual wealth is to be got not by hoarding, but by giving away generously.

Christian giving and personal exertion are intended for spiritual discipline in the church.

The wealth of a church is to be determined not by its incomes, but by its outcomes; its soul-saving labors.

If our religion is not true, we are bound to change it; if it is true we are bound to propagate it.

Wealth is commonly put into a sieve, and it makes all the difference in the world whether God or the devil shakes the sieve.

"Dr. Livingstone believed that the time would come, when, instead of profuse expenditures for pride and luxury, rich men would count it an honor to support whole stations of missionaries."

"Heathenism is doomed, but it is not dead. It will die hard. Christianity has gained a vantage-ground—a position favorable to the ultimate success of a com-

blined attack. The great citadel of heathenism has as yet scarcely been touched. In the Asiatic races we have to cope with people as intelligent and vigorous as ourselves, to deal with creeds of vast antiquity, and to combat prejudices and superstitions that are firmly rooted."

"Money is running to waste in countless ways—in frivolous amusements, needless luxury, and hurtful indulgences—while missions languish for lack of support, and Missionary Boards are at their wits' end, not daring to retrench, fearing to enter upon new fields, and calculating with solicitude how they may save their honor and yet save the perishing heathen."

"When as much intelligence, energy and perseverance are brought to bear on the spread of Christianity as are expended on commercial enterprises; when there shall be organization and enthusiasm, such as led to the abolition of slavery; when the secular press shall bestow as much attention upon missions as it now does upon some other matters of minor importance, there will come again such a change in public sentiment as in apostolic times was alleged to have turned the world upside down. Missionary literature will be more interesting than works of fiction; the missionary meeting will become more attractive than the theatre; and instead of denominational strife and rivalry, it will be seen and felt that the chief end of the Christian Church is THE WORLD'S EVANGELIZATION.—*Sel.*

PROCRASTINATION.

A story is told among the peasants of southern Russia of an old woman who was at work in her house when the wise men of the East, led by the star, passed on their way to go and seek the infant Saviour. "Come with us," they said, "we are going to find the Christ so long looked for by men." "Not now," she replied. "I am not ready to go now, but by and by I will follow on and find Him with you." But when her work was done the wise men had gone, and the star in the heavens which went before them had disappeared, and she never found her way to the Saviour. And the same sad story could be told of thousands who like Felix have said, "Go thy way for this time, when I have a convenient season I will call for thee," but to whom alas! the convenient season never came.