

"The Lost Word," by Henry Van Dyke. This is a most charming Christmas legend of the long ago, written in Dr. Van Dyke's happiest style, marked by the same poetical and deeply religious feeling that made "The First Christmas Tree" so successful. The book is illustrated by beautiful photogravures, and each page is surrounded with a quaintly decorative border. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, \$1.50.

"Recollections of a Nonagenarian." By Rev. John C. Holbrook, D.D., LL.D. Boston: The Pignum Press. The recollections of an active, intelligent, observant man, who was born ninety years ago, must necessarily be of interest, and Dr. Holbrook's life has been an eminently active one. He was born in Vermont on January 7, 1808, and, if still alive, is nearing the end of his ninety-first year. We have read his "Recollections" with much enjoyment and found his descriptions of California in its early days and his experiences and observations in the Old Country, whither he was sent to collect funds in behalf of the Southern Freedmen, especially interesting.

Literary Notes.

Dr. Monroe Gibson's new book, "From Faith to Faith" (published by Nisbet & Co., London), is being much asked for. A good deal of it appeared in serial form in the Sunday at Home last year.

McClure's Magazine announces the beginning in January of a series of six stories by Rudyard Kipling, each of which is to be complete, yet which are to form a serial. Schoolboy life in England will be the topic.

The William Drysdale Company have in press a new edition of our Blue Book Rules and Form of Procedure, which will include recent acts passed by the general assembly from time to time. The price will be 40c., same as formerly.

"Trevelyan's Little Daughters" is the pretty title of a very pretty story by a Toronto lady, Mrs. Charles Sheard, about to be issued by William Briggs. Reginald B. Birch, the New York artist, contributes a number of admirable illustrations.

A booklet of poems of the late Mary E. Adams, a lady of exceptional literary ability, will be published within a week or two by William Briggs, with the title "From Distant Shores." The poems included are among the best from Miss Adams' pen, and they will comprise some twenty-four pages, and will be illustrated by a number of engravings from original sketches in India ink.

"The Butterfly Book," by W.J. Holland, LL.D., the first authority on the continent on the butterflies, has just been placed on the market by William Briggs. A series of full-page illustrations reproduced in their natural colors by the new method of color photography. The result is a triumph of art, a volume sumptuous in appearance and most interestingly written.

A second edition of Miss FitzGibbon's "A Veteran of 1812"—the popular life story of her grandfather, Lieut.-Col. James FitzGibbon, the "hero of Beaver Dam"—will be issued for Christmas by William Briggs. An additional chapter, giving some very interesting letters and new data, is being included. This capital biography of a noble officer who served with brilliant distinction in the war of 1812-14, and later on did conspicuous service in suppressing the rebellion of 1837, is deserving of a wide circulation.

Strikingly attractive is the list of art publications offered at this holiday season by Messrs. Raphael Tuck & Sons. The list includes gaily juvenile and toy books, card-festivals, booklets and Christmas cards. Attention is called to the high class lithography employed in all the work of this firm, the apt illustrations, and interesting character of the text. This applies to all lines and naturally commands the publications of this firm to the public. Messrs. Raphael Tuck & Sons, fine art publishers, New York and London.

A new, strong, brilliant Canadian historical novel, entitled "Diane of Ville Marie," is announced by William Briggs for issue in December. The author, Blanche Lucile Macdonell, a Montreal lady, takes her native city—as the title implies—for the scene of her story. The period of which it treats is the troublous times of Frontenac's second administration. A very handsome cover design has been made for this book by Mr. S. C. Simonson, a rising Toronto artist. The appearance of "Diane of Ville Marie" will be looked forward to with interest.

Mr. John Burroughs, whose books are treasured largely for their literary quality, has an essay in the December Critic on "Style and the Stylus," in which he bears heavily on the mere maker of phrases. In the same magazine appears a hitherto unreported lecture on "The Art of Fiction," by Mr. Gilbert Parker, the Canadian novelist, who, by the way, has recently purchased a handsome house in London. The Christmas Critic fairly teems with pictures, and with the exception of a recent photograph of Mr. Riley, these three essays are free from illustrations.

Literature of November 23rd contains a critical review of Mr. G. R. Parkin's Life and Letters of Edward Thring. It says that the Principal of Upper Canada College had a difficult task and that "those who take the trouble to go through the two closely printed volumes will honor Mr. Parkin for having clearly stated the really important facts of his life and left his reader to draw their inference." According to this reviewer, the book is too long, and it is not picturesque; however, it is evidently a mine of information concerning a noble man's life. Edward Thring was a schoolmaster of the first rank, and like all men with lofty ideals, he had his own share of disappointment and pain.

Literature opens its review of Gilbert Parker's "Bastie of the Strong" thus: "Nothing more vigorous or human has come from Mr. Gilbert Parker than this novel. It has all the graphic power of his last book, 'The Pomp of the Love-letters,' with a truer feeling for the romance both of human life and wild nature. At the same time, those who care less for good writing than for a clear and simple story, will probably not find what they want until they have got through the first quarter of the book. After a sketch of the plot and its treatment, the review concludes: 'Lastly, Mr. Parker's style, especially his descriptive style, has in this book, perhaps even more than elsewhere, that aptness and vitality which distinguishes his treatment of the romantic story from so much that is odious or unobservant in other writers.'

Current Magazines

The December Magazine Number of The Outlook is its tenth annual book number. It has 147 pages of reading matter and advertisements, the latter including very full and interesting announcements by all the principal publishers of their holiday books. The reading matter and the illustrations are particularly suited to the special purpose of the number, and the issue is in many ways a notable one. (\$3 a year. The Outlook Company, New York.)

The Christmas number of The Century betrays the high standing of this excellent magazine. Besides an exquisitely designed cover, it displays many attractive Christmas features, both in illustration and letter-press. It opens with a short illustrated poem entitled "Christmas Eve"; and other seasonable contributions are "The Passing of Cat Alley," "Christmas at Bethlehem," "Uncle Riah's Christmas Eve," and "The Ballad of Calnan's Christmas." Capt. Sigbee and Lieut. Hobson contribute papers on the "Maine" and the "Merrimac," respectively; and in a paper embellished with many portraits and other illustrations, Mr. Ford writes most entertainingly about the "Many-Sided Franklin."

From the illustrated title page of cover to the illustrated advertisement at the back, the Christmas number of Scribner's is "a thing of beauty." The illustrations in black and white and in colors are numerous, well executed and artistic. The letter-press is varied and interesting, and includes war papers by Richard John Davie and Capt. R. Bentley Mott; "John Ruskin as an Artist," a paper on "Recent Developments of Policy in the United States," by Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain; "Wagner's Ring of the Nibelung," with decorations and illustrations in color; "Stevenson at Play," by Lloyd Osborne, and many other interesting contributions in prose and verse. The number surpasses any we have hitherto seen.

Music, Song and Story for December offers an exceptionally attractive budget of entertaining literature, in the way of stories, poems, folk lore, fairy tales, etc., all beautifully illustrated, and a folio of new music, comprising nine pieces. These are made up as follows: A fine Christmas anthem for solo, quartette and chorus; two Christmas carols; a pathetic Christmas song, "Somebody Please Tell Santa Claus"; a bright ballad, "The Mate of the Polly Drew"; a children's play song; a zither solo; and two piano solos, "The Sentinel" two-step, and "Sincerity" gavotte. With such a bill at 10 cents a month or \$1 a year, this magazine should carry all before it. It is published at 70 Fifth Avenue, New York.

George N. Morang

Begs to call attention to the following New and Interesting Books . . .

The Uncalled. A new story, by PAUL LAWRENCE DUNBAR, author of "Lyrics of Lowly Life." Crown 8vo. Cloth, \$1.00; paper, 50c.

This is a story of a young man who was intended by his guardians to occupy a pulpit. But the task of fitting him for it proved too much for them.

The House of Hidden Treasure. By MAXWELL GRAY, author of "The Silence of Dean Maitland," etc. Crown 8vo. Cloth, \$1.50; paper, 75c.

The success of the former works of this clever author guarantees a large sale of this novel. It is a beautiful study of the character of a noble woman, who, at the age of fifty, remains unmarried and faithful to her early love.

Critical Study of In Memoriam. By Rev. JOHN M. KING, M. A., D. D., Principal of Manitoba College, Winnipeg. Cloth, ornamental, 16mo, with gilt top, \$1.25.

This scholarly work is one which will appeal to all students of Tennyson.

THE WORKS OF SIENKIEWICZ

Quo Vadis. Cloth, 8vo, \$1.50; paper, 75c.

With Fire and Sword. Cloth 8vo, \$1.25 paper, 75c.

Pan Michael. 1 vol., 8vo. Cloth, \$1.25; paper, 75c.

The Deluge. 2 vols. Cloth, \$1.25 per vol.; paper, 75c. per vol.

These remarkable works are making their way over the entire civilized world.

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This is a book that will be welcomed in thousands of Canadian homes. It has been enthusiastically received in the United States and England, where it has passed through many editions.

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