

relating to national offence and defence his views are admirable and his argument sound and convincing. The chapter is altogether a remarkably interesting one and has the true ring of patriotism. The same applies to the next division, "Our Centenary Year," in which the author pleads for immediate action on the part of Canada towards an Imperial Union, and gives a short but vivid description of the beginnings of Parliamentary life in Canada a century ago. The work closes with an article on "The Crisis of the Empire," dealing chiefly with the Newfoundland question; and near the end these words occur, which are a keynote to the lofty and patriotic sentiments which pervade the whole work:

"Let the great Colonies at once assume their place beside the Mother Country, at a time when the future is not free from uncertainties, nor wholly unclouded with perils; but when our very decision must help in some measure towards a right solution, and may lead to a happy issue from all these possibilities that menace interests more general than our own. Is not this the action which wisdom would advise and which our honour and our duty to humanity seem to command?"

We cordially commend this work to our readers, considering it one of the most elaborate books on Canadian national subjects that have yet appeared, and at the same time presenting many practical suggestions for the settlement of intricate questions and apparent discrepancies which exist in our present position. Its main drawback is a lack of condensation. The mechanical features of the work are fully equal to the best yet turned out in Canada. As an example of book-making—binding, paper and printing—it is something of which both publisher and author may well be proud.

"The New Empire; Reflections upon its Origin and Constitution and its Relation to the Great Republic." By O. A. Howland, of Osgoode Hall, barrister-at-law, Toronto; Hart & Company, 1891. Montreal: W. Drysdale & Co.

A REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL AND MANUFACTURING INTERESTS OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA; BEING THE PORTFOLIO EDITION OF THE "MONETARY TIMES."

This is an *edition de luxe* of commercial reviews, not only as regards its paper, printing and binding, but also in its literary contents. Of the former, to see is to admire; the most casual or hurried observer cannot but be struck by the superb beauty of the mechanical features of the work, so unusually rich and ornate, and illustrated with beautiful photographic reproductions of many of the finest business and public buildings in the Dominion. But of even greater interest will be found the admirable historic and commercial summary of the most noteworthy events in the life of several of our chief cities. Toronto, Montreal, Halifax, Winnipeg, Victoria, Vancouver and Hamilton, are all treated in this way; and although the description of some is necessarily shorter than others, enough in every case is stated to give the reader an excellent idea of the history of each, and of those business features which have aided materially in its growth. The story of the early life and growth of Toronto and Montreal is especially good; terse and compact, it omits none of the principal events, and mentions many incidents and out-of-the-way notes that have never yet seen the light. Most interesting, in these days, when appalling figures meet the seeker after an unpretentious city home, is the mention of the prices for which a house and lot, and a farm thrown into the bargain, were sold in the days of our fathers; of a square acre of land at the corner of King and Yonge streets changing hands for £37 10s., and of a hundred acres on Queen and Sherbourne streets selling for £600. Of Montreal matters, the growth of commercial life and the establishment of new enterprises are admirably told. The city of Victoria, and the new province of which it is the capital also receive a special degree of favour; in connection with the island of San Juan, and the unjust decision which awarded it to the United States, the author tells an interesting little story of an incident that came under his personal experience. He

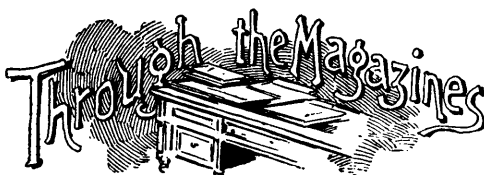
"Remembers hearing in a Glasgow music hall, about 1873, some political doggerel that contained a half contemptuous allusion to the dispute and the royal referee, rendered by the singer with much *vim*, and received by the audience with great applause, to the following effect:—

- 'The Emperor William, in his wisdom
- 'Has bethought him of a plan,
- 'To run us in by arbitration
- 'For the isle of San Juan.'

The last two lines were repeated, as a sort of indignant chorus, and 'To run us in; to run us in, for the isle of San

Ju-an,' was vociferated by hundreds of throats in tones expressive of disgust with the award and its author."

Following the civic sketches, come a series of articles on the leading branches of Canadian commerce. These very appropriately commence with one on the "Rise and Progress of the National Policy," after which we have "Banking in Canada," "Life Assurance," "Fire Insurance," "Accident Assurance," "Loan Companies," "Milling," "Cotton Manufacture," "Woollen Manufacture," "Wholesale Dry Goods," "The Iron Industry," and others. This article gives particulars of the beginnings of the several branches, and full statistical records of their growth and present positions, forming in all an excellent book of reference. Altogether the work is one of which the publishers may be proud; and Mr. James Hedley, the writer and editor of the work, deserves special praise for the skill with which he has woven together historic incidents and commercial statistics, resulting in such an interesting and instructive book. Toronto; The Monetary Times Printing Co., (Ltd).



THE ARENA.

The *Arena* for October will delight thoughtful, pensive and wide-awake people. The frontispiece is a portrait of James Russell Lowell, taken from the latest photographs of the great poet; it is the finest portrait yet published of Mr. Lowell. Geo. Stewart, D.C.L., LL.D., who contributed to the July *Arena* a scholarly paper on Oliver Wendell Holmes, writes most ably and entertainingly of James Russell Lowell, this being the second of *The Arena* series of papers on American poets. Theodore Stanton contributes a paper of great interest on "Some Weak Spots in the French Republic." Hamlin Garland has a profusely illustrated paper on the artistic work of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Herne; he criticises at length Mr. Herne's most notable plays, giving special attention to "Margaret Fleming." Moncure D. Conway contributes an interesting paper on "Madame Blavatsky at Adyar." Other notable contributions are "Leaderless Mobs," by H. C. Bradby; "Emancipation Through Nationalism," by Thaddeus B. Wakeman; "Healing Through the Mind," by Henry Wood, and "Recollections of Old Play Bills," by Charles H. Pattee. The story of the month is very striking and deals with a timely subject, the *Convict Lease System of Tennessee*, and is entitled "A Grain of Gold;" the author is Miss Will Allen Dromgoole. The editor writes on "Social Conditions under Louis XV. of France" compared with our present conditions, and a short paper on "Religious Intolerance." Boston; The *Arena* Publishing Co.

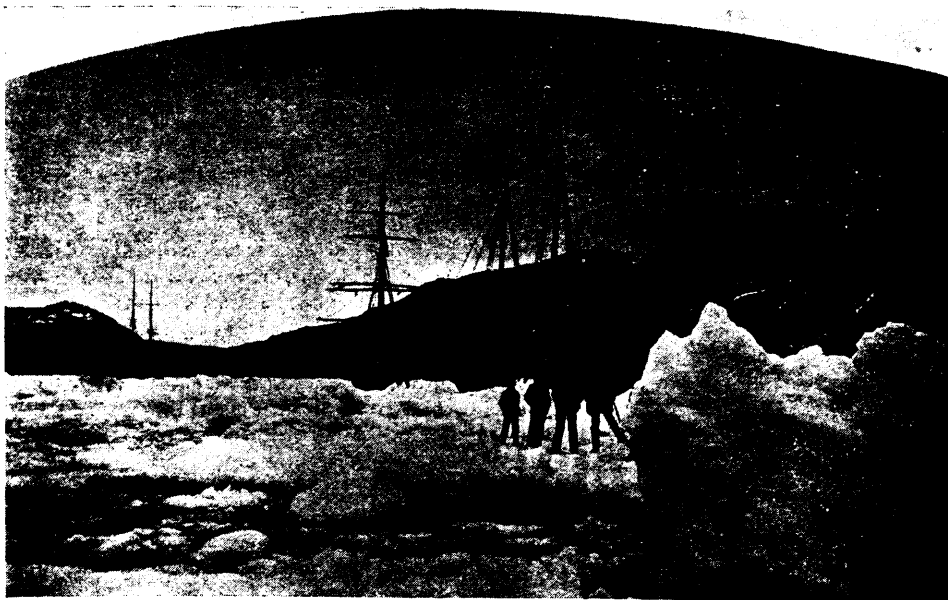
THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY.

The October *Atlantic* is strong in biography, the two articles in that line being remarkably interesting and well

written. First of these—especially to the Canadian reader—comes one on Sir John Macdonald, by Mr. M. J. Griffin, Librarian of Parliament. It is an admirable sketch of the career of our greatest statesman, written in a calm and judicial spirit, and dealing not only with his public and political but also with his private and less-known life, and giving also many instances of his home life and genial nature. Mr. E. P. Evans' article on "Ignatius Von Dollinger" is a most interesting sketch of one of the most striking figures in the strife of German theology. Dear old Oliver Wendell Holmes gives ample proof of his retention of youthful vigour and deft manly skill in some charming verse on James Russell Lowell. The story of the Civil War in the States receives two valuable additions in this number; one, a summary of the military life of General George H. Thomas, by Mr. Henry Stone; the other, a paper by Mr. Dodge on "The Cave Dwellers of the Confederacy." That fascinating story of Acadia, "The Lady of Fort St. John," is continued; while to those who can stand much dialect "Grand'ther Hill's Partridge" will be found of interest. A valuable contribution to American Indian history is Mr. Thayer's "A People without Law." The poetry, book reviews, &c., are very good and complete an excellent number. Boston; Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

NEW ENGLAND MAGAZINE.

There are several articles in the *New England Magazine* for October, which will appeal to a wide circle of readers. The one which will perhaps attract most people—the general reading public—is "Benjamin Butler's Boyhood," by himself. Another is Edward Everett Hale's "James Russell Lowell," and a pleasant and instructive commentary on Lowell's old magazine, *The Pioneer*, by Edwin D. Mead, the senior editor of the magazine. Mr. Mead's article is just one of those delightful papers one expects to find in going through a volume of an old magazine, and so seldom meets in a modern periodical. It is embellished with reproductions of several of the outline drawings and engravings which appeared in the three numbers of *The Pioneer* that saw the light. A fine portrait of Lowell in his study, taken a little while before his death, is the frontispiece of the number. Henry S. Nourse contributes an interesting article on "The Public Libraries of Massachusetts," containing many fine pictures. There are two striking poems in the number—"When Thou Art Far From Me," by Philip Bourke Marston, the blind English poet who died a few years ago, and "The Undercurrent," by C. H. Crandall. Ethel Parton writes about Newburyport, an old historic town in Massachusetts, and the headquarters of American privateers during the revolutionary war. Mrs. A. M. Mosher has a delightful paper on "Mont Saint Michel," which is finely illustrated by Louis A. Holman, H. D. Murphy and others. "In a Corner at Dodsley's," by Walter Blackburn Harte, contains some pertinent remarks about the craze among literary men, especially English writers, for making booklets of their ephemeral work in the newspapers. The most interesting of all to Canadian readers is "The Siege of Louisburg," by S. Frances Harrison. Boston; New England Magazine Corporation.



IN THE DRIFTING ICE ON THE NEWFOUNDLAND COAST.