

Literary Chat-Chat.

"Daisy Chains" is the title of a new work by the author of "The Wide, Wide World."

Lippincott's Magazine is henceforth to be issued under a new plan, which includes more popular attractions and a reduction in price.

The *Globe* suggests that a prime cause of the failure of all attempts hitherto to establish a Canadian magazine has been that the ventures were not sufficiently Canadian in character, being rather feeble imitations of English periodicals than true home productions. It predicts success for a truly native magazine when it comes. Why not?

Rev. E. P. Roe's sister, who is said to have discarded literary abilities, is writing a novel.

"Dame Wiggins of Lee and Her Wonderful Cats" is the title of a volume of ancient nursery rhymes, which Miss Greenaway has illustrated, and to which Ruskin has added a number of original pieces.

M. Victor Drury, author of a well-known history of Rome, is now at work upon a similar history of Greece.

"The Ghost of a Dog" is the novel title of a Christmas story by a Canadian writer, J. A. Phillips, of Ottawa.

Kosmos, the organ of the Science Association of Victoria University, which has hitherto been published as a monthly is to be transformed into a quarterly.

Lieutenant Greeley's book, "Three Years of Arctic Service," is to be published by the Scribners in January.

The second and concluding volume of Grant's memoirs is to be ready for the public not later than March 1st. The manuscript is now in the hands of the publishers.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of THE CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL.

I wish to call attention to the frequently improper use of the word *same*. For example, in the *Educational Record* of the Province of Quebec, July-Aug. number, 1885, in the last line of page 182, it occurs in this sentence; "and Rev Mr. Knight, a distinguished clergyman from Pennsylvania, who had been present on the same occasion last year." Now the "same" occasion last year was the Convocation of Bishop's College. I contend that the use of the word *same* in this sentence is incorrect; the Convocation of 1884 could not be the *same* as that of 1885. "Similar" would have been correct and in accordance with the facts. Another improper use of it may be found in "Egypt and Syria," by Sir J. W. Dawson, F. R. S., in a sentence commencing in last line of page 185, as follows:—"I may add that a gentlemen whom I met at Jerusalem, and who has travelled much alone and unattended through the villages of the Fellahs in Syria, bears the same testimony in favor of them." The "testimony" above referred to, is that of Sir J. W. Dawson, with regard to the general good conduct of the donkey-boys and water-girls of Egypt. Now "a gentleman," again, could not, or certainly did not, bear the same testimony with regard to the conduct of the people of one country, that Sir J. W. Dawson does to that of another. I am aware that I am attacking high authority in both these cases; but if I do so successfully I need not look after more ordinary writers, whose name is legion, in the matter of the improper use of the word "same." Two persons, two silver dollars, or two sets of events may be very much alike, but they cannot, in any case, be the *same*. S. M.

Cote St. Paul, Quebec, Dec. 5th, 1885.

Remember that a little present punishment, when occasion arises, is much more effectual than the threatening of a greater punishment should the fault be renewed.

Literary Reviews.

THEORY AND PRACTICE OF TEACHING, by David P. Page, A.M. New edition, edited and enlarged by W. H. Payne, Professor of the Science and Art of Teaching in the University of Michigan.—A. S. Barnes and Company, New York.

The author of this book was First Principal of the State Normal School, Albany, N Y, and he wrote it nearly forty years ago, when the Science of Teaching was crude, compared with what it is to-day. Yet the ideas of this great master-mind are so suggestive to educational thought that teachers of not only the present but of future generations will derive practical benefit from the study of them. "Theory" is a suspicious word, and the teacher who hears it is of opinion that it is a waste of time to devote attention to theoretical study, but in this case the author explains the use of the word in the title. He says:—"I have not been dealing in the speculative dreams of the closet, but in convictions derived from the school-room during some twenty years of active service as a teacher. Theory may justly mean the *science* distinguished from the *art* of teaching,—but as in practice these should never be divorced, so in the following chapters I have endeavored constantly to illustrate the one by the other."

The book is so well known that to dilate on its merits would be a "work of supererogation." In the hands of Prof. Payne it has become a *universal* educational work, as he has deleted all the local matter and made it a book that no teacher should be without if he desires to make his career a success. The binding and type are all that could be desired.

The International Magazine, *Education*, for November and December, published by the New England Publishing Company, 3 Somerset St., Boston, and devoted to the Science, Art, Philosophy, and Literature of Education is at hand, and contains an unusual amount of valuable reading for thoughtful readers on education. Dr. Harris, of Concord, contributes an article on the methods and Limits of Psychological Inquiry; Dr. Milliken, of Ohio, discusses Education as Related to Physiological Laws. The Essentials of Linguistic Training are presented in an able paper by Dr. Greene of New Jersey. The General Outlines of Education in Japan are described by S. Tegima, the Japan Commissioner of Education at London. Miss M. K. Smith gives an account of the recent Educational Congress at Havre, with Reports on Education at the New Orleans Exposition presented by Hon. John Hancock, Prof. J. M. Ordway, Hon. M. A. Newell, Hon. Warren Easton, and others. Other articles, both home and foreign, are valuable contributions to the literature which the New England Publishing Company have done so much toward elevating and extending.

AN EXCELLENT PAPER.—It seems almost unnecessary for us to call attention to a paper so well and favorably known as the *Youth's Companion*, of Boston. It has been for fifty-eight years a weekly visitor, and each year has shown more clearly its wonderful usefulness to the class of readers for whom it is prepared.

It would be interesting to trace its influence in the case of two families, one of which began, we will suppose, twenty years ago, to provide it for their children to read, while the other furnished the more sensational publications. The contrast would no doubt be a striking one.

Parents can give their children few things of more value and importance in their growth of mind and of character than a wide-awake, intelligent, wholesome paper into whose management the publishers put conscience and moral purpose as well as money and ability.

A PRIMARY HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES. A. S. Barnes & Company New York.

The majority of histories of the present day contain all the events as they happened in days gone by; but they lack the vivid description, that clear, easy style, that attractiveness about them which entices the reader to look further into the condition of man then in the present. Those qualities so requisite are fully supplied in this "history." The narrative is of a clear, easy style. It contains a full record of the changes, contests, etc., by which the United States stands eminent among the great nation of to-day, placed in a very pleasing way. The maps form an excellent feature of the book, being numerous and very distinct; and the prominence given to the great men who have guided the affairs of state, cannot be too highly commended. Taking the work all in all there are few that can be compared with it.