

THE PERIODICALS.

THE midsummer holiday number of the *Century* is an invaluable out-door companion. The meet of the American Canoe Association on the St. Lawrence is the text upon which a delightful paper is hung. Next follows a second article on "Typical Dogs." "Panforte di Lena," nominally a travel paper, reads more like a novel; but "The Indian Country" is in a more serious strain. Mr. George Iles, so well known to patrons of the Montreal Windsor House, contributes an able and exhaustive description of "Hotel-Keeping," in which, after comparing the ancient inn with the modern palace hotel, he details what the latter ought to be. The war papers include "A Virginia Girl in the First Year of the War," "The Battle of Malvern Hill," "Recollections of a Private, V.," and "Memoranda of the Civil War." Mr. Howells' absorbing "Rise of Silas Lapham" is brought to a conclusion, though we are happily not yet to part company with Mr. James' "Bostonians." There is a complete "Story with a Hero," which is bound to have many admirers, and in the editorial department several important public questions are discussed with unwonted ability.

THE August number of the *Andover* is in all respects an excellent one. It gives us pleasure to say so as honesty compelled us to remark that last month's issue was not up to the uniform standard of excellence hitherto maintained. The opening paper is a just and genial estimate of Cardinal Newman. It is followed by a capital criticism of "The Becket of Mr. Froide and of Lord Tennyson." Dr. E. A. Meredith, for several years Prison Inspector in Canada, contributes a thoughtful paper on "Compulsory Education in Crime." The editorial this month on Progressive Theology discusses eschatology in a brief though very satisfactory manner. President Woolsey, of New Haven, writes a scholarly paper on "The Disciple whom Jesus Loved." The Book Reviews and Notices embrace the most noteworthy works in theological and general literature recently issued.

THERE is a general impression of coolness about the August *English Illustrated Magazine* which is intensely refreshing this torrid weather. The water views and landscapes, especially those subscribed "Sinodun," "A Riverside Idyll," and "A Highland Washing," are charming in this respect. The solid paper of the number is on "The Crofters," and a perusal will do much to correct several erroneous impressions which have got abroad regarding those rugged people. Hugh Conway's "Family Affair" is advanced a stage, and there are two other serials and a complete novelette, as well as several poetical contributions.

IN the August issue of the *Canadian Methodist Magazine* the editor dwells with pardonable pride upon the fact that the Methodist Church has increased by 20,000 souls, or ten per cent. of the entire membership, during the conference year just closed. There is the usual judicious assortment of miscellaneous papers and lighter material—chief amongst which may be mentioned articles on the "Grimsby Camp Ground," and "The Half-Breeds and the Indian Insurrection."

HALF the pleasure of family holiday-making is in watching the enjoyment of the young folk. Vivacious as they generally are, there are moments when either the weather or fatigue prohibits active pleasure. Then is the moment when *St. Nicholas* is appreciated, and no issue of that entertaining periodical has been better calculated for this purpose than the August number just to hand—replete with all that cheers the mind and gratifies the eye, without enervating the character.

MOST people had thought that almost every class of literature already had its periodicals; but it remained for the Dio-Lewis Publishing Company, of New York, to discover that there is a widespread desire on the part of the public to have monthly doses of what might be called Dio-Lewisism—brief sayings culled from the works of the well-known empiric. Such a collection of extracts, fortified by cullings from other sources, is now to hand, bearing date August, and named *Nuggets*. It is a neatly got-up pamphlet of thirty-eight pages, and contains some amusing reading.

BOOK NOTICES.

THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST: its History and its Troubles, from the Early Days of the Fur Trade to the Era of the Railway and the Settler, with Incident of Travels in the Region, and the Narrative of Three Insurrections. By G. Mercer Adam. Toronto: Rose Publishing Company.

As Mr. Adam says in the preface, the scope of his work—he has "told the story from the beginning"—enables the reader to "trace in the past history some of the remote causes of the present rebellion," and this alone, coupled with its timely appearance, materially enhances the value of a book otherwise most interesting both for its subject and for the mode in which the story is recited. Everybody, it may be presumed, will read "The Canadian North-West," wherefore there is no necessity for a lengthened notice or for extracts. Mr. Adam must be congratulated upon his success in investing even the heavier portions of his book with considerable interest, and his publishers are complimented upon its handsome appearance.

A NEMESIS; OR, TINTED VAPOURS. By Maclaren Colban. New York: D. Appleton and Company.

A vigorously written novel, with a superabundance of tragical incident and an intelligent plot. The discovery of a murder is made to result from a series of dreams which come to a young woman who loved the murderer. The *mise en scene* is laid in Lancashire, England, the dialect of that county as spoken by several characters being well rendered by the author—an attempt which is rarely successful. "A Nemesis" is a good companion for a holiday.

GEORGE ELIOT'S POETRY AND OTHER STUDIES. By Rose Elizabeth Cleveland. Seventh edition. New York: Funk and Wagnalls.

It is strictly in accordance with precedent that the manner of book published by the President's sister should be tenderly handled by the critics. The distinguished writer tells her readers that some of these essays were originally prepared for schools and colleges, and that the volume is her maiden effort. The indiscretion of ill-advised friends has, however, laid Miss Cleveland open to some sharp comment, which might have been avoided had they not overlaid the book with fulsome praise. This is the more to be regretted as the mistress of the White House is really possessed of a good literary style, and has the courage of her (in many cases original) opinions. As might be expected she occasionally gets out of her depth, and her self-possession in the analysis of great problems is astonishing if not amusing. In the first essay Miss Cleveland criticises George Eliot's poetry, and in no uncertain voice condemns it as lacking in every essential quality. "You come from one of George Eliot's poems as from a Turkish bath of latest science and refinement—appreciative of benefit, but so battered, beaten and disjointed as to need repose before you can be conscious of refreshment." There are eight other essays: "Reci-

procity," "Altruistic Faith," "History," "Old Rome and New France," "Charlemagne," "The Monastery," "Chivalry," and "Joan of Arc." The style is the same throughout, bright, concise, with abundant graceful metaphor, bearing evidences of much and varied reading, and betokening an earnestness of purpose which commands respect even where the conclusions arrived at do not win assent.

DISCOURSES IN AMERICA. By Matthew Arnold. London and New York: Macmillan and Company. Toronto: Williamson and Company.

MR. ARNOLD'S "Discourses" are too well known to require comment in acknowledging their reproduction in volume form. They have probably provoked more columns of criticism than any lectures of modern days. The first—that on "Numbers"—was naturally somewhat roughly handled in the United States, teaching, as it does, that majorities are not immaculate—in fact, that wisdom and virtue are aristocratic characteristics pertaining only to the few, who in turn realizing this ought to be sensible of serious responsibility. "Literature and Science" is a polemic in which Mr. Arnold, after tilting in his own finished style with Mr. Huxley on educational methods, concludes by showing that they are almost of one mind. But the lecture that was most severely canvassed by our neighbours was that on "Emerson." Had Mr. Arnold been better understood not so much indignation would have been poured upon his devoted head. It is not in the nature of men such as he to bestow unmeasured praise: such a course would be impossible to one who so thoroughly understands the value of language. Hence his oblique reply to malcontents in the preface: "I cannot think that what I have said of Emerson will finally be accounted scant praise, although praise universal and unmixed it certainly is not."

LITERARY GOSSIP.

IN the form of a pamphlet supplement, the *Sanitary Journal* presents a number of rules for preventing the development and spread of Asiatic cholera, prepared by Edward Playter, M.D.

MESSRS. SCRIBNER AND WELFORD have published a catalogue of a large lot of English books in all departments of literature offered at a low price during the summer months. It will be sent to any one on application.

CUPPLES, UPHAM AND CO., Boston, announce "Thackeray's London: His Haunts, and the Scenes of His Novels," by Wm. H. Rideing. An original etched portrait of Thackeray and a facsimile of the original MS. of "The Newcomes" form the illustrations.

WORRY and overwork have produced their usual effects upon Mr. Buchanan, novelist and playwright. He is now seriously ill, having broken down in the haste to get rich, though it is hoped that a short rest will serve to recuperate his exhausted energies. He is only forty-four years old.

THE *Century* Company is said to possess the last autograph signature made by General Grant. It is an endorsement on the back of a \$1,000 cheque, not a cheque sent him in payment of any special article, by the way, but a graceful acknowledgment of the value of his articles after the stipulated price had been paid.

MR. E. C. STEDMAN is said to be making progress with his book on "The Poets of America." The volume is the outcome of many years' labour, and aspires to be a critical review of the rise and course of poetry in the United States. It will include chapters on Longfellow, Emerson, Poe, Whittier, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Lowell, Bayard Taylor, Walt Whitman, and many others.

"LIGHT ON THE PATH: a treatise written for the personal use of those who are ignorant of the Eastern Wisdom, and who desire to enter within its influence," is now in press for Cupples, Upham and Co. This little volume gives new light on the famed religion of the East. It is a reprint of the celebrated London edition, the author being a member of the London Theosophical Society.

MR. SANBORN'S long-expected "Life and Letters of John Brown" is nearly ready for publication by Roberts Brothers. The same publishers announce an entirely new translation of Balzac's Novels; "Nature's Teachings," by J. G. Wood; a new novel, "Andromeda," by George Fleming, Author of "Kismet," etc.; the "Memoirs of Karoline Bauer," the celebrated Berlin Actress; and "A Short History of Philadelphia," by Susan Coolidge.

"NEW YORK'S Imperial Gift to Mankind," as the recent freeing of American Niagara is appropriately called, has furnished Messrs. Matthews, Northrup and Company, of Buffalo, an opportunity of publishing a very handsome octavo book of some two dozen pages, containing a sketch of the movement. They have named it "Free Niagara," have elucidated the text by some excellent maps, and adorned the whole by presenting it in first-class typographical style, freely interspersed with illustrations.

ON dit that *Scribner's Magazine* is to be resuscitated. When the publication bearing that name changed hands some years ago it also changed its style, and became the popular *Century*. The time having very nearly elapsed during which the proprietors of the old *Scribner's* bound themselves not to establish a new magazine, preparations are now said to be in progress for the production of another and an improved *Scribner's*, which will endeavour to excel, not so much by a profusion of illustrations as by high literary excellence.

THE estimate put upon the late General Gordon by THE WEEK appears to have been endorsed by the reading public, one indication of which being the announcement made in the *Book Buyer* that "although the sale of General Gordon's Diaries has been very large, as any book so abundantly advertised was bound to sell, it is still quite evident that the journals were not what it was hoped they would be, and although ten thousand copies were immediately disposed of, the demand has suddenly ceased." The *Book Buyer* also announces that "the journals written during his great campaign in China are now promised, having been put into the hands of Messrs. Sampson Low and Co., who will issue them after they are edited by Mr. Samuel Mossman. Messrs. Kegan, Paul and Co., the publishers of the Khartoum Diaries, are preparing a facsimile edition of one of the last journals, Book IV."

ONE cannot help thinking, says the London *Athenæum*, what a force Mr. Arnold would be if he dropped his cloak of levity. He has given a clever sermon on Gray, text "He never spoke out." One feels that Mr. Arnold has never spoken out the faith that is in him. He began life as an Hellene of the Hellenes, and was one of those who were at ease in Zion. He has gradually become more Hebraic than the Hebrews, but yet retains the easy manner of the sons of light. What a motive force he might be if he adapted his style to his matter! Mr. Arnold has some admirable words on Carlyle here in the pages before us. Carlyle is weighed in the balance and found wanting; but if we may deplore the want of sweetness in Carlyle might we not regret its overabundance in Mr. Arnold's nature? His best friends might wish to see him—they would certainly be curious to see him—lose his temper for once in a way over some subject that deserves to rouse his ire.