

JANUARY MAGAZINES.

The January *Atlantic* opens with a preamble On Reading the *Atlantic* Cheerfully; a delightful invocation, the sense and humor of which will commend themselves to all readers. Miss Johnston's story, Audrey, continues with ever-increasing power and interest. There are other noteworthy contributions which make up an excellent table of contents. . . . *The Century* for January (New Year's number) is not less interesting than its two predecessors. In the Year of American Humor there is a group of contributions. The Gentlemen of the Plush Rocker, by Mrs. Ruth McEnery Stuart, is a unique study of the negro; Ellis Parker Butler, author of *The Reformation of Uncle Billy*, succeeds in playing a new tune on an old string in *Eliph Hewlitt, Castaway*, a story of a book-agent; James Whitcomb Riley contributes half-a-dozen character poems, entitled, *A Few Neighbor Children*. . . . In *St. Nicholas* for January there is, beside the long story for this month, an interesting series of articles, including Books and Reading, Nature and Science, *St. Nicholas League*, the Letter-Box and the Riddle-Box, drawings, photographs, stories, sketches, etc. . . . At intervals during the past few years the editor of *The Ladies' Home Journal* has attacked the "cramming" and "pushing" systems so prevalent among the schools of this country. Each editorial given to this subject has brought hundreds of letters, most of them not only acknowledging the wrong, but adding, as well, strong and sad proofs to the statements made. In the January issue of *The Journal* the editor's page is occupied by brief excerpts from sixty-eight of them. Here is one of the sixty-eight: "Our poor little boy, just previous to his passing away, went into a delirium of fear that he would not get his 'marks.' His dread was something pitiable." . . . *The Outlook* is a weekly newspaper and monthly magazine in one and under one subscription price. Its Magazine Number for January has eight illustrated articles, two stories (one by Sarah Orne Jewett) a carefully written history of the week's doings and many book reviews. There are full-page portraits of new political figures of prominence, articles of anecdotal biography, a most entertaining instalment of Edward Everett Hale's *Memories of a Hundred Years*, and much else of permanent value. . . . A large number of men and women, partly from the necessity of outdoor life, but largely under the fascination that grows on one when brought into close touch with nature, have become actual tillers of the ground—some as a source of health and pleasure, but vastly more with a view of making money. The field is still open, and

the demand for first-class productions exceeds the supply. Gardening for Profit in the January *Delineator* covers this phase of industry very fully, going into the subject of flower culture and the raising of vegetables in complete detail, with hints as to shipping, packing and the developing of patronage. . . . During the fifty-eight years of its existence this sterling weekly magazine, *Littell's Living Age*, has steadily maintained its high standard. It is a thoroughly satisfactory compilation of the most valuable literature of the day, and as such is unrivalled. As periodicals of all sorts continue to multiply, this magazine continues to increase in value; and it has become quite indispensable to the American reader. To all new subscribers for 1902, the publishers offer free the seventeen weekly issues for the four months September to December, 1901, inclusive, until the edition is exhausted. Intending subscribers should hasten to avail themselves of this generous offer. The Living Age Co., Boston, are the publishers. . . . Professor Goldwin Smith discusses *The Public School Question* in the January *Canadian Magazine* characterizing our present system as mechanical and inflexible. He thinks voluntary schools might be grafted on our present system with some advantage. The Hon. L. G. Power, Speaker of the Senate, discusses our Military System, and advocates the enrolment of all citizens in the volunteer force, with a shorter, unpaid drill season. He bases his suggestions on the experience of Nova Scotia before Confederation. . . . In the *Chautauquan* the department of Chautauqua Junior Naturalist Clubs, conducted by John W. Spencer, of Cornell University, is devoted to the Improvement of School Grounds, while Martha Van Rensselaer, in the Chautauqua Reading Course for Housewives, discusses *A Rural School*.

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