

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE.

Littell's Living Age for Dec. 22 contains two pretty short stories, one by Mrs. Pare and the other from *Macmillan's*. The *Gouvernante of Paris* is the opening article from *Temple Bar*.

The Christmas number of the *Book Buyer* is as usual a treat. The illustrations from the holiday books are particularly beautiful and the criticisms by the various popular writers of their contemporaries are exceedingly interesting.

The issue of Dec. 29 of the *Illustrated London News* is a specially interesting one. The frontispiece is a portrait of Sir Arthur Sullivan. "Noemi" by S. Baring Gould is up to that author's best work. There is a timely article on De Lesseps, with a portrait, besides much more interesting matter.

"The Architecture of the School-house" is an excellent paper in the December number of the *Atlantic Monthly*. There are a number of good short stories by various writers such as Harriet Lewis Bradley and Robert N. Herrick. Miss Repplier contributes one of her delightful essays entitled, "Ghosts." Mary Halleck Foot's two part story is concluded.

The best recent articles appear in the December number of the *Eclectic*. "The Trees and Flowers of Tennyson" is a delightful paper from *Temple Bar*. Sir Robert Ball's "Possibility of Life in Other Worlds" is given from the *Fortnightly*. The whole issue offers a fine and varied selection which would suit almost any taste.

"Athletics for City Girls" is the title of an excellent and much-needed

paper by Dr. Mary Bissell in the December number of the *Popular Science Monthly*. Another article interesting to women is "The Economic Theory of Woman's Dress." No less than three articles are devoted to Geology, including the British Association popular lecture on Geologies and Deluges by Prof. W. T. Sollas.

Lippincott's January number is devoted to the Christmas season. There are three Christmas stories and an article on "Christmas Customs and Superstitions," while Edgar Fawcett contributes "New Year's Days in Old New York." The complete story is "The Waifs of Fighting Rocks," by Captain Charles McIlvaine. Gilbert Parker has a study of "Herbert Beerbohm Tree."

Messrs. D. C. Heath & Co. have just published the first book of new series on "Technical Drawing." It is written by Prof. Anthony, of Dean Tuft's College, and treats chiefly of "Projection," "Geometrical Problems," and the "Use of Instruments." One important feature of this textbook is the number and excellence of the problems; a great deal of labour is saved to the teacher in this way, and the graphic statements of problems will be much appreciated. It is well-printed on good paper, the plates are well-executed and the binding is good.

A History of English Literature is the title of a useful and well-written compendium of English Literature by J. Logie Robertson, M.A., first English master of Edinburgh Ladies' College. Such a text-book for Secondary Schools has been needed for years, and Mr. Robertson's volume is one of the best attempts to meet the need. The author has