

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

The Fortnightly Review.

Toronto: Rose-Belford Publishing Co.

The following are the contents of the March number of this magazine. "Equality," by Matthew Arnold; "A Plain View of British Interests," by S. Laing, M.P.; "Lessing," by Richard W. Macan; "The New Revelation," by the author of "Supernatural Religion"; "The Strength of England," by T. H. Farrar; "Whigs and Liberals," by Goldwin Smith; "Modern Japan," by Sir David Wedderburn; "Theophile Gautier," by George Saintsbury; "Ceremonial Government," by Herbert Spencer; Home and Foreign Affairs.

Belford's Monthly Magazine.

Toronto: Rose-Belford Publishing Co.

The contents of the number for April are: "Roxy" (Illustrated), by Edward Egglestone; "Love, the Little Cavalier," by Charles Sangster; "The History and Mission of Architecture," by Elihu Burritt; "The Viking's Warning," by Hunter Davar; "Cross Purposes," by Margaret Andrew; "Paris by Gaslight," by L. H. Hubbard; "The Veil," by Geo. Murray; "Fragments of the War of 1812," by Dr. Caniff; "Division Night in the House of Commons," by J. L. Stewart; "Time," by Isabella Sinclair; "Down the Rhine," (Illustrated), by Erin; "Wordsworth: a Criticism," by Professor Lyall; "Olden Times in the Ancient Capital," by J. M. Lemoine; "On the Via San Basilio," by Earle Marble; "Novels," by E. C. Beatty; Current Literature; Music. The readers of Professor Lyall's criticism will learn to appreciate the simple beauty of expression and the subtlety of thought which characterize the poetry of Wordsworth. Elihu Burritt's "History and Mission of Architecture," is an admirable paper. Mr. Lemoine gives a lively description of life in the city of Quebec as it was forty or fifty years ago.

The Canadian Monthly.

Toronto: Hunter, Rose & Co.

The April number of this magazine contains. "The Monks of Thelema," by Walter Besant and Jas. Rice; "Canada," a poem, by Nicholas Flood Davin; "The Practical Principles of Canadian Nationalism," by William Norris; "Three Friends of mine. DeQuincey, Coleridge, and Poe," by "St. Quentin," "The Scientific Treatment of History," by J. M. Buchan; "The Rideau Canal," by Wm. Mills; "Such a Good Man," by Walter Besant and James Rice; "Heathen and Christian Canonical Coincidences," by William McDonnell; Sonnet, by Marvin Seaton; "Denison's History of Cavalry," by "F."; "William Penn," by T. C. B. Fraser; "Idealism in Life," by W. D. LeSueur; "Hyacinthus," a poem, by R. T. Nichol; "Round the Table," Current Events; Book Reviews; "The Annals of Canada." The poem entitled "Canada" is worth polishing, and needs it. The writer of the paper on "Canadian Nationalism," seems to have given a good deal of thought to the subject. The following are the measures which he advocates as calculated to make Canadians patriotic and to secure a Canadian Nationality. The prescription certainly contains some wholesome ingredients: "Power in Canada to make Canadian subjects, with the rights and protection of British Subjects, manhood suffrage for the Dominion on two years' residence therein; a permanent Deputy Governor for the Dominion—such Deputy-Governor to be Speaker of the House of Commons; a reciprocal tariff with the people of the United States, with the early settlement of the boundary between Alaska and our North-West; the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, the appointment of a third of the members of the senate every five years by the Crown; the incapacity of members of the Canadian Government or Parliament to receive titles or pensions from the Crown, or from a foreign government; the right of Canada to make laws respecting her own shipping, and copyright within her jurisdiction, the abolition of personal canvass for votes; and making French a compulsory branch of common school education." The statement of the writer on "The Scientific Treatment of History," that "the Decalogue is very far from being a compend of the moral principles received and acted upon at the present time," may be true; if so, so much the worse for the principles. The Decalogue contains the principles of all true morality. It is, to say the least of it, tiresome to find the old infidel objections to Christianity, which have been answered over and over again, gathered up and paraded as if

they were unanswerable, as is done by Mr. William McDonnell of Lindsay, in his article on "Heathen and Christian Canonical Coincidences." The ostensible occasion for this attack is an article on Buddhism by *Fidelis* of Kingston, and we expect a trenchant reply from that able and indefatigable contributor.

Sunday Afternoon: a Magazine for the Household.

We have received the first four numbers of this new monthly. Under another title, our praise of it would probably require scarcely any qualification; and even without supposing any change in this respect, it is too good to be utterly condemned. If it finds its readers among religious people and their families, it may do harm by creating or fostering a love of light literature which may afterwards seek its gratification in indiscriminate novel reading; on the other hand, if it makes its way to the homes of the worldly-minded and irreligious—of those who have been reading stories of some sort and every sort, all their days, Sunday or Saturday, since ever they could read anything, and must have stories to read—among these, we say, it is calculated to do a vast amount of good. It will be something very fresh and at the same time very wholesome for these people to read narratives of possible human life, in which well-doing is truthfully represented as leading to success, vice pictured in its true colors, and practical Christianity illustrated; instead of having their moral perceptions dimmed, and their judgment perverted by reading that sort of fiction which is not only untrue but which cannot be true and ought not to be true, which holds religion and morality up to scorn and brings villainy out triumphant. But "Sunday Afternoon" is not all fiction. It contains well-written papers, fully up to the average standard of magazine literature, buoyant and brilliant, applying religious truths in secular directions and treating secular subjects in a religious light; besides articles of a still weightier character on subjects affecting the out-works of Christianity in the direction of history and of physical science, such as the article on "Christianity and Civilization," by J. T. Tucker in the number for March, Borden P. Bowne's vigorous attack on the "Ethics of Advanced Science" in the number for April, and the papers on "Science and the Exodus," by Dr. Dawson of McGill College, Montreal. The contributors are selected without reference to religious denomination. The editor is the Rev. Washington Gladden, formerly of the New York "Independent." The department styled "Editor's Table" is well conducted. The items are short and strong. We quote a few sentences from "Charitable Cant" in the April number:

"You preach your sermons, and you sing your songs and talk your pious talk in prayer-meetings, but the poor all around you are hungry and cold. Give us a little less theoretical religion and a little more of the practical variety. We hear a good deal of this kind of talk, and a large share of it is simple cant. There is a humanitarian cant that is just as meaningless and nauseating as the cant of the prayer-meetings. Of course the duty of caring for the poor is one of the first Christian duties. When you find a starving family you must feed them first and preach to them afterwards. Of course the religion that is merely theological or sentimental is the worst sort of a sham. But, in the first place, the work of visiting the sick and feeding the hungry is mostly done by the people who preach and sing in the churches and who talk in the prayer-meetings. If the folks who stand outside and snarl at them did as much for the poor as they do they would find much less time for snarling. In the second place, nine-tenths of these poor need moral help more than they need material help. While they are in their present condition of mind, aims are more likely to be a curse than a blessing to them. . . . Inspire them with a higher motive, teach them to postpone present gratification for future good, lift up before them a hope of better life, and the great majority of them would soon be above the need of charity. . . . Power to overcome the present craving, whether it be for whiskey or for ribbons; power to look beyond the present hour; power to choose the higher instead of the lower good,—this is what they lack, and this is what our churches, if they are doing their proper work, are helping men to gain. . . . The poor, as well as the rich, need something that money cannot buy, and while they lack this, they always will be poor."

"HAVE you those placed over you who watch for your souls, as they who must give an account? Oh, pray for your ministers who preach to you Christ; love them; feel for them. . . . Never desire a blind leader. Never wish for a smooth teacher. Love those that are faithful, and pray that they may be more so. It is as much the work of God to make a true and faithful minister of the Gospel as it is the work of God to create a world or quicken the soul. All who are thus made have been with Christ; they have tasted his love and felt his salvation. Through all the way in which they teach others to walk, they have passed. And thus their lips, touched with a live coal from the altar, drop as a honey comb, sweet to the taste, and delightful to the soul."—*Domestic Commentary*.

SCIENTIFIC AND USEFUL.

To make cracker pudding, tie crackers in a cloth, and boil half an hour in sweet skimmed milk and water. Serve with a sweet sauce.

SWEETEN and flavor to taste one quart of sweet milk; add one tablespoonful of liquid rennet; set in a warm place till it sets, or looks like clabber. Serve cold.

MAKE a thin batter with one egg, one cupful of milk, salt and flour. Dip in it thin slices of light bread, and fry to a nice brown. Serve the toast hot, with butter, and sugar or syrup.

PUT into a stew-pan a teacupful of bread crumbs, one teacupful of cream, one tablespoonful of butter, with salt, pepper, and nutmeg, when the bread has absorbed the cream, work in two beaten eggs, beat them a little with the mixture; fry on an omelet pan, and roll up.

To preserve the teeth, dissolve two ounces of borax in three pints of boiling water and before it is cold add one tablespoonful of spirits of camphor, and bottle for use. A tablespoonful of this, mixed with an equal quantity of tepid water, and applied daily with a soft brush, will preserve the teeth, extirpate all tartarous adhesion, arrest decay, and make the teeth pearly white.

GOLD CAKE.—Take the yolks of six eggs, beat them to a froth, and mix them with a cup of sugar; three-fourths of a cup of butter, previously stirred to a cream; add two cups of sifted flour, and a half-teaspoonful of soda, dissolved in a cup of milk; when well mixed, add a teaspoonful of cream of tartar. Flavor with the extract of peach or lemon, and bake in square tins.

POTTED HEAD.—Boil a cow's head in one pail of water for about three hours, or until the meat is all boiled off the bones; strain to remove all the small bones, then chop the meat into as small hash as possible, put into the same water as before and boil again for about half an hour, meanwhile season with pepper and salt to taste, put into dishes and allow to cool slowly over night, when it will be fit for use.

YORKSHIRE PUDDING.—To every pound of flour allow three eggs and a pint of milk. Break the eggs in a basin with a little of the flour and a spoonful of the milk; beat up till all is as smooth as cream, then add all together by gentle degrees. Heat the shallow pudding tray well—it should only be about an inch and a half deep—allow some of the dripping to fall into it, then pour in the batter, and bake in an oven for half an hour.

GAS AS A DOMESTIC FUEL.—Gas as a fuel for domestic use possesses many noteworthy advantages over all other kinds of fuel, and there is, apparently, nothing to hinder its universal substitution in place of grosser fuels, save its greater cost. By using a gas apparatus, we may do away with dust, smoke, ashes, cinders, and kindling material, save time and labor, and escape many vexations. For summer use, gas stoves possess special advantages even on the ground of economy. "It is desirable," says the "American Gas-light Journal," "to keep as cool during the heated term as is consistent with the pecuniary and mechanical means at our command; therefore, we should have our artificial heat so arranged as to be used only when desired for active work, and employed no longer than is necessary. With a good apparatus, the gas actually used for cooking and performing all necessary fuel-labor, during the warm season, costs no more than the coal and kindling used for the same purposes, and we get the comfort, saving of time, convenience, and sanitary influence, thrown gratuitously into the trade." The case is different when it is proposed to employ gas for the purpose of warming houses. "It is," the "Journal" admits, "more expensive to run a gas-stove for a given amount of heat than it is to run a coal-stove for the same. Hence, when the heat is to be continuous, the coal-stove has the advantage so far as cost is concerned." Our contemporary then suggests to the gas companies the advisability of setting up in houses of gas-consumers a special metre connected with the heating and cooking apparatus, and of selling gas for these purposes at half-price, so as to encourage the use of gas in this way.

THE SUN MUTUAL Life Insurance Co. of Montreal.

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS.

The Adjourned ANNUAL MEETING of the Shareholders of this Company was held at the Offices, No. 164 St. James Street, Montreal, 27th March, 1878.

PRESENT.—Messrs. T. M. Bryson, George S. Brush, W. B. Cumming, Wm. Clendinning, Thos. Craig, M. H. Gault, A. Frederick Gault, Leslie H. Gault, Thomas Gilroy, Chas. H. Gould, Joseph Mackay, Frederick Wheeler, J. M. Deles-Derniers, H. M. McKenzie, Hugh McLennan, Edward Mackay, John McLennan, D. McFarlane, R. Macaulay, A. W. Ogilvie, W. O'Brien, Joseph Richards, Thomas Workman, etc.

THOS. WORKMAN, Esq., M.P., occupied the chair. The meeting being called to order, the Chairman then proceeded to read the following highly satisfactory

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Directors for the year ending 31st December, 1877. The Directors have much satisfaction in submitting, for the approval of the Shareholders, the following synopsis of the transactions of the Company for the past year. The progress and success evidenced in all departments have been very gratifying. The new business, both in number and amount of Proposals, has greatly exceeded the experience of any previous year. To the investments, a handsome addition has been made; new and important Agency Branches, with local Boards, have been opened; participating mem-