

Temple Bar, usually such good reading, is this month at its best. Apart from the serials, which are well sustained, every contribution within its covers is interesting, whether we take "La Fontaine" by Mr. J. C. Bailey; "A Group of Naturalists" by Mrs. Andrew Crosse; "Reminiscences of William Makepeace Thackeray," by Francis St. John Thackeray; Mr. Edward Law's Welsh story, "The Helgorn;" "In the Valley of the Vezere," by Mr. E. Harrison Baker; or Mr. A. M. William's tale "A Ghost of the Sea," we cannot go wrong. This is an excellent number, indeed.

The Popular Science Monthly for July opens with a depressing paper on "The Spanish Inquisition as an Alienist." The methods of that dreadful body were indeed horrible in the extreme. Professor S. E. Tillman follows with a paper on "Fossil Forests of the Yellowstone." An extract from a recent ethical work of Herbert Spencer is given, bearing on the "Private Relief of the Poor." Many other instructive and interesting papers appear in this number, among which we may mention that by J. H. Long, on "Evil Spirits," and Prince Krapotkin's first contribution on "Recent Science."

A bright little geographical article, entitled "The Birth of Lake Ontario," from the pen of Professor A. B. Willmott, opens the Canadian Magazine for July. We must confess that the contributions which have afforded us the most interest have been that by Professor Clark, on Kingsley's "Water Babies" and Mr. E. B. Biggar's stirring description of the Battle of Stony Creek. But tastes vary, and some may prefer one or other of the remaining articles, all of which are interesting—whether it be that of Mr. E. J. Toker, on our forests; Mr. Longley's "Greatest Drama;" Mr. Tipton's pleasing description of the mouth of the Grand River; Mr. Ewart's Theological Excursion, or Mr. Hughes' "Humour in the School-Room."

Charles Egbert Craddock opens the Atlantic Monthly for July with a characteristic narrative entitled, "His Vanished Star." George Parsons Lathrop contributes a fine poem, "Within the Heart." Edith Thomas has a charming bit of descriptive verse and prose, entitled "In the Heart of the Summer." A. T. Mahan's sketch of "Admiral Lord Exmouth" is a good piece of historic writing. Isabel F. Hapgood writes of "Passports, Police, and Post Office in Russia." Sir Edward Strachey's meditative paper on "A General Election; Right and Wrong in Politics," is pleasant reading, as is Mrs. Catherine Wood's story, "The Chase of Saint-Castin." Petrarch receives attention in this number, in both prose and verse.

July brings to us the Cosmopolitan, reduced in price, but by no means reduced in interest. The letter press and illustrations combine with the lowness of price to make it perhaps the most popular of United States magazines. After several artistic frontispieces there is a fine ode by H. H. Boyesen, entitled "The Parley of the Kings." Very striking articles amply illustrated are those on the great railway systems of the United States, by F. S. Stratton, and "Engineering with a Camera in the Canons of the Colorado," by R. B. Stanton. Messrs. Howell's and Flammarion make no diminution in the interest of their respective serials. Gilbert Parker's story of "The Pilot of Belle Amour" is capital, as is Francois Coppée's "Pere Vulcan's Confession." This is an exceptional number.

We received too late to notice last month, the first number of a new publication, one that will rejoice the antiquarian heart: The "Illustrated Archaeologist," edited by J. Romilly Allen, F. S. A., Scotland, and published by C. J. Clark, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W. C. London, is in every sense a most excellent periodical. The contents are just such as an archaeologist could wish. The first article treats under the heading, "A Very Ancient In-

dustry," of the manufacture of flint, and is written by Edward Lovett. E. Sidney Hartland, F. S. A., has a paper on the cup of Ballafletcher. Then G. W. Shrubsole takes the reader for a half-hour visit to the Grosvenor Museum, Chester, and some rare old curios are discussed. The editor writes learnedly on sculptured Norman Capitals at Southwell Minster, and there are two short papers; one on "Portable Anvils found at Silchester," and another on a "Saxon Doorway at Somerford Keynes, Wilts." The notes on related subjects, museums, and books, are excellent. The paper, print, illustrations, and ornamented cover are all pleasing and appropriate. We bespeak for this admirable periodical the success which its merits deserve.

### LITERARY AND PERSONAL.

A volume of Dr. T. W. Parson's poetry, entitled "The Shadow of the Obelisk and other Poems," will be brought out by Houghton, Mifflin and Co. in the autumn.

In The Popular Science Monthly for August, a scientific explanation of Why a Film of Oil can Calm the Sea, will be given by G. W. Littlehales, of the United States Hydrographic Office.

Messrs. Henry Holt and Co., have published Samuel H. Scudder's "Brief Guide to the Commoner Butterflies," and the same author's "The Life of a Butterfly," which presents in untechnical language the story of the life of a conspicuous American species.

Mrs. Arthur Stannard (John Strange Winter) has just been elected a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, a distinction that has only been conferred on one other woman since the society was founded in 1823. This other lady fellow is Mrs. Napier Higgins, wife of the Q.C. of that name. This lady wrote a standard work on the women of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, which took her ten or twelve years.

Mr. Donald Grant Mitchell, whose fame has been renewed by the new editions of "Dream Life" and "Reveries of a Bachelor," consequent upon the expiration of their copyright, was born at Norwich, Conn., in 1822, was graduated at Yale in 1841, after which he studied law. He now lives on his "Farm of Edgewood," described as a charming place near New Haven. Mr. Mitchell's chief recreation is landscape gardening, in which he shows exquisite taste and great ability.

The London Chronicle in an appreciative notice of Mr. Robert Barr's latest book, "From whose Bourne, etc.," thus speaks of the humour of that clever young Canadian: Mr. Barr's humour is "of the centre;" it maintains the good old traditions upon which, whatever the noisy coteries may say, the world at large is not likely to turn its back. It is a humour which has its root in character and situation, not in mere word-twisting; and this is enough to make it delightful, at a time when the ancient springs of merriment are giving out only a thin trickle, and we are fain to assuage our thirst with phrases.

The charitable and philanthropic work of woman is made the subject of an important volume, just issued under the auspices of the Royal British Commission of the Chicago Exposition, and edited by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts. It is entitled "Woman's Mission," and in it the various phases of woman's work among children, girls, ragged schools, the poor, in nursing, the home, rescue work, etc., etc., are most ably and interestingly detailed in a series of papers by such writers as Hesba Stretton, Mrs. Molesworth, Mrs. Alexander, Miss Florence Nightingale, The Princess Christian, and others. In connection with the British Commission, it is issued in this country by the Scribners.

The Open Court Publishing Company announce an authorized translation of the well-known work of Prof. E. Mach, The Science of Mechanics, a Critical and Historical Exposition of its Principles. This work is now in its second German edition.

A Montreal exchange thus speaks of the late John Lovell: A man of rare energy, enterprise and industry, he was also universally recognized as a man of strict probity and of a high sense of honour. The Queen had no subject more intensely loyal, Canada no citizen more intensely patriotic and public-spirited. Although a man of strong convictions, he was also remarkable for his spirit of toleration. He was only intolerant of meanness or disloyalty. . . . Nothing was more characteristic of the man than his commencing at the age of eighty-two years preparation for the publication of a work of gigantic dimensions, a task which might well have appalled a man in the prime of life.

In his interesting reminiscences of Dickens, G. A. Sala says that, to talk to the author of "Pickwick" was a vastly different thing from talking to Thackeray. The latter was a master of anecdote, persiflage and repartee. He was a varied and fluent linguist; he was saturated with seventeenth and eighteenth century literature, both French and English, and he could hold his own in conversation with such wits and epigrammatists as Lord Houghton and Douglas Jerrold. Dickens, on the other hand, rarely talked at length of literature, and said little about art, the higher forms of which he held in contempt. What he liked best to talk about was the last new play at the theatre, the last curious trial or police case and the latest social folly or swindle. He was also fond of a ghost story or a comic anecdote. Of Dickens, as an editor, a pursuit in which very successful writers sometimes fall, Mr. Sala says: "He surprised me by the alterations—always for the better—which he made, now in the title, now in the matter of my 'copy.'"

Among the books which The Century Co. have in preparation for issue in the early autumn are: "Poems of Home," by James Whitcomb Riley, a book of about 200 pages, illustrated by E. W. Kemble, containing a great number of Mr. Riley's favorite poems, which have not before been collected in permanent form; "The Public School System of the United States," by Dr. J. M. Rice, (republished from The Forum); "Sweet Bells Out of Tune," Mrs. Burton Harrison's society novel, with Gibson's illustrations; "An Embassy to Provence," by Thomas A. Janvier; Washington Gladden's "Cosmopolis City Club;" "To Gipsyland," by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pennell, with all the original pictures from the Century, and many more; "The White Islander," the romance of Mackinaw, by Mrs. Mary Hartwell Catherwood, now appearing in the Century; "Balcony Stories," by Grace King; "Thumb-Nail Sketches," by George Wharton Edwards, with the author's illustrations; a new book of poems by Richard Watson Gilder, and the Autobiography of Tommaso Salvini. Mrs. Van Rensselaer's "English Cathedrals" is to be issued as a hand-book, in convenient size for use by tourists.

### CAUSES OF STAMMERING.

The following facts regarding the causes of stammering have been elicited from Mr. S. T. Church, Principal of Church's Auto-Voice School of this city, and perhaps the most successful man in his profession in the world to-day. Mr. Church says: "The causes are numerous, including association with those who stammer, hereditary weaknesses, sudden fright, jeering at stammerers, sympathy for those similarly affected, severe illness, tickling the bottoms of the feet, injury, nervousness, etc. etc. Five per cent. would embrace the number who stammer from nervousness as an original cause."

The success attending Mr. Church's efforts in the cure of stammering have been unprecedented in the history of the impediment. The system is said to be purely educational and no advance fee or deposit is required.