

some good woman does likewise—and marries the unprincipled scoundrel, John Darche, when she might have had a noble husband in Harry Brett. The old, old story is repeated. The criminal misconduct of her scheming and worthless husband has its legitimate result. The unselfish, self-sacrificing spirit of the true woman is again in evidence and again wins its just reward. There can be no doubt as to Mr. Crawford's skill, and this story is but another instance of his prolific power and versatility, but, in our opinion, in "Marion Darche" he is not at his best.

### PERIODICALS.

The *Magazine of Poetry* for February is a very thin number in more senses than one.

*Electrical Engineering* for February has some 43 pages of just such matter as is interesting, timely and instructive to its patrons. A bright, beautifully printed, well conducted magazine it is.

*Littell's Living Age* of 17th inst. has some capital selections dealing with Ireland, Count Molliens' Memoirs, a Brahmin's impressions of the World's Fair, the early life of Pepys, etc. It is a good number.

A new and promising periodical is the *Biological Review of Ontario*. The first number is neat in appearance and creditable in contents. It is published by the Biological Society of Ontario. We wish it every success.

The *Halifax Critic* (N.S.) one of the best and most intelligently edited weeklies of the Maritime Provinces will hereafter appear as the *Canadian Colliery Guardian, Critic*—a name which reflects credit on the patience and industry of its builders.

The names of Sarah Douney, S. Buring Gould, Hume Nisbet and other romancers possibly of lesser note will be found as contributors to *Stories* for February. The orange cover of this periodical is perilously near the tint of that of the much maligned yellow covered novel.

*Music* for February is a most interesting number. Emil Liebling completes his article on "The Piano Works of Robert Schumann." Dr. William Mason contributes an article on "Beethoven Playing." Mr. Mathews writes on "Modern Harmony and Acquired Sense Perception" and the balance of special subjects is treated by able writers.

The *Music Review* for February again comes to us filled with useful and instructive matter, and with reviews of new music and books. A contribution by Philipp Spitta on "Schumann's Literary Work," is highly interesting, as is also the articles on "Brahm's Music" by Federlein, and How do we get the sense of tonality, by John C. Fillmore.

*Knowledge* for February has a number of papers of scientific interest. Mr. R. Lydeker further develops his researches among Argentine mammals. Mr. J. J. Stewart has a first contribution on "Weighing the Earth." There are also important papers from competent sources on "The Coffin of the Builder of the Third Pyramid," on Brooks' Comet and on some phenomena relating to the tails of comets.

"The Rich Miss Riddell" is the name of a new serial story which is begun in *Blackwood's* for February. There is a capital sketch of Dean Stanley, being a review article. Mr. Andrew Lang contributes a spirited paper entitled "Ghosts before the Law." "Salmon Flies" are pleasantly discussed by Sir Herbert Maxwell. Moira O'Neill has two pretty poems, and there is other excellent matter in this number.

The important report of the committee of ten is considered in the *Educational Review* for February by Professor C. W. Eliot. Two other noticeable papers in this issue are those of John Tatlow on Foreign language study in grammar schools, and that by Henri Marion on the study of education at the Sorbonne. A

somewhat curious illustration of individual teaching is that provided by Mr. P. W. Search, entitled "The Pueblo Plan."

Sarah Jeanette Duncan, a not unknown Canadian writer, begins a new story in the February *Idler*. Jan Van Beers, is the Lion who dens in this number at command of Miss M. A. Bellock, whose very bright sketch has numerous illustrations, among which we remark the exquisite "Portrait of a Lady." "Q" also cleverly tells the story of his first book. A very attractive paper is that on "First Night" Notices." Robert Barr and others as well help to make people idle.

A temperate and sensible article on a subject which is engaging the British mind largely at present, is entitled "Lords and Commons" in the February *Macmillan*. The writer has no doubt that the Lords have important duties to perform, as well as the Commons. "The Portrait of a Moonshee" is an Indian sketch by J. W. Sherer. The writer of "Some Thoughts on St. Francis," gives to the question of the source of that saint's influence over the poor the answer, "By preaching to them the life of the Spirit, and by this only." An instructive scholastic paper is called "The Story of the Inscriptions," and "An Oxford Idyll," is a not at all bad story.

Scholarly and well considered is Dr. E. J. Dillon's paper on "Ecclesiastes and Buddhism," with which the February number of the *Contemporary* begins. Very delightful is the literary chatter of "A Fogey" about "Young Men." It is indeed diverting to see the new wine bubbling and sparkling in the embrace of the quaint, yet not altogether crusty, old bottle. Another article of literary interest is that by B. R. Belloc on "Dorothea Casaubon and George Eliot." In a long and well reasoned paper W. S. Lilly writes on "The Philosophy of Crime." Some other important questions of the day are also discussed in able papers.

In its sixteen excellent articles and one hundred and seventy odd pages the *Nineteenth Century* for February is a strong number, well representative of cultivated thought on a variety of important and timely topics. The leading article by Wilfrid Seawen Blunt urges the evacuation by England of Egypt in hot haste. The Rev. J. G. Rogers details the present position of the Liberal party and Mr. T. R. Threlfall seeks to indicate the political future of labour. A number of notable recent books are noticed and the Hon. R. B. Brett has a paper on the Queen and her second Prime Minister. There are besides articles by Sir Herbert Maxwell, Professor Max Muller and the Duke of Argyll.

A pleasing portrait of Robert Browning faces the beginning of the Rev. M. J. Savage's paper in the February *Arena* on the religion of Browning's poetry: Browning, then, despairs of nobody. Whoever God has brought into being he believes God will bring, through all experiences, until, sometime and somewhere, he attains the best. Here he is at one with Tennyson's great hope:

"That not one life shall be destroyed,  
Or cast as rubbish to the void,  
When God hath made the pile complete."

The next two papers, on the land question as related to other reforms, and the new Bible, are thoughtful and timely. Dr. Hensoldt continues his "Serinagur Papers." Other articles including another of Stinson Jarvis Jacob's Ladder Series will be found in this number.

Both colored plates accompanying the *Art Amateur* for February, are very charming in design and color; they are "Roses" by J. F. H. Dewey, and "Sunset on the Sound," by Carl Weber. The fac-simile of a drawing on stone, by J. G. Brown, one of his street urchins, is good; and very spirited and lifelike are some studies of southern negroes, pen and ink drawings by J. C. Phillips. Sallie Crocker's portrait in charcoal, which occupies two pages, is excellent. The reading matter, consists of criticisms on the exhibitions in the

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Pennsylvania Academy, the Architectural League, the "Academy" Loan and several "one man shows," besides some interesting and spicy remarks on British as well as on American painting at the World's Fair and a discussion of the Barbizon school of painting. Plenty of instruction and advice is given in the various departments of art work and decoration, and the supplemental designs are highly artistic.

Was it not Carlyle who said he had a mind to bring George down a peg or two? It would be almost safe to wager that not a month comes round without its glorification of George Washington by some United States magazine. It surely was Spurgeon who said that the song of an archangel would by the perpetual hearing of it become monotonous. And now comes the February *New England* with its George Washington frontispiece, its Martha Washington afterpiece, and its paper on "Stuart's Portraits of Washington," by W. H. Downes. We urge our American brethren, this post-centennial year, to have all their dinky babies, North, South, East and West called George and Martha Washington respectively and then to give the world a ten years' Washington rest. With this objection the present is a capital number of this most readable magazine.

The *Atlantic Monthly* for February has two articles biographic in character. Mr. H. L. Dawes' "Recollections of Stanton under Lincoln," and Mr. J. C. Bancroft Davis's "Hamilton Fish." Oliver Wendell Holmes pays a noble poetic tribute to his late friend, the historian Francis Parkman:

He rests from toil; the portals of the tomb  
Close on the last of those unwearying hands  
That wove their pictured webs in history's

loom,  
Rich with the memories of three distant  
lands.

\* \* \* \* \*

A brave bright memory! his the stainless  
shield

No shame defaces and no envy mars!  
When our far future's record is unsealed,  
His name will shine among its morning  
stars.

In "Tao," Mr. William Davis gives us a pleasant paper on early Chinese theology, and Olive Thorne Miller has a pretty descriptive paper. As usual the departmental work is excellent.

The Report of the British America Assurance Company shows a distinct advance from that of last year and is a good augury of a successful future. This company in a trying time has proved its soundness and progressive capacity, and its report merits just commendation.