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### OUR NEW TALE.

In our next issue we shall commence the publication of an original ale, of very considerable merit, written for the READER, 'y Mrs. J. V. Noel, of Kingston, a lady of distinguished talents, and well known as the author of "The Abbey of Rathmore," "Madeline Beresford," and other works, published in the Province. The scene of the tale will be partly in Canada and partly in England. We bespeak for our Canadian authoress a warm and generous welcome.

#### GOOD WORDS.

We have received from Messrs. Strahan & Co. the bound volume of "Good Words" for 1865. This excellent magazine is so well known that it is scarcely necessary for us to enlarge upon its merits. The pages of the volume before us are enriched with the contributions of many of the most eminent British writers of the day, amongst whom are Sir John F. W. Herschel, Dr. C. J. Vaughan, Chas. Kingsley, Alexander Smith, Jean Ingelow, Lyon Playfair, and Dr. Norman McLeod, the Editor. Two serial tales, "Affred Hagart's Household," by Alexander Smith, and "Hereward, the Last of the English," are continued in each monthly part through the volume.

### THE MAGAZINES.

THE ARGOSY -The first number of this new magazino opens with Chas. Reade's new novel, "Griffith Gaunt." The scene is England novel, "Griffith Gaunt." The scene is England "f. Il a hundred years ago," and in the opening that lers we are brought face to face with the heroine, a strong-minded yet womanly woman, and her two lovers, one of whom is Griffith Gaunt, the hero. A hunting scene, two declarations of love, a quarrel and a sullen determination to rush into exile are incidents sufficient to commence with. The articles which follow are well written and readable. We notice among the writers several of the old contributors to "Good Words."

THE SUNDAY MAGAZINE .- It would be difficult to name a Magazine which, in so short a period, attained to the circulation at present enjoyed by the Sunday Magazine. The name of its Editor, Dr. Thomas Guthrie, is a tower of strength, and in its peculiar field it is has distanced all its rivals. The articles, as its name would indicate, have all a religious bearing.

Good Words-For January contains the openng chapters of "Madonna Mary," Mrs Oliphant's new work. The scene is laid in India, where Mrs. Ochterlony, the "Madonna Mary" of the story, a loving, pure-minded English woman, sensitive as to the good opinion of those who surround her, is introduced to us. Her trials have already commenced, and the nature of those which are to beset her in the future is foreshadowed. A Gretna Green martriage appears to be the foundation of the plot. Among the other papers we notice a sketch of the life of "Dean Swift," "Distinguished Sottlers from abroad," an interesting account of recent additions to theo Zological Garden, London. "The Story of John Huss," and "a Question of Minutes," a remarkable paper, bearing on capital punishment, by hanging, and illustrative of the vast range of thoughts which may rush through the mind of criminals during their last struggles. Messrs. Strahan & Co., and Dawson Bros.

## LITERARY GOSSIP.

A new work by Sir Bulwer Lytton will shortly be published. It is to be called "The Lost Tales of Miletus."

THE "Correspondence de S. M. Napoleon I does not pay its expenses. To prevent the publication being discontinued, the Emperor has guaranteed the expenses, by placing the necessary funds at the disposal of Prince Napoleon, under whose direction the work is brought out.

WE stated in a recent issue that M. de Lamartine is writing a life of Byron for the Paris Con-stitutionnel. It is hard to believe that he is responsible for the following sentence which the London Review extracts from a recent instalment | volumes post octavo, with illustrations,

of the biography as it appeared in the French journals. "The tombs of great poets inspire great passions. It was at Tasso's tomb that Petrarch during his first absence cherished his regretful re-membrances of Laura." Petrarch died in 1374, and Tasso published the first edition of the "Gierusalemme Liberata," in 1581.

A complete verbal and glossarial index to Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales" is in preparation by a Mr. Hiram Corson, and will soon be pub-

lished in London.

DR. CHARLES MACKAY, the Times correspondent at New York, now on a visit to England for the Christmas holidays, will return to his post early in the new year. The doctor's duties will be lighter than they were during the rebellion, and we suppose his future letters will be less ob-noxious to the American people than his corres-pondence was during the heat of the great struggle.

STRANGE errors are sometimes made in English journals when they treat of American books and The Athenaum reviews the letters of authors. Major Jack Downing," originally published in America about thirty years ago, and treats it as a new book, though it was published a quarter of a century ago by Mr. Murray of London.

THACKERAY'S celebrated" Yellow-Plush Papers and "Jeames's Diary," have been lately published in Paris in a cheap form—under the title of "Mémoires d'un Valet do Pied." There is a little story connected with this translation which very vividly sets before us the difference between publishing in Paris and publish-ing in London. The industrious transla-tor, Mr. William L. Hughes, well known in the French capital for his knowledge of both English and French literature, was anxious to secure the copyright of his labour, and obtain the usual stamp from the Government officials. For that purpose, he sent his written request with a copy of the book to the Paris Board of Index for their authorization and protection. After a considerable time—occupied, it may be presumed, in carefully examining Thackerny's humour—the officials determined to refuse the license for the following sublime reason :- "Because the book contains strictures on the British aristocracy of such intense acerbity that remonstrance from Her Majesty's Government might be the consequence of its authorised circulation."

A NEW volunteer company, known as the "Authors' Corps of Artillery," has been formed in London. They are about to purchase two six-pounder Armstrong breech-loading guns, the money for which is to be raised out of a volume of miscellanies to be contributed by the different members. Amongst them, we believe, is the Poet Laureate.

A "Loyalist History of the American Revo-lution," particularly in the Province of New York, is about to be published in the United States after having been seeluded for nearly a century. It was written by Judgo Thomas Jones, who occupied the highest station in the Supreme Court of the Province previous to the Revolution, and who presided at the famous trial of the Trinity Church case. The manuscript fills five folio volumes, neatly written in the autograph of the author, and will probably, with the necessary editorial matter, make the same number of octavos. The MS. was for many years carefully kept out of sight, and not allowed to be consulted, as being a work that would create mischief and ill-feeling, from the facts recorded by the author bearing on the reputation

of many popular favourites.

MR. WILLIAM MOENS, the English gentleman who was taken captive a short time since by Italian Brigands, and whose fate was so long in suspense, has written an account of his adventures. The work is announced under the title of "English Travellers and Italian Brigands:" A narrative of Capture and Captivity. If Mr. Owens is able to reproduce on paper the experiences he must have endured, his book cannot be wanting in laterest of the most thrilling kind. It will be remembered how long the negotiations for his ransom were in progress, and were conducted with almost diplomatic formality. Mr. Moens's book will be in two