

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

HANDBOOK OF ZOOLOGY. By Sir J. W. Dawson, F.R.S. Montreal: Dawson Brothers.

A neatly got-up little manual, intended to furnish Canadian beginners with an outline of the classification of the animal kingdom, with examples taken, as far as possible, from species with which they are more or less familiar. The illustrations are not confined to recent and existing fauna, but include the types which occur as fossils in our rock formations as well. This local quality is the book's most valuable attribute, and can hardly fail to popularise it. Directions for collecting and preparing the easily available specimens are appended; and while the wide scope of the handbook necessitates somewhat slight treatment of the various provinces, references are given to various important works which will enable the student to carry on his researches. The name of its very distinguished author should be a sufficient index to the quality of the work; and as the present highly educated youth of Canada are chiefly conspicuous for what they do not know about the animal life of their own country, we would strongly recommend its immediate introduction into the public schools.

ALDEN'S CYCLOPÆDIA OF UNIVERSAL LITERATURE. Vol. IV. New York: John B. Alden.

Another volume of this remarkable series has been given to the public in a spirit of enterprise which it will surely appreciate. This one includes the literature of all countries and all ages as it has been produced by the C's, from "Cable" to "Clarke." Caesar and Cædmon, Calderon and Calvin, Carlyle and Castelar, Chateaubriand and Chrysostom, are placed impartially under contribution, and the result is a book of rare entertainment, at the price which has come to be associated with the Alden publications.

POVERTY GRASS. By Lillie Chace Wyman. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin, and Company. Toronto: Williamson and Company.

"Poverty Grass" is a series of sketches of the seamy side of New England life, drawn with feeling and faithfulness. The author's aim seems to be truth rather than effect, and her wayside observations are made in the simplest and most unpretending fashion imaginable, yet with much insight and no little descriptive power. The pathetic element predominates, as might be expected from the title; but "Poverty Grass" is rather more than the inspiration of a poetic nature with the faculty of seeing and a picturesque pen. It is written in all earnestness, and must be accepted in the same spirit as a contribution, however slight, to our knowledge of the New England working classes of to-day. The book's chief faults are its absolute lack of humour and its tendency to an inartistic crowding of incidents.

We have also received the following publications:

ATLANTIC MONTHLY. October. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin and Company.
 QUERIES. September. Buffalo: C. L. Sherrill and Company.
 HARPER'S MAGAZINE. October. New York: Harper and Brothers.
 CONTEMPORARY REVIEW. Philadelphia: Leonard Scott Publication Company.
 ST. NICHOLAS. October. New York: Century Company.
 ECLECTIC MAGAZINE. October. New York: E. R. Pelton.
 PANSY. October. Boston: D. Lothrop and Company.
 OUTING. October. New York: 140 Nassau Street.
 FORUM. October. New York: 97 Fifth Avenue.
 ART INTERCHANGE. September 25. New York: 37 and 39 West 22nd Street.
 MAGAZINE OF AMERICAN HISTORY. October. New York: 30 Lafayette Place.
 LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE. October. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

FANNY DAVENPORT's first literary effort will be printed in the *Brooklyn Magazine* for October. The actress's article is a vigorous reply to the question, "Is the Stage Immoral?" The *Brooklyn Magazine* will be two years old next month.

A VERY interesting "Talk About Bridges," by Rossiter Johnson, in the October *Wide Awake*, conveys such information in a bright, attractive manner; and the many admirers of Sophie May will find "The Gypsy Monkey" one of her best.

"How to Cook Well," is the suggestive title of a book now in press, prepared by Mrs. J. R. Benton. There are plenty of cook books in the market, but this one is exhaustive, and claims to have some features that will make it especially valuable for common use.

MESSRS. D. LOTHROP AND COMPANY begin their new series of romance, "The Round World Series," with "The Full Stature of a Man," by Julian Warth. The second volume of the series will be "The Grafenberg People," by the well-known and popular preacher of Brookline, Rev. Reuben Thomas.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS will publish in October, by arrangement with the author, the first volume of H. Morse Stephens's "History of the French Revolution," which has been received with much favour in England. It will be in three volumes, and will contain material which, for one reason or another, has not been used by former writers upon this subject. Mr. Stephens has written a special preface for the American edition, which edition will also contain a map not given in the English publication.

IN "The Full Stature of a Man: A Life Story," published by D. Lothrop and Company, the subject of non-attendance at church by people of small means is incidentally discussed, and some plain truths brought out that will strike home to a good many readers. The story, throughout, is a strong one.

THE girls will be glad to know that a new book, especially for them, by that popular writer, Miss Annie H. Ryder, is soon to be published by D. Lothrop and Company. "New Every Morning" will have bright, strong, fresh quotations carefully selected, and will doubtless prove as popular as that racy little volume, "Hold Up Your Heads, Girls!"

"THE Story Book of Science," by Lydia Hoyt Farmer, soon to be issued by D. Lothrop and Company, will give its young readers fascinating glimpses into the wonders of every-day life, and reveal to them the processes of making glass and paper, cotton and silk, printing books, growing various products, and a thousand other mysteries such as children delight to peer into.

"FOR a Girls' Room" is a beautiful volume got up for the elder daughters of the family, on whom devolve the pretty furnishings and furbushings of the house, the entertainment of company, and the providing of recreations for the younger brothers and sisters and their friends, a book every young lady will want as soon as she sees it. D. Lothrop and Company, publishers.

IN the first batch, now on its way to England, of the 1,200 palm-leaf books of which the Royal Library of Mandalay consists, will be found five volumes of a Burmese work entitled "Po-tay-kay Ya-za-win," containing a history of the Portuguese in Burmah. It begins at about the year 1520, and gives an amusing picture, from a Burmese point of view, of the struggles between the Portuguese, Spaniards, Dutch, French, and English, as each nation strove to secure for itself the ascendancy in Burmah.

A FEATURE of the coming year of the *Century* will be a series of papers on "The Food Question," written by Professor W. O. Atwater, of Wesleyan University, who for years past has been engaged in special investigation in this field. The object of the articles is to present some of the results of late scientific research which have a direct bearing upon our daily life,—such as: the substances of which our bodies and the foods that nourish them are composed; the digestibility of food; the proportions of nutrients appropriate to different classes of people; food and the labour question; food and morals, etc., etc. This subject is an important and almost neglected branch of the Labour Problem.

THE *Art Interchange* of September 11, 1886, is an unusually attractive issue. It gives as an extra supplement a painting in colour by Walter Satterlee, "The Fisher Girl." This shows a fisher girl leaning against the keel of a boat which has been drawn up on the sands. The sketch is pretty and decorative, the colouring being especially attractive. There are also given, a strong drawing in black and white of a bull's head, a study of rabbits, two beautiful tile designs, a pattern of nasturtiums for vest decoration, a handsome border design of oranges and orange blossoms, and a beautiful sketch for wall hanging, showing mermaids, star-fish and coral. The text treats of decorative novelties, painting on wood, portrait painting, painting on textiles, suggestions for embroidery and for house decoration. There are also excellent articles on etiquette—lawn parties, and excellent book reviews and art notes.

IT is curious to learn that the publication of a valuable collection of historical lectures by the Bishop of Chester, ex-Regius Professor of Modern History at Oxford, should be due to the fact that "the love of correcting proof-sheets has become a leading passion with the author." Yet one of the most valuable contributions to the literature of mediæval and modern history is given to the world with this apology, and is published almost silently, with scarcely an advertisement or an effort to acquaint the world with the fact, and at a time of year when it is least likely to attract notice. And yet, to all except a few university officials, and possibly a few students, these "Seventeen Lectures" are entirely new. The only one which has previously appeared (and then merely as a report) was the Professor's last public statutory lecture, on the 8th of May, 1884, previous to his removal to Chester, containing his famous confession that he had never been able to reconcile himself "with smoking, late hours, dinner parties, Sunday breakfasts, or university sermons." The rest of the seventeen consist of studies which cannot but be of the greatest value to every one interested in historical literature.

MACMILLAN AND COMPANY's announcements for the Fall publishing season include the "Letters and Reminiscences of Thomas Carlyle," edited by Prof. Charles Eliot Norton, of Harvard University; a new volume of "Historical Lectures," by Prof. Edward A. Freeman, reviewing the "Chief Periods of European History"; and a new and cheaper edition, in four volumes 12mo., of the late M. Lanfrey's great "History of Napoleon I." Among their illustrated works may be mentioned an important book on "Greenland," by Baron Von Nordenskiöld; "Days with Sir Roger De Coverley," with characteristic illustrations by Hugh Thomson; and an *édition de luxe*, printed on fine paper, in one volume, of Washington Irving's "Old Christmas" and "Bracebridge Hall," the illustrations of which were a labour of love of the late Randolph Caldecott. To their list of novels they will add Mr. Henry James's new story, "Casa-massima"; "Sir Percival," by J. Henry Shorthouse, author of "John Inglesant"; and a new story by Charlotte M. Yonge, entitled "A Modern Telemachus." For younger readers, they will have a new volume entitled "Four Winds Farm," from the pen of that most delightful of writers for young people, Mrs. Molesworth, to which Mr. Walter Crane will as usual furnish the illustrations.