

## CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE.

The Christmas number of the *Toronto Saturday Night* is very short-ly to appear and we are glad to be-speak for it a hearty welcome. The ad-vance copies indicate that this will be the best number yet issued by the Saturday Night. Among many pleas-ing stories, sketches and poems we mention, "As a Little Child," by Miss Evelyn Durand, a poem re-markable for its poetic strength and insight.

*The Century Magazine* celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary in the November number by appearing in an entirely new dress, the type is espe-cially fine and the illustrations are as usual remarkable both for the skill of their reproduction and for the excel-lence of their choice. One of the most attractive things in the number in a literary way is a short story by Bret Harte called "The Devotion of Enriquez," excellent in its quiet strength and humor. The author of "The Cat and the Cherub" con-tributes a story called "The Tragedy of the Comedy" which is good but rather painful, we would very much prefer the author in his earlier and more un-sophisticated manner. "Sir George Tressady," Mrs. Humphrey Ward's new serial, opens well. It is evident that we are to meet Marcella some-what older than when we saw her last. It is impossible to mention every one of the contributions though that might easily be done as far as their excel-lence goes.

One of the leading features in *St Nicholas* for 1896 will be a series of letters written to young people from Samoa by Robert Louis Stevenson. Many grown-ups will count them-selves fortunate in obtaining a glimpse of the children's favorite magazine in

order to read these. Rudyard Kip-ling is to contribute during the year along with many others who have proved their special aptitude in one of the most difficult arts, writing for a younger audience.

The November *Cosmopolitan* has given a large part of its attention to the means of rapid transit, one of the articles being by the editor, John Brisbane Walker.

*Littell's Living Age* for 1896 is to be \$6.00 instead of \$8.00 as it was last year. In the present issue there is an amusing short story entitled "A Hymeneal Fiasco" taken from the *Cornhill*.

*Table Talk* is well to the front as a Thanksgiving magazine, touching that subject many times in various ways between its covers. The leading article is "Thanksgiving Day," by Mrs. Burton Kingsland, including a typical dinner menu. The usual de-partments are full and valuable.

*MacMillan's* have again been for-tunate in securing a most interesting as well as excellently written serial story. It is called the "Bride Elect" and is worthy of its predecessor. On this side of the Atlantic we have grown accustomed to seeing the name of the writer follow what he has writ-ten and so it is rather a disappoint-ment not to know to whom we are indebted for these stories. It must be discouraging to the author. The other articles in the issue are well-written and timely.

One of the most valuable articles in the November *Review of Reviews* is on "Pasteur," whose character seems to have been as kindly as his intellect was remarkable. He was