

THE serial, "The Wooing of Christabel," opens the December number of *Cassell's Family Magazine* and is concluded in this number. The paper on "Waterlow Park—Past and Present" gives us two pictures of Andrew Marvell's cottage. "Somersetshire Superstitions" follow, and then "What Happened at Ridgeway-on-Sea." Michael T. Eastwood sets forth the advantages of knowing how to speak other tongues than our own, and some practical hints are given on "The Art of Cameo Cutting." "Racing an Arab: An Adventure in Syria" is graphically described by David Ker, after which we find a poem "The Organist," by Matthias Barr. Altogether, this is a fine number of Cassell's justly-popular magazine.

THE frontispiece of *The Quiver* for December is a fine coloured lithograph called "A Daughter of Sympathy." The Countess of Meath opens the number with an illustrated paper, "A Woman's Thoughts on Travel," which contains many practical hints. A new serial, "Waiting to be Claimed," by the author of "Monica," is begun in this number. "God in the Book of Nature" is an interesting paper on wasps and their ways. "Christian Social Life" is discussed by the Rev. Hugh Macmillan, and is followed by a story, "The Spending of Jessie's Holiday." The series on "The Shield, the Sword and the Battle" is begun and is followed by a paper on "The Cheerful Man." "Fighting Invisible Giants" is a talk with children by the Rev. John Telford. In "Poor Mr. Ferrers," which follows, we have a very human story. Another serial, "Sifted as Wheat," by E. Neal, is begun in this number.

THE *Andover Review* for December. This number opens with an article on "Influence of Modern Psychology and Theological opinion," by Professor T. Ladd, showing the prevalent attitude of this modern science towards agnosticism and religious knowledge. This is a well thought-out and carefully-written contribution. Miss Agnes Maule Machar concludes her article on Thomas Erskine, entitled "Leaders of Widening Christian Thought and Life." "What is Reality?" is an article on Evolution by Rev. F. H. Johnson, an interesting enquiry as to the agreement of theism and evolution. The editorial department contains several short notices on "The Overthrow of Polygamy," "A Contribution to Christian Theology," and "The Summer Excursion of an Orthodox Editor." "Notes from England" are written by Mr. Joseph King, M.A., while an outline study of "Social Economics" is supplied by Professor Tucker. The number is replete with sound and interesting matter.

THE December number of the *Magazine of American History* opens with a paper on "The Ancient Town of Fort Benton, in Montana," with picturesque accounts handsomely illustrated of early navigation of the upper Missouri River, and "David Hartley and the American Colonies," by Joseph W. Hartley, of New York. A portrait of David Hartley, England's Signor of the Definitive Treaty of Peace with America, forms the frontispiece to the magazine. Following these we have "The Institution of Thanksgiving Day, 1623," by Jacob Harris Patton, A.M.; "La Salle's Homestead at Lachine," by John Fraser, of Montreal; "A Typical Old-time Minister, the Reverend Benjamin Tappan," a sketch by Rev. D. F. Lamson; and of shorter articles, "President Garfield's Silent Journey"; "Mrs. Elizabeth B. Custer surrounded by Buffaloes, or Camp Life in Kansas Twenty Years Ago"; "A Cluster of Christmas Poems for the Household," and some valuable hitherto unpublished letters. This number completes the twenty-fourth volume of this periodical.

IN *La Revue Française* for November the two-part story by Adrien Remacle opens well. M. Gustave Droz article "Meres et Filles," shows charming penetration, charmingly expressed. We have not seen a more delicate drawing of the relation of mother and daughter than the passage commencing "*Elles s'amient . . . sans musique.*" But the whole thing is worthy of the author of "Monsieur, Madame et Bébé." We are really sorry to see the last of M. Paul Bourget's "Pelermage," which is written with that French lightness of touch that lends a charm to the most slender, or hackneyed subject. M. Pailleron's sketch, "Les Poetes de College," is a gem in its way. Among other things we have in it an instruction entitled "*Recette pour paraître malade sans l'être*," or, to put it in English, "How to sham sickness with success." We have not met with this prescription before, but it seems good enough to recommend to any school-boy who will take the trouble to look it up and translate it. The last contribution to this number of the review that we have to notice is M. Normands' comedy in one act, "Les Yeux Fermes"—the three characters in which were created by the two Coquerin's and Mme. Barretta. Would that we had been there to see!

THE frontispiece of the *Magazine of Art* for December is an etching by James Dobie of Geo. Frederick Watts' masterpiece, "Fata Morgana." Another notable illustration of this number is "A Distinguished Member of a Humane Society," engraved from Sir Edwin Landseer's famous painting by P. Kahdemann. It is the picture of "Paul Pry," a splendid Newfoundland dog. The opening article of the number is "Warwick Castle and Its Art Treasures," which is fully illustrated. This is followed by a paper on "The English School of Miniature Art," which also is fully illustrated. Claude Phillips continues his papers on "The Modern Schools of Painting and Sculpture as Illustrated by the Grand Prix at the Paris Exhibition." A most entertaining illustrated

article is that on "A Great Painter of Cats," by M. H. Spielmann, being an account of the celebrated Dutch painter, Mme. Henriette Ronner. A portrait of Mme. Ronner shows her to be a strong-featured woman past middle age and not unlike Rosa Bonheur in appearance. Mr. Wm. Black contributes an article on "The Illustration of Books," from the author's point of view. "The Salting Collection of Oriental Porcelain" is from the pen of Lindo S. Myers. Then come the notes.

THE December number of the *North American Review* brings to a close the 151st volume of that ancient and honourable periodical. The editor has increased the number of pages from 128 to 144. The opening article is a review of "The Recent Election," by Senator Carlisle, of Kentucky, who sums up the reasons for the great Democratic victory. Algernon Charles Swinburne's "Victor Hugo: en Voyage" is a review of the last published volume of Hugo's posthumous works. Under the caption "A Topic for Christmas," Sir Lyon Playfair, K.C.B., M.P., discusses the question of International arbitration and shows what marked progress has been made in the settlement of international disputes without resort to war. "The Future of Warfare" is next taken up by Captain E. L. Zalinski, U.S.A., who considers, among other things, the use of smokeless powders. The Marquis of Lorne writes entertainingly of "The Partition of Africa." Mrs. Burton Harrison contributes a paper on "Maidens and Matrons in American Society." A short article by Erastus Wiman on "Over-Production in Securities" has special reference to the recent monetary disturbance. Dr. Paul Gibier, the well-known director of the New York Pasteur Institute, who was formerly a pupil of Dr. Koch, discusses that famous professor's newly-celebrated discovery of a cure for tuberculosis. Other interesting articles complete a very interesting number.

THE December *Arena* celebrated the opening of its third volume by appearing in a handsome new cover of pearl gray background, printed in deep blue and silver. The frontispiece is a fine portrait of Count Tolstoi made from a photograph taken from a life-size painting of the Count. The opening paper is on "The Christian Doctrine of Non-resistance," and embodies the views of Count Tolstoi and Rev. Adin Ballou as set forth in an extensive correspondence. Rev. Minot J. Savage contributes a paper entitled "Then and Now," which will be enjoyed by every reader whether grave or gay. Prof. N. S. Shaler appears in a strong paper on "The Nature of the Negro." A broad-spirited and able paper by the Rev. Lyman Abbott, the well-known pastor of Plymouth Church, is on "What is Christianity?" A full-page portrait of Dr. Abbott accompanies his paper. A. C. Wheeler, better known in the dramatic world as Nym Crinkle, writes a capital critical paper on the late Dion Boucicault. Helen H. Gardener appears in a contribution entitled "Thrown in with the City's Dead." President E. B. Andrews, of Brown University, writes ably on "Patriotism and the Public Schools." Prof. Wilbur L. Cross, Ph. D., contributes an interesting sketch of Ibsen's great poem entitled "Brand." Hamlin Garland has a story of merit entitled "A Private's Return." The department of editorial notes contain a timely paper on "Conservatism and Sensualism, an Unhallowed Alliance."

LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

MR. NICHOLAS P. GILMAN is writing a new volume on "Socialism and the American Spirit."

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON in his new novel, "The Wrecker," will, it is said, make a good deal of the *Calliope* hurricane incident at Apia, the capital of Samoa.

THE price of Mrs. Harrison's new book "Pine, Rose and Fleur de Lis," now ready at Messrs. Hart and Company, King Street West, has been definitely fixed at \$1.25.

DR. THEODORE L. CUYLER has an important book in the press of the Baker and Taylor Company, New York, entitled "How to be a Pastor." It will appear very soon.

TALLEYRAND'S MEMOIRS, by announcement of G. P. Putnam's Sons, of New York, will begin to be issued with the new year. The first volume will be eagerly looked for.

HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND COMPANY have issued what is styled "The Grozeller Portrait of Emerson." It is said to be "one of the finest likenesses of Emerson ever made."

MR. DANIEL GREENLEAF THOMPSON has written an elaborate essay on "The Philosophy of Fiction in Literature," which will prove, no doubt, a very able contribution to the genesis of the novel.

PRINCE BISMARCK is still at Varzin, enjoying excellent health. He is working most zealously at his memoirs, with the assistance of Herr Lothar Bucher and his private secretary, Dr. Chrysander, but it will take some time to complete them.

THE new *Educational Review* will be issued by Henry Holt and Company, New York, on 1st January next. On the contributors' list are the names of many of the foremost educational thinkers and writers of the age. We hail its advent and wish it every success. The field it enters is one of surpassing interest to progressive educators.

BISHOP BARRY, in the *Nineteenth Century* on "The Loyalty of the Colonies," speaks eloquently of his personal experience and impressions when he was in Sydney, at the time of the preparation and despatch of the expedition to the Soudan, and he has some pertinent remarks on Inter-

colonial Federation. The whole article is good and altogether *ad rem*.

MACMILLAN AND COMPANY have in press "A Dictionary of Classical Mythology, Religion, Literature, Art and Antiquities," a revised edition of Dr. Seyffert's work by Messrs. Nettleship and Sandys fully illustrated. The first part of "The Dictionary of Political Economy," which Mr. R. H. Inglis Palgrave, F.R.S., is editing for this firm, will appear in January next. It promises to be a very exhaustive and authoritative work.

ALGERNON CHARLES SWINBURNE, the poet who is most frequently mentioned as Lord Tennyson's successor as Poet Laureate, is a small man, quite short of stature, with a very large head covered with a crown of hair that is dangerously near being red. He is sharp, quick, and alert in his movements, with a nervous look and an absent-minded air. He is a brilliant talker who is fond of receiving visitors, and entertaining them with dissertations upon all sorts of subjects. He can talk on one theme as well as on another, but is quite fond of doing all the talking himself. He is an old bachelor who boards with friends. As a word-painter, a combiner of sounding phrases, put together in a peculiarly musical manner, he has never had a superior.

THE creator of Mrs. Partington, who had been for years confined to a wheeled chair in his home at Chelsea, and yet kept the keenest interest in passing events, died recently. A more bright and genial spirit, one more filled with the very milk of human kindness, cheerful under the burdens of advancing years and strict confinement, is not often encountered. Mr. Shillaber has been since his retirement from active journalism in 1870 the Boston correspondent of the *Hartford Post*, and his letters, signed "The Old Man with the Cane," were illuminated with the cheerfulness that made him so warmly loved by his friends. His career as a writer had ended, but nothing could quench his joy in life and his interest in his kind. Benjamin Penhallow Shillaber was born in Portsmouth, N.H., July 12, 1814.

HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND COMPANY have published a work of the first importance as a contribution to historical literature in "The Genesis of the United States," by Alexander Brown, member of the Virginia Historical Society, the American Historical Association and Fellow of the Royal Historical Society of England. It treats of the momentous period in history of our race on this northern continent included between the years 1605-1616. Mr. Brown is a fearless writer, of unusual ability, and well-balanced historical judgment, and is a most exhaustive investigator of remote historical data. In the present work important documents, discovered by him in the secret archives of Spain, will contribute their quota to history of the period dealt with. The same firm announce Vols. IX. and X. of the Riverside Edition of Lowell's works, continuing the poems and completing the edition.

"CARMEN SYLVA" begins her literary work before it is day. She disturbs no one, neither his Majesty nor even a maid. She lights her own lamp, and works until the sun brings more light. Were we to cite all her Majesty's published works they would be legion, and many others remain in the sacred precincts of her boudoir. The "Tales of the Carpathians," the libretto of an opera, a volume of "Thoughts," "Roumanian Poems," "Jehovah," "Mein Ruhe," and many others have been fully appreciated and translated into various languages. The opera "Neaga," the libretto of which was written by "Carmen Sylva," was performed with great success at Stockholm. The scene of the opera lies in Roumania, and convicts who are condemned to pass their lives in the salt mines are introduced. Peasant life is admirably depicted throughout, and the national costumes to be worn on the stage were sent from the Elizabeth School at Bucharest.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Taylor, Isaac, M.A., Litt, D., Hon., LL.D. The Origin of the Aryans. London: Walter Scott.

Thompson, Daniel Greenleaf. The Philosophy of Fiction in Literature. London: Longmans Green & Co.

Tillier, Claude. My Uncle Benjamin. Boston, Mass.: Benjamin R. Tucker.

Wedmore, Frederick. Life of Honoré De Balzac. London: Walter Scott.

"ERYGMATOSCOPE" is the somewhat formidable name given to a most ingenious appliance devised by M. Trouve, to facilitate the inspection of the geological strata pierced by the boring tool. The apparatus consists of a powerful incandescent lamp inclosed in a cylinder, one of the hemi-cylindrical surfaces on which constitutes the reflector; while the other, which is of thick glass, allows the luminous rays to pass through it, and light up the successive strata whose observation is required. Arrangements are made for raising and lowering the instrument with ease, and it gives excellent results down to a depth of over 600 feet, though successful operations can be made at a much greater depth by the use of a more powerful lamp. It is stated that an expedition which has been sent out to the Mozambique coast by the Portuguese Government, in search of coal and other minerals, has been supplied with erygmatoscopes.