

THE *Atlantic Monthly* for March contains, in addition to instalments of the serials, "The Tragic Muse" and "Passe Rose," "Simplicity," by Charles Dudley Warner; "The Keiths," by Hope Notnor; "The Two Mothers," by E. Wilson; "The Isthmus Canal and our Government," by Stuart F. Weld; "Some Colonial Lawyers and their Work," by Frank Gaylord Cook; "Personal Reminiscences of William H. Seward," by Samuel J. Barrows and Isabel C. Barrows; "The Christmas of 1888," by John Greenleaf Whittier; "Ticonderoga, Bennington and Oriskany," by John Fiske, and "A Bird's-Eye View of the United States."

THE February *Book Lover* (New York: William Everts Benjamin), is filled with original matter relating to Washington, the titles of the leading articles being: "Had Washington a Favourite Author?" "Autograph Letters of Washington: Their Interest and Value," "Engraved Portraits of Washington," "Washington's Library and Its Restoration," "The Bible on which Washington took his First Oath of Office," "Touching Memento of Martha Washington" and "The Dead Hero." Most of the articles are illustrated with portraits, book plates, fac-similes of letters and of signatures, of a page of Irving's MS. of his "Life of Washington," and of the first page of a book once the property of Martha Washington, etc.

THE first and most interesting article in the March *Forum* is Prof. J. G. Schurman's paper on "The Manifest Destiny of Canada," on which we may have something to say hereafter. Other articles are: "How Society Reforms Itself," by Edward Atkinson; "A Definition of the Fine Arts," by Prof. Charles E. Norton; "Advanced Education for Women," by Kate Stephens; "The Bible in the Public Schools," by Cardinal Manning; "Dreams as Related to Literature," by James Sully; "The Future of the Negro," by Prof. W. S. Scarborough; "Reviewers and Their Ways," by Andrew Lang; "Darwin's Brilliant Fallacy," by Prof. St. George Mivart; "Bribery in Railway Elections," by Isaac L. Rice; "The Next Postal Reform," by Rev. Dr. Leonard W. Bacon.

A PORTRAIT and sketch of Charles Dudley Warner form the leading feature of the March *Book Buyer*. The portrait is engraved from a recent photograph, and gives a good idea of the strength and kindliness of the face of the author of *My Summer in a Garden* and of the *Backlog Studies*. There is also a sketch and portrait of the new Western author, Joseph Kirkland, of Chicago, whose two books, *Zury* and *The McVays*, have attracted much attention. Mr. Kirkland is older than most people imagined, being in his sixtieth year. Among the other special papers in this number are a review of the publishing business in this country and Great Britain in 1888, an account of the treasures which the late Mr. Halliwell-Phillips bequeathed to the New York Shakespeare Society, and an illustrated review of the volume of Lester Wallack's reminiscences. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

THE *Magazine of American History* for March in its unique and rare illustrations surpasses even itself. The leading article describes the "Historic Homes and Landmarks" about the Battery and Bowling Green, New York City, exhibiting some curious and striking contrasts between the heroic past and the prosperous present. The second article, "America: the World's Puzzle in Geography," is a study by Rev. William Barrows, D.D., worthy of careful perusal. President James C. Welling, of the Columbian University, Washington, D. C., replies to General Wilcox in a very able and comprehensive article on "The Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence." J. G. Rosengarten contributes a readable paper on "Du Pont De Nemours." General Alfred E. Lee discourses upon "German Family and Social Life" in a clever and entertaining manner. Mr. Maturin L. Delafield writes of Colonel Henry Beekman Livingston, and Annie E. Wilson contributes a paper entitled "Thrilling Adventure of a Kentucky Pioneer." The several minor departments are admirably filled—they are unusually bright and timely.

THE frontispiece of the March *Century* is a portrait of the Grand Lama of the Trans-Baikal, from a photograph given to George Kennan in exchange for his own. The instalment of the "Life of Lincoln" is entitled "The Edict of Freedom" and completes the story of Emancipation. Dr. Edward Eggleston reviews Prof. Bryce's *American Commonwealth* and Lieut. W. H. Beecher contributes a curious article on "The Use of Oil to Still the Waves." Thomas B. Reed explains the "Rules of the House of Representatives" and suggests several important changes. The fiction of the number is by Mrs. Mary Hallock Foote, Mr. Jessop, who has written several admirable sketches of the Irishman in America, and Mr. Cable who contributes another "Strange True Story" entitled "The History of Alix de Morainville." Mrs. van Rensselaer and Mr. Pennell present the history and appearance of old "York Cathedral." In the series of "Old Italian Masters" Mr. Stillman writes about Gaddo and Taddeo Gaddi, and Mr. Cole engraves "Music," by Taddeo Gaddi. In Charles de Kay's illustrated Irish Series "Christian Ireland" is the subject for this month. "Dutch Painters at Home" is illustrated and described by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Chase. Gustav Kobbé writes of "Amateur Theatricals," and Mr. Charles Barnard tells of "Something Electricity is Doing." There are poems by James Whitcomb Riley, Frank Dempster Sherman, and others.

The *North American Review* for March opens with a description by General Sherman of "Old Times in California," containing many interesting reminiscences of life in that Territory forty years ago. There is a valuable

symposium on the question, "Can Our Churches be Made More Useful?" to which the Rev. Dr. Edward Everett Hale, the Rev. Dr. Washington Gladden and the Rev. Minot J. Savage contribute. The murder of Major Clayton, considered from the Republican and the Democratic point of view, by the Hon. Logan H. Roots and Senator James K. Jones, both of Arkansas. A plea for Delia Bacon is entered by Ignatius Donnelly, in a review of Theodore Bacon's life of his aunt. "Legislative Injustice to Railways" is discussed by Henry Clews; "Common-Sense and Copyrights," by the Hon. George S. Boutwell; and the question, "Does American Farming Pay?" is conclusively answered by a recognized authority, the Hon. George B. Loring, ex-Commissioner of Agriculture. "Humanity's Gain from Unbelief" is set forth by Charles Bradlaugh, M.P. General Lloyd S. Bryce, Member of the Fiftieth Congress, points out some errors of statement and conclusion in Professor James Bryce's widely-read *American Commonwealth*. Dion Boucicault describes a recent incident at the Goethe Society's meeting; and comments on the disastrous effect of newspaper criticism on the drama. In a readable short article, Grant Allen treats of "The Adaptiveness of Nature." In the department of "Notes and Comments," "The Claim of Realism" is considered by Albion W. Tourgee; there is also a timely contribution on "Naming the New States." Several pages are devoted to reviews of recent books.

THE March *St. Nicholas* contains the beginning of a story by Joel Chandler Harris, called "Daddy Jake, the Runaway," which tells of child life in the South in slavery times, and Kemble's pictures make it exceedingly life-like. The frontispiece of the number is a dainty maiden in sheeny satin—"Under the Mistletoe"—an original engraving by Frank French. There is a fairy tale called "The Sun's Sisters," a Lappish story freely rendered by Hjalmar Hjorth Boyesen, with humorous illustrations by O. Herford. An article by Mrs. Burton Harrison recalls the reputation of "Washington as an Athlete." A fully illustrated sketch of Antinous is contributed by Eleanor C. Lewis, and following this is an article by W. Lewis Fraser, devoted to the "Storm-bound Sparrows." Another cold-weather story tells of life near Hudson's Bay—"When the Brigade Came In." It is written by Sarah J. Prichard. Julian Ralph notes what did not happen when "He Wrote to the Rats," in which W. H. Drake's pictures render valuable assistance. "Sailor Boy Dromios" shows how an English and an American boy exchanged identities, enabling the American lad to assist in the bombardment of Alexandria. W. H. Gilder's sketch of sliding down a mountain in Siberia, entitled "Downhill with a Vengeance," is illustrated with spirited drawings by Henry Sandham. Of continued articles there are Mrs. Catherwood's "Bells of Ste. Anne," Edmund Alton's "Routine of the Republic," this instalment being devoted to the social formalities of the White House, the "Bunny Stories," and the "Brownies," who build a snow man. There are poems by Harriet Prescott Spofford, Walter Learned, Malcolm Douglas, and Sydney Dayre; a sketch of animal life by John Russell Coryell, and the usual departments.

THE *Overland Monthly* for March has an unusual variety of interesting reading matter. "Los Angeles—Studies of a Century of Change," by C. H. Skinn, is a record of the changes that have befallen the "ancient and honourable Pueblo of Los Angeles" since its founding more than a century ago, by order of Governor Felipe de Neve. Among the "solid" articles are "The Sage-Bush Rebellion," by H. S. Wells; "American Isthmus Canals," by William L. Merry, and "Some Reasons for the Decline of American Deep Sea Commerce," by John Totyl. The "Western Stories" in prose and verse are racy and full of humour, and have an unmistakable western flavour. The illustrations are not so numerous as usual, but in all other respects the number is exceptionally good.

MR. T. FISHER UNWIN has recently commenced the publication of a series entitled, "Unwin's Novel Series." It will include novels that have already proved favourites with the public, original novels, tales, and sketches by new writers, and reprints of interesting books not easily accessible otherwise. We have received the first three volumes of the series: *Gladys Fane*, by T. Wemyss Reid; *Mrs. Keith's Crime*, by Mrs. W. K. Clifford; and *Concerning Oliver Knox* by G. Colmore, all of them popular favourites—if a fifth edition is evidence of popularity. Mr. Unwin was peculiarly happy in his selection for the first volume of the series. *Gladys Fane* is an excellent story, full of character and incident, and told with rare literary skill. Mr. Reid is an accomplished writer, the author of *A Life of the Rt. Hon. W. E. Forster, M.P.*, and a monograph on Charlotte Brontë; and quite recently he attracted public notice as a witness in the Parnell investigation, having been called to prove Pigott's overtures to Mr. Forster when the latter was Chief Secretary for Ireland.

We cannot speak so highly of *Mrs. Keith's Crime*, which is a woman's story, prolix and morbid, and the perpetual references to "Molly," Mrs. Keith's sick child, are exceedingly tiresome. Yet the characters are all well drawn, and the descriptions of Spanish life and scenery are full of the warmth and colour of the South.

*Concerning Oliver Knox* is still less to our taste, notwithstanding the ingenuity of the author's plot and the evident ability with which he works it out. A more detestable character than Oliver Knox it would be hard to imagine; and throughout the whole dismal tragedy there is not a single gleam of sunshine to lighten the darkness.

The volumes average about 300 pp. each, small crown octavo. They are clearly printed, and strongly bound in limp cloth. 2s. (London: T. Fisher Unwin, 26 Paternoster Square, E.C.)

## LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW will deliver the oration at the commencement exercises of the Yale law school in June.

A NEW novel from the pen of Amelie Rives, entitled *The Witness of the Sun*, will be published entire in *Lippincott's Magazine* for April.

SIR ARTHUR LAWRENCE HALIBURTON, K.C.B., Assistant Under-Secretary at the War Office, is the youngest son of the late Mr. Justice Haliburton, of Nova Scotia.

THOS. WHITTAKER is just publishing a new religious manual by Lucy Ellen Guernsey, entitled, *A Lent in Earnest*; a daily help for the coming penitential season.

LENTEN and Eastertide books begin to be spoken of by the publishers. James Pott & Co. have a considerable list in preparation, including the new collection of Bishop Cox's poems, *Paschal Poems for Passion-Tide and Easter*.

SOME February publications of T. Y. Crowell & Co. are a story *Red Carl*, picturing German emigrant life in an American city, written by J. J. Messemmer; *Cecil's Knight*, by E. B. Hollis, a story for boys; a religious work, *Polished Stones and Sharpened Arrows*, for Christian workers and teachers, and *A Happy Find*, from the French of Mme. Gagnebin—described as a sweet and vivacious love story, with a spiritual atmosphere pervading it.

COL. J. W. HIGGINSON'S poems, which Longmans, Green & Co. are about to publish in New York and London, are dedicated to J. R. Lowell, "Schoolmate and Fellow-townsmen." The volume is called *The Afternoon Landscape*, for the morning of the poet's life is now past. The poems include the sonnet, "Duty," and the lighter stanzas on "A Jar of Rose Leaves." Among the translations are Sappho's "Ode to Aphrodite," and a dozen sonnets from Petrarch and Camoens.

THE *Globe Democrat* modestly claims to have originated the terms "bar'l" and "boom," in the slang sense in which they are now current—the one in connection with the Tilden campaign, in 1876, and the other in 1879, when the Grant third-term movement was started. This claim is presumptuous. The phrase "to tap his bar'l" long antedates the Tilden-Hayes contest, and to "boom" in precisely the same sense as used respecting the Grant boom was familiar in stock market and logging camp before Grant was out of West Point.—*America*.

CARDINAL MANNING has an article in the March *Forum* on "Morality and the Public Schools of the United States." He regards compulsory state education as the cause of great evil to society, and he attributes much of the growth of crime in certain sections of the United States to the vicious effects of secular teaching. If Cardinal Manning had familiarized himself with the relative numbers of illiterates and criminals that graduate from the parochial and public schools in America, his views upon this subject would be of some value. As he apparently has not, his opinion is not worth the paper it is written upon.—*America*.

By the appointment of Dr. Alexander to the newly established chair of English, in the University of Toronto, we are again to lose one of our best Professors. Even so must we expect it to be while Dalhousie is but one, though, indeed, the leading one, of some half-dozen Maritime Colleges. In this lies the most potent argument for College Federation—the need of concentrating our forces; and thus, by increasing our influence and combining our funds, make ourselves able to secure and retain able and distinguished Professors. We can't expect that men of first-class ability and liberal culture will be content to remain in a position of less influence and emolument when the opportunity of obtaining one of greater offers itself. In consideration of this, therefore, while we deeply regret that Dr. Alexander is about to leave us, we cannot refrain from congratulating him most heartily upon his good fortune.—*Dalhousie Gazette*.

THE annual statement of The Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York shows the remarkable progress made by this institution during twelve months. The record made by the Mutual eclipses its own best efforts, and naturally exceeds that of any other financial institution in the world. The new business written amounted to \$103,214,261.32, an increase of \$33,756,792.95 over the new risks assumed in 1887, and a gain of \$46,381,542 over the business of 1886—showing a continuous and phenomenal advance. The assets of the Mutual Life now aggregate \$126,082,153.56, indicating a gain for the year of \$7,275,301. The Company has now an outstanding insurance account amounting to \$482,125,184. Its total income from all sources is reported at \$26,215,932. It paid to its members during the year for death claims and endowments and other obligations \$14,727,550.22. Up to date the Mutual had 158,369 policies in force, showing a gain in membership for the year of 17,426, thus forming the biggest army of policy holders in any regular Life Insurance Company in the world. The surplus fund was increased \$1,645,622.11 in 1888, and the Mutual now has \$7,940,063.33 over and above every liability. The following will show the payments to policy holders during the past ten years for death claims, endowments, dividends, purchased policies and surrenders.