

Mr. Edward Baxter Perry, the blind pianist and lecturer, charmed and delighted everybody with his superb playing of a difficult programme. Henri Marteau will play as previously stated, in the Pavilion Music Hall on Monday evening next the 8th inst.

### LIBRARY TABLE.

Of the young folks' favorite, *St. Nicholas*, who dare say aught but praise. The two bright bound volumes for '93 will spread their red and gold covers in thousands of happy homes on this continent and in foreign lands, and hundreds of thousands of happy children will lovingly feast upon their intellectual dainties. Song and story and illustration from pen and pencil of many of the world's most gifted writers and artists fill its delightful pages. Fun abounds—instruction is by no means lacking. We know of no publication the world over at all comparable with *St. Nicholas* as the literary happy land of children. For them, the '93 volume is truly a treasure house of delight.

The last bound volume of the *Century* magazine is one of the best object lessons of the great strides in advance made in the departments of periodic literature and magazine illustration. Though from time to time we have noticed the successive monthly numbers in our columns, the grouping of the numbers and illustrations makes a complete and charming *tout ensemble* of some 960 pages and 320 illustrations, which form a volume of delightful entertainment and instruction at once purifying, informing and elevating to the home and individual. No better evidence of the distinction to which American magazine publication has attained can be afforded than found in the pages of Vol. XLVI. of the *Century*.

**WINDFALLS OF OBSERVATION.** By Edward Sandford Martin. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons. Toronto: William Briggs. 1893. \$1.25.

Mr. Martin says on his title page that his "windfalls of observation have been here gathered for the edification of the young and the solace of others." Though it is our regret that we may no longer be classed with the former, it is our pleasure to have been by his extremely sensible, clever and good humored essays solaced with the latter. When one has thought well and clearly on a variety of subjects it is quite natural and proper that he should hand on to others the result of his observation and reflection. It is thus the world is made wiser and better and mental and moral stimulus and refreshment are provided, here and there, along the wayside of life as welcome boons for the weary wayfarers thereon. Mr. Martin writes philosophically in these old-fashioned, narrow pages on some twenty-one subjects and there is a freshness and freedom in his style which are quite engaging. However, you soon realize that there is even more in what is said than in the manner of saying it, and the reading is all the more enjoyable for the vein of unforced humour with which it is seasoned, as in the mild form of polygamy deferentially suggested as a solution of difficulties incident to divorce, and by which "sisters who were co-heiresses might unite upon a single husband, thereby keeping the undivided estate in the family. Dear girl friends might absolutely refuse to be separated, and decline to marry any man who had not room in his heart and his house for both." In another vein our author writes thus charmingly of some Christmas sentiments: "After all, little children do it best. They are the superlative receivers, and it is because they are that we delight to give them things. They are frankly and delightfully appreciative. Obligate them simply by the pleasure they get out of them, and prefer a rag baby to the deed of a happy house. They take a jumping jack from Mary, the laundress, and a jewelled pin from Aunt Melinda Cræsus without the least distinction of happy approval. The nearer we get to their guilelessness, the nearer we approach perfection in receiving and in all the Christmas

attributes besides." But our readers will have to gather from the windfalls themselves the full bouquet from which we have but culled for them one or two tiny flowers.

**CATALOGUE OF THE LIBRARY OF KING'S COLLEGE, WINDSOR, NOVA SCOTIA.** With occasional annotations. By Harry Piers. Halifax, N. S.: N. S. Printing Co.: 1893.

A library without a good catalogue is a collection of so many sealed books. Indeed, in the case of those large public libraries in which the reader has no access to the shelves, it is difficult even with a good catalogue to unseal the books to any but those familiar with authors and titles. It was, therefore, a valuable gift to King's College, Windsor, when the late Dr. Charles Cogswell made it a bequest accompanied by the condition that the library should be catalogued and printed before the anniversary of his death. One could wish, however, that the generous donor had not so limited the time for its preparation; for, if the present reviewer may judge from past experience, it is impossible to obtain accuracy in a task of this complicated character without time for a most careful revision, both of the manuscript and of the proofs.

The task has fallen to Mr. Harry Piers, of "Stanvan," Halifax; and, to judge from both Preface and Catalogue, it could hardly have fallen into better hands. The man who knows how to make a really good catalogue is no ordinary man. Neither is this a truism. To compile an open sesame to some thousands of books argues the possession of intellectual powers of a higher order than the ordinary reader is usually apt to imagine; it requires an abundance of that thing called knowledge, and perhaps even a greater abundance of that thing called wisdom. An alphabetical list of names is not a catalogue, though to judge from the multitude of such things in existence many librarians think it is. A book may be valuable from so many points of view, from those of its age, its author, its date, its place of publication, its typography, its binding, its history, its influence, its rarity, its curiosity, and many others which only the bibliographer could define; and to the majority, if not to all of these in innumerable cases, a catalogue should be a key. When, then, we remember that a good library contains books and MSS. of every variety of character, in all sorts of languages, upon a host of different topics, we get an inkling of what a cataloguer undertakes when he proposes giving us a key to one and all. In the case of King's College Windsor, the cataloguer has accomplished his task admirably. It is very evident also that he has paid punctilious attention to minor details—in the different faced types he has chosen, for example; in keeping the pagination to the foot of the page, leaving the headings free to the hurrying eye; in the use of brackets for interpolated words and signs; in the consistency of the abbreviations.

One of the best features of the catalogue is the occasional insertion of a brief and always interesting explanatory note after the title of a work. Thus, of Linaeus's *De Emendata Structura Latini Sermonis*, Mr. Piers tells us, in small modest type, that "this work is said to contain the first Greek type used by a London printer." Of "Tracts for the Times" he says, "J. H. Newman and Dr. Pusey were the principal contributors to this series. Two numbers of vol. 6 were published, but they were afterwards suppressed." Of Stanley's edition of *Æschylus* (1663) he remarks that it is "an edition of great excellence." Of Stephens's edition of *Anacreon* (Paris: 1554) we learn that "it was printed . . . when [Stephens] was only twenty-six years of age. Quaritch bought the Sunderland copy for £10 10s., and the Beckford one for £8 8s." Of Martin Bécane, the Jesuit, (by the way, why should he be called 'Becanus'?) we are told that "in 1762 the Parliament at Paris ordered all . . . [his] works to be burnt." All this shows careful research and judicious use made of such research. Indeed, even the reader who knows but little of books from a bibliophile's point of view, will find abundance of interesting reading

in this catalogue; he will learn much about the Aldine and Elzevir presses; he will find a list of all the incunabula the College possesses; he will find a most useful explanation of Latin and other names of towns (a highly commendable addition: the ordinary reader never remembers the difference between Lugdunum and Lugdunum Batavorum, and he cannot be perpetually referring to Dr. Smith, or Larousse, or Wheatley, or other works where such translations are to be found) in short, the work deserves the highest possible commendation. We can warmly recommend this catalogue as an exemplar to all university and public librarians, with the single added suggestion that, where time and means permit, all bibliographical and explanatory or historical information should be made within even larger limits that those which Mr. Harry Piers has permitted himself.

One or two insignificant points of detail might be mentioned as worthy of correction in a second edition. We notice that the Greek titles are devoid of accents (as, e. g., on page 8, line 36). There are some minute printers' errors also unnoticed in the list of *Errata*: "finess" for fineness (page iii.); "*Bucelles*" for *Brucelles* (page [xv], line 11); a space between "in" and "recognizing" (page viii., line 32); a Roman for an Italic *Ed.* (page 4, line 26), etc.; the accentuation of French words throughout (and especially on pp. 405 *et seq.*) might be revised—the ordinary Anglo-Saxon compositor requires unsleeping and tyrannical watchfulness in regard to all accentual and diacritical marks; on page iii. reference is made to "Aristotle," "Plato," and "Plutarch," why then in the same paragraph are the forms "Chrysostomus" and "Appianus" used? We notice too that the cataloguer calls the case in which the place of publication is used in Latin the genitive. Is it not usual to call it the locative? But such minutiae only deserve comment because absolute accuracy is the dearest wish of every librarian. Of the general character of the books of which this catalogue informs us and of the history of King's College and its library we have left no room to speak, much as each deserves notice; both receive attention in the Preface and Historical Introduction.

### PERIODICALS.

A very pretty sonnet from the *Spectator* entitled Addison's Walk greets the eye on the first page of *Littell's Living Age*, 30th December. "The Ireland of To-day," a thoughtful paper from the *Fortnightly*, is the first prose selection. This is followed by four others, all well varied, and then comes "Memories of the Master of Balliol," from *Corndill*. Truly Dr. Jowett's memory is dear to the English heart. And was he not a typical English scholar and gentleman?

*Outing* for January has a most seasonable frontispiece entitled "A Nomad of the North." A noble reindeer stands in it surrounded by Arctic atmosphere and scenery. It was suggested by C. J. C. Hyne's hunting sketch in this number. Two imaginative songs have precedence of other contributions. "The Hammock's Complaint," by Ella Wheeler Wilcox and "A Skating Song" by Charles Gordon Rogers. In short story and descriptive and sporting sketch this number should satisfy the most exacting of its readers who will find their old friends, Ed. W. Sandys, Lenz, and many another pleasing contributor.

*Lippincott's* for January breaks its usual rule by publishing a continued story "The Trespasser," from the versatile and vigorous pen of our own Gilbert Parker. A picturesque, remarkable pair are Gaston Belward on his good horse Saracen, and Jacques Brillon on his broncho as in their outlandish trappings they lope along an English highway—but our readers will have to follow their fortunes for themselves. The complete story of the number is N. W. French's and its title is "The Colonel." It is bright and spirited. Mrs. Sherwood has more recollections and Julian Hawthorne and others add their quota to an interesting number.