

Flammarion, the French astronomer. Professor Boyesen then tells us, as he can so well, of "The Fjords of Norway." Here we have had sport, poetry, biography and travel in most attractive form. The strong man Eugen Sandow also explains how to become well and strong. F. Spielhagen's article, "The Modern German Drama and its Authors," scarcely needs commendation. But we need not refer to Mr. Howell's Athurian letters nor to the delightfully diversified departmental writing with such contributors as Lang, Sarcey, Flammarion, to prove the attractiveness of this number.

Very brilliant are the crimson roses by Paul de Longpré and soft and tender the landscape by Annette Moran (we would like to see a list of the Morans, so many have they become) in the coloured plates of *The Art Amateur* for June. Theodore Child gives a second paper on "The National Gallery," some one writes of the "Sketching Grounds in Holland and Normandy." A review of the Metropolitan Museum reopening, of the "Group Exhibition," which is considered a success as to hanging, and of several minor exhibitions, photography among them, are all of great interest. The usual amount of instruction in various branches and accompanying hints for designs given are excellent. Although the amount of reading matter is less in quantity than usual perhaps, the quality is quite up to its high standard and keeps the art lover, who is cut off from art centres, generally well informed on matters of interest the world over.

LITERARY AND PERSONAL.

The publication of "Perlycross," R. D. Blackmore's new novel, is announced by Harper & Brothers.

Mr. J. Castell Hopkins has an article in the June number of the *American Journal of Politics* dealing with relations of Australia, Canada and the United States.

Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston, New York, and Chicago, have just issued as Extra No. 62 of the *Riverside Literature Series*, the first five chapters of a new history of the United States for Schools by John Fiske, with auxiliary matter by Frank A. Hill.

Mr. F. Marion Crawford's "Modern View of Mysticism," the leading article in *Book Reviews* for June, is said to be of peculiar interest by reason of its unique subject matter, the result of the most earnest investigation into a phase of life and thought that has always appealed very strongly to Mr. Crawford's imagination.

Mr. John S. Ewart, Q.C., is, we understand, contemplating the publication of a volume bearing on the Manitoba School Question. Mr. Ewart's intimate knowledge of the history and details of the famous case, and his clear and cogent style give promise of an instructive and readable volume on one of the most vexed and important phases of Canadian political history.

Mr. Gamaliel Bradford is the author of a monograph recently published by the American Academy of Political and Social Science, in which he argues strongly for the adoption in the United States of the system of cabinet government. Speaking of the Senate under our present system, he says: "Nothing but the full strength of executive power, backed by the nation, can prevent it from becoming in the long run a tyrannical oligarchy, notoriously one of the worst of governments."

The Rev. Dr. Withrow, editor of the Canadian *Methodist Magazine*, whose literary activities have made his name familiar on both sides of the Atlantic, is putting through the press a *Montessaron* or *New Harmony of the Gospels*, which will be of much interest and value to Bible students. It interweaves into the continuous narrative the story of the life of the Saviour, which is the special subject of the International Sunday School lessons for the year which begins with the coming July. This book will be published simultaneously in Canada and the United States. The Canadian publisher is William Briggs.

The New York *Critic* says that the title and motto of "Ships that Pass in the Night" were taken, as most of Miss Beatrice Harraden's readers are probably aware, from one of Longfellow's "Tales of a Wayside Inn." The successful new novelist is described as showing "no traces of invalidism beyond a slight frame"; she is a nut-brown maid, "with short curling hair, and dark eyes whose varied expressions are not concealed behind the glasses which she is obliged to wear. Her manner is simple, cordial and unaffected." Miss Harraden comes of a gifted family that has shown a special predilection for music. She is herself a violoncellist and a linguist, and a graduate of London University.

Canon Malcom MacColl in the *Speaker* has been having a courteous controversy with Mr. A. T. Quiller Couch on the subject of Mr. George Moore's last novel, in which so far the learned Canon has by no means come off second best. He makes the following timely and good-tempered suggestion, with reference to the stream of literary sewerage which is most objectionable to all persons of pure mind and refined taste: "Would it not be well if our novelists, male and female, were to give us some little respite from 'the sex question' and *fin de siècle* morals? Will they not, by way of interlude, gratify occasionally the taste of those—for there are such—who do not think that seduction and adultery are the main interests of life?"

The appointment of Mr. John King, M.A., Q.C., to the important position of Principal of the Law School at Osgoode Hall, is one of the most satisfactory that could be made. Mr. King's standing at the bar for many years has been that of an able counsel. A man of fine literary taste and scholastic attainments, broad minded and well read, he most happily combines the *suaviter in modo* with the *fortiter in re*. A fine presence, a genial manner, a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the law, ease and grace of expression, and a sympathetic interest in the intellectual pursuits and aspirations of young men, are no mean qualifications for such a position. No doubt such qualifications have largely led to Mr. King's appointment. As an old and valued contributor of *THE WEEK*, we tender him our sincere congratulations.

Montreal Gazette: M. Hanotaux, the new French Minister of Foreign Affairs, is going in for a vigorous foreign policy, and evidently intends that England will be made aware of the fact. In France vigorous foreign policies are the fashion now and again, and are very popular, for a little while. The ministries that inaugurate them generally last about as long as any of the others that the Republic sets up. M. Hanotaux and his Anglophobia will be events of the past by the time the winter is well set in.

READINGS FROM CURRENT LITERATURE.

THE MAN A PRINTER LOVES.

There is a man the printer loves, and he is wondrous wise;
Whene'er he writes the printer man he dotteth all his i's.
And when he's dotted all of them, with carefulness and ease,
He punctuates each paragraph, and crosses all his t's.

Upon one side alone he writes, and never rolls his leaves;
And from the man of ink a smile, and mark "insert" receives.
And when a question he doth ask—taught wisely he hath been—
He doth the goodly penny stamps for postage back put in.

He gives the place from which he writes—his address the printer needs—
And plainly writes his honoured name, so he that runneth reads.
He reads, revises, reads, corrects and rewrites all again;
And keeps one copy safe, and sends one to the printer man.

And thus by taking little pains, at trifling care and cost,
Assures himself his manuscript will not be burned or lost.
So let all those who long to write take pattern by this man—
With jet black ink and paper white, do just the best they can;

And then the printer man shall know and bless them as his friends,
All through life's journey as they go until that journey ends.

—London Tit-Bits.

WHAT IS ELECTRICITY?

Probably no better answer (says the *Scientific American*) can be given to the above query than the one that follows:—It is stated that on one occasion when Professor Galileo Ferraris, the Italian scientist, whose name is known to all electricians, was asked by a young lady what electricity was, he ventured to answer it. Opening her autograph book he wrote:—"Maxwell has demonstrated that luminous vibrations can be nothing else than periodic vibrations of electro-magnetic forces, Hertz in proving by experiments that electro-magnetic oscillations are propagated like light, has given an experimental basis to the theory of Maxwell. This gave birth to the idea that the luminiferous ether and the seat of electric and magnetic forces are one and the same thing. This being established, I can now, my dear young lady, reply to the question that you put to me: What is electricity? It is not only the formidable agent which now and then shatters and tears the atmosphere, terrifying you with the crash of its thunder, but it is also the life-giving agent which sends from heaven to earth, with the light and the heat, the magic of colors and the breath of life. It is that which makes your heart beat to the palpitation of the outside world, it is that which has the power to transmit to your soul the enchantment of a look and the grace of a smile."

The volcanic blaze breaks through the loftiest mountain peaks; and so the deep discontent of the humble millions breaks through the mountain minds of their great leaders.—C. C. Burleigh.