

queen also being present. Then letters of authority were given to Nehemiah, and he went on his mission to Jerusalem to rebuild its walls.

Lesson 8. "Public Reading of the Scriptures." The time of this lesson was the first day of the seventh month, Tishri, one week after the walls of Jerusalem were finished. In this month three great festivals were held: (1) The Feast of Trumpets, ushering in the new year and the new moon. (2) The great Day of Atonement, the 10th of the month; and, (3) The Feast of Tabernacles, from the 15th to the 21st—the Jewish Thanksgiving. In addition to these, Nehemiah held another solemn meeting of confession and renewing the covenant. At this time, under Ezra, began a new era of Bible study.

Lesson 9. "Woes of Intemperance." Solomon the author of the Proverbs, was endowed with an unusual degree of wisdom. That we might behold the value of true wisdom God has preserved some of the wise sayings of His servant for our study. This lesson is called the drunkard's looking glass, set before those whose faces are toward the drunkard's habits, so that they may see what they will be if they go on.

Lesson 10. "Keeping the Sabbath." After Ezra's death, and during Nehemiah's absence from Jerusalem, the opposing enemies who had been silenced by Nehemiah took courage and opened the floodgates of evil, so that a deluge of sin rushed in upon the nation like an overwhelming torrent, carrying away the barriers of law and religion, and covenants and promises. The high priest, Eliashib, himself desecrated the temple. The tithes for the support of the priests and of the temple worship were withheld. As a natural consequence crimes and sins increased rapidly—sorcery, adultery, false swearing, oppression, cheating the widow and fatherless; but especially was there a return to the custom of mixed marriages.

Lesson 11. "Lessons in Giving." Malachi appears to have been raised up to reprove the sins of the people; he prophesied the rejection of the Jews and the calling of the Gentiles. He prophesied of the coming of Christ. Malachi opens his prophecies by reminding the people of God's great and distinguished love toward them and their fathers; here he closes with a promise of the mission of Elijah the prophet.

Lesson 12. "Fruits of Right and Wrong Doing." In this lesson Malachi tells of the reward of the faithful and the punishment of the wicked.

Lesson 13. "Christ's Coming Foretold." When Judah seemed to be on the verge of utter ruin God gave Isaiah a vision of the days of the Messiah.

## Periodicals.

**I**N the November Ladies' Home Journal the Rev. Charles M. Sheldon emphasizes the teachings of his famous book, "In His Steps, asking and answering the question, 'Is Christianity Practical in Worldly Affairs?'" Sir Henry Irving writes on "The Study of Shakespeare in Small Communities." Ian Maclaren on "The Mutineer in the Church." "The Anecdotal Side of Robert E. Lee," and "How the Next Census Will be Taken," are interesting features. "Those Stately Homes of Old Virginia," and "The New American Girls, (Porto Rican) are the interesting pictorial features. Every phase of home life and home work are considered in the November Journal.

THE following are the leading features of the November *Chautauquan*: "Highways and Byways," "Topics of the Hour," "Word-Coinage by Living American Authors," by Leon Mead. Letters from Donald G. Mitchell, F. Marion Crawford, Robert J. Burdette, Harriet Prescott Spofford, Moses Cut Tyler, and twenty other writers. "School Children who Govern Themselves," an experiment in New York City, by Lucy A. Vandes. "Christianity and Socialism," by Dr. Washington Gladden.

"The Paris of To-day," "A Reading Journey Through France," With bibliography for Reading Clubs. Illustrated. By Madame Jeanne Marion. "Progress of Municipal Socialism Since 1895," by Prof. T. Ely and Dr. Thomas K. Urdahl. "The Inner Life of John Greenleaf Whittier," by Mrs. James T. Field. "C. L. S. C. Round Table." Outlines and helps for home study.

EXCEPTIONALLY striking and strong articles make up the contents of *The Missionary Review of the World* for November. Nearly all of them are well illustrated, and are of very present interest and importance. "The Little Republic at Freeville" is first described by pen and picture, an ideal form of home missionary work for children of the slums. There is also a stenographic report of Dr. Storrs' address on "The Permanent Motive in Missions, and a description of the experiences of the noble but much-persecuted 'Poukshobors in Russia and Canada.'" *The Missionary Digest* Department is made up largely of brief articles on South America, etc.

*The Treasury of Religious Thought* for November, 1899, begins the second half year of its seventeenth volume, and looks forward to several valuable and new features. Arrangement has been made for a series of papers on Palestine, enriched with fresh photographic illustrations. These papers are from the notes of Mr. T. J. Alley, who has resided in the Holy Land for nearly ten years, and will appear in alternate months for a year to come. The initial preacher this month is Rev. George C. Peck, the eloquent young pastor of the First M. E. church in Mt. Vernon, N. Y. Prof. John Moore, of Boston, gives a well-informed paper on "The Philosophy of Religious Thought in Germany." Prof. T. W. Hunt, Litt. D., of Princeton University, gives an interesting paper on "Matthew Arnold"; and other and minor departments of the magazine have their usual ability and fullness.

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, whose pre-eminent leadership in the affairs of his race is universally admitted, opens the November *Atlantic* with "The Case of the Negro," one of the most important contributions yet made to this vexed and vital question. Charles A. Conant discusses the question "Can New Openings be found for Capital," showing the wonderful and innumerable changes that have taken place during the present century, which continually demand new and more extended fields for business. Jacob A. Kus continues his Tenement series with "Justice for the Boy," showing how the advent of schools and play-grounds changes the street-boy from hoodlumism to good behavior, and how the new education inculcates respect for law,—from which everything else follows for good citizenship. In "The Good Government of an Empire," William Cunningham furnishes a brief, but sharply cut and valuable exposition of the management of great colonial empires, instancing that of Great Britain as contrasted with that of Rome. Rollin Lynde Hartt, whose lively and picturesque papers on Montana and New England Hill Towns have been so amusing and instructive, and caused such lively discussions, treats of "The Ohoians" in an equally entertaining and outspoken vein of fact and fun, description and criticism. Bradford Torrey furnishes an appreciative tribute to "The Attitude of Thoreau Toward Nature," how he loved the swamps, the desert and the wilderness; how true he was to his ideals, and how his work has enriched the world and benefited it. Miss Johnston's "To Have and to Hold" continues to be the most remarkable novel of the year; a number of brilliant short stories, poems by several favorite writers, and a bright Contributors' Club conclude a number as entertaining as it is valuable.

EVERY new subscriber to the 1900 volume of *The Youth's Companion* will receive a beautiful Calendar. The calendars given by *The Companion* to its friends are famous for their delicacy of design and richness of coloring. That for 1900 will surpass any one of former years. It is the last Calendar of the century and the publishers have endeavored to make it the most beautiful one. Those who subscribe now will receive not only the Calendar as a gift, but also all this year's November and December issues of the paper from the time of subscription.

BRILLIANT as the autumn tints of the woods and fields it loves so well are the pages of *Outing* for November. Among the contents will be found "The Bugle of Cordwood Hill," by Frank H. Rixteen; "Smoking Out a Grizzly," by Jos. E. Badger; "Held for Down," (a complete story), by Ward Cruikshank; "Moose in the Maine Woods," by C. Bailey; "Three Days' Ducking on Lake Champlain," by Elliot C. Brown; "A Glimpse at Chinese Cities" (Shanghai), by E. M. Allaire; "Thanksgiving in the Popples," by J. R. Benton; "A Race 'Round the Horn," by T. Jenkins Hains, author of "The Wind Jammers"; "Autumn Sport in Tennessee," by D. C. Fitch; "Turtle Catching with a Rod," by John Cloverdale; "Hunting the Wild Yak in Tibet," by W. J. Reid; "The Medaska's Lost Cup (A Yarn of White Bear Lake)," by R. Slye.

*Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly* for November contains Stephen Crane's new story, "West Pointer and Volunteer." "Among the Boers," is the most interesting magazine article yet published upon this timely topic. Its copious illustrations include views in Johannesburg, and a full length portrait, from life, of Oom Paul Kruger, the grand old man of the Transvaal. The marvellous story of the November meteors is told by H. P. Powell Rees, with the aid of illustrative diagrams by the author.