

THE PERIODICALS.

AMONG the many interesting articles in the *Atlantic Monthly* for November, "Some Testimony in the Case," a contribution to the literature of "the negro problem" will especially appeal to the reader. The impressment of sailors is entertainingly written about under the title of "An Old Time Grievance." Two thoughtful and scholarly articles, one on "The Idea of God," the other on "Principles of Criticism," form the more solid papers of the number. "Thackeray as an Art Critic" contains some account of the great novelist's early notes on pictures. An old Algonquin legend is the *motif* of "How Glooskap brought the Summer."

THE unusually handsome November *Magazine of American History* is as entertaining as it is valuable and informing. It would be difficult to point out the part of it that would entice and interest the larger audience. It is all good from the first page to the last. "The Wadsworth House at Geneseo" is superbly illustrated. It will surprise the public to read of "Witchcraft in Illinois," but the paper of John H. Gunn speaks for itself. "The Burning of Washington in 1814" is by Hon. Horatio King. The Civil War Studies comprise the second of General W. F. Smith's series of papers on "The Campaign of 1861-1862 in Kentucky—as Developed through the Correspondence of its Leaders." "A Ride with Sheridan" is exceedingly readable, and presents aspects of the war from a hitherto unwritten point of view. The several minor departments are all up to their usual standard of excellence.

AMONG the articles in *Lippincott's Magazine* for November, the one which is likely to receive most attention has for its subject "Queen Anne or Free Classic Architecture," this being the fashionable style of the day, especially for suburban residences. Another article full of solid information is on "The Peabody Museum of American Archaeology." "A North River Ferry," "Nos Pensions," and "The Art of Reading," are lighter but suggestive sketches; while "Van," by Captain Charles King, U.S.A., is an admirably painted study of animal life. There is the usual variety of fiction, poems, short papers and editorial matter.

THE *Nineteenth Century* for October (Leonard Scott Reprint) is well up to the standard that this great review long ago set for itself. The Rt. Hon. G. Shaw Lefevre opens the number with "The Question of the Land." The Bishop of Carlisle contributes a thoughtful essay on "The Uniformity of Nature." Disestablishment is ably discussed by William C. Borlase; H. D. Traill compares some old and modern novels; F. W. Cornish presents some of the more glaring evils of the great English public schools. The Rev. Henry Kendall shows that all mankind are more or less closely akin to each other. Prof. Max Muller writes on "The Lesson of 'Jupiter.'" Jeannie Lockett opens a bright prospect for female labour in Australia, and the number closes with a paper on "Ironclads and Torpedo Flotillas," and an article on the "New Star in the Andromeda Nebula."

THOSE who have read the *New York Century's* paper on Wall Street Stock Exchange will be interested to know that the London Stock Exchange, is described by Henry May in the *Fortnightly Review* for October (Philadelphia Reprint). The same issue also contains a symposium of articles on the pending elections in England. Other political articles include a criticism of Mr. Gladstone's Foreign Policy and a paper on "Cant in Politics." An interesting study of the lower classes of London is entitled "Our Future Masters." Other articles include a timely study of "Men and Manners in Constantinople"; a criticism of the new system of "Cheap Telegrams"; a thoughtful essay on "Carlyle as a Political Teacher"; and a paper by Hawley Smart on the "Present State of the Turf."

ALL of the nineteen articles which, first having appeared in the English reviews or magazines, are now reprinted in the November *Eclectic* will commend themselves to those who read the higher ephemeral literature. The editorial and literary departments and the "miscellany" are also entertaining and valuable.

It is not possible to congratulate the publishers of *St. Nicholas* upon the new cover given to their popular magazine. In execution the design is admirable, in production the tint adopted spoils the whole. There was not, indeed, a very apparent *raison d'être* for the change. The old wrapper was attractive and—more important—pleasantly familiar. The contents of the current number are marked by the usual excellence.

BOOK NOTICES.

THE DICTIONARY OF NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY. Edited by Leslie Stephen. Vol. IV. New York: Macmillan and Company.

Each succeeding volume of this stupendous work serves to confirm the favourable impression conveyed by the first. The fourth traverses the alphabet from "Beal" to "Biber," but it is yet too soon to judge of the ultimate dimensions of the work, though the editor estimates that forty volumes will complete it. The critics are almost unanimous in praise of the excellence of the writing and of the plan of the work. The "Dictionary" has already become a necessary part of every library, and no student's outfit can be considered complete which does not include a copy.

MONTCALM AND WOLFE. By Francis Parkman. In Two Volumes. Sixth Edition. Boston: Little, Brown and Company. Toronto: Hart and Company.

It would be difficult to speak or write of the history of Canada without some reference to the brilliant writings of Mr. Parkman, so thoroughly has he allied his name with all that is trustworthy regarding that story. There has been enough said critically of the seven narratives which have culminated in "Montcalm and Wolfe"; the honest endeavour, apparent on every page of his laboriously-prepared yet smoothly-reading volumes, the graceful diction, the constructive skill, have received their due meed of praise. It remains but to add that this historical *El Dorado* is now available for the most straitened circumstances, and that Messrs. Little have published a handsome popular edition, a sample of which "Montcalm and Wolfe" now appears before us, through the courtesy of Messrs. Hart, the Toronto publishers.

THE WORKS OF JOHN RUSKIN. Vol. II. Containing A Joy Forever, Munera Pulveris, Two Paths, Unto the Last, Storm-Cloud of the Nineteenth Century. New York: John B. Alden.

In pursuance of a promise made some time ago, the indefatigable and indomitable New York publisher, Mr. Alden, has now prepared a second volume of Ruskin's works at a price which brings it well within the reach of all. It is unnecessary to add a word to the information conveyed on the title-page, except it be to say that the print, paper and binding are worthy of the noble thought and polished language so embalmed. Mr. Alden announces that further volumes will be issued at short intervals.

ZIG-ZAG JOURNEYS IN THE LEVANT WITH A TALMUDIST STORY-TELLER. By Hezekiah Butterworth. Fully Illustrated. Boston: Estes and Lauriat. Toronto: W. Briggs.

THREE VASSAR GIRLS IN ITALY. By Lizzie W. Champney. Illustrated by "Champ." Same publishers.

CHATTERBOX. Edited by J. Erskine Clarke, M.A. Same publishers.

CUPID'S CALENDAR, 1886. Same publishers.

Messrs. Estes and Lauriat have taken time by the forelock. Their list of holiday and presentation books, calendars, etc., for Christmas and New Year is already before the public, and in point of variety and excellence of workmanship will satisfy the most fastidious, as a glance at the above-mentioned young folk's books will show. Mr. Butterworth's "Zig-Zag Series," seven in number, are well known amongst our neighbours. The last of them is an account of a spring trip of the Zig-Zag Club through Egypt and the Holy Land, lavishly illustrated, bound in artistic illuminated covers. The author's aim is to interest young people in history, and his method is well calculated for the purpose.—"Three Vassar Girls in Italy" is an account of a holiday excursion of three college girls through the classic lands. It would be difficult to conceive of a method better adapted for the conveying of amusement and instruction than that of Mrs. Champney, as exemplified in this handsome volume, both the eye and the understanding being constantly appealed to. Like its companion volume, this charming presentation book is enclosed in illuminated boards.—What need is there to say more of the popular child's friend than that "Chatterbox" is as attractive as ever, and that it is always a safe book to give the little ones?—"Cupid's Calendar" is the very thing for a lady's boudoir. Suspended from a dart which it may be imagined the mischievous god has just launched are fifty-two heart-shaped folios each containing a separate motto for the seven days inscribed thereon.

KANSAS. The Prelude to the War for the Union. By Leverett W. Spring. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin and Company. Toronto: Williamson and Company.

Professor Spring has here told the history of Kansas with ability and judgment. Young as that State is, the story of its growth and the bearing its polity had on the great civil struggle is full of intense interest. A central figure is naturally that of John Brown, to whom praise or blame is judicially awarded—his virtues receiving ample acknowledgment, the Pottawomies massacre as fearlessly being assigned its proper place in history. The volume is published in the "American Commonwealth" series.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

It is said that Mr. Robert Browning will contribute a poem to the new work which Messrs. Cassell and Company are about to publish, entitled "Why I am a Liberal."

HERE is another piece of Tennyson gossip. The November number of *Macmillan's Magazine*, the first that appears under the new editor, will contain a poem by the Laureate.

THE Rev. Dr. Talmage defines his attitude toward evolution as standing with one foot on Darwin's "Origin of Species" and the other on Spencer's "Biology," and holding in one hand the Pentateuch and in the other the Apocalypse.

IN our next issue (October 31st) we shall print a brief paper on the effects of the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, prepared by Mr. Parkman, the historian, in view of the two-hundredth anniversary of that event—the twenty-second of this month.—*Critic*.

THE current number of the *University* contains a second timely and original paper on Elective Studies and National Culture, by Prof. George H. Howieson, of the University of California. The Professor institutes a full comparison between the American and the German educational systems.

ARCHDEACON FARRAR'S "Success in Life," prefaced by a biographical sketch of the author, has been issued by Cupples, Upham and Co. in a dainty little parchment-paper bound volume. The essay was originally written for the *Youth's Companion*, and is now reprinted with the editor's permission.

MR. ANDREW LANG'S "Books and Bookmen" will be published about the 1st of December. It will be illustrated, and will include papers on the Elzevirs, on Book-binding, and on Literary Forgeries. It is to be the first of a series of "Books for the Bibliophile," which Mr. George J. Coombes proposes to publish at intervals.

CANON FARRAR has consented to write an article for the November number of the *Brooklyn Magazine* giving his views upon the question "Has America need of a Westminster Abbey?" in continuance of the notable discussion of this topic printed in the October number of the same periodical to which twenty distinguished Americans contributed their views.

THE labour problem will be discussed in the *Century* during the coming year by several writers of prominence. The first article in the series is by the Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott. It will appear in the November number, with a full-page engraving of a picture by a young American artist, Robert Koehler, called "The Socialist." This picture will be remembered as attracting attention in the last annual exhibition of the National Academy.

IN an eminently readable article on the "Novel of Manners," in the *Nineteenth Century* for October [Philadelphia Reprint], H. D. Traill emphasizes the distinction between the two great schools of novelists, the students of nature and the students of manners. He recalls many long-forgotten stories, and pays a high tribute to the minute delicacy with which Howells and James describe the subtlest shades of the feelings of their characters.

THE new volume which Messrs. Macmillan and Company will publish for Lord Tennyson early in December will consist, contrary to what has been reported, almost entirely of new poems, several of them of considerable length. The most important are "Tiresias," with a dedicatory epistle to the late Mr. Edward Fitzgerald; "The Ancient Mystic"; "The Wreck"; "To-morrow," a poem in Irish brogue; "The Spinster's Sweet-arts," in Lincolnshire dialect; and "Balin and Balan," a new "Idyl of the King."

WE hear that a box of MSS. of some historical value has been discovered in the stables of Belvoir Castle, the seat of the Duke of Rutland. The box containing these treasures seems to have been placed in the stables about sixty years ago, and to have been entirely overlooked. Among the letters are some from Warwick the Kingmaker, and it is reported that the collection contains a letter from Henry II. The papers have, unfortunately, suffered from damp and neglect, and are in bad condition. An expert is engaged in deciphering them, and we shall probably in due course hear something more of this interesting find.—*Athenaeum*.