

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE.

Overland or January will be a special New Year number with beautiful illustrations.

Any good short stories going are sure to be found in *Littell's Living Age*. In December 23rd we find "Out of the Workhouse," "Temple Bar and the Caretaker."

"Rembrandt and the Dutch School" and "The Garden that I Love" are specially good articles.

To a lover of books it would be hard to find a more charming Christmas number than that of the *Book Buyer*. The illustrations are taken from the best of the year, and the literary criticisms are by such writers as Lyman Abbott, Richard Henry Stoddard, Lawrence Hutton and John C. VanDyke.

The issue of December 30th is a particularly fine one of the *Illustrated London News*. There is a well-illustrated paper on "Prof. Tyndall," and notes on the important events of the day. The French Chamber of Deputies and the French warships are both given large plates. The story running at present is "Young Sam and Sabina," by Walter Raymond.

The January number of the *Popular Science Monthly* smells of the sea. F. G. Carpenter writes of "Uncle Sam's Life Savers," and Mr. Littlehales tells how the sea is sounded. A much-needed article at the present time is the one by L. C. Loomis on "Recent Railroad Disasters." Other specially valuable papers are on teaching deaf children to speak, and on "Logical Methods in Biology."

There is a strong romantic element in the complete story of January *Lippincott*. The story is interesting and well written, and it is refreshing to come across a writer nowadays who can believe that people exist who approach perfection. "Frenchy" is a bright, short story by Molly Elliott Seawell. The Canadian, Gilbert Parker, contributes the first three parts of a novel, which will run for some time. "The Recollections" of M.E. W. Sherwood are particularly interesting.

The January number of the *Atlantic*

Monthly is unusually strong in fiction. Besides the serial "His Vanished Star," a new one is begun by Margaret Deland, entitled "Philip and His Wife." There are also two short stories, "The Only Rose," by Mrs. Jewett, and "Wolfe's Cove," by Mary Hartwell Catherwood. Students of literature will be more specially interested in "Ten Letters from Coleridge to Southey" and in a "Talk at a Country House," by Sir Edward Strachey, concerning the Camelot of Maclurg's Morte d'Arthur. Educationists will find an able paper by N. S. Shaler on the "Transmission of Learning through the Universities."

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Heath's Pedagogical Library. One of the first numbers of Messrs. D. C. Heath & Co.'s new Pedagogical Library is a translation of Herbart's work on Education, by Mr. and Mrs. Felkin, with a preface by Oscar Browning. Herbart was a great thinker, and education was the chief work of his life. This book is, therefore, one that ought to be in the hands of every teacher. The introduction by the translators gives a good account of Herbart's life and work. It abounds in wise thoughts in regard to the general principles of education and practical applications of them to the teacher's daily work.

Other two volumes of the same series are the First and Second Series of Object Lessons, by George Ricks, B.Sc. (London), Inspector of Schools to the School Board for London. These lessons are elaborately detailed and carefully graded; in the second volume, which is intended for "Grammar" grades, we notice a good many lessons on Elementary Science, and a few on Elementary Mathematics.

The same firm has just issued Parts I. and II. of Atwood's Graded Arithmetic. Part I. contains work for the 4th and 5th grades, and Part II. is intended for the three highest grades in the public schools. The Lessons