

Mr. Gladstone and Disraeli, but evidently he had not the hold upon life that the Grand Old Man has. We can highly recommend this life of Thackeray, there is nothing dry or stupid about it. Price 1s. and 2s. 6d.

We have also received from Walter Scott, Darwin's theory of the structure and distribution of coral reefs, edited with an introduction by Joseph W. Williams, which will prove a valuable aid to study to those who may be interested in the different theories advanced upon this subject. Price 1s.

The charming personality of the Princess of Wales in public has won her hosts of warm friends, but in *The Ladies' Home Journal* for March Lady Elizabeth Hilray, her almost constant attendant and a very intimate friend, gives us a glimpse at the Princess in her private life—a sweet woman and a sterling wife and mother, worthy of all the admiration which is bestowed upon her. The article is richly illustrated, and will attract as wide attention as will Mrs. P. T. Barnum's discussion "Moths of Modern Marriages," which appears in the same number. Quite as interesting in their way are the delightful portrait sketch of Mrs. Gladstone, by a bright American girl who recently spent a day with her, and the excellent articles by Mrs. Jenness Miller and Miss Hooper on dressmaking as a profession. George W. Cable's second paper on teaching the Bible, and crisp contributions from Anna Katharine Green, Marshall P. Wilder and Hezekiah Butterworth are some of the salient features of a number which has not a weak spot anywhere. Issued at one dollar a year by the Curtis Publishing Company, 433 and 435 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

It is not difficult to see the reason for *St. Nicholas's* growing subscription list, if one will but examine the pages of the successive numbers with the eye of a child-reader. From the picture of cozy comfort which Mr. J. H. Dolph has furnished for a frontispiece to the naive idea contained in the last bit of verse, "Her Little Shetland Shawl," there is nothing that an intelligent boy or girl cannot understand and appreciate, and yet all the contents are unhackneyed and, in the best sense of the word, artistic. The serials by J. T. Trowbridge and Noah Brooks are sturdy and healthful, as are the illustrations to them by Henry Sandham and W. A. Rogers respectively. "Effie visit to Cloudland" will be welcomed by parents who wish to find stories to read to their insatiable audiences, and the same purpose may be served by "Huz and Buz," by Laura E. Richards, by "Pauline and the Policeman," and by Oliver Herford's characteristic drama "Good-Bye; a Woodland Episode." Older children have not been slighted in spite of the profuse provision for their juniors. They will appreciate "Caesar and Pompey," "A Polar Bear for a Jailer," by Edmund Collins; "Out of Childhood," by Helen Thayer Hutcheson; Mr. Welles's interesting account of his "Autograph Book;" Miss Elizabeth Bisland's "Alligators' Funeral;" "The Midnight Sun;" the second part of little Miss Ellsworth's "Dairy in the East;" and the pleasant English story, "Rhoda's Visit." The best test of the value of *St. Nicholas* is to take a copy home with you, leave it with the children who can read, and after a reasonable time call upon them for their verdict as to whether regular visits of the periodical would fill an aching void. But as a quick test, open this number at random and read a page anywhere.

The *Popular Science Monthly* for March is a particularly interesting and valuable number. The frontispiece is a portrait of Dr. Samuel Latham Mitchell, who has been called "the Nestor of American science," together with a sketch of his life. The cultivation of Sisal in the Bahamas, illustrated by J. I. Northup, will be one of the first articles to be read. Last summer Sir Ambrose Shea, Governor of the Bahamas, was in Halifax, and succeeded in creating a great interest in this industry. "Greeting by Gesture," by Garrick Mallery, is concluded, and the "Development of American Industries since Columbus" is continued, this the fourth article being devoted to iron working with machine tools, splendidly illustrated. Space forbids our mentioning the many other articles of special and general interest, for the table of contents is an extensive one. The editor's table, popular miscellany and notes are full of interesting matter treated in a popular manner. New York, D. Appleton & Company. Single number 50 cents; yearly subscription \$5.00.

The March *Cosmopolitan* exhibits a table of contents made up to cover the widest possible field. It opens with an exquisite frontispiece, a reproduction of a painting by Seifert of Munich, purchased by the *Cosmopolitan* for use in this way. There is given first a light article treating of the French stage and illustrated in a way that gives an excellent idea of some noted French beauties. Mrs. Van Rensselaer Cruger writes of the slovenly dressing of Americans, and no one is better qualified to review the subject thoroughly. A departure in magazine work is the long expected autobiography of Frederick Villiers, the famous war correspondent. A striking short story of thrilling adventure "How I Shot My First Elephant," by MacMahon Challinor, and "Labor Unions and Strikes in Ancient Rome," an illustrated article by Dr. G. A. Danziger, are among the best things in the March *Cosmopolitan*. The regular departments of Current Events and Social Problems, by Murat Halstead and Edward Everett Hale, respectively, and the brief essays of Brander Matthews on purely literary subjects, are becoming a prominent feature of the *Cosmopolitan*. Mr. Matthews treats of "Certain Recent Volumes of Verse" in the March number.—(*Cosmopolitan Publishing Co., Madison Square, New York, 25 cents a copy.*)

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

HORSESHOES OF COMPRESSED PAPER have been introduced into the artillery and cavalry of the German army. The shoe is made of sheets of parchment paper cemented with a preparation of turpentine, Spanish white, lac, and boiled linseed oil. The separate layers are stamped out, cemented, and consolidated by a hydraulic press. When dry the shoe is rasped to fit.—*English Mechanic.*

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