

## CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

IN *Littell's Living Age* a sequence of sonnets on the death of Robert Browning from the *Fortnightly*, and an article on the great poet by Edmund Gosse are selected from the mass of current literature on this absorbing topic. Personal Recollections of Thomas Carlyle by Prof. Tyndall is a valuable addition to what is already known of Carlyle's life. The fiction is worthy of the high standard of the magazine.

AGAINST Heavy Odds, the story of a young Norwegian inventor is concluded in the *Youth's Companion* of February 20th. Prof. Charles G. D. Roberts, of Windsor, Nova Scotia, has a series of Tales of the Lumber Camp. Young people will find useful as well as interesting matter in the *Companion*, while the little stories filling up the chinks cause many a hearty laugh.

THE present number of *Canadiana* contains an article on the literary movement in Canada up to 1841. In *Reminiscences* of Col. Claus Mr. Ernest Cruikshank tells the story of 1812. But the most interesting article is Washington's Address to the Canadians. If General Washington could repeat the words he would be fain to confess that Canadians to-day enjoy more liberty under their so-called tyranny than do the citizens of the United States under mob rule.

THE *Popular Science Monthly* for February contains an article on Comparative Mythology, by Dr. A. D. White, in which the author, from the pinnacle of unassailable (!) reason, views with pitying contempt "the myth-making powers of Jews, Christians and Mohammedans." Prof. J. T. Donald, of Montreal, has an interesting paper on Asbestos Mining in Canada. An editorial on "Useful Ignorance" counsels fewer subjects for study, as you can not thin out at will an over-abundant intellectual crop.

THE February number of *Scribner's* has Life Among the Congo Savages by Mr. Herbert Ward, one of Stanley's officers; anything about Africa is interesting. What shall we do when Africa is exhausted? An article by Stanley himself is promised for an

early number of the magazine. W. C. Church contributes the first of two articles on John Ericsson, the great engineer. The present article deals almost solely with his private life; his influence on modern invention will be discussed in March. Through the Gate of Dreams, by T. R. Sullivan, touches a note seldom heard in the fiction of to-day. In the Valley and Expiation are serials of strong interest, presenting widely different scenes in American life.

IN the *English Illustrated Magazine* the gloom surrounding Whitechapel is lightened by E. Dixon in "A Whitechapel Street," where we find the London children playing much as children do all over the world. A delightful historical sketch of Winchelsea is an attraction of the present number. We learn of Bells and Belfries from the Rev. H. R. Haweis, and Sir Julian Goldsmid tells of his travels in Canada and the United States on the way to 'Frisco.

## RECEIVED.

"The Harvard University Catalogue, 1889-90."

"A Report in Regard to the Tone and Tendencies of Harvard University."

(1) Education in the State Constitutions.

(2) Pedagogical Chairs in Colleges and Universities.

(3) The Culture Value of the History of Education. By Prof. B. A. Hinsdale, Ph.D.

"Annual Report of the Local Board of Health, Toronto."

*A Primer of French Literature.* By F. M. Warren, of Johns Hopkins University. (Boston: D. C. Heath & Co.)

*The Third Reading Book.* By E. H. Davis, A.M. (Philadelphia: The J. B. Lippincott Co.)

*French and German Reading Books.* Heinrich Von Eichenfels. Edited by G. Eugène Fasnacht. (London: Macmillan & Co., and New York.)

*Elements of Astronomy.* By Charles A. Young, Ph.D., LL.D., Professor in the College of New Jersey. (Boston: Ginn & Co.)