

Our Book Table.

The New Testament Illustrated and Explained by over One Hundred Photographs. By John Brown, D. D., L. L. D., assisted by Joseph L. Porter, J. D., L. D., and James W. Lee, D. D., and Prof. Robert B. M. Bain. New York and St. Louis: N. D. Thompson Publishing Company.

This is a marvelous New Testament. Besides the text, in the Authorized Version, the volume contains a mass of valuable material supplied by the editors and designed to illustrate the meaning of the text. Introduction and commentary are combined in the one volume with the Divine record. Dr. Brown, the author of a concordance of the Bible, supplies references, tabulated statistics, and a body of excellent expository and practical notes, opening the text and bringing out the meaning contained therein. The notes are always brief, pertinent and pithy. Dr. Porter, the author of "The Giant Cities of Bashan," assisted in parts requiring a knowledge of Oriental history and affairs. Dr. Lee, who has told us, in another book, of "The Making of a Man," selected the photographs and described them; and he in turn was essentially aided by Prof. Robert B. M. Bain, an expert in the photographic art and late president of the American Out-door Photographers' Association. Dr. Lee and Prof. Bain visited Palestine for the purpose of taking views of the scenes of our Lord's life and ministry and those of the Apostles. The illustrations are not merely for ornament; they are an essential part of the commentary; they bring out in a wonderful manner the meaning of the text.

The book opens with an account of the period between the Old and New Testaments, a harmony of the four Gospels, passages in the New Testament cited from the Old, the names and titles of Jesus, the parables of our Lord as also His miracles and promises, with the incidents of the trial, crucifixion, and resurrection. The books of the New Testament, with descriptions of the life of St. Paul and his travels, are given. In a word, the volume contains nearly everything a godly man would need for his soul's instruction. It is printed on fine paper, in clear type, and firmly as well as elegantly bound with cloth sides and leather back and corners.

The Heaven-Life; or, Stimulus of Two Worlds. By Rev. David Gregg, D. D. New York: Fleming H. Revell Company. Price, 75 cents.

Dr. Gregg has both depth and brilliancy; he uses both understanding and imagination. In dealing with the life beyond, imagination must be brought into requisition, but the author takes reason and judgment along with him in the treatment of his great theme. In the four chapters he gives the pre-suppositions of the heavenly life, the occupations of heaven, the influence of the future on the present life, and the influence of the earthly on the heavenly life, or the differences among the redeemed. These are great themes, but few men are better able to treat them than Dr. Gregg. The chapter on the influence this life must exert on the heavenly state is fresh and suggestive. He has great power in giving reality to his statements.

The Christ Dream. By Louis Albert Banks, D. D. New York: Hunt & Eaton. Price, \$1.50.

This new volume from the pen of Dr. Banks contains twenty-four sermons which were preached in the ordinary course of his ministry in Brooklyn. The first gives title to the book — "The Dream of Christian Civilization," as seen by John in "the new heaven and earth." The titles to the sermons are unusually suggestive. Under various forms and figures the preacher keeps near the central and saving truths of the New Testament. Some of his topics are: "The Inspiration and Hope of Immortality;" "The Childhood of the Soul;" "Inspiration, Not Imitation, the Key to Character;" "The Struggle for Life;" "The Supremacy of the Spiritual Life;" "The Darkness Behind the Stars;" "The Voyage of Life;" and "The Lesson of John's Bow." "The Dream of Civilization" is a Decoration Day discourse, in which the preacher pleads for a broad Americanism which shall include Catholic and Protestant, Jew and Gentile. While the French ship, "La Isaacogue," was the centre of public interest, he gave his sermon on "The Voyage of Life." There is a timeliness about many of his discourses which attracts and holds attention.

Jude, the Obscure. By Thomas Hardy. New York: Harper & Brothers. Price, \$1.50.

"Jude, the Obscure," which appeared in monthly instalments in *Harper's Magazine* under the title of "Hearts Insurgent," now comes out in full book form. The construction of the story is given in the preface. The first notes were taken in 1887, and the outline of the tale was jotted down in 1890. The scene was revisited in 1892, and the narrative written out the latter part of that year and the first of the next. The publication in *Harper's* began a year ago and has just been completed. Hardy deals with the strong passions of human nature, and for that reason not a little complaint has been made regarding his novels, on the score of morality. This was the case especially with "Two on a Tower" and "Tess of the D'Urbervilles." The current volume, the author thinks, is not exposed to such criticism. The story possesses the usual qualities and style of the other works of Mr. Hardy.

St. Nicholas: An Illustrated Magazine for Young Folks. Conducted by Mary Mapes Dodge. Two volumes for the year 1895, bound in red and gold. The Century Co., New York. Price, for the two, \$4.

These bound volumes of *St. Nicholas* make a considerable library, with variety of story, bibliography, travel, natural history and the

like, in which the little people will find immense delight. The editor knows well how to cater to the young, and has contrived to draw about her a corps of contributors of kindred genius, aptitudes and tastes, who make *St. Nicholas* a favorite magazine. These volumes have much to stimulate curiosity, to awaken inquiry, and to open to the child the great world of knowledge, while at the same time guiding his mind in the search for truth and furnishing the first instalments of that knowledge.

'Censlon. A Sketch from Paso del Norte. By Maude Mason Austin. Illustrated. New York: Harper & Brothers. Price, \$1.

This little volume has a double attraction for the reader. It contains the record of a simple love-tale, happily conceived and neatly executed, and a picture of the simple life on the Mexican border. 'Censlon, a young daughter of a wealthy, easy-going owner of a ranch near Paso del Norte, conceives an ardent passion for Eduardo Lerma, a bold, coarsely handsome man of thirty-eight. Simple, pure, unselfish and trustful, the girl is a direct contrast to the man on whom she has fastened her affections. While she possesses the elements of noble womanhood, he is a thief, liar, hypocrite and brute, and cares for 'Censlon only as for a delicate flower to be plucked and then thrown away. She cleaves to him long, but his rascally character is at length shown by her brother. The picture of 'Censlon, the life on the ranch, and Eduardo's last visit, are drawn with great skill.

Chatterbox. Edited by J. Erskine Clarke, M. A. Boston: Boston & Lauriat.

The *Chatterbox* in the bound volume will prove an unfailing source of delight to the little people of our families. The current (1895) volume is put up in brilliant colors, amply and strikingly illustrated, and printed in clear type. Of its many issues none is better than the present volume.

Scotchmen and Haars. By Gabriel Setoun. New York: Harper & Brothers.

The author continues here his striking pictures of Scotch life in eight sketches, and a story of eight chapters entitled "Laurie and Linty." The stories treat of common life, rural loves, adventure and hairbreadth escapes. They are characteristically Scotch, and are written with a good deal of vigor and freshness, and will be read with interest by all who admire Scotch life, scenery and character.

A Child's Garden of Verses. By Robert Louis Stevenson. Illustrated by Charles Robinson. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Price, \$1.50.

This is a marvelous little book of poetry for children. The author appreciated all the situations of child life and gave many of them beautiful expression in verse. The thought is true to nature and the language at once simple and elegant. He does not condescend to his child audience; he writes as one among them, yet with scholarly tastes. The book has 160 illustrations by Robinson, which add greatly to its attractiveness. These sketches of poetry are both amusing and instructive. They are also original, exquisite and suggestive.

Aftermath. By James Lane Allen. New York: Harper & Brothers. Price, \$1.

There is a charm about whatever James Lane Allen writes. In addition to creative genius, he has a superb capacity for literary expression; he knows how to tell out the thought that struggles in the soul for utterance. The "Aftermath" is a sequel to the "Kentucky Cardinal." In the latter story Adam Moss makes acquaintance with Mrs. Cobb and her two daughters, and pledges his troth to Georgiana, the older. The story ends without the tying of the love-knot. "Aftermath" comes in to find the web of the two lives being woven more intimately together. The marriage comes off and the wedded life proves ideal in its simplicity, naturalness and felicity; but it has a tragic ending at the birth of a son. Mr. Allen is one of those writers who never falls below his level.

The Christ Child and Other Talks to the Children. By Alexander Macleod, D. D. Cincinnati: Cranston & Curtis. Price, 50 cents.

Dr. Macleod, the author of these thirty-six sermons to little people in his own congregation, never grew old or lost his sympathy with children. He had a portion for them each Sunday morning, and from the store thus accumulated this volume is made up. They are model discourses for the little folks. While rich in the most important religious truth, they are presented in a style at once simple, dignified and devout.

Esala: A Romance in Rhyme. By Laura Dayton Fessenden. Illustrated by J. H. Vanderpool. Boston: Lee & Shepard. Price, \$1.50.

This attractive little romance in rhyme was at first printed for private circulation, but has been so well received in the narrower circles as to demand a wider field. The heroine is an American girl transplanted into the English aristocracy, and the romance, of course, gives her experience in the new situation. There are passages of great beauty and tenderness. The artist in the sixteen illustrations has truthfully and impressively interpreted the author.

The Dawn of the Holy City. By Lydia Hoyt Farmer. New York: Anson D. F. Randolph & Company. Price, \$1.25.

The Holy City occupies a focal point in human history. The ages preceding reach forward toward it; the ages succeeding turn back with wondering gaze to the scene of our redemption. The Man of Calvary has drawn all eyes to Himself. This one great life is really the life of the world. The purpose of the author has been to paint anew, in human language, the great era in human history in which this supreme life was lived. Jerusalem is given in the setting of the

empire. The tragic story runs through many chapters, culminating in the destruction of the city. The gauze of fiction is designed merely to give freshness to historical facts.

The Hobbledehoy: The Story of a Changing Boy. By Belle C. Greene. Illustrated. Boston: D. Lothrop Publishing Company. Price, \$1.25.

"Hobbledehoy" is a unique book. It occupies the middle ground between the boy and the man, with much that is good for each and some things not exactly suitable for either. The awkward, impulsive, aspiring, good-natured, courageous hobbledehoy, so unusual in juvenile stories, is here drawn to the life. While designed to entertain, the story has a lesson of hope and love and courage.

Magazines.

As usual, the *Forum* for December is solid and sensible. Paul Leroy-Beaulieu, the distinguished French political economist, leads in a suggestive article on the "Conditions for American Commercial and Financial Supremacy." Theodore Roosevelt has a strong paper on Speaker Reed. Margaret E. Sangster writes upon "Editorship as a Profession for Women." Albert D. Vandam, in "The Trail of 'Tribby,'" identifies the characters in that remarkable story and retouches the memories of the Latin Quarter and the Bohemian haunts during the second empire. Glen Miller, a resident of Salt Lake City, feels quite sure the Mormon Church has abandoned politics. Mr. A. C. Cassatt thinks the occasion which called forth "The Monroe Doctrine" has passed away, and that the doctrine itself no longer has place. President Hyde of Bowdoin thinks that of the nearly six thousand families residing in Plymouth County, more than two thousand, or 40 per cent., contain no adults that attend any church regularly. If true, the fact is sufficiently startling; but we should never forget that all such calculations contain a large element of uncertainty. (*Forum Publishing Co.: 111 Fifth Ave., New York.*)

The December *Arena* is well laden with valuable matter. The likeness of Richard T. Ely is used as a frontispiece, in connection with his article on "Government Control of the Telegraph." "Personal Recollections of America's Seven Great Poets" is a charming article. The poets are Lowell, Emerson, Holmes, Whittier and Bryant, as given in this number, by Rev. Minot J. Savage, Rev. John W. Chadwick, Frank B. Sanborn, Edward Everett Hale, Mrs. Mary B. Claflin, and Henrietta S. Nahmer. The editor has one of the richest articles in a biographical sketch of "Sir Thomas More." Prof. Parsons has a second article in favor of "Municipal Lighting." Prof. Herron has a paper on "The Opportunity of the Church" in the present social crisis. It condenses what he said in Boston. (*Arena Publishing Co.: Boston.*)

The *Cosmopolitan* for December is a choice Christmas number. The frontispiece is an English landscape. Arthur Warren and J. Leon Williams lead in "A Christmas Legend of King Arthur's Country," with ample illustrations of English life and scenery. The number has great writers — Robert Louis Stevenson's "The Great North Road;" C. F. Holder's "Game Fishing in the Pacific;" James Lane Allen's "Butterfly;" and I. Zangwill's "Choice of Parents." Mary B. Lockwood tells the "Dreams in Woven Thread;" "Ouida" contributes "Tonis: A Story of Crime from Poverty;" and Sir Robert Harton gives "A Brief History of Altruism." The number closes with some examples of recent art, by several foreign artists. (*The Cosmopolitan: Irvington, N. Y.*)

McClure's Magazine for December, as the Christmas number, is rich in text and illustration. It opens with a second paper on Lincoln. The frontispiece is a striking ambrotype likeness owned by Miss Hattie Glimor, of Pittsfield, Ill., and taken during the Douglas campaign in 1858. *McClure* is bringing out a life of the martyr President, with new pictures and facts. There are other unusually excellent articles.

Anthony Hope has a story entitled, "The Love of the Prince of Glottenberg;" Will H. Low gives "Madonna and Child in Art;" and Sir Robert Ball contributes a scientific article on "The Sun's Heat." But the curious reader will turn with greatest interest to Elizabeth Stuart Phelps' autobiographical article entitled, "Chapters from a Life." (S. B. McClure, Limited: New York.)

In *Babyhood* for December Dr. A. K. Bond explains the meaning of "Catching Cold," and gives practical directions as to how children should be treated to avoid the liability to catarrhal troubles. Dr. Wm. E. Leonard furnishes "Some Practical Hints Concerning Scarlet Fever," and the medical editor answers questions concerning cod liver oil, winter dress, styles, feeding, and many other topics which perplex young mothers. In the "Mothers' Parliament" may be found an interesting controversy as to the usefulness of dolls, a cure for thumb-sucking, and other helpful and entertaining matter. (*Babyhood Pub. Co.: 5 Beekman St., New York.*)