

lowed by installments of Dr. Weir Mitchell's "Characteristics," and "The Jews in New York." There are also some "Recent Discoveries Concerning the Gulf Stream," and more "Pioneer Days in San Francisco"; and Mr. Edward Atkinson tells us something of the "Australian Registration of Land Titles." "Reffey," a short story by the late Walcott Balestier, is clever, but quite without any trace of distinction.

....Perhaps once or twice a year the magazines contrive to stumble on a piece of genuine literature of that rare variety which we are pleased to call great. This is not a common occurrence, for the monthlies are being more and more crowded in the race by the huge Sunday papers, and are reluctantly but unmistakably lowering their standard; but it does happen sometimes, and this month it is *Scribner's* which has been fortunate enough to add something beautiful to English literature. Mr. Archibald Lampman's poem, "The Comfort of the Fields," in its faithfulness to Nature, its simplicity, its wisdom, its serenity, is worthy of Keats at his best. It is a luckless heart to which such beauty as this can bring no refreshing cheer, no touch of solace in the midst of toil. There are many admirable contributions to current periodical literature, for February, no doubt; but they shrink into justly insignificant proportions when compared to Mr. Lampman's noble achievement.

....Dr. Butler's "Bible Work" is no longer to be published by Funk & Wagnalls, but by a special agency whose office is No. 85 Bible House in this city. Five royal octavo volumes of about 710 pages have already appeared. Three more are ready and will appear in July. Material has been collected for two more, making ten volumes in all for the completed work. It is executed on a plan of Dr. Butler's own devising, and consists of a compilation from many sources of every good and fruitful piece of exposition which could be found bearing on a given passage. Dr. Butler has already spent fifteen years on the work and a large amount of capital. We understand that some 70,000 copies of the unfinished work have already been sold. It is a commentary with very decided points of practical and general usefulness. Dr. Butler wishes to extend its circulation among missionaries and theological students, and with this object in view offers to give to any Theological Seminary or Mission Board named by the donor, an equal number for every 50 or 100 volumes ordered at the lowest trade price, \$2.50 each. In view of the cost and value of the work this is a generous proposition.

LITERARY NOTES.

...."Darwin after Darwin," is the title of a book that George J. Romanes is preparing on the great scientist.

....A volume of the later sermons of Canon Liddon will be issued by the Longmans under the title "Sermons on Some Words of Christ."

....Cardinal Manning's biography, by A. W. Hutton, is to be issued soon in London. Mr. Hutton was assisted by the Cardinal himself in collecting the materials for the work.

....Early this month Macmillan & Co. will add to their series of copyright works "Denzil Quarrier," by George Gissing, who wrote "Demos," "The Nether World," and other stories dealing with London life and Socialism.

....Houghton, Mifflin & Co. will publish in March the first number of a new quarterly review devoted to religion, ethics and theology. It will be under the charge of an editorial committee, including Professors C. C. Everett and C. H. Toy, of Harvard, with Mr. N. P. Gilman as Managing Editor.

....The Appletons announce a new Series of fiction devoted to the modern literature of Holland. "Joost Avelingh," by Maarten Maartens, already published, is to be followed by "Eline Vere" and "Suspected," by Louisa Stratenus, and "Footsteps of Fate," by Louis Couperus; and later a new novel by Maartens.

....The sixteenth volume of *The Critic*, which has just come to hand, is rich in Lowelliana, which the editors have been collecting with praiseworthy diligence. It also contains that sensible, clear, logical and now famous essay "On the Absence of the Creative Faculty in Women," by Miss Molly Elliot Seawell, which is in refreshing contrast to our popular notions on the subject.

....The current number of *the Century* opens with a fully illustrated article on "The New National Guard"; this is fol-