

Joseph Jefferson will continue his autobiography in the April Century, descanting upon the subject of "Guying" and following the same by an explanation of the causes which led him into the role of Rip Van Winkle, with which his name is so intimately connected.

John La Farge will write more "Letters from Japan," in which he deals with the "Shrines in the Holy Mountains of Nikko." These papers are illustrated from the writer's own sketches, engraved by Marsh, Kingsley and Whitney. Another feature of interest will be an illustrated paper by Charles de Kay on "The Old Poetic Guild in Ireland," while an especially timely article is contributed upon "The Far Seal Islands" by Captain Charles Bryant, who is said to be exceptionally well qualified to deal with the subject.

We have received from the Bureau of Statistics a "blue book" of nearly a thousand pages, containing the reports of our consuls on the subject of "Mortgages in Foreign Countries," in which the laws and procedure in this relation in all the countries with which we have official intercourse are clearly and exhaustively treated.

The South Western Iron and Lumber Record, which emanates from New Birmingham, Texas, is a new sixteen page monthly industrial journal devoted to the development of the timber and mineral resources of the great Southwest. Like other journals coming from the new south it is filled with a matter of a "booming" character and its first number presages well for future success.

We have received the February issue of Pons' Monthly list of engineering and other books, which contains a number of valuable works upon technical subjects recently published as well as a list of books in preparation. Among new works we notice "Builders' Hardware," a manual for architects, builders and house furnishers, 500 illustrations, 8 vo. cloth, price \$5.00, and "A Text-book on Roofs and Bridges" by M. Merriman and H. S. Jacoby, Part 2, Graphic Statics, 124 pages with illustrations, 8 vo., cloth \$2.50.

John Wiley & Sons, New York City, the publishers of leading scientific and industrial books have just issued their number eight catalogue, a copy of which is before us. Like all the firm's lists this contains a number of works of a high class, the subjects included being chiefly confined to Assaying, Metallurgy, Mineralogy and Mining. We notice that Part II. of West's Moulders' Text-Book, a work highly endorsed by the technical press, is announced as ready, and among many other valuable works enumerated which appeal more directly to the AMERICAN ARTISAN'S constituency is A Treatise on Brasses, Bronzes and Other Alloys and Their Constituent Metals, by Robert H. Thurston A. M., C. E.

The Metal Worker, one of our exchanges devoted to the plumbing and kindred trades and published in New York City, comes to us this week in a new cover, having doffed its old blue wrapper and assumed a coat of a tint difficult to describe, being midway between tan-bark hue and the color of the cuticle of an ecru canine. The Metal Worker has made several changes in its general get up since its management dispossessed themselves of the idea that the city in which the AMERICAN ARTISAN scintillates is a backwoods village and this last alteration is doubtless in accord with the new light received and being such it reflects much credit upon our contemporary's discernment.

The management of the Illustrated American announce that the success attained by the early numbers of their handsome publication "has been far beyond the expectations of its managers and forms a solid foundation upon which they may reasonably hope to build up a weekly magazine of contemporaneous illustration and current thought which will as far outstrip its early numbers as it will everything of its class now before the public."

In this week's issue it will continue its series of illustrations of our war ships in foreign waters. Byron P. Stephenson, the special staff correspondent, sheds more light upon the political situation in the new Brazilian republic and gives a very interesting story of his interviews with the president, members of the cabinet and others and makes it emphatic that the struggles of the country for a substantial constitutional government are all yet to come.

In this issue also the movements of the African explorer Wissman form the subject of a paper of contemporary interest now that the eyes of the world are turned to what was once the dark continent. This article relates the result of the hazardous task assigned to Wissman by the German government, of restoring order in Eastern Africa and of opening up that territory. His efforts to put down the slave trade, the ability he showed in his campaigns against the Arabs, the hardships heroically endured by the expedition through the thousands of miles of trackless tropical forest, are graphically told by one of the staff.