The Century for January.

The Americanism of the THE CENTURY is exhibited in the make-up of the January number. Except a short communication, it is wholly written by Americans. Its subjects are for the most part American and chiefly those of close and present interest to the people, such as Lincoln and the life of the West in the last generation; the great events of the Civil War; material standing in comparison with other nations; the Labor question; the Prohibition movement; the need of an International Copyright, etc., etc. Where the subjects are not American, as in the papers on the French sculptors and the French actor, Coquelin, they are closely related to home art and by the excellence of the artists considered; and the writers are well known American critics.

Reminiscences of the life of Lincoln, by Nicolay and Hay, will be grateful for the liberal portions of that work which are presented to them from month to month. The current part relates to Lincoln in Springfield; the fight with Douglas; the Log Cabin and Hard Cider Campaign; Lincoln's marriage; his relations with the Speeds of Kentucky; the Shields duel; the campaign of 1844; and Lincoln's devotion to Clay. Among the characteristics of the young politician, it is recorded in his own words that he was opposed to "removals to make places for our friends." The paper has a number of interesting pictures, portraits, and documents.

A sketch entitled 'George Bancroft—in Society, in Politics, in Letters,' is contributed by Professor W. M. Sloane, editor of 'The Princeton Review,' formerly Mr. Bancroft's private secretary at Berlin. This paper is the first authoritative biography yet written of a man of the most interesting character and career, and gives the only authentic account in print of Mr. Bancroft's interviews with Goethe and Byron. A sketch of the historian's head, recently drawn by Mr. J. W. Alexander, is the frontispiece of the number.

Following his paper on the Food Question in the December number, Mr. Edward Atkinson contributes another on 'The Relative Strength and Weakness of Nations,' being the first of 'Two Studies in the Application of Statistics to Social Science.' The article is a rich storehouse of facts which are set before the reader in a manner easily to be grasped, by means of graphic diagrams presenting such names as the following: 1. The Comparative Area of Nations; 2. Their relative Population; 3. Our National Domain: its area in actual use, and how it is apportioned among the users, together with an estimate of what amount of pasture land might suffice; 4. The population of the United States from 1860 to 1890 enumerated or computed; 5. Miles of Railway in the United States from 1865 to 1886; 6. Charge per ton per mile; 7. Grain Crops; 8. Product of Grain per Capita; 9. Hay Crop; 10. Produce of Pig Iron; 11. Cotton Crops; 12. Progress and Wealth; 13. Growth of Life Insurance; 14. The Wages of Workmen; 15 Deposits in the Massachusetts Savings Bank; 16 The Public Debt of the United States. Among the far-reaching and suggestive conclusions of Mr. Atkinson's paper, one of the most striking is that in the face of the competition of a free people, having such a record of material prosperity, European nations must 'disarm or starve.'

In a paper on 'Comets and Meteors' in the 'New Astronomy' series, Professor S. P. Langley, the astronomer, gathers up the most recent scientific knowledge of his subject, illustrating it by graphic comparisons which quickly awaken the imagination of the reader. Among the pictures are wood cuts of comets and a meteoric shower.

The second of Mr. W. C. Brownell's critical papers on the 'French Sculptors' deals with Saint-Marceaux, Mercie, and Falguiere, whose work is represented by beautifully engraved wooden cuts, three of full page size. Mr. Brownell incidentally touches upon the relation of the sculpture of the present day to that of Greece and to that of the Italian Renaissance.

Mr. Henry James, in a paper of criticism and reminiscence, presents his impressions of Coquelin, the French actor of the Comedie Francaise, the immediate occasion of the article being that actor's lately contemplated visit to America. Though not giving biographical details, this sketch acquaints the reader with the personality and triumphs of the noted artist. A portrait engraved by Kruell is printed with the article.

'Fencing and the New York Fencers,' by Henry Eckford, relates to a sport which has lately had a marked growth in New York and which the writer denominates 'the fine art of athletics.' The history and the different schools of fencing are discussed, and the paper sparkles with illustrative drawings by Birch.

Another sport of an older American pedigree than fencing is described in 'An Indian Horse-race,' by C. E. S. Wood, with an illustration by Farrny.

The fiction comprises the opening chapters of Mr. Cable's new Acadian story, 'Caranciro,' the scene of which is located in the Teche country of Louisiana, and which has the attractiveness of dealing with love and war; 'The Wimpy Adoptions,' by Colonel R. M. Johnston, a humorous study of provincial Georgia life; together with the continuation of Mr. Stockton's novel, 'The Hundredth Man.' The first and second named are illustrated by Kemble's with drawings which have the piquancy of exciting the desire to read the text.

In addition to the above there are yet to be mentioned the papers in the War Series, which, though occupying less space than formerly, deal comprehensively with what is probably the most interesting part of the Gettysburg fight—the third day. General Hunt describes the manœuvres from the Union point of view, while General E. P. Alexander of Longstreet's corps adds a supplementary popular account of the memorable 'Pickett's Charge.' Maps and pictures relating to this attack, also to the cavalry battle, together with portraits of Generals Pickett, Custer, Farnsworth, Sherrill and Pleasonton, make it one of especial attractiveness to veterans.

The poetry includes 'She Came and Went,' by James B. Kenyon; 'Calm,' by John Vance Cheney; and, in 'Bric-a-Brac,' 'To Critics,' by Walter Learned, and 'Mourned,' by Mrs. D. H. R. Goodale.

In 'Topics of the Time' are three editorial articles: 'A Tyranny That Cannot Live in America' deals with the tyrannical and dead-level features of the Labor Problem; 'The Blot on the 'Scutcheon' present three reasons why the long struggle for International Copyright law should be continued during the present session of Congress; 'How Prohibition Grows' is addressed both to the Prohibitionists and their opponents.

'Open Letters' are contributed by Wm. C. W. Wilkinson on 'Greek and Latin—Shall they Stay or Go?' by Charles Barnard on 'The Cultivation of the Cantata'; and by others on 'Lincoln in the South'; 'Lent and David'; and 'Shall Young Men go to Vassar? If not, Why not?'

In 'Bric-a-Brac' Bill Nye introduces the public to 'The Coupon Letter of Introduction.'

LITERARY NOTES.

It is believed that the success of Scribner's Magazine is unique in the history of magazines. The first (January) number was published on December 15th, the first edition being 100,000 copies. It was exhausted on the day of publication. On Saturday, December 18th, a second edition of 25 000 copies appeared, which was at once consumed, and an additional 15,000 was put to press—140 000 copies having been already sold. The demand was so great that it was impossible to keep the dealers supplied. On the day of publication, 2,000 copies were sold upon the news-stands of the elevated railroads; at the news-stand of one of the New York hotels, nearly 500 copies were disposed of on the first afternoon of its appearance, and several of the dealers at the ferries leading from New York sold 500 copies on the first day.

Seven bars of silver were put into the Pacific Express Company's car on a Missouri Pacific train at a suburban station in St. Louis on Friday evening. On the train arriving at St. Louis it was found that two of the bars, valued at $5,000, had disappeared. [illegible]

An Anti-Prohibition Bishop.

Globe.

The Metropolitan Bishop of Canada speaking at a meeting of the Church of England Temperance Society, of Fredericton, N. B., not long ago said, "He had by God's blessing lived a temperance life and resisted the temptation for upwards of 60 years. He had told them that when the society was first organized that he partook of liquor in moderation for his constitution, and he knew that it benefited him, and that he had a stronger constitution to-day in consequence of it. He appealed to all who joined societies, pledging themselves to entirely abstain from the use of strong drink, to be careful how they make use of such pledges. Young men should take this fact to heart more than they do. He knew of dozens of men in this town who had taken the pledge of total abstinence and grossly violated it on more than one occasion. It was the custom on all festive occasions and at all national dinners to use liquor, and men who were bound to a total abstinence pledge, feeling their enslavement would violate their obligations even in taking the liquor in moderation, and the pledge once violated they would go further. To the young men in particular, when wine was thus set before them they should learn just how much they ought to take of it. They should be taught to take it in moderation, and not to abuse God's gift. * * * * There was another phase of the temperance movement to which he wished to refer, and he might as well tell his whole mind on the question. It is believed by some that the sale of liquor could be entirely prevented by legislation. He had not much sympathy with any such a movement, and the evils that arise from such are even greater than the evil that is attempted to be banished. When an appetite, or an irregular desire is contracted by a long force of habit, no legislation is going to subdue it. It is only by humiliation and prayer that such habits can be overcome, and such a work of reform the church alone is able to accomplish or control. In Maine, where liquor was taken away from them, they took to eating opium, and this habit is known now to be horribly on the increase. You cannot drive the evil out in such a way. Compliance will only be brought into subjection by the church. He did not make these remarks to check them in their temperance work, but he held these views with regard to this movement, and he thought there was nothing ever lost by speaking out one's mind to another. His Lordship's views were strongly combated by Sir Leonard Tilley and other speakers at the meeting.

"The most distinguished leaders in Ireland's long battle with England have not been Catholics, but Protestants. Among these the following may be named:—Curran, Grattan, Wolf Tone, Robert Emmet, Wm. Smith O'Brien, John Mitchel, Isaac Butt, Charles S. Parnell. These were all Protestants. Daniel O'Connell is the only Catholic who measures up to the great Protestant 'rebels.' The Nationalist party has had three leaders during the sixteen years of its existence—Mr. Butt, Mr. Shaw, and Mr. Parnell, all Protestants. Again and again since 1829 when the Catholic Emancipant Act was passed, have Protestants been elected to Parliment by Catholic constituencies; but Protestant districts have never returned the compliment. The following facts from ex Lord Mayor Dawson, of Dublin, let in light on "Catholic bigatory":—

"In 1834, 33 overwhelmingly Catholic constituencies used their new-born power to return at the polls 43 Protestant members of Parliament. In 1848 over 40 Protestants were returned by Catholic constituencies; in 1868, 33; 1874 28. Contrast this with the fact that in the general elections of 1868, 1874, and 1880 not a single Catholic was returned to any constituency in Great Britain. * * * In Waterford (a Catholic city) since 1.45. Protestants have been elected to fill the office of mayor 12 times; in Limerick, since 1841, 13 times; in Cork, 7 times; in Dublin since 1849, no less than 15 times. These proofs of genuine Catholicity can be paralleled by similar acts in every style of elective magistracy in Ireland. But, alas! the Protestants do not reciprocate. For example, in Londonderry, where the Protestants have political supremacy, although there are 17 000 Catholics to 12,000 Protestants, there is but one Catholic in the city corporation."—Rev. J. M. Pullman in Christian Advocate.

ST. NICHOLAS FOR JANUARY,

Which was issued December 27, is really not so much a New-Year's number as it is a second part of the Christmas number.

The article, "Millet and the Children," by Ripley Hitchcock, with its numerous illustrations by the great peasant painter, and the curious little sketches, never before published, made by him to amuse and interest all the readers of St. Nicholas, whether they are fond of art or only of pictures; and the two Eton papers, "A Glimpse of Eton School," by Edwin D. Mead, and "A Visit to Eton," by Elizabeth Robins Pennell, forming the second of the "Four Great English Schools" series, give a keen insight into the manners and customs of boys to day and long ago in the greatest of all the English schools. The drawings by Joseph Pennell admirably explain and supplement the text.

Francis Hodge Burnett's new short serial, "The Story of Prince Fairyfoot, is continued, with the clever and characteristic illustrations by Alfred Brennan; Frank R. Stockton, in the second half of his latest shipwreck story, explains wherein it held "A Fortunate Opening" for the hero; "Juan and Juanita," in Miss Baylor's serial, break away from their Comanche captors, after a number of exciting adventures and hair-breadth escapes; and Mrs. Alling's live and practical, "Christmas Conspiracy" culminates successfully both for the conspirators and their victim.

Rose Hawthorne Lathrop, also, has a timely and amusing story, "with a purpose," and the number opens with an old-time poem by Edith M. Thomas, called "Ye Merrie Christmas Feast," charmingly engrossed and illustrated by Reginald B. Birch, the work of whose clever pencil is also seen in the drawings for two bright poems, "The Galley Cat," by Margaret Vandegrift, and "When Grandpa was a Little Boy," by Malcolm Douglas.

There are also more "Brownies," by Palmer Cox, and contributions by Geo. Foster Barnes, J. G. Francis, Alice Wellington Rollins and others.

THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST for January, 1887, announces that arrangements have been made for issuing the English and German editions hereafter at London, Paris and Berlin simultaneously with their appearance in this country. The opening number for the year presents even a greater variety of matters pertaining to the Farm, Garden and Household than usual. Seth Green discourses upon the Diseases of Fish, Peter Henderson gives general, practical instructions for planting and sowing in warm climates; Prof. Beasey of Nebraska, urges judicious tree planting all over the far West. J. M. Buckley, D.D., contrasts the relative advantages of winter life in the North and South. David W. Judd continues his editorial correspondence. There are a great number of other writers, including Doctors Thurber and Hexamer, Colonel Weld, and other eminent authorities in their special departments. The Humbug columns of this number are unusually racy. The engravings, numbering 60, full-page and otherwise, present a great variety of scenes, plants, animals, farm contrivances, household contrivances, etc., ect. The first of a series of articles on the A. B. C. of Agriculture begins with this number. They are calculated for all—young and old—who expect to own a county home, or who wish to become farmers, gardeners, fruit growers or stock raisers. Price $1.50 per year, English or German; single numbers, 15 cents. Address: Publishers Am. Agriculturist, 751 Broadway, N.Y.

GOLD fields are scarce, but those who write to Hallett & Co., Portland, Maine, will receive, free, full information about work which they can do, and live at home, that will pay them from $5 to $20 per day. Some have earned over $20 in a day. Either sex, young or old. Capital not required. You are started free. Those who start at once are absolutely sure of some little fortune. All is new.

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Harness, Saddles, &c., made to order promptly and at reasonable prices.

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