

ternational Railway and the Early Colonization of New England," a history of the railway system which opened Canada to the United States, together with an account of the settlement which established the English title to New England, both subjects being presented in a study of the life and writings of John Alfred Poor, edited by Laura E. Poor; "A Handbook of Precious Stones," by M. D. Rothschild; "The Sayings of Poor Richard," a collection of the wit and wisdom of Benjamin Franklin, edited by Paul Leicester Ford, in The Knickerbocker Nuggets Series; and "Thomas Jefferson's Views on Public Education," by John C. Henderson.

— J. B. Lippincott Company have in preparation George W. Childs's reminiscences, a portion of which have been given in *Lippincott's Magazine*.

— Dulau & Co., 37 Soho Square, London, W., announce to be ready early in December "A Catalogue of British Fossil Vertebrata," by Arthur Smith Woodward, F.G.S., and Charles Davies Sherborn, F.G.S. The earliest list of British fossil *Vertebrata* was published by Samuel Woodward, in his "Synoptical Table of British Organic Remains," in 1830, and occupied two pages of the volume; while thirty-five years ago the late John Morris published a "Catalogue of British Fossils," of which fifty pages were devoted to this group. The present volume will consist of about three hundred and fifty pages, and will deal with the *Vertebrata* alone, tabulating the results of researches upon the British fossil forms of this group since the time of Linnæus. In the synonymy, the latest authorities have, for the most part, been followed, though a critical study of some genera has led to the adoption of certain modifications. The nature of the type specimen in each case is stated, and, whenever traceable, the museum or collection in which it is now preserved is mentioned. The type species of each genus, when founded upon a British fossil, is also distinctly marked. In order to render the work as complete as possible, the authors have consulted the publications of all provincial societies; most of the principal collections of British fossil *Vertebrata*, both public and pri-

vate, have been visited; and it is therefore hoped that all essential references to each genus and species are included. Special attention has been given to the distribution of the pleistocene *Mammalia*, every well-authenticated locality for each species being recorded. The work will be prefaced by a general introduction, giving particulars of the principal collections available to the student, and a table of the stratigraphical distribution of the genera. The published price will be 12s. 6d.; subscriptions (if received before Dec. 1), 10s. 6d.

— The author of "An Honest Hypocrite," a theological novel in the sense that its hero is a young clergyman who is troubled with doubts and fears after he has taken orders, is the Rev. Edward Staats de Grote Tompkins, who is the rector of a church in Troy, N.Y. Mr. Tompkins is a graduate of Yale College, and is of Dutch ancestry; his family having come from Holland, and settled in Westchester County, N.Y., in 1620, which refutes the charge that the story is autobiographical. A young Englishman in New York with whom Mr. Tompkins is acquainted, and whose waverings and doubts form the basis of the plot, gave him his leading motive. The book is really the author's own beliefs put into the form of a story instead of into a sermon. The point that is at once raised by this story is, "Is Christianity a sham, or is it not?" The question is not as to its theological, historical, or liturgical truth, but as to its actual practical workings. Mr. Tompkins denies the portraits he is said to have painted. The fashionable "Dr. Grady" is not the well-known clergyman he is supposed to be, nor is "Adrienne" intended for the Duchess of Marlborough. To be sure, the Duchess of Marlborough came from Troy, where the scene of the story is laid, but the author did not know her when she was a young woman. Her character was formed before he had the pleasure of meeting her. Such, in brief, is the idea of one of the most striking novels of the day, the readers of which may be interested to know that Mr. Tompkins is a young man and unmarried.

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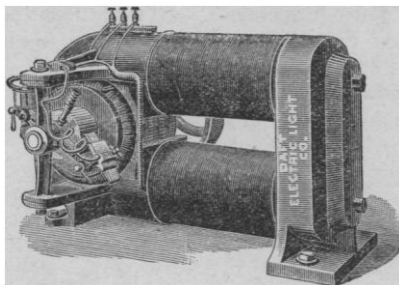
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Nov. 9. — Asaph Hall, Saturn and its Ring; C. E. Dutton, Remarks on Irrigation in the Arid Region.

Appalachian Mountain Club, Boston.

Nov. 11. — C. W. M. Black, Stony Man Mountain, the Pride of Blue Ridge; Frank O. Carpenter, The Great Smoky Mountains and Thunderhead Peak.

Engineers' Club, St. Louis.

Nov. 6. — Mr. Winthrop Bartlett presented an informal paper on the "Olive Street Cable Road." The total length is 9.6 miles. The conduit is 39 inches deep. The Johnson rail, weighing 65 pounds to the yard, is used. The speaker gave the particulars of numerous details of construction. The road was built at the rate of 274.2 feet per day, counting every day between the time of starting and finishing. Interesting information on the subject of the horse-power required under varying conditions of service was given. The enormous fluctuations of power were shown by an indicator card, in which the power varied from 136 horse-power to 609 horse-power within one minute. The percentage of power required to drive the cable only, as compared with the total power used, was about 50 per cent, much lower than on other roads. A number of practical points of experience were explained, with details of improvements that had been made. Messrs. Russell, Johnson, Seddon, and Hubbard took part in the discussion of this paper. The hour being late, it was ordered that Professor Potter's paper on "Fuel Gas" be made the special order of the next meeting, Nov. 20.

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