

THE AUGUST MAGAZINES.

Harper's Monthly, always a welcome visitor, is fully up to its usual standard of excellence. The illustrated articles of the current number are "To and upon the Amoor River," a continuation of Mr. E. G. Squiers' "Among the Andes of Peru and Bolivia," and "John Bull in Abyssinia."

In the following paragraphs are given some facts concerning the natives of the Amoor region:—

The Gilyaks will not permit fire to be carried out of their houses—not even in a pipe or cigar. I learned that fact on being requested to extinguish my cigar before entering one of their dwellings.

They once had a practice of killing occasional guests who sleep in their houses. They believed that by so doing they caused his spirit to remain with and protect them, and the more amiable the stranger the greater the chance of his being slaughtered.

Their religion is pagan, with a few characteristics borrowed from the Buddhists. They have a superstition regarding the bear, tiger, eagle, and cat. They believe that the bear and tiger are native spirits, and that if a man kills one of these animals he must atone for his crime by a sacrifice of blood.

Their clothing is in general so among the natives. The men are clothed in animal skins, and the women in skins and furs. They have a variety of articles of household use, such as knives, axes, and spears.

"How Fort McAllister was Taken" is the title of an article by Colonel Nichols. It seems that before the capture of this important fort, General Sherman had got hold of the following letter:—

"Dear Mother: How I wish I could see you on the Georgia coast. I am called to Fort McAllister, which is the name of a plantation hereabouts. It is a very fine place, with forty or fifty acres, which we are at the Yankee vessels whenever they come up the river. They have a very fine house, and the garden is very beautiful. I am very glad to hear that you are all well. I hope you will be able to come up to see me soon. I am your affectionate son, John."

Colonel Howard and I rode along into a forest of oak trees, and we were surrounded by a crowd of soldiers. They were all looking at us with great interest. I saw many of them with their hands on their hips, and their feet on their heels.

"What movement of troops is this?" I asked. "It is the movement of the troops," replied Colonel Howard. "They are all going to the front. We are going to take the fort."

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condition of the weather, by some complacent and unfeeling remarks, and by a description of the scene in the hall-room, and of the dancing, the supper, and the music.

In an article entitled "Two Artists in Comedy," Mr. L. Clarke Davis thus describes the first success of Miss Maggie Mitchell:—

In 1860 there was a gentleman in St. Louis named Aug. Wadswater, leading the orchestra at the theatre, and chief promoter and conductor of all the musical festivals in that German city. He had been married in one of the best of the German universities, and his mind was deeply imbued with the spirit of the drama and the music of his native country.

When he appeared in St. Louis in the May of 1861, his work was done. He asked permission to read a new play to her. It was read and approved. It was called *Fanchon, the Croaker*, and was a translation from a German play, which was a very successful one.

Among the most readable articles of the August number of the *Galaxy*, is one by Mr. Thomas W. Knox, on "A Journey through Mongolia," which contains much information of a novel character.

The article by Mr. George Wakeman, entitled "Literary Transfer Work," is a very good one. We make the following extract:—

I was once acquainted with a reporter who knew the course of all the grooves in which everything under the sun was accustomed to run. He had been in the profession for years, and without ever troubling himself to find out the names of the grooves, he had learned by his own previous experience, and by the manner in which, according to all precedent, these things would, without doubt, occur.

A large and intelligent audience assembled last evening at the George Washington Hall, to make arrangements for perfecting an organization for the purpose of etc. etc. After the meeting had broken up, the speaker, who was a man of some length to expatiate upon the benefits to be derived from success in their efforts, and concluded by exhorting all present to put their shoulders to the wheel and aid the object for which they had assembled, by every means in their power.

The speech was listened to attentively, and was repeatedly interrupted by applause. The meeting broke up amid great enthusiasm.

"A Visit to the French Corps Legislatif" is the title of an article which sketches the principal features of France in very entertaining style. We select the following paragraph concerning Thiers, Berryer, and Roussin:—

If we continue looking around the hall while he is addressing the Assembly, our eyes fall, in the first place, on a corpulent little man in a collar-brown coat, occupying one of the front seats of the left benches, and evidently listening from an air of profound indifference to the speaker's words.

"Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather the varieties of Trappists assembled in a hall in full force at Independence Hall to enjoy the festivities of the forty-fourth anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg."

The meeting adjourned with rousing cheers for the speaker and for the republican party.

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IMPROVEMENT OF OGDENSBURG HARBOUR, NEW YORK. The Board of Commissioners for the Improvement of the Harbour of Ogdensburg, N. Y., have the honor to inform you that they have received from the Hon. the Secretary of the War, a copy of a report of the Hon. the Secretary of the War, dated at Washington, D. C., on the 10th inst., in relation to the proposed improvement of the Harbour of Ogdensburg, N. Y.

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NEW ARRANGEMENT. Sailing from New York on the 25th and 29th of July, and on the 2nd and 6th of August, the steamer SAILING EVERY SATURDAY, will sail on Sunday. For further information, apply to the Agents, No. 11 WALL STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

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