that we might copy some things from Canada with benefit to ourselves. In particular, he shows the advantages of a responsible ministry, which is the leader of legislation as well as of administration.

Mr. Simon N. Putten has a curious paper on " Decay of Local Government in America," in which he contends that our State Governments have "a mere nominal existence," which we take leave to say is absurd. The next article, by J. B. Clark, is on "The Law of Wages and Interest." It is based on Jevons's theory of final utility, but does not seem to us to shed any new light upon the problem. Mr. F. H. Giddings discusses the province of sociology, but fails to prove even the existence of such a subject, and to state any of its principles. Following this paper are some tables by Leo S. Rowe, giving the courses of study in public law and economics in the German universities, and also an account by Jane J. Wetherell of a new kind of railway passenger tariff recently adopted in Hungary. It is impossible for us to describe it here, and its success is still problematical; but railroad managers will doubtless take it into account in various notes and book-reviews fill out the number. The *Annals* is published for the academy by A. L. Hummel of Philadelphia at one dollar a number.

—The July number of the Nineteenth Century, issued in this country, under the authority of the English publishers, by the Leonard Scott Publishing Company, New York, begins the twenty-third volume, and is a brilliant number. Sir J. Pope Hennesy opens it with a brief paper entitled "The African Bubbles," in which he briefly discusses the relative positions of England and Africa on this important question engaging the attention of the world. Professor Huxley takes the new theological book, "Luzz Mundi," as a text for the scientific interpretation of Scripture in an article entitled "Luzz Mundi and Science." He directs his special attention to the story of the Flood, and his criticism will doubtless have wide reading. T. W. Russell, M.P., writes on "Compensation or Conflagration," in which he takes up the subject of the political treatment of the temperance question in Parliament.

M. Blaze de Bury has an article on "The French Opera," in which she traces its history from its beginnings to the present time. The editor, Mr. Knowles, raises the question of memorials in Westminster Abbey, and explains, with the aid of two plans, how much room there is still unoccupied. The King of Sweden concludes his memoir of Charles XII., dealing with the later years of the hero's life. Henry Snow discusses one of the most important questions of the day in a paper on "The Increase of Cancer: its Probable Cause," an article on "Official Polytheism in China," by A. C. Lyall, treats of the official religion of China, and the extent to which it permeates official society.

Frederick Greenwood, the late editor of the *Half-Moll Gazette*, and one of the foremost of English journalists, writes on "The Press and Government," and shows how intimate the connection between the two sometimes is. Oscar Wilde contributes the first part of a dialogue entitled "The True Function and Value of Criticism, with Some Remarks on the Importance of doing Nothing." Mr. Wilde expounds the nature of criticism as he understands it, in a thoroughly characteristic manner. Sergeant Arthur V. Palmer tells what he saw at Tel-el-Kebir, which is interesting as being the testimony of an eye-witness. Earl Grey discusses the Irish Purchase Bill. J. L. Mahon writes on "The Crisis in the Post-Office," treating of conditions which are not without importance in determining, in the future, the relations of trades-unions to government work.