

August *Atlantic*. "The Use and Limits of Academic Culture," a paper by Professor N. S. Shaler, which shows the manner in which Professor Shaler believes the college could be brought into closer touch with the aims of the ordinary student, namely, the gaining of a living, is a noticeable paper of the number. Dr. Holmes ends his instalment of "Over the Teacups" with some verses which will have great vogue, entitled "The Broomstick Train, or the Return of the Witches." The Salem witches, he tells us, impatient at their long imprisonment, petitioned to be released; but, when the Evil One allowed them their liberty, they played such mad pranks, that he called them together, and, for punishment, made them pull the electric cars.

"Since then on many a car you'll see
A broomstick plain as plain can be;

As for the hag, you can't see her;
But, hark! you can hear her black cat's purr,
And now and then, as a train goes by,
You may catch a gleam from her wicked eye."

—A portrait of the African explorer Capt. Gaetano Casati forms the frontispiece of the May number of the *Bulletin of the Italian Geographical Society*. Casati reached Cairo early in May, and letters in the *Bulletin* deal with his journey to the coast with Emin and Stanley. An itinerary of his nine years of travel, says *Nature*, shows that he left Suakin for Berber and Khartoum in January, 1880. In July of the same year he started in a sailing-boat down the White Nile to Mishra-el-Rek, and thence on foot to Wau, where he met with Gessi at the end of September. He then threaded his way southwards among the feeders of the Bar-el-Gazal to the Kongo basin, and for some time made Tangasi, on the Welle or Makua branch, a centre for exploration. Close by, at Mboro, in June, 1881, he met with Dr. Junker. Finally he made his way to Ladò, on the main stream of the White Nile; and there, at the end of March, 1883, he met Emin Pacha for the first time. Thence he walked up the left bank to Wadelai, and con-

tinued the voyage up the Albert Nyanza by steamboat. It was not until April 28, 1888, that the meeting between Emin Bey, Casati, and Stanley took place on the plateau above Kavalli to the south-west of the lake. The journey down the Semliki valley, the exploration of Lake Albert Edward, and the return to Zanzibar, are recent history. The remaining papers of the number deal mainly with South America. The most interesting of these is that of Count Orsi di Broglia di Mombello on the sculpture of the primitive inhabitants of the Upper Orinoco. Many carvings on the stones of tombs have been discovered among the villages of this district: the sculpture is rough and fantastic, but evidently aims at reproducing certain natural objects. Thus, at the Grotto of Caicara, near the right bank of the Orinoco, many rocks carved in the primitive manner of the slate sketches of school-days, evidently exhibit an attempt to figure a tiger that is very common in this district. In neighboring caves were found mummies closely resembling Egyptian ones: this the author regards as further evidence of the common origin of the two races, previously suggested by the striking similarity in shape of the skulls of the South American Indians and those found in the tombs of Egypt.

—The August *Magazine of American History* is filled with a pleasing variety of papers. The opening illustrated paper, "Historic Houses and Revolutionary Letters," by Mr. Robert Ludlow Fowler, contains extracts from hitherto unpublished letters and documents relating to stormy scenes in the most exciting period of our country's annals, with a bright thread of family history—of the ancient Ellisons of colonial New York—running through the animated sketch. The second article, "Glimpses of Log-Cabin Life in Early Ohio," from the pen of Emanuel Spencer, is realistic and picturesque, bringing the log-cabin home to us in earnest, with all its limitations and ambitions. Following this, Clement Ferguson writes of the historic associations of "The Blue and Beautiful Narragansett;" Richard Selden Harvey recites "The True Story of an Appointment;" the editor contributes an epitome of the career of Major-Gen. Ebenezer Stevens, the subject of the

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