

THE SEPTEMBER ATLANTIC.

The political papers in the September Atlantic are strong and varied. Thomas Nelson Page opens the number with a Virginian view—clearly and calmly stated—of The Southern People and Reconstruction; describing the Southern situation before the war and rehearsing the events that have succeeded it, reaching the conclusion:

"That intelligence, virtue, and force of character will eventually rule, is as certain in the states of the South as it is elsewhere; and everywhere it is as certain as the operation of the law of gravitation."

Charles A. Conant contributes The Future of Political Parties, believing that the original missions of our present parties are practically accomplished, and foreseeing the rise of new parties on the lines of strong centralization and national greatness on the one hand, and the defense of the rights of the people and the equality of the individual on the other.

An Emersonian Democrat discusses The Reaction of the Democracy, demonstrating and asserting the power of the people for good when properly purified and purged of grossness.

John Muir describes Hunting Big Redwoods—the wonders and uses of the great Sequoia Forests of California.

A paper by the late W. J. Stillman develops his Theory of Beauty, and Rollin Lynde Hartt describes vividly and picturesquely The City at Night (Buffalo), before the opening of the Exposition, towards which all eyes are now turned.

Henry Austin Clapp continues his delightful Reminiscences; he devotes large space to the history and accomplishments of the late William Warren, who was for so many years supereminent on the Boston stage, and among other critical verdicts he designates Charlotte Cushman as the one only great American actress.

Frances Duncan treats of Japanese Plants in American Gardens, their beauties and adaptiveness for American cultivation.

Miss Johnston's Audrey continues with ever increasing power and interest. Alice Brown, W. R. Lighton, and Virginia W. Cloud contribute fresh and entertaining stories; and Edith Wharton, Richard Burton, and others contribute poems.

The Contributors' Club is, as always, timely, entertaining, and instructive.

YOURS NOT TO REASON WHY.

President Patton, of Princeton university, recently delivered a sermon at the Fifth Avenue Collegiate Church, his subject being Faith. Dr. Patton spoke of the blind faith of the client who put himself at the mercy of a lawyer in preparing an action for trial, and of the

confidence of the sick in instructing themselves to the physician.

"A case of blind faith," said the clergyman. "The doctor writes out a prescription. Oftener than not, you cannot read it; you don't know what it is. He tells you to take it. 'Yours not to reason why, yours but to do and die.'" —New York Sun.

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