will have the largest observatory dome in the world, its weight being ten tons, and its diameter forty-five feet four inches. Yale News. — Bowdoin claims to have more prominent graduates than any other college. — The attendance at Vassar has diminished one half since 1875. The paragraphers and funny men of the newspapers have ridiculed the place so much that girls dislike to go there. Crimson.— The Russian government has recently sentenced nearly one thousand of the students of the University of Kiev to military service in penal regiments stationed in distant regions of the empire. Ex. — At Williams a tug-of-war team is called a "Rope-Pull" team.

Noticeable Articles.

The most interesting paper in the Nineteenth Century for February is "A Word more about America," by Matthew Arnold. In this he makes the amende honoraible for the flippant things he said about us before he came to see us. The concession he now makes, and the advice he gives his fellow-countrymen as the results of his American experience, are somewhat remarkable. "Until I went to the United States," he says, "I had never seen a people with institutions which seemed expressly and thoroughly suited to it. I had not properly appreciated the benefits proceeding from this cause."

"As one watches the play of their institutions, the image suggests itself to one's mind of a man in a suit of clothes which fits him to perfection, leaving all his movements unimpeded and easy. It is loose where it ought to be loose, and it fits close where its fitting close is an advantage. This wonderful suit of clothes (again to recur to our image) is found also to adapt itself naturally to the wearer's growth, and to admit of all enlargements as they successively arise." And he proceeds to give his fellow-countrymen some advice as to the amendment and alteration of their ancient constitutional garment, which certainly cannot be pronounced a good fit at the present moment. It is amusing to see the wry faces which the Tory Saturday Review makes over the article.

The first paper in the Contemporary, for February, is entitled "Dublin Castle," and is by that able Irish M. P., Mr. Justin McCarthy. It is a bitter arraignment of the English method of governing Ireland as "a centralized despotism, without any parallel in any European state outside of Russia. Thirty years have not in any degree modified the views which strong and sincere Irish nationalists take of Dublin Castle and its system." Here is certainly a case of Mr. Arnold's ill-fitting political clothes, for which, indeed, in his own article he proposes an American remedy; and it goes a long way towards explaining, though not a step towards excusing, Irish dynamite.

Another example of ill-fitting political clothes is given in the same number by Mr. Arnold's namesake, Mr. Arthur Arnold, M. P., in a paper on the "Indebtedness of the Landed Gentry." This portion of John Bull's political costume is of feudal origin, and seems to be dropping to pieces from sheer decay. Mr. Arnold sets down the indebtedness of the landholders at the enormous figure of £400,000,000 or $2,000,000,000, while these are examples of the condition of landed property: In Essex, "a good average farm, Kilordon Hall, formerly let at £400 a year, is now held rent free; another in Thaxted, a tenant who held it on condition of paying the tithe only, has been forced to surrender, as he could not make cultivation produce even the tithe; a third, which had been taken at the nominal rent of 5s. per acre, had been found unprofitable, and is now let rent free," etc.

Travelling through the eastern counties of England three summers ago, I heard everywhere the same story. It is not, of course, that English land has become any less productive, but that the feudal system of ownership whereby a few thousands who would all meet in Exeter Hall, own two thirds of Britain, "has completely broken down." The landowners, says Mr. Arnold, "are not unpopular. They have not dealt unkindly with their tenants; but for centuries they have used their practically absolute dominion in the legislature after the natural manner of a privileged class. They have been imprudent and shortsighted." . . . After an unchecked reign of two hundred years, their supremacy is broken,—it dies with this year," that is to say, with the passing of the franchise bill, which is such a long step towards the establishment of democratic rule in England.

The Fortnightly, for February, has a pleasant paper, describing winter in the Upper Engadine, that high Alpine valley in the extreme east of Switzerland, which, like Saranac in the Adirondacks, has become a winter resort for invalids.

Mr. Frederick Harrison, in the same number, gives a review of the year from his peculiar point of view. This is the gentleman who, as Mr. Arnold puts it, "has weighted himself for the race of life by taking up a grotesque old French pedant on his shoulders"; that is to say, Auguste Comte, for Mr. Harrison is what is called a positivist; and certainly the "Religion of Humanity" seems to most sober people a sufficiently absurd form of faith. Nevertheless Mr. Harrison is just one of the most eloquent and vigorous of living English prose writers; and the paper seems to the present writer to contain much sound sense, expressed in vigorous language, on the political situation in England.

Mr. Kebbel writes a paper on the recently discovered letters of that old-fashioned but ever-delightful English novelist, Jane Austen.

W. P. A.