



ments more familiar in military than in civilian education. Chapter III. is devoted to hydrography and hydraulics, and Chapter IV. to geodetic astronomy, or the science of determining by observation and calculation of celestial phenomena the position and course on land. Chapter V., on tacheometry or rapid measurement, is the most interesting in the book. A transit telescope and the stadia are the dominant instruments. The basis of the method is the apparent diminution in size as the distance of an object increases. By comparing a constant length marked in the telescope with its apparent length on the stadia or graduated measuring staff, the distance of the staff from the observer is determined. Having thus measured the distance, the height is obtained by observing the angle of elevation of the telescope. Chapters VI., VII., and VIII. are devoted to chain surveying, curve ranging, and graphic calculation. The various instruments used in surveying are explained in Chapter IX., and most valuable directions given for their adjustment. The book is freely illustrated, and the tables, 69 in number, are arranged for convenience in the actual work of survey.

*The Light of the World, and other Sermons.* By PHILLIPS BROOKS. London: Macmillan and Co. 8vo, pp. 373.

Of all the great American preachers there is none who has a wider circle of readers in England than Mr. Phillips Brooks. The publication of a fifth volume of his sermons by Messrs. Macmillan is enough to indicate the fact; the nature of these twenty-one sermons is sufficient to explain it. For there is in them a singular freshness of thought, combined with much scholarly grace and finish of style. There is little or nothing of dogmatic theology, and not a touch of tawdry rhetoric. But there is a direct impressiveness and a wealth of Christian experience, together with a frank grappling with the real needs of his hearers, which must have made these sermons highly effective in their delivery. And they are not less likely to find favour with English readers than with a Boston audience. They are, of course, somewhat unequal. But there is no falling off on the whole, and this volume contains perhaps as many as any of its predecessors of those sermons which once read will be long remembered. It is to be regretted that the proofs have been carelessly read; misprints like "Greco" and "Phillippians" are common, and not a little annoying.

*The Historic Note-Book, with an Appendix of Battles.* By the Rev. E. CORHAM BREWER, LL.D. London: Smith, Elder, and Co. 8vo, pp. x. 907.

Dr. Brewer is a skilful compiler, and this latest fruit of his industry forms a useful companion to the "Dictionary of Phrase and Fable" and the "Reader's Hand-book." Sixty years of authorship and of miscellaneous reading have made Dr. Brewer familiar with the significance of many allusions that younger students may still find a stumbling-block, and as he has had the habit of making notes whilst reading and of keeping these notes methodically arranged, he has accumulated a mass of matter elucidatory of historic phrases and historic incidents. "What I myself have wanted to know, I presume others younger than myself may wish to know also; and what I have found difficult to discover, I presume others, with fewer books, may find difficult also." This is a very sensible method of stating the utility of such compilations as those which are associated—and honourably associated—with the name of Dr. Brewer. It would not be difficult to point out some slips, and the author has not always been careful to detach his personal prepossessions from his statements of fact, but these are perhaps inevitable drawbacks, and do not apply to the bulk of the book. It is a useful and honest compilation.

*Thomas Jefferson's Views on Public Education.* By JOHN C. HENDERSON. New York and London: Putnam's Sons. Pp. viii. 387.

That Jefferson was in many respects a far-seeing and enlightened statesman every student of the history of the early years of the United States will readily admit, but he was not the only man in advance of his times with regard to the question of public education. As a member of the Provincial Assembly of his own State in Congress, and afterwards during his tenure of office for four years as Vice President and for eight years as President of the United States, Jefferson did much to promote and establish the common school system, and his arguments in favour of general university education are well worth considering now. He clearly saw that no Republic could stand on a firm basis unless the people were educated, and thus he maintained that a public school system was essential to the preservation of civil liberty. Mr. Henderson has been at great pains to collect the various writings and speeches in which Jefferson set forth his opinions on the question, but he has unfortunately been tempted in his account of them to extend his illustrations into so many different branches of inquiry that the reader is frequently in danger of forgetting all about Jefferson and his views. History and modern scientific discoveries, Thucydides, Tyndale, Colet, Napoleon; photography, the electric telegraph, the French Academy, the slavery controversy, the Monroe doctrine, and a multitude of other subjects, only remotely connected with either Jefferson or public education, are among those discussed in this very diffuse treatise. The facts and information included are nearly all interesting, but the author would have written a more readable book had he been less industrious as a collector and more careful in the arrangement of his mass of undigested materials.

*The Official Year-book of the Church of England* (S.P.C.K., 8vo, pp. xxvi. 702) is a carefully compiled and admirably arranged book of reference on all matters connected with the organisation of the Anglican Church. There are chapters on training for holy orders, home and foreign missions, educational work, the churches in communion with the Church of England, the councils of the Church, the home episcopate, choral associations, clergy pensions, charities, &c., work for the welfare of young men, Church defence, and recent Church literature. There are also statistical records, and information as to the officers and societies of the Church.

A cheap edition of Dr. Norman Macleod's *Character Sketches* (C. Burnet and Co., 8vo, pp. 88) has appeared, and the healthy and vigorous portraiture the little book contains will no doubt win it many fresh friends in its new dress.

The Rev. Nevison Loraine has written *The Battle of Belief* (Longmans, 8vo, pp. xviii. 234), a volume which "is intended as an examination in popular form of the religious question, and of the relations existing between Christian faith and 'advanced thought.'" In this Positivism, Pessimism, Agnosticism, &c. are passed in review.

*Dod's Parliamentary Companion* (Whittaker and Co., 18mo, pp. 376) is issued with a supplement, in which the record of the changes in the two Houses is brought down to the Hartlepool election.

*Is Higher Education Indispensable?* is the question to which Mr. Tom C. Smith replies in the affirmative in a pamphlet published by Mr. C. W. Whitehead, of Preston.

The Bishop of Ripon's *Bampton Lectures on The Permanent Elements of Religion* (Macmillan and Co., 8vo, pp. lxiv. 423) have reached a second edition. Dr. Boyd Carpenter has in these remarkable discourses contrasted and compared the "three universal religions," Islam, Buddhism, and Christianity. The book is one of those for which literature is indebted to shorthand, for the lectures, as is customary with the Bishop of Ripon, were delivered extemporaneously, and are printed from the stenographer's transcript, with such revision as the many episcopal cares of the author have allowed him to make.

The Rev. Alfred Owen Smith is the author of *Balaam and Other Sermons* (Stock, 8vo, pp. 171), the profits of which are to be devoted to a church fund for St. John the Evangelist's, Hoylandwaive.

Dr. Charles Bell Taylor devoted one of a series of professional lectures on diseases of the eye to the consideration of the question *How to Select Spectacles in Cases of Long, Short, and Weak Sight* (Cassell and Co., 8vo, pp. 31), and in its pamphlet form it has now reached a second edition. The value of this brief treatise is self-evident.

Mr. Henry Calder Marshall's paper on *The Public Libraries of London, their Histories and Accounts* (London: Gee and Co., 8vo, pp. 32) is chiefly concerned with the progress of the modern Free Library movement, which is becoming increasingly popular with the metropolitan districts. As becomes his profession, Mr. Marshall devotes some space to the question of accounts, and criticises the form required by the Local Government Board outside of the boroughs.

The new volume of the *Pulpit Commentary* (Kegan Paul, Trübner, and Co., pp. xxxiv. 610 viii.) deals with the Book of Proverbs. The contributors are the Revs. W. J. Deane, S. T. Taylor-Taswell, W. F. Adeney, E. Johnson, and W. Clarkson.

*The Spirit of Discipline* is the title given to a volume of sermons by Francis Paget (Longmans, 8vo, pp. 318), who has prefixed an essay on *accidie*—a sin vividly described by Dante, and which

Chaucer characterises as "the anguish of a troubled heart," and which Mr. Paget regards as a spiritual listlessness and sloth. "It may," he says, "have found its way very easily to the cells of anchorites and monks, but it is not far from many of us in the stress and luxury and doubt of our day." Amongst other topics discussed in the sermons are "The Sorrow of the World," "Freedom of Thought," "Drudgery and Heroism," "The Responsibility of Strength," &c.

Messrs. A. and C. Black have added *Old Mortality* to their cheap reissue of the Waverley Novels.

*Cassell's English Dictionary* (Cassell and Co., 8vo, pp. 1,100) is an endeavour to compress a good working lexicon of our language into a single volume of convenient size. The editor, Mr. John Williams, M.A., is also the editor of the "Encyclopaedic Dictionary," and has made that elaborate and excellent work the basis of the present undertaking, which contains about 100,000 words, includes "Americanisms," technical phrases, colloquial and slang terms, and obsolete and archaic forms, and an appendix of foreign phrases, &c. For those who have not larger works this seems to be admirably adapted as a good working dictionary.

*The Statesman's Year-book* (Macmillan, 8vo, pp. xviii. 1,132), which is edited by Mr. J. Scott Keltie, has gradually increased in size and usefulness, until the new volume, the twenty-eighth annual publication, forms a marvellous "statistical and historical annual of the States of the world." Information is given as to the constitution, government, area, population, religion, instruction, justice, crime, pauperism, finance, production, industry, commerce, shipping, navigation, internal communications, money, and credit of the various States, and the means of obtaining further information is indicated in a list of books of reference appended to each article. Mr. Keltie thus supplies a mass of important data from which the careful student may draw his own conclusions.

Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode have published a pamphlet on *Copyright Law Reform* (8vo, pp. 102), by Mr. J. M. Lely. Mr. Lely explains Lord Monkswell's Copyright Bill, and gives the text of the Berne Convention and the American Copyright Bill.

Messrs. Percival and Co. have added to their educational texts De Vigny's *Stello* (8vo, pp. viii. 111), edited by P. Desages and H. C. Steel; *Advanced Passages for French Unseen Translation*, by H. C. Steel (8vo, pp. 133); and *Cæsar's Gallic War, Book VI.*, edited by M. J. F. Brackenbury and A. Jamson Smith (8vo, pp. 91).

Messrs. Macmillan and Co. have issued *A Text-book of Euclid's Elements, Books III. and IV.*, by H. S. Hall and F. H. Stevens.

The latest addition to the Minerva Library of famous books is the *Autobiography and Letters of Benjamin Franklin*, edited by John Bigelow (London: Ward, Lock, and Co., 8vo, pp. iv. 633). Mr. Bigelow's admirable edition of this well-known book was in some respects a new biography, and the value and interest of the new material included in his work were fully recognised on both sides of the Atlantic when the book first appeared. In its new form the life of Franklin will doubtless secure a multitude of new readers. Franklin was certainly one of the most notable men of the last century, and one also who exercised immense influence for good. The part he played in history was sufficiently important in itself to make his biography interesting, but his personal experience was so varied and his activity was displayed in so many different spheres that he is an interesting figure to a far larger number of readers than those who care to study history.

A good, portable, and cheap dictionary of art terms is a great desideratum, but imperfectly supplied by *Adeline's Art Dictionary*, a translation of the well-known "Lexique des Termes d'Art," which has just been issued by Messrs. Virtue and Co. Fairholt's dictionary has also been freely drawn upon, and there are two thousand illustrations, consisting of small cuts, in the text. Aesthetics are included, which is perhaps a mistake, and there is, for instance, a poor definition of "tone." What may be the sense of including a definition of "archæology"—or, for that matter, "academy"—we cannot understand. On the other hand, terms like "still" or "cosmato-work" are looked for in vain. In fine, the book is not half technical and business-like enough. Still it is portable and cheap and contains a great deal of matter, and till the ideal book comes to supersede it, it will no doubt be useful and acceptable to many a reader.

#### NOVELS.

Americans are fond of lashing their own weaknesses. The little story *Anglomaniacs* (Cassell, 8vo, pp. 206), the most successful American novel of last year, appeared anonymously, but was soon discovered to be the work of Mrs. Burton Harrison. It represents the wife of a dry goods dealer in New York who unexpectedly inherits millions from her grocer father. Hereupon she is bound to surpass Mrs. Peter van Shuter in "chic" and expense, to annex Mrs. Clay, who is already an old hand in London ways, and to guard her daughter from detriments of all nations and classes till she can hook her English earl. The daughter, Lily, is a true Yankee damsel, beautiful and independent. On the steamer coming home she meets a fascinating detrimental, and each discovers the other's merits, but the maternal toils are too artfully laid. The meshes are hopelessly drawn round poor Lily, her one appeal at last is frustrated, and she succumbs, bravely determined to do her level best in her second-rate destiny. The story is nothing, but considerable wit appears in its development. There are many good hits at shams and false estimates and the mean behaviour of those who try, whether in England or America, to seem to be what they are not, that which is neither admirable in itself nor productive of happiness in the end.

In *Flower de Hundred* (Cassell, 8vo, pp. 301) Mrs. Burton Harrison avows herself the author of "Anglomaniacs," as well as of this "Story of a Virginian Plantation." Here again the story is but slight. It is the description of the old House of ancient lineage, with its family portraits and its family names repeated down to the present time, the life in the Virginian plantations when slavery still existed, which makes an interesting subject. But for the grateful and devoted slaves the picture would be not unfamiliar to an English reader. It has never been too common in America to have a perennial charm for the Northerner. It was a state of things which passed away with the War of Secession, and its memory will be cherished as that which has disappeared for ever. Of course those who are fit to bear arms in a family of such traditions join the Confederate army, and we are taken through the blockade of Richmond and share in the pathos of the surrender of Lee to Grant. But after all the interest remains with the country life of the aristocratic Southerner. We have, among other things, the not very novel incident of one child being substituted for another; we have the lovely little old grandmother always to be found on a Virginian plantation, and negroes good and bad, devoted and revengeful. There is not the raciness here which is to be found in the other book: Mrs. Burton Harrison does not excel in narrative, but rather in good-natured criticism of the follies of her countrymen, and more especially of her countrywomen.

It is never difficult to find bad arguments for your antagonist so long as you make them all yourself. In *Lady Merton* (Burns and Oates, 8vo, 2 vols.) Mr. J. C. Heywood describes Protestants who glory in arriving at unbelief, who die sturdily so long as they die un-Catholic. "Call in an English doctor," says Miss Letterly; "Protestant or unbeliever, it is all one." This is unfair to his opponents, and so are the long discourses in which Protestants prove themselves heretical. All Mr. Heywood's Protestants are rascals except those who, however tardily, make their submission to Rome at last. The baronet and the good American discuss with the lovely Lady Merton the great questions whether St. Peter ever came to Rome, and whether Apostolical succession belonged to the Anglican Church. When Mr. Heywood declares that the Queen can make or unmake Bishops, his readers will judge of his carelessness. There is not much of interest in the story beyond these lengthy discussions. A wicked viper of a girl, Lady Merton's diabolical step-daughter, plays in and out of the Roman Catholic Church as suits her corrupt nature; her own profligacy and her spite against her step-mother are the only motives of her actions. As for the rest of the characters, they suffer pain or do evil till they are landed at Rome. No one should expect amusement from reading this book. There are many attacks on doctrines which the author dislikes, but he does not impress us himself as possessing any great depth of religious fervour.

*Friend Perditus* (Chapman and Hall, 8vo, 2 vols.) is a remarkable book. It is brave of Miss Mary H. Tennyson to attempt to describe in the first person the condition and sensations of a man who has been hit on the head and who when he recovers a consciousness finds that his memory is clean gone. He cannot talk at first; he has to learn again to read and write; he has even forgotten what he was called, and gives himself the quaint Christian name and surname *Friend*

Perditus. All he knows of what happened is what his friend the young doctor tells him—that he must have been wrecked, for he was washed ashore, unconscious, with a deep wound in his head, and round him a belt containing some valuable diamonds. Such a man would be an easy prey, but an older writer would have supplied some proofs before the hero could acquiesce in his relationship to a terrible person who claims him as her son. This woman lives on his bounty, and of course spends more money than he gives her, and when he protests accuses him of a disgraceful theft and the consequent death of the father of the girl he loves. These are heedlessnesses which Miss Tennyson will easily avoid in her next novel. There is great promise in her treatment of this unusual problem. Of course the truth flashes on the poor man's memory at last, but not until we have writhed with him under the degradation of the society of the music-hall singer and her artful son, and have sympathised thoroughly with the helpless plight of a man who has lost all hold on his own past.

*The Christ That Is To Be* (Chapman and Hall, 8vo, pp. 279) is a twenty-second century novel by an anonymous author. He writes with ease and vigour, has a good command of vivid colour, keeps his story going at the right pace and evenly, and does not show the least sign of inexperience. These qualities give the book its interest, for the central figure of the religious revival which it describes is by no means engrossing.

Messrs. Christie Murray and Henry Bierman have together written a curious story which they aptly call *He Fell Among Thieves* (Macmillan, 8vo, 2 vols.). A foolish young man, well connected, and reasonably credited with expectations of wealth, falls into the clutches of a gang of scoundrels who lend him money on exorbitant interest, and finally persuade him to pawn some valuable jewels before he has paid for them. The crash comes, and he foolishly absconds and joins the Turkish army. The singular chance by which he recovers from a fever to find himself inveated with another man's name, achieves fame, and returns home like another and a better Stanley; how he again finds himself in danger, and what risks he runs, must not be told lest the reader's pleasure be spoilt. The narrative is very ingenious, and has in it a touch of Gaboriau, even to the presence of an almost baffled detective. The story has a good deal of vigour.

The fellow-countrymen of "Josiah Allen's Wife" would probably tell us that this writer's humour is too distinctively American to be appreciated in this country; but though there are amusing passages in *My Opinions and Betsey Bobbett's* (London: Ward, Lock, and Co., 8vo, pp. 432), we should think that even across the Atlantic "Samantha" would be deemed vulgar and dreary. The discussion with object lessons of the subject of women's rights, in which the old maid who opposes them is defeated all along the line, is far less attractive than the author's previous story, "Sweet Cicely."

Mr. W. Heinemann has published a popular edition of Mr. Bertram Mitford's *A Romance of the Cape Frontier* (8vo, pp. xii. 460), in which many incidents and adventures of the Kaffir war of 1877-8 are very vividly described.

Messrs. Griffith, Farran, and Co. have published a collection of short tales by different authors under the title *Stories from Newbury House* (pp. 216), intended to be the first of a series. There is a high moral and religious tone about them all, and they are well written.