NEW PUBLICATIONS.

LATIN LITERATURE.

A HISTORY OF LATIN LITERATURE from Ennius to Boethius. By GEORGE AUGUSTUS SIMCOX, M. A., Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford. 2 vols. 12mo. pp. xxxvi., 468; xxxv., 481. Harper & Brothers.

The work of Mr. Simcox is an excellent specimen of a class of productions for which English scholarship is earning an honorable distinction. It combines precise learning and a wide range of study with critical subtlety, poetical appreciation, and a certain fine literary quality which fuses the results of patient research and ingenious speculation into an elegant and consistent structure. The author's aim is to make Latin literature "intelligible and interesting as a whole to the cultivated laity who might like to realize its literary worth whether they read Latin or no." In this attempt he has reached a striking success, and he has also given us a history to which serious investigators may turn with satisfaction. Following the accepted principles of modern historical writing, he treats of literature in connection with the various political, social and personal forces which have influenced its development. Of course, if this plan were to be carried out in its ful est extent, a survey of Latin literature ought to embrace almost a synopsis of Roman history, Roman philosophy and Roman civilization,—a scheme far beyond the practicable scope of any special treatise; and the true measure of the writer's success is the tact with which he interweaves with his proper subject just enough of the related topics to illustrate the theme without confusing it. And here, as it seems to us, Mr. Simcox shows an admirable art. The materials for a history of Latin literature as an organic whole are not complete. There are certain periods respecting which we shall be always more or less in the dark; but there is light enough upon the most important eras, and even of the general movement of letters. Mr. Simcox shows that it is possible to present a review with which his particular clients, "the cultivated laity," will be abundantly satisfied. His method of treatment is a happy mixture of the historical, the biographical and the critical. The sketch of the life of each writer is accompanied by an exposition of the social, personal and other influences surrounding him whenever these can be known, as well as of the condition and tendencies of the literature of his time. The close connection between Latin and Greek letters, and the remarkable freedom with which the Latin writers copied and appropriated and imitated the work of Grecian genius, is very clearly traced. Upon such generally known authors as Virgil and Horace, Mr. Simcox's criticisms though profuse are somewhat general. Of the comparatively unfamiliar literature, such as the early drama of the republic, he furnishes an interesting analytical account. The felicity of many of his illustrative comments is remarkable. The following is a good example from his careful, judicious and acute essay on Cicero:

It has become the fashion to praise Cicero as a man and a writer, and to disparage him as a statesman and a thinker; and recently his reputation has been exposed to the attacks of writers who take the side of accomplished facts in what may be called a vindictive spirit. Cicero failed as a politician, and it is rather difficult to see how he could have succeeded; and resentment at his failure takes the form of contempt for his blindness in not seeing before trial that his ingenious and well-intentioned plans were impracticable. Besides, his political career was disfigured by faults which seem natural to advocates who play a leading part in politics; for all Cicero's great political faults have their parallels in the career of Brougham, who was in so many respects unlike Cicero. There was the same obtrusive fertility of suggestion, the same readiness to patronize, the same want of fixity of political purpose—due in both to the same disposition to follow their changing personal interest and their changing personal views of the public good, rather than principles held in common with others; the same want of spontaneous respect for the dignity of those with whom they had to act, sometimes disguising itself in fulsome praise, sometimes expressing itself in wanton epigrams; the same giddy elation at the culmination of the career; the same tendency to be guided by petty vindictiveness when high station seemed irrecoverably lost. In both, too, there was the same disposition to take refuge in intellectual interests and in the display of intellectual attainments which were rather extensive than profound. In this, as in many points, Cicero has the advantage, for his intellectual exercises did not intrude upon fields already occupied by more competent workmen.

The last paragraphs of this chapter may be quoted as a further specimen of Mr. Simcox's critical manner:

As compared with Demosthenes, it is his great praise to be amusing and interesting: he does not take our concern for granted as Demosthenes does, who trusts simply to the contagion of his own earnestness, whereas Cicero has studied all methods of engaging and relieving our attention. He varies everything that can be varied; he amplifies almost everything that can be amplified; he is fond of side issues. In the defence of Sex. Roscius, his first great speech, he rests his case not on the innocence of his client, which he is content for the most part to asseverate, but on the netarious manœuvres of Chrysogonus. So, too, in the defence of Cluentius we hear quite as much of the trial in which Cluentius was supposed to have outbribed his mother's husband as of the charge of poisoning that was actually before the court; and, long after the affair of Catilina, the supposed necessity of protecting all who had helped Cicero to save the State from his nefarious enterprise figured largely in his speeches. He is rather apt to frame improbable defences and to take up more ground than could be really held. For instance, it is obvious that there was no malice on either side in the affray between Clodius and Milo; but as Clodius's partisans chose to assert that Milo had laid a plot to assassinate Clodius, Cicero roundly retorted that it was Clodius who had laid a plot to assassinate Milo, and his whole speech is pervaded by this rash assumption. Throughout, also, Milo is represented as a pure and stainless patriot; although, even before his last outbreak, Cicero had pretty well made up his mind that he was a madman, and expressed his belief with his usual frankness in his outspoken correspondence. Perhaps Cicero wrote in defence of Milo with some exaggeration of enthusiasm, because in the actual trial he had spoken with less than his usual courage and failed in the result more completely than he was accustomed to fail. But it does not appear that after his consulship he ever was really supreme as an advocate; he was always the greatest living orator, though few of the orations which he handed down to us belong to his later years—except the "Philippics," which, with one or two exceptions, are more remarkable for the skilful pertinacity with which a political object is pursued under great difficulties than for their worth as orations. For instance, it was voted that under the alarming circumstances of the time military dress should be worn in the streets of Rome; and Cicero harps upon this decision in a way that was probably edifying and useful to right-thinking gossips at the time, but is the reverse of impressive to posterity. In general, the difficulties under which Cicero spoke are too apparent, and the necessity of putting on an air of heroism interferes with our appreciation of the diplomatic ingenuity displayed in the speeches, and to better advantage in the letters to Plancus and other commanders whom Cicero had hopes of securing to the interests of the Senate. Probably even the great Second Philippic, which has generally been recognized as Cicero's masterpiece, gained in reputation a good deal by the subsequent history of Antonius, who was completely sacrificed to Augustus by all Roman writers; whence it followed that all Cicero's attacks upon him were entirely justified. At the time it is hard to think that the conduct of Antonius was really an outrage upon the sensibilities of a Senate whose ranks had been filled with Cesar's officers, who felt that in giving Decimus Brutus a hesitating support against him they were after all only espousing the quarrel of one old comrade against another, and consoled themselves by the fact that, if Brutus had helped to kill their old commander, he was in alliance for the moment with their commander's heir. Apart from this, Cicero's denunciations of mere debauchery and cruelty must have rung rather hollow upon the ears of contemporaries for the most part only less shameless than Antonius and far less vigorous; though Cicero himself had every right to treat the conventionalities which he reproached Antonius with disregarding as serious, and political profligacy had not gone so far that a man in Antonius's position could travel slip-shod in the dark without some discredit when the charge was brought home to him—to say nothing of drunkenness on public occasions. On the other hand the invective loses, because it is clear that Cicero's honest convictions might have slept if Antonius had been willing to keep terms with him. For this reason the speech stands below the invective against Piso, which makes no pretence of serving any purpose except Cicero's hearty contempt for a vulgar blusterer who had done him what injury he could, and had been foolish enough to challenge an altercation with him after his fortunes had mended.

Of Cicero's letters it not easy to speak as they deserve within moderate compass: they have always a charming air of frankness and dignity, even when the writer is embarrassed and has to calculate the effect of every word. The long series of letters "ad Familiares" are all more or less of this category. The letters to Atticus show how great the strain must have been, for they prove his need of entire unrestrained expansion, and his need of leaning upon another judgment. In both points the correspondence reminds us of Dickens's letters to Forster. It is also the clearest proof of Cicero's fundamental honesty, and of how little he was really the dupe of his vanity, and of the miscalculation which led him to exaggerate his public services in the presence of the public.

As the history extends to the sixth century of our era, it includes a great deal of patristic and other theological literature. If the author appears to be less sympathetic or less at ease in this than in the earlier part of his work, this is in some degree owing to the fact that with Ambrose, Jerome, Augustine, etc., the purpose of writing was far from being a literary purpose, and it is impossible to measure their work by literary rules. One of the most readable passages in this division of the second volume is that devoted to St. Jerome; but it is also one of the most obviously inadequate. The appreciation of St. Augustine is more cordial; but how far it falls short of the complete truth may be judged from the following remarks on the "Confessions:"

There is something like justification for Macaulay's odd criticism of the "Confessions:" they are not written in the style of a field preacher, but there is an extraordinary effusiveness and absence of self-control which are strange in Latin literature; there is a redundancy of suggestion, partly due to the author's rhetorical training, and yet unlike formal rhetoric; because, though the materials are accumulated with a profusion that savors of rhetorical fertility, they are not arranged with a rhetorician's eye to effect. The author multiplies questions in a way that can only be explained by the sincere exuberant curiosity of a generation which has exhausted its possibilities of actual science. Augustin himself was not one of the few who had still mastered the encyclopædia of the day: he does not show any knowledge of the miscellaneous information about plants and animals and minerals that formed a sort of appendage to medicine, nor was he interested in geography, and so easily took over the conceit that between the tropics the earth was uninhabitable, and that any men who lived at the antipodes could not have the same ancestors as the inhabitants of the northern temperate zone.

When he has to mention the passage from infancy to childhood he is exercised by the word "pass." "Did not I in my journey hitherward come to childhood, or rather childhood came of itself to me, and took the place of infancy? And infancy did not pass, for whither did it go away? and yet it was no more. For I was not an infant without voice, but a child that could speak." And then he goes on to notice how unlike the process by which he learned to speak was the process by which he learned everything else. He is not struck by anything mysterious in the fact that children learn to speak by calling for what they want, and imitating their elders without being taught. He is much more puzzled by the consideration that the naughtiness of babies is so like the naughtiness of their elders, and yet they are never scolded for it. Again he is puzzled at his reluctance to learn his lessons, and the laughter of his elders when he was whipped, after praying to be delivered from the consequences of his neglect to learn them. He naively wonders if there are any saints so perfect as to laugh at the natural fear of the torments of criminals or martyrs as adults laugh at children's fear of the rod. He is puzzled again at his elders' anxiety that he should learn to be a rhetorician: the play for which he neglected his lessons was innocent by comparison, while the graver play of the rhetorician was mischievous as tending to vainglory; yet it was wrong to neglect the preparation for the guilty play. He is also astonished at his reluctance to attend to anything except to poetry and to learn Greek, though Homer is a most delightful vanity. As he advanced in life he found more matter of astonishment in his joining in an expedition to rob a pear tree, though neither he nor his companions wanted the pears, and in fact threw them to the pigs after just tasting them. He analyzes the absence of temptation in order to aggravate his guilt through several chapters with an emphasis rather disproportionate to the brief but bitter record of his short lapse into debauchery. This was followed by a genuine love affair, of which we are told little except the eagerness with which he prepared for it, "being in love with loving before yet he loved," and the inconveniences of love which is not meant to end in marriage. He was faithful for nine years to his mistress, and when they parted she was faithful to his memory. He reproaches himself keenly for having taken another mistress while waiting till his mother could find a suitable wife; it did not occur to her, or to him, that if he were to marry, the mother of his son was the proper person. There is the same combination of delicacy and brutality in his lamentations over a school friend who died suddenly; life seemed unendurable after his loss, and yet he says nonestly that he would rather have lost his friend than died himself, and doubts if he would have moved him to give up his own. So, too, after the exquisite description of his mother's holy death, after the description of his laborious self-control, and the late tears which brought relief, he not only apologizes for those tears, but boasts of the tears which accompanied his anxious prayers for the repose of her soul when he wrote.

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NOTICE.—Proposals will be received at the Office of the Department of Public Charities and Correction, No. 66 3d-ave., until April 27, 1883, for Flour, Groceries, Crockery, Hardware, &c. For full information see City Record, for sale at No. 2 City Hall.

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NOTICE.—Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the Clerk of the Board of Education until April 20, 1883, for supplying the Coal and Wood required for the Public Schools in tale city for the ensuing year. For full information see City Record, for sale at No. 2 City Hall.

NOTICE.—Leases of certain Corporation piers and bulkheads will be offered at public sale by order of the Department of Docks at the Exchange Salesroom, No. 111 Broadway, on Friday, April 27, 1883, at 12 o'clock m. For full information see the City Record; copies for sale at No. 2 City Hall.

NOTICE.—Sealed proposals will be received by the Commissioners of the Health Department at their office No. 301 Mott-st., until May 1, 1883, for the erection of a boiler house on North Brothers Island. For full information see City Record, for sale at No. 2 City Hall.

TO CONTRACTORS—Sealed Proposals will be received at the Office of the Commissioner of Public Works until April 27th, 1883, for the paving of various streets. For full information see City Record; for sale at No. 2 City Hall.

Bankrupt Notices.

THIS IS TO GIVE NOTICE: That on the 18th day of April, A. D., 1883, a warrant in bankruptcy was issued against the estate of Emmanuel Berger, of New-York, in the County of New-York, and State of New-York, who has been adjudged a bankrupt on his own petition; that the payment of any debts and delivery of any property belonging to such bankrupt, to him, or for his use, and the transfer of any property by him, are forbidden by law; that a meeting of the creditors of the said bankrupt, to prove their debts, and to choose one or more assignees of his estate, will be held at a court of Bankruptcy, to be holden at No. 261 Broadway, in the City of New-York, before John Fitch, Register, on the THIRD DAY OF MAY, A. D., 1883, at 11 o'clock a. m.

JOEL B. ERHARDT,
United States Marshal as Messenger.

Sales by Auction.

THE PROPERTY, good will and business of the publication called and known as THE CHRONICLE, an Insurance Journal, and all the right, title and interest in the same, will be sold at public auction on SATURDAY, April 28, 1883, at 11 o'clock a. m., at 145 Broadway. By order of the Court.

JOHN C. MILLS, Receiver.

Carpets, &c.

STRAW MATTINGS, $4 per roll; extensive assortment; examine before buying. Carpets, Rugs, Mats, Druggets, &c. ANDREW LESTER & CO., 704 Broadway.

Ocean Steamers.

ANCHOR LINE. U. S. Mail Steamships. Sail from New-York every Saturday for GLASGOW via LONDONDERRY. From Pier 20, North River.

ANCHORIA, April 21, 3 p.m. | DEVONIA ..... May 5, 3 p. m.
BOLIVIA, April 28, 9 a. m. | CIRCASSIA, May 12, 9 a. m.

Cabin passage, $60 to $80. Second Cabin, $40. Steerage, Outward, $28. Prepaid, $21.

LIVERPOOL AND QUEENSTOWN SERVICE. From Pier No. 41, N. R., New-York:

FURNESSIA Sails April 21, May 26, June 30.
BELGRAVIA " May 12, June 16, July 21.
CITY OF ROME " June 9, July 14, August 18.

Cabin passage, $60 to $125; according to accommodations. Second Cabin and Steerage as above.

Anchor Line Drafts issued at lowest rates are paid free of charge in England, Scotland and Ireland.

For passage, Cabin Plans, Book of Tours, &c., apply to HENDERSON BROTHERS, 7 Bowling Green.

AMERICANS going abroad and desiring precious stones, choice jewelry, bronzes, or the latest novelties, are invited to visit our Paris store, No. 37 Avenue de l'Opera, adjoining Hotel Bellevue.

BOWARD & COMPANY, of Fifth Avenue, New-York.

BORDEAUX LINE. New and direct line to the South of France. NEW-YORK AND BORDEAUX DIRECT.

CHATEAU LAFITE, 4,000 tons ..... Sat., Apr. 28.
CHATEAU LEOVILLE, 4,000 tons ..... Tues., May 29.

Travelers for France, Spain and Italy, Pyrenees, Pau, Nice, &c., will save time and expense by taking this line. Cabin (including wine), $80; Steerage, $25. For passage apply to E. LE BOULANGER, 46 Beaver-st.

Ocean Steamers.

CUNARD LINE.

NOTICE—"LANE ROUTE."
FROM NEW-YORK TO LIVERPOOL VIA QUEENSTOWN.
FROM PIER NO. 40 NORTH RIVER.

ROTHNIA ..... Wednesday, April 25, 7 a. m.
PAVONIA ..... Wednesday, May 2, 1 p. m.
SERVIA ..... Wednesday, May 9, 7 a. m.
SCYTHIA ..... Wednesday, May 16, 1 p. m.

Cabin passage, $60, $80 and $100.
Steerage tickets to and from all parts of Europe at very low rates. Freight and passage office, No. 4 Bowling Green.
VERNON H. BROWN & CO., Agents.

GENERAL TRANSATLANTIC COMPANY. Between New-York and Havre.

Company's pier (new), No. 42 North River, foot of Morris-st.

Travellers by this line avoid both transit by English railway and the discomfort of crossing the Channel in a small boat. Special train leaving the company's dock at Havre direct for Paris on arrival of steamers. Baggage checked at New-York through to Paris.

PEREIRE, Berry ..... Wednesday, April 25, 7 a. m.
LABRADOR, Collier ..... Wednesday, May 2, 1 p. m.
AMERIQUE, Santelli ..... Wednesday, May 9, 7 a. m.
NORMANDIE (new), Servan ..... Wednesday, May 23

Checks payable at sight, in amounts to suit, on the Banque Transatlantique of Paris.

For freight and passage apply to LOUIS DE BERIAN, Agent, No. 6 Bowling Green.

GERMAN AND U. S. MAIL STEAMERS. NORTH GERMAN LLOYD. STEAMSHIP LINE BETWEEN NEW-YORK, SOUTHAMPTON AND BREMEN.

NECKAR Saturday, April 21 | ODER ..... Saturday, April 28
FULDA, Wednesday, April 25 | RHEIN, Wednesday, May 2

RATES OF PASSAGE from NEW-YORK to SOUTHAMPTON, HAVRE or BREMEN.

FIRST CABIN ..... $100 | SECOND CABIN $60
STEERAGE, $30.

Return tickets at reduced rates. Prepaid Steerage Certificates, $24. Steamers sail from Pier between Second and Third-sts., Hoboken, N. J.

OELRICHS & CO., 2 Bowling Green.

GUION LINE. UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS. FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL. Leaving Pier 38, N. R., foot of King-st.

ARIZONA ..... Tuesday, April 24, 6 a. m.
NEVADA ..... Saturday, April 28, 9:30 a. m.
ABYSSINIA ..... Tuesday, May 1, noon
WYOMING ..... Tuesday, May 8, 6 a. m.
ALASKA ..... Tuesday, May 15, 11:30 a. m.

☞ These steamers are built of iron, in water-tight compartments, and are furnished with every requisite to make the passage across the Atlantic both safe and agreeable, having no smoking-room, drawing-room, piano and library; also experienced surgeon, stewardess and caterer on each steamer. The staterooms are all upper deck, thus insuring those greatest of all luxuries at sea, perfect ventilation and light.

Cabin passage (according to stateroom), $60, $80 and $100. Intermediate, $40. Steerage at low rates.

OFFICE, NO. 29 BROADWAY. WILLIAMS & GUION.

INMAN ROYAL MAIL LINE STEAMERS FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.

CITY OF BERLIN ..... SATURDAY, April 28, 9 a. m.
CITY OF PARIS ..... THURSDAY, May 3, 2 p. m.
SARDINIAN ..... SATURDAY, May 12, 9 a. m.
CITY OF CHESTER ..... THURSDAY, May 17, 1 p. m.

From Pier 41, North River, foot of Leroy-st.

CABIN PASSAGE, $80 and $100. Intermediate, $40. STEERAGE, $28. Prepaid $21.

For passage, &c., apply on the INMAN STEAMSHIP CO. Limited, 31 and 33 Broadway, N. Y.

Philadelphia Office, No. 105 South 4th-st.

NATIONAL LINE.—From Pier 39, N. R. FOR LIVERPOOL AND QUEENSTOWN.

SPAIN ..... April 21, 4 p. m. | ITALY ..... April 28, 9:30 a. m.

FOR LONDON DIRECT.

FRANCE ..... April 26, 7 a. m. | BOHEMIAN ..... May 2, 1 p. m.

Cabin $55 to $70; outward guests $28, prepaid steerage, ticket, $20. F. W. J. HURST, Manager, 69 and 73 Broadway, N. Y.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY'S LINE FOR CALIFORNIA, SANDWICH ISLANDS, JAPAN, CHINA, NEW-ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA, CENTRAL and SOUTH AMERICA and MEXICO.

From New-York pier foot Canal-st., N. R.

For San Francisco, via Queenstown of Panama, CITY OF PARA sails Friday, April 20, noon.

Connecting for Central and South America and Mexico.

From San Francisco, 1st and Brannan sts. For Japan and China.

O. & O. SS. CO'S. sails Tuesday, April 24, 2 p. m. Excursion tickets between San Francisco and Yokohama at special rates.

For HONOLULU, NEW-ZEALAND and AUSTRALIA, AUSTRALIA sails Saturday, May 5, 2 p. m., or on arrival of London mails at San Francisco.

For freight, passage and general information, apply at Company's Office on the Pier foot Canal-st., North River.

R. J. BULLAY, Superintendent.

RED STAR LINE. For Antwerp and Paris. Sailing from New-York and Antwerp every Saturday.

PENNLAND ..... Saturday, April 21, 4 p. m.
BELGENLAND ..... Saturday, April 28, 9 a. m.

Saloons, state-rooms, smoking and bath-rooms amidships. First cabin, $60 to $80; excursion, $100 to $160. Second cabin, $35; excursion, $60 gold. Steerage, $26; prepaid, $20. PETER WRIGHT & SONS, General Agents, 55 Broadway.

ROYAL MAIL TO THE NETHERLANDS. Steamers leave Co's pier foot of Sussex-st., Jersey City.

FOR AMSTERDAM.

SS. AMSTERDAM ..... Wednesday, April 25, 9 a. m.

FOR ROTTERDAM.

SS. MAAS ..... Wednesday, May 2, 2 p. m.

First cabin, $70; 2d cabin, $50; Steerage, $26; prepaid, $20. H. CAZAUX, General Agent, 27 South William-st. FUNCH, EDYE & CO., 5 W. MORRIS, 27 S. William-st., Freight Agts. 50 B'way, Gen. Pass. Agt.

UNITED STATES AND GERMAN MAIL STEAMERS.—Hamburg American Packet Company's Line for PLYMOUTH (London), CHERBOURG (Paris), and HAMBURG.

BOHEMIA ..... Sat., April 21 | H