NEW PUBLICATIONS.

SOUVENIRS OF SOME CONTINENTS. By ARCHIBALD FORBES. Harper's Handy Series, 12mo., pp. 206. Harper & Brothers.

When the coming historian sits down to tell the story of this century what a debt of gratitude will he find himself owing to the war-correspondent of our time! He may witch the world with noble writing and his reward may be great; they with infinite toil and small recompense are building the framework of his structure and preparing his material. They welcome the coming, speed the parting event—whether it be a bloody battle or a conference of statesmen—with equal readiness and aptitude. They face death with a gay courage and accept personal hardship with an unconcern which leaves little to choose so far as manly qualities go between the soldier of the camps and the soldier of journalism.

Mr. Forbes is to-day the chief of this little band of current historians, and nearly every subject he touches is matter for future use as well as for present interest. Most of the sketches included in this small volume are republications from various periodicals, English and American; and all merit such preservation. Mr. Forbes takes a wide range from Continental wars and interviews with emperors to comments on New-York society,—and every topic is handled in a keen and lively fashion. If he makes some mistakes in his statements concerning American social conditions, he at least gets nearer the truth than any other British observer, and the spirit in which he approaches us is kindly as well as just.

Mr. Forbes's style is terse, nervous, sometimes a little "slangy"; it is a style which suits thoroughly well the sphere of a war correspondent's labors, albeit it wouldn't do for the grave pages of history. But style apart, the historian of to-morrow will receive from the accomplished journalist of to-day matter of priceless value and unique interest.

THE NEW-YORK CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE: as amended to and including 1885, with references to Code Decisions by C. D. RUST. New-York: S. S. Peloubet.

The experiments of the State of New-York with Codes have not proved brilliantly successful. The Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure have been subject to the fiercest objections, both because they were the simplest and best drafted and because they were the narrowest in their application, being confined to criminal law. But upon the Code of Civil Procedure, which regulates the practice in the civil courts, the seven vials of the wrath of the bar and bench of the State have been poured. Its prolixity, its ambiguity, its uncertainty and sometimes want of meaning have all been commented on in the severest terms in court and out. It was Mr. Justice Van Brunt, of the Supreme Court, before whom a lawyer, endeavoring recently to extract sense out of the hopeless obscurity of one provision, remarked that in enacting that section "the Legislature evidently had in mind the idea" so-and-so. The Judge quietly interrupted him to say that he didn't believe the Legislature "had any idea in mind" in enacting that or any other part of the Code of Civil Procedure.

There have been many editions of this Code since the first part became law in 1877. A good edition is the only relief the perplexed lawyer finds to the badness of the Code itself. It is absolutely indispensable to the active practitioner. Few of the editions published have met the necessary requirements. The first requisite is a good index; the second is the accuracy and completeness of citations. Other points are minor considerations.

In some particulars the edition compiled by Mr. Rust, which is the last one published, is superior to any of its predecessors. Its form is the most convenient yet adopted, being the only one of the Codes that has yet appeared that deserves the name of "pocket edition." The index is in most particulars excellent. Many of the inexplicable omissions in the indices of other editions that have proved most exasperating to the hurried lawyer are here satisfactorily arranged. But even this is not a perfect index. A single illustration will serve. Section 1021 provides for the entry of interlocutory judgment after decision on a demurrer. It was a blunder of the codifier to put this section under the head of "References," instead of under that of "Judgment" or "Demurrer." But it was the duty of the maker of an index to offset this difficulty as far as possible by the completeness of his classification. Therefore the section should be indexed under "Interlocutory Judgment," "Demurrer" and "Judgment." Instead of being under all or any of these heads, we find that Mr. Rust has tucked it away under the head of "Decision"—a place that no lawyer, not guided by an inspiration, would think of looking for it, until he had exhausted all the other heads. In some other similar respects the index is open to minor criticism; but as a whole it is to be commended as excellent.

The citations are not as numerous as the multiplicity of decisions affecting the Code of Civil Procedure would lead one to expect, and it is certain that many recent ones are omitted. But what this portion of the work lacks in completeness, it appears to make up in accuracy and care to select the most important decisions under each section without destroying the compactness of the publication by inserting too large a number. The arrangement, form and make-up of the work are all good. The active practitioner will welcome it as a substantial aid to his labors.

New Publications.

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PACKARD'S BUSINESS COLLEGE and School of Shorthand will begin operations for the school year on Tuesday, September 1. As the seats are usually filled during the first few weeks, it may be well to apply early; and to this end the office will be open daily during the month of August to receive applications. Nobody who knows New-York and her institution is likely to forget that this is the old reliable school, established in 1858, and by its twenty-seven years of faithful work made to stand as the synonyme of thorough practical education. A graduate from Packard's has no need to look around for a place. The "place" is always looking for him. Address S. S. PACKARD, 805 Broadway, New-York.

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DR. AND MME. VAN NORMAN'S SCHOOL FOR LADIES AND CHILDREN (founded 1857) will reopen October 1 at 315 West 57th-st., New-York.

FRENCH PROTESTANT BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL for Young Ladies, 36 East 35th-st., lately MESDEMOISELLES CHABRONNIER'S, (and formerly in Paris) will be reopened Oct. 1 by their successors, PROF. and MADAME ALFRED COLIN. Thorough course in all English branches.

9 WEST 39TH-ST. School begins its thirteenth year Thursday, Oct. 8. Address STOWE, VT., till Sept. 22. IDA M. ELLIOT, ANNA C. BRACKETT.

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MISS PEEBLES AND MISS THOMPSON'S BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, 32 EAST 57TH-ST. Until September 1 address Messrs. J. KENNEDY TOD & Co., City.

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MISS MORGAN'S HOME SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES Reopens September 23, 1885—Portsmouth, N. H.

MISS J. F. WREAKS, 959 Madison-ave., New-York. Boarding and Day School for Young Ladies and Children. Special class for little boys. Also kindergarten. Reopens September 28.

MRS. RAWLINS'S SCHOOL, No. 56 West 55th-st., will reopen September 21. Mrs. Rawlins at home after September 1. Circulars on application.

MISS CHISHOLM'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, 15 East 65th-st., will reopen MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28. BOYS' CLASSES SEPARATE. At home after September 20th.

MISS REYNOLDS'S Family and Day School, 66 West 45th-st., will reopen September 30.

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THE MISSES GRAHAM (successors to the Misses Green), formerly of No. 1 Fifth-ave., will reopen their English and French boarding and day school for young ladies on Thursday, October 1, 1885, at No. 63 Fifth-ave., New-York City.

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Instruction.

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