Literary News and Criticism.

Lessons in Industrial Welfare from German Sources.

THE GERMAN WORKMAN. A Study in National Efficiency. By William Harbutt Dawson. 12mo, pp. xii, 304. Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons.

As late as February 6, 1906, Count Posadowsky-Wehner, the German Minister of the Interior, speaking in the Reichstag, said: "If Germany has just experienced a vast industrial expansion equalled by no other country in the world during the same time, it is chiefly due to the efficiency of its workers. But this efficiency must inevitably have suffered had we not secured to our working classes, by the social legislation of recent years, a tolerable standard of life, and had we not, so far as was possible, guaranteed their physical health."

It is on this text that Mr. Dawson has written the volume in which he now sets forth the nature of this social legislation. He refrains from discussing industrial conditions in their narrower and more personal aspects, confining himself to a consideration of the "enlightened reforms" which have been adopted for the benefit of the German workman by municipality and private philanthropy, working singly or together. Written by an Englishman, and from the British point of view, the author believes that such a survey as this of another country's methods and measures of social reform can hardly fail to throw light upon questions urgent among his countrymen; and although industrial conditions in America are in certain respects different from those in Great Britain, it is doubtless true that we, too, may learn something from Germany's example, "even though the example may at times be deterrent rather than encouraging." If some of the provisions made for the benefit of the German workman partake of the nature of the paternalism characteristic of that country's government, there is, nevertheless, a distinct movement in America in the direction of a more intimate supervision of the welfare of the people by municipalities, commonwealths and the national government. The people of the United States will probably not lag far behind imperial Germany in looking after the general and individual interests of its working classes, and we may, at least, borrow something from the thoroughness and system which are so characteristic of the German mind when we come to apply whatever we may deem appropriate of their methods to local conditions.

The social legislation which Mr. Dawson considers divides itself naturally (although he does not himself so divide it) into four classes, what may be called "welfare," "charity," "correction" and "sanitation." Under the head of welfare the author considers the various means adopted to assist the workingman in his efforts to gain employment, and to safeguard him against its loss, by means of labor registries or employment agencies, insurance against idleness, sickness, accident, death and old age, municipal house bureaus, municipal pawnshops, the very interesting industrial courts, the workmen's secretariates and the municipal information bureaus. The labor bureaus of Germany, both public and private, appear to have met with a very considerable measure of success, and are readily used by the workpeople, though perhaps less willingly by the employers of labor. In the public registries no fee is charged, and the private ones charge but a trifle. They supplement the bureaus conducted by the various trade unions, and considerable progress is being made in the effort to establish co-ordination between the bureaus in different localities in the direction of a labor clearing house. Especially are efforts being made to prevent the flow of labor from the farms to the towns. The Munich bureau, for instance, rigidly refuses employment to agricultural laborers, who are only given an opportunity to go back to the land, and if they decline so to do the bureau has no more to say to them.

The various forms of industrial insurance are quite complicated in their details, but appear to work out reasonably and satisfactorily in their results. Insurance against idleness is, in effect, an offshoot of the labor bureau. Only a part of the funds, however, are derived from the contributions of the workmen, the rest being made up by "patrons," "honorary members," contributions from societies, employers and others, together with liberal subventions from the municipalities. If an insured worker "loses his job," he is put on the list of the labor registry in a sort of preferred class, and when work is offered which is within his scope he must take it or forfeit his benefit. There has apparently not been a very great rush of workmen to avail themselves of this form of insurance, which, in its present development, only touches the fringe of the unemployed problem. At its best, the institution is only a palliative, although, as the author states, "in fairness it should be added that this is all that its promoters claim." He says further that "the insured work people would appear to be satisfied with the fund," and well they may be, since in its operation it partakes largely of the nature of a benefaction. Such a movement would hardly be possible in America unless it could be made entirely self-supporting.

The direct solution of the housing problem is one which would seem hardly to fall within the scope of American municipalities, however much it may well be influenced by building and board of health regulations; but in Germany it comes more naturally within the province of the local governments, since most of the cities are owners of suburban real estate, which they have bought for speculative purposes. Moreover, the existence of stringent laws, which insist upon every citizen being the owner or the renter of a domicile, under pain of imprisonment, seems to demand that the municipalities should give special attention to the matter. There is another side to the question. The providing of independent houses for married workingmen in the suburbs, as carried on by the Workingmen's Home Association of Bielefeld, for example, has met with disfavor from the Social Democratic party. Mr. Dawson writes:

> The Socialist leaders desire social discontent; the cause lives upon it; it is the most important element in the party's material. I was assured that many of the workingmen owners of the Bielefeld colony were formerly active Social Democrats, but they are such no longer.

One of the most valuable and suggestive of the institutions described by Mr. Dawson is the Industrial Court. There are now over four hundred of these courts in Germany, which form an invaluable part of the machinery of industry, "facilitating harmonious relationships in many ways, where formerly the only medium of adjustment was the judicial court." Established by imperial sanction, these courts may or may not be formed by the competent authorities, as they prefer. But, as the figures indicate, the permission to establish them has been largely availed of. The constitution of these courts is extremely simple, and one of their chief recommendations is the cheapness of procedure. In many of the municipalities the courts are free. A scene described by the author, witnessed by him in one of these courts, admirably illustrates their scope and purpose. A young jurist sat as president, and the only other official was a secretary, who took notes of the proceedings. A touch of the electric bell upon the president's desk informed the police constable in charge of the door that the court was ready.

> A workman came in to lodge a claim against an employer. He was a joiner and claimed thirty-six marks for a certain commission. But the employer objected that the work was not done according to sample. They were both hard subjects, and for a time neither would listen to the bare mention of compromise. "Will you take half?" asked the president of the complainant. "Never! Never!" was the indignant rejoinder. One should not say never—it is a word responsible for more mendacity than any other. The president reflected a moment, then tried again: "I think it would be better to agree." "But the wood was bad, and the price was low to begin with, and I did the best work I could." To this the respondent quite as warmly objected. "Then take twenty marks. I'll give that, and no more," put in the respondent. For an instant the plaintiff seemed undecided; then he gave in, "to save expense," he said, and so the matter was decided.

Last year no fewer than 12,872 cases came before the several chambers of the Berlin Court of Industry, and of this number 6,123 (almost one-half) were settled by conciliation, while of the rest 2,742 were withdrawn. The great majority of the claims related to retained wages or to compensation for dismissal without notice. In 18 per cent of the total cases the claims were disposed of in less than a week, in 51 per cent in less than a fortnight, and in only 5 per cent was a month required.

Most interesting of all the institutions described, however, is the workman's secretariate, which can be best described as consisting of "a chamber of labor, intelligence bureau and poor man's lawyer combined." What gives the secretariates their peculiar distinction is that they are carried on independent of state or municipality, and are maintained by the combined trade societies of a town or district. Their primary object is to give advice upon all the laws which specially concern the working classes. "With some of these laws the workingman is continually brought into palpable contact, and oftentimes he is neither aware of his responsibilities to them, nor of their obligations to him." The secretariates prepare opinions on points of industrial law and custom submitted to them, draw up memorials and formulate complaints, mediate in wage disputes, represent workpeople before industrial and legal tribunals, and in some cases act as direct organizers of the trade unions. The advice and help thus offered without money and without price are not, however, confined to members of the unions. Many of the inquirers are artisans, tradesmen, clerks and petty officials, and "not a few members of the middle class consult the workmen's secretariate from no worthier motive than to cheat the professional lawyer."

The scope of these secretariates is continually growing with use, and the author ventures the prediction that "in a score of years they will take a place in the life of civil society, the importance and value of which are anticipated by only the most sanguine leaders of this new labor movement." Certain of the municipalities have undertaken to supply on their own account, through municipal information bureaus, the need awakened by these independent institutions.

Among the forms of charitable relief of which the author treats are the methods adopted for caring for and helping on their way wandering work seekers, and for furnishing work for the unemployed, labor colonies, shelters for the homeless, and so on. Of correctional measures, he considers chiefly the treatment adopted for dealing with industrial malingerers and workhouse administration. He deals also with such sanitary matters as "the doctor in the schools," the anti-consumption crusade and the establishment of convalescent homes for those discharged from the hospitals but still unable to resume their regular work. In all this there is much that is novel and not a little that may be suggestive. But for American readers the principal interest in the volume will be found in those chapters treating of the subjects which we have grouped under the head of "Welfare."

MISCELLANY.

One of the most artistically effective of the current color books is "Greece, Painted by John Fulleylove and Described by the Rev. J. A. McClymont" (Macmillan). The artist has portrayed with as much feeling as skill the majesty of ruined temple and shattered monument, the beauty of mountain and plain suffused by the glorious Greek sunshine and by the poetic glamour of the antique world. Of special loveliness are his drawings of the Parthenon. The text is that of a scholar who, though he has lately visited Greece, has not condescended to describe any of the ordinary incidents of travel. The history, the literature and the architecture of ancient Greece absorb him, and he writes of them with a fulness which gives much value to the book for one who seeks the traces of a former civilization in the Greece of to-day. Various questions of modern Greek life are touched upon, however, in the last chapter, much space being given, for example, to the strenuous efforts of the educated classes to mould the written language according to classical forms. The author is heartily in favor, as are many other scholars, of the use as a literary medium of the vernacular Greek spoken more or less by all classes when they are not on ceremony; and he notes that there is an increasing party in Greece who hold that "the intellectual and moral life of the nation will never get fair play and have full scope for its energies until the Atticising pedantry which has long been the fashion both in Athens and Constantinople shall be given up and the popular speech be recognized as a suitable instrument for literary purposes as well as for the intercourse of common life."

A dispatch from South Dakota printed in Thursday's Tribune describes an episode of the woods of a highly thrilling sort. A woman, captured and pinned to the earth by a mountain lion, is represented as singing to the animal at night in order to keep him interested. She was not released, it is added, until daybreak, when her husband found her and shot her captor. This is a diverting narrative, but it has, alas, a suspicious lack of detail. Let us hope that it will recall to many readers a certain powerful story of pioneer days, written years ago by Harriet Prescott Spofford, and called "Circumstance." The heroine thereof, on the way home through the forest from the house of a sick neighbor, is seized by a wild beast of the Dakota kind, borne aloft and held on the broad floor of a swinging fir bough. The echo of her scream seems to please the beast and give him pause, so in her terror she begins to sing and as the hours pass sings on and on, cradle songs, sea songs, dance tunes, mournful ballads, psalms and hymns, and still the creature, with its hot breath flooding her face and its claws fretting her garments, listens and forbears to rend. Near dawn she hears a step in the snow and sees below in the moonlight her husband, bearing on one arm their sleeping child and in the other hand carrying his rifle. He dare not fire lest the bullet reach her first. Suddenly the wife, overpowered by despair, loses her voice, the beast springs up—and at the rifle crack falls to the ground dead, with his prey unhurt.

The weird story is told with a solemn intensity that stirs the pulse. Thus far, it will be seen, it runs on all fours with the Dakota tale, which might have been suggested, indeed, by Mrs. Spofford's work of imagination. But "Circumstance" has a stranger ending:

> The father carries the child, hushed again into slumber, the mother follows with no such feeble step as might be anticipated. It is not time for reaction,—the tension not yet relaxed, the nerves still vibrant, she seems to herself like some one newly made; the night was a dream; the present stamped upon her in deep satisfaction, neither weighed nor compared with the past; if she has the careful tricks of former habit, it is as an automaton; and as they slowly climb the steep under the clear gray vault and the paling morning star, and as she stops to gather a spray of the red-rose berries or a feathery tuft of dead grasses for the chimney-piece of the log house, or a handful of brown cones for the child's play,—of those quiet, happy folk you could scarcely dream how lately they had stolen from under the banner and encampment of the great King Death. The husband proceeds a step or two in advance; the wife lingers over a singular footprint in the snow, stoops and examines it, then looks up with a hurried word. Her husband stands alone on the hill, his arms folded across the babe, his gun fallen,—stands defined as a silhouette against the pallid sky. What is there in their home, lying below and yellowing in the light, to fix him with such a stare? She springs to his side. There is no home there. The log house, the barns, the neighboring farms, the fences, are all blotted out and mingled in one smoking ruin. Desolation and death were indeed there, and beneficence and life in the forest. Tomahawk and scalping-knife, descending during that night, had left behind them only this work of their accomplished hatred and one subtle footprint in the snow.
>
> For the rest—the world was all before them, where to choose.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS.

Current Talk About Things Present and to Come.

The Japanese, it seems, are looking to America for help to appreciate Italian literature. Arrangements have lately been completed for the translation into Japanese of Charles A. Dinsmore's two books, "Aids to the Study of Dante" and "The Teachings of Dante," both published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

The most ambitious work that Mrs. Wharton has undertaken since the publication of "The House of Mirth" is a novelette, entitled "Mme. de Treymes," which will be printed in its entirety in the August "Scribner's." It deals with the social conditions in an old Parisian family into which a young American girl has married.

Henry W. Nevinson, the English war correspondent, and author of "A Modern Slavery," has written a personal narrative of the Russian crisis as he was privileged to observe it in Moscow, Kieff, Odessa, Warsaw and other towns where the revolutionary spirit was most violently displayed during the winter and spring of 1905-'06. The volume, which will bear the title "The Dawn in Russia," will be brought out immediately by the Harpers. The book will be illustrated with reproductions of suppressed Russian political cartoons, some of them printed in colors.

Richard Burton's poetical drama, "Rahab," published recently by Henry Holt & Co., is likely to receive a stage production during the coming winter.

Miriam Michelson, author of "In the Bishop's Carriage," has entered quite a different field of fiction in writing her new story, "Anthony Overman," which will be published by Doubleday, Page & Co. on August 1. The scene is laid in San Francisco before the fire, and the novel deals with the love of an idealist for a woman who is his direct antithesis. Although the psychological element is largely in evidence, the novel is said to abound in incident and action.

"Public Opinion" has been purchased by Funk & Wagnalls, and has been merged with "The Literary Digest," the first number of the consolidated periodical appearing this week.

Retirement to a Sabine farm is the dream of so many literary workers that the experience of a writer who has recently made the experiment may not be without its lesson. Arthur Stringer, author of "The Wire Tappers," has a fruit farm in Ontario, where he appears to find "gentleman farming" more pleasant than profitable. He is, however, at no loss to find the reason why he cannot compete with his professional farmer neighbors. "I sell what I can't eat," he explains, "and they eat what they can't sell."

Another author to combine horticulture with literary endeavor is Frederick Upham Adams, who has lately purchased an orange grove and a sugar cane plantation in the Ceballos district of Central Cuba.

Charles Battell Loomis will soon have a new book on the market. "Cheer Up" will be the title of the volume, which the author of "Cheerful Americans" is now preparing for his publisher, James Pott. When the last t is crossed and the last comma marked in, Mr. Loomis will sail for England to visit Jerome K. Jerome, with whom he gave a series of readings through the United States last winter.

The late L. F. Austin has something to say in his "Points of View," issued from the Bodley Head, New York, by the John Lane Company, upon the spelling reform movement which has enlisted the enthusiastic services of Professor Brander Matthews. "He is fond," says Mr. Austin, "of dwelling on the advantages of the short cut, on simplifications, bitterly opposed by 'linguistic Tories.' Are we 'linguistic Tories' if we decline to write crisises as the plural of crisis? Mr. Matthews admits that the word has an unpleasant, hissing sound. He taunts the people who, if they dared, would like to write omnibi. I should like to write omnibi, but it is too late. I acquiesce gracefully in the use of omnibuses, but rather than yield to 'buses I will shed the last drop of my blood. Perhaps Mr. Matthews has lectured at Columbia University on the felicitous embellishment of our mother tongue by the celebrated song ''E Dunno Where 'e Are.' It is a pleasant illustration of one of his principles, but how does it harmonize with crisises?"

When Daniel H. Burnham first put forth his plans for a more beautiful San Francisco, an authoritative statement from him was printed in "The Craftsman" under the title of "Building a New City." At that time the article was prophetic and the plans were merely tentative. The destruction of the city has given a vital interest to the ideas of the architect, which the editors have recognized by reprinting the paper in the current number of the magazine, together with the illustrations, showing the entire scheme of rebuilding, and also with maps of the city "before and after."

Three English authors in the religious field are to be in America this summer and next fall. Dr. G. Campbell Morgan will occupy the pulpit at the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York, in addition to his Northfield work; Dr. W. L. Watkinson is to lecture at various seminaries and churches in the Middle and Eastern States, and Gipsy Smith, the evangelist, will lecture at conferences, assemblies and churches on a wider tour.

The sermons on the Ten Commandments by the late Rev. E. A. Washburn, sometime rector of Calvary Church, New York, have been brought out in a new edition by Thomas Whittaker, with the title "The Social Laws of God."

A new portrait of Dr. Horace Howard Furness, the well known Shakespearian scholar, has lately been completed by Joseph de Camp, and will be hung in the gallery of national portraiture of the Pennsylvania Academy. The picture is a three-quarter length, showing Dr. Furness seated at his desk in his library, which contains his unique collection of the various editions of the plays of Shakespeare, portraits, busts, death masks and relics pertaining to Shakespearian study. In the portrait Dr. Furness wears a brilliant crimson academic gown.

The Rev. William E. Addis's "Hebrew Religion to the Establishment of Judaism Under Ezra," which G. P. Putnam's Sons are publishing as one of the "Crown Theological Library," is a brief historical study of the religion of the Jews from the earliest times on well into the fourth century B. C. The book aims to bring home to the reader the attractive power of the Old Testament as a classical expression of truths which have exercised an immense influence upon the life of man.

A feature of the Amherst College commencement last week was the presentation to Professor Charles E. Garman of a volume of "Studies in Philosophy and Psychology," published by thirteen of his former students who have taught or written on these lines since graduation. The volume commemorates Professor Garman's twenty-fifth year as teacher of philosophy in Amherst, and is a form of tribute which is much more common in Germany than in this country. It is edited by Professors Tufts, Delabarre, Sharp, Pierce and Woodbridge. While some of the contributions appeal primarily to specialists others, notably those of Professor Wilcox on the expansion of Europe, Professor Pierce on the subconscious and of R. A. Woods on Democracy, are of interest to the general reader. The book will appear on the autumn list of Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

Mark Twain's new story, "A Horse's Tale," will be published as a short serial in "Harper's Magazine" before being brought out in book form. A part of the narrative is told by the horse.

Professor Henry A. Beers's "English Romanticism in the Eighteenth Century," published by Henry Holt & Co., has just gone into a fifth edition, and has simultaneously been republished in England.

The next volume to appear in Macmillan's "Highways and Byways" series will be Sir Frederick Treves's "Dorset," with many illustrations by Joseph Pennell. "The County of Dorset is small," says the author, "but is yet so varied in its configuration as to present an epitome of the scenery of Southern England. It is a land of moods and changes, that knows no monotony, and is, indeed, so full of hills and dales that there is scarcely a level road within its confines, save by the banks of the streams."

"Enoch Stone" and "A Sleeping Memory," two of the earlier novels of E. Phillips Oppenheim, which have not hitherto been published in this country, will be brought out in American editions in the fall by Little, Brown & Co.

The neglect which has been accorded to frogs and toads by writers on nature topics is soon to be remedied by Mary C. Dickerson, whose "Frog Book" is listed by Doubleday, Page & Co. for early publication. It is said to be the first important and complete work on the subject that has yet been prepared. It will be illustrated with three hundred half-tone reproductions of photographs made by the author of various batrachian subjects, and sixteen color plates.

A new book in the Bodley Head series of "Handbooks of Practical Gardening" will be called "The Book of Rarer Vegetables." It is by George Wythes, V. M. H., who treats of vegetables that are not "rare" in the collector's sense of the word, but in that they are rarely used for food, although admirably adapted to give welcome variety to the conventional family bill of fare. Among the varieties not ordinarily familiar, whose delicacies fail of appreciation by not being known to the housekeeper, may be mentioned Chou de Burghley, Good King Henry, Patience, Rampion, Scolymus, Skirret, Soy Beans and Sweet Cicely. The book is to be fully illustrated from photographs and drawings.

The author of the novel "On the Face of the Waters" is writing a new story dealing with mediæval India.

Mr. Richard Bagot will bring out a new novel presently. "Cartouche" is the title of Mr. Bernard Capes's forthcoming story. Mr. W. B. Maxwell—who, if he goes on as he has begun, will produce as many novels as his mother, Mrs. Braddon-Maxwell, did—is to bring out a new one called "The Guarded Flame."

THOMAS HARDY, ARCHITECT.

He Reads a Paper on Church Restoration.

From The London Academy.

"Who's Who" tells us that Mr. Thomas Hardy "relinquished architecture for literature," but that he has not forgotten his first love was shown by an interesting paper on church restoration, written by him for the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, and read by a deputy at the general meeting on Wednesday. He is a great advocate of the policy of "masterly inaction," which was pursued with such success by an apathetic century now past, and states that were he practising as an architect he would not undertake a church restoration in any circumstances. Of the more open abuses in so-called restoration he told many tales, among them the following:

"The chancel of a church not a hundred and fifty miles from London has in one corner a vault containing a fashionable actor and his wife, in another corner a vault inclosing the remains of a former venerable vicar, who abjured women and died a bachelor. The mural tablets, each over its own vault, were taken down at the refurbishing of the building, and refixed reversely, the stone of the theatrical couple over the solitary divine, and that of the latter over the pair from the stage. Should disinterment ever take place, which is not unlikely nowadays, the excavators will be surprised to find a lady beside the supposed reverend bachelor, and the supposed actor without his wife. As the latter was a comedian he would probably enjoy the situation if he could know it, though the vicar's feelings might be somewhat different."

"Such facetious carelessness," Mr. Hardy added, "is not peculiar to our own country. It may be remembered that when Mrs. Shelley wished to exhume her little boy William, who had been buried in the English cemetery at Rome, with the view of placing his body beside his father's ashes, no coffin was found beneath the boy's headstone, and she could not carry out her affectionate wish. This game of monumental puss-in-the-corner, even when the outcome of no blundering, and where no reasons can be pleaded on artistic or other grounds, is, indeed, an unpleasant subject of contemplation by those who maintain the inviolability of records. Instances of such in London churches will occur to everybody. One would like to know if any note has been kept of the original position of Milton's monument in Cripplegate Church, which has been moved more than once, I believe, and if the position of his rifled grave is now known. When I first saw the monument it stood near the east end of the south aisle."

Mr. Hardy quoted Sherborne Abbey as an example on a large scale of the banishment of memorials of the dead, to the doubtful advantage of the living. The human interest in an edifice ranks before its architectural interest, however great the latter may be, and therein lies the whole difficulty of restoration. The ideal method, he thinks, would be to inclose the ruined church in a crystal palace, covering it to the weathercock from rain and wind, and to build a new church alongside. "But," he adds, "even a parish entirely composed of opulent members of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings would be staggered by such an undertaking." The only example of such a work that we can recall is the wooden house of Peter the Great, on the island of the Citadel of St. Petersburg, which Catherine II inclosed in stone, but that is on a comparatively small scale.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

BIOGRAPHY.

THE MEMOIRS OF THE LORD OF JOINVILLE. A New English Version. By Ethel Wedgwood. Illustrated. 12mo, pp. xvi, 408. (E. P. Dutton & Co.)

Chronicles of John, Lord of Joinville, hereditary Seneschal of Champagne and head of a family of Crusaders; translated from Francisque Michel's edition of the fourteenth century manuscript.

THE LIFE OF JOHN WILLIAM WALSHE, F. S. A. Edited, with an Introduction, by Montgomery Carmichael. 12mo, pp. xviii, 266. (E. P. Dutton & Co.)

The story of a saintly life.

WALT WHITMAN: A Study. By John Addington Symonds. 16mo, pp. 160. (E. P. Dutton & Co.)

In "The New Universal Library."

DRAMA.

THE POISONERS; OR, AS 'TWAS DONE IN ITALY. A Tragedy. By Edwin Sauter. 16mo, pp. vi, 71. (St. Louis: Published by the author.)

FICTION.

THE AWAKENING OF HELENA RICHIE. By Margaret Deland. Illustrated by Walter Appleton Clark. 12mo, pp. 356. (Harper & Bros.)

The romance of a newcomer to Old Chester, in which we meet several of the characters from Mrs. Deland's earlier books.

A BENEDICK IN ARCADY. By Halliwell Sutcliffe. 12mo, pp. vii, 343. (E. P. Dutton & Co.)

A comedy of English country life.

THE KING'S REVOKE. An Episode in the Life of Patrick Dillon. By Margaret L. Woods. 12mo, pp. 334. (E. P. Dutton & Co.)

A romance of Spain in the time of Ferdinand VII.

HISTORY.

SLAVERY AND ABOLITION, 1831-'41. By Albert Bushnell Hart. With maps. 8vo, pp. xiv, 360. (Harper & Bros.)

Volume XVI in "The American Nation."

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE QUEST OF THE GERM; WITH OBSERVATIONS THEREANENT. By Eugene H. Wood, A. M., M. D. 8vo, pp. v, 229. (Milwaukee: Published by the author.)

ESSAYS IN THE MAKING. By Eustace Miles, M. A. 12mo, pp. xiii, 161. (E. P. Dutton & Co.)

Practical hints for the young writer.

FOIBLES OF THE BENCH. By Henry S. Wilcox. 12mo, pp. 144. (Chicago: Legal Literature Company.)

TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE. By W. W. Rouse Ball. Illustrated by Edmund H. New. 16mo, pp. xiii, 107. (E. P. Dutton & Co.)

The first issue in a new series, appearing under the general title of "The College Monographs," edited and illustrated by Edmund H. New. The series will include "St. John's College," "Magdalen College," "New College," and so on through the universities of Great Britain. Besides descriptions of the main buildings and their histories, there are glimpses of collegiate life and customs and records of distinguished graduates.

NATURE STUDY.

THE DOG BOOK. A Popular History of the Dog, with Practical Information as to Care and Management of House, Kennel and Exhibition Dogs; with Descriptions of all the Important Breeds. By James Watson. In ten parts. Illustrated. Part VIII. 4to, pp. viii, 68. (Doubleday, Page & Co.)

This volume is devoted to the Great Dane, Mastiff, St. Bernard and Newfoundland breeds.

POETRY.

OUR FLAG, OUR ROSE AND OUR COUNTRY, AND OTHER SONGS. By John McDowell Leavitt. 16mo, pp. 93. (Bonnell, Silver & Co.)

RADIA; OR, NEW LIGHT ON OLD TRUTHS. By Alex C. Mere. 12mo, pp. 188. (London: Elliot Stock.)

Verse on religious themes.

DAYS AND DEEDS: A Book of Verse for Children's Reading and Speaking. Compiled by Burton E. Stevenson and Elizabeth B. Stevenson. 12mo, pp. xix, 399. (The Baker & Taylor Company.)

REPRINTS.

PANAMA PATCHWORK: Poems. By James Stanley Gilbert. Third Edition, with a New Foreword by Tracy Robinson. 12mo, pp. xxii, 170. (Robert Grier Cooke.)

TRAVEL AND TOPOGRAPHY.

PICTURESQUE BRITTANY: Mrs. Arthur G. Bell. With illustrations in color by Arthur G. Bell. 8vo, pp. ix, 232. (E. P. Dutton & Co.)

The illustrations, reproduced in color from water color drawings, are an interesting feature of this volume.

TRAVELS IN THE FAR WEST, 1836-'41: By Edmund Flagg and Father Pierre Jean de Smet, S. J. Edited with Notes, Introduction and Index by Reuben Gold Thwaites, LL. D. With Map. 8vo, pp. 370. (Cleveland: The Arthur H. Clark Company.)

Containing Flagg's account of "The Far West; or, a Tour Beyond the Mountains," and Father De Smet's "Letters and Sketches, with a Narrative of a Year's Residence Among the Indian Tribes of the Rocky Mountains." The volume is issued as a separate publication from "Early Western Travels," in which series it appeared as Volume XXVI.

"OVERING" NAPOLEON.

The Incautious Trick of a Playful Artist.

Andrew Lang, in The Illustrated London News.

It was lately (January 6) asked in this column whether Charles Lever, in "Charles O'Malley," invented the story about a young fellow "overing" Napoleon in the manner of leapfrog, when he came on the hero in the attitude appropriate to that pastime, his back to the young fellow, his arms crossed, and his head bowed? Or did Lever take the incident from the story told by the Duchesse d'Abrantès, to the effect that the painter Isabey actually "overed" Napoleon, not recognizing him?

A correspondent writes that the author of "The Journal of a Nobleman" (1831) says that he met Isabey at Vienna (1815) and saw a portrait by him of Napoleon walking with his arms crossed. He asked Isabey whether the hero was accustomed to stroll in that attitude?

"Unquestionably," said Isabey, "and that, together with his other habit of stooping his head, at one time almost proved fatal to me." He then said, and here his version varies from that of the duchesse, that, after a dinner with one of Napoleon's aides-de-camp, at Malmaison, they all went into the gardens and played leapfrog. After "overing" several men, Isabey saw another, in the proper attitude, at the end of an avenue. He took his run, missed his take-off, and instead of clearing the man lighted on his neck, knocked him down and rolled over with him for a distance of ten yards. Napoleon arose, foaming with rage, and drew his sword! Isabey sprinted, the conqueror after him, sword in hand. A ditch barred the way. Isabey took it in his stride; the Emperor, or, rather, the First Consul, craned at the ditch, and Isabey hurried to Paris and put himself at the mercy of Josephine. She soothed her lord, who at first had commanded Isabey never to appear at the Tuileries again. When he was at last admitted Napoleon patted him on the cheek, and said, "Really, sir, if people will play tricks, they ought at least to do them cleverly." The story is better than that of the duchesse, who makes the incident occur, not during a game of leapfrog in the open air (as in fact, and in Lever's book), but in the house. Lever probably took the story from "The Journal of a Nobleman," and Mme. d'Abrantès forgot the true details. Memoirs written long after the event are almost always most untrustworthy materials.

Books and Publications. | Books and Publications. | Books and Publications.

SOME CRITICS ARE FINDING FAULT WITH CONISTON FOR NOT BEING OTHER THAN IT IS. SO OF OLD CAPTIOUS CRITICS FOUND FAULT WITH THACKERAY, AND EVERY MASTER WRITER OF HIS TIME HAS SUFFERED FROM ATTACKS INSPIRED BY ENVY.

CONISTON

"Is a Great, Perhaps the Greatest, Novel of Its Time."

See what the leading journals say:

The Chicago Record-Herald:

"Coniston has a lighter, gayer spirit, and a deeper, tenderer touch than Mr. Churchill has ever achieved before. . . . It is one of the finest and truest transcripts of modern American life thus far achieved in our fiction."

The Evening Telegraph, Philadelphia:

"A synopsis of 'Coniston' conveys nothing of its vigor and color. . . . The book must be read. Then it will be realized how finely Mr. Churchill has wrought and what a notable addition he has contributed to American fiction."

The Chicago Tribune:

"Coniston is a thoroughly characteristic American novel, with the poise, the importance, the variety and ideals which place it among the small company of the best."

The Boston Herald:

"Coniston possesses the irresistible grip on the emotions possessed by the great novelists."

The Evening Post, New York:

"Mr. Churchill sees broadly. His grasp is as big as Hall Caine's. . . . In these respects he may fitly be compared with Thackeray."

CONISTON

Cloth, illustrated, is published at $1.50 by

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY 64-66 FIFTH AVE. N. Y.

"A feat that makes one wonder if in future years the quiet little English woman . . . may not be recognized as a new Jane Austen."—The Sun.

"Material which Miss Sinclair knows how to handle as few others do, mistress as she is of a certain sense of proportion which is the father of all humor and mental sanity."—Times.

"In saying that it is worthy of the author of so fine a novel as 'The Divine Fire' one gives the sketch the praise which it deserves for itself."—Providence Journal.

SUPERSEDED By the Author of THE DIVINE FIRE $1.25

HENRY HOLT AND COMPANY 29 West 23d St. NEW YORK.

Rare Books and Prints in Europe.

FOREIGN BOOKS.

For the information of Tribune readers who answer the advertisements of the London Book Shops in The Tribune, the mode of ordering books from abroad is practically the same as in this country. Inclose foreign money order or exchange instead of check.

Books may be ordered by mail and the duty paid to the Post Office Department on delivery. Catalogues will be sent free on request.

Sabin, (Frank T.) 118, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W. CHOICE ENGRAVINGS (Mezzotints, Colour Prints, Americana, &c.), FINE AND RARE BOOKS, VALUABLE AUTOGRAPHS, &c.

"ALL-OUT-OF-PRINT BOOKS" WRITE ME, can get you any book ever published on any subject. The most expert book finder extant. When in England call and see my 500,000 rare books. BAKER'S GREAT BOOK SHOP, John Bright St., Birmingham.