ume have been uncommonly well chosen, and we greatly appreciate the manner in which they are made to exhibit the artist's evolution from a topographical draftsman to a creative master.

Two or three manuals which we have recently received deserve cordial commendation. Professor Frothingham's work on "The Monuments of Christian Rome" is both scholarly and entertaining. The insertion of paragraph headings in black faced type is a little forbidding, suggesting the guide book and a scrappy assembling of data, but, in the first place, it indubitably makes for convenience, and, what is more, the reader who once takes the narrative in hand finds that it moves smoothly enough. The author gives the first part of his book to an historical sketch of the period from Constantine to the Renaissance. In the second section he draws up a classification of the monuments, including some exceptionally interesting pages on Roman artists and the conditions of their world. The more formal part of the book closely consults the convenience of the student, but it is not too technical for the edification of the layman. The latter will find the historical sketch as readable as it is instructive. He will peculiarly appreciate the glimpses afforded him of the successive pontificates and the notes on social relations, like the following on the practical enslavement of the artist:

No man could follow an art unless he belonged to his union. Once a member of it, he could not leave it till he died. Nor could he leave the city where he had matriculated. His son was bound to follow the art of his father, who was also his teacher. Each corporation was a distinct wheel in the imperial organism, a state within a state, but subject absolutely to the control of the imperial administration. This went to the extent of forcing each corporation to give to the state as much free labor and free material as was required for the construction, decoration and repair of all public buildings.

The second volume of Professor Carotti's "History of Art" treats of the early Christian monuments, Byzantine, Arabian and Indian architecture, and then the Romanesque and Gothic developments in Europe. He is a luminous commentator, packing all the essentials into his wonderfully condensed chapters, and his book has an admirable feature in the list of examples which he affixes to each section. The bibliography, too, is a boon by itself, and the miniature illustrations are very good. Altogether this is one of the most creditable of the concise handbooks of which the presses have latterly been so prolific. The new edition of Professor Huelsen's "Roman Forum" invites favorable notice. This guide has proved really practicable and helpful, and it is so well illustrated that it may be studied with enjoyment not only in Rome but elsewhere. Sterling merit has also carried the late William J. Anderson's "Architecture of the Renaissance in Italy" into a new edition, the fourth. We have more than once testified to the soundness of this treatise and the attractive manner in which it is composed. It reappears with certain trifling revisions and with a greatly augmented mass of illustrations. The beautiful fullpage plates have been increased in number, and there are other new reproductions from photographs, as well as new drawings.

Allusion may appropriately be made here to the publication of the second and third portfolios issued by the Société de Reproductions des Dessins de Maîtres, in Paris. They show, like the first, that the committee is nothing if not catholic in its taste. In the sheaf of ten drawings now issued Masaccio jostles Boucher, Corot and Delacroix keep company with Dürer, Guardi and Rembrandt, and an anonymous draftsman of the sixteenth century in Persia is exhibited side by side with an equally mysterious personality who was a member of the Burgundian or Flemish school at an earlier date. The specimens selected are all of high interest, and they have been superbly reproduced. Already this new society shows that with experience it can do better work. The notes are fuller and more interesting. From this Parisian source, as from its London prototype, the Vasari Society, it is plain that we are to have some of the most precious documents contributing to our knowledge of the old masters.

THE LADY WITH THE MANTILLA.

(From the painting by Velasquez now called by Senor Beruete a portrait of that master's daughter by her husband, Mazo.)

MODERN EUROPE.

Chapters on a Crucial Stage in Its Development.

THE CAMBRIDGE MODERN HISTORY. Planned by the late Lord Acton, LL. D. Edited by A. W. Ward, G. W. Prothero and Stanley Leathes, M. A. Vol. XI. The Growth of Nationalities. 4to, pp. xxxix, 1,042. The Macmillan Company.

The monumental work planned by the late Lord Acton and executed by the leading historical scholars of the time is approaching a final stage. The eleventh and penultimate volume embraces roughly the quarter century between the revolutionary movements of 1848 and the accomplishment of German unity—a period of such formative activity as to have earned for the volume the descriptive title "The Growth of Nationalities." In this period the great constructive work of Cavour and of Bismarck was mainly accomplished, England's economic policy was revolutionized and her colonial expansion enormously promoted, Napoleon III ran his course, the Crimean and the Franco-German wars took place and the Far East came into contact with Western ideas. Topics such as these are of vast extent and variety, and they can be treated within the limits of a single volume only by the severest restraint and compression. The history is encyclopædic in scope, and, being frankly a work of reference, is not to be judged as a homogeneous whole by a single hand. Nearly thirty authors, representing numerous nationalities, have contributed chapters or portions of chapters, and occasionally there is slight confusion, as when an allusion to "our literary history" refers to French literary history because a Frenchman happened to write that particular chapter, although an English author does not hesitate to put the French indemnity into pounds sterling.

Among the notable chapters are those upon the new colonial policy of Great Britain which endowed some of the colonies with self-government and established a system of imperial relations unknown to previous history. We have a rapid sketch of the growth of the burdens entailed by these costly establishments with the first intimations that as they were becoming useless encumbrances it might be wise to prepare them for independence. The Tory idea of retention of the colonies at any cost, the Whig idea of political liberty with commercial control, the free trade idea of commercial freedom, all mingled together. In the end the question was not settled on purely economic grounds, but upon lines inspired by idealism. Earl Grey, regarding the matter from its imperial aspect, declared that though England profited morally and materially by retaining the colonies, yet the latter gained so much from her that the necessity of retaining them was a matter of duty and obligation; and Lord Elgin, looking to the more purely colonial aspect, saw the future possibility of a union from which both parties might derive benefit. There follows an account of the confederation of Canada, with due credit to the labors of Sir John Macdonald and Sir Charles Tupper. The fact is noted that the former suggested that the united provinces be called the Kingdom of Canada, and that the Dominion was substituted by Lord Derby out of consideration for the political susceptibilities of the United States. The survey of English and Dutch in South Africa is from the well known pen of A. R. Colquhoun, a writer whose poise and balance and sympathy with progress are such that the reader may regret that the limitations of his subject did not permit him to continue his survey up to the Boer war.

Sir Ernest Satow, whose profound scholarship and long service in the Eastern capitals admirably qualify him for the task, contributes the two pithy chapters on China and Japan, while India and Afghanistan fall to Sir W. Lee-Warner, member of the Council of India. Of the strictly political portions of the work the pages from the pen of the late Professor Masi, of the University of Florence, are distinguished by their fairness, their clarity and their breadth of vision, while to the capable hands of Albert Thomas, of the University of Paris, and G. Roloff, of the University of Berlin, is assigned the difficult task of preparing an impartial summing up of Napoleon III's regime and Bismarck's achievement of German unification, respectively. The literary history of the period is discussed with brevity and decision by such competent scholars as Professor Emile Bourgeois, Professor Walker, of Balliol, and Edmund Gosse.

No such comprehensive work of history making has ever before been undertaken and conducted with consummate skill and labor until the attainment of its appointed end. The bibliography of the period is almost a volume by itself, and the whole work is a tribute to the high ideals of modern scholarship and its fidelity to the loftiest patriotism and its devotion to justice and truth.

A PHILOSOPHER IN MEDITATION.

(From the drawing by Rembrandt.)

G. A. SALA AND FRENCH COOKERY.

From The Liverpool Courier.

Some years ago Mr. Sala went to Paris on behalf of "The Daily Telegraph" to write on the subject of French cooking and French restaurants. Such praise of Parisian kickshaws was never lavished before, and the extolling, to the complete discomfiture of English cooks, lasted for fully six weeks. Everything in the cooking line in Paris was grand; everything in England in the same line was horrible. At the end of the six weeks Mr. Sala returned to London, went immediately to the Cheshire Cheese, in Fleet street, and said to the head waiter: "William, bring me a beefsteak, some potatoes in their jackets, and a pint of ale. I've had nothing to eat for six weeks."

READING MASKS.

From The London Chronicle.

The "Book Monthly" passes on a warning to the researchers among old volumes. It has been discovered that the ancient volume over which the researcher pores is full of germs, and you should not face the tome without a silk and wire mask to fit over the mouth and nose. Otherwise, the reader, as Hood wrote, will "find more dust within the heap than he'd contracted for." The reading mask is in use in Paris. But one awaits the fashion plate which will encourage the ladies at the British Museum with a really fascinating mask. It should be nothing like the disguise of the motorist.

LITERARY NOTES.

An autobiography left by Sir Henry M. Stanley is to be brought out presently by his widow. It is announced with some blowing of trumpets as "an intimate picture of his inner life." Stanley was not a great man, but his autobiography may perhaps be worth reading.

One writer, at least, is recognized as a prophet in his own country. Mr. Thomas Hardy's neighbors in his native Dorchester carry their enthusiasm for him so far as to perform in public scenes from his portentous drama, "The Dynasts." Admiration could no further go.

Mr. J. C. Francis, the publisher of that delightful old journal, "Notes and Queries," has just brought out a volume of amusing reminiscences. One of his quotations records the editorial rejection of Campbell's "Hohenlinden" by the "Greenock Advertiser." It runs thus:

T. C.—The lines commencing "On Linden, when the sun was low," are not up to our standard. Poetry is evidently not T. C.'s forte.

Mr. Francis includes in his book a memoir of Joseph Knight, the distinguished dramatic critic, a self-educated Yorkshireman of notable ability. He was one of the intimates of Rossetti and wrote a biography of that poet-painter. Concerning this work William Rossetti remembers that his wife collected some letters for the use of the biographer: "She handed the bundle over to Knight, including a letter by Gabriel to one Brown (Ford Madox?). In this Gabriel cautioned Brown not to mention some particular detail to Knight, he being 'an awful old gossip.'" "Knight," says W. M. Rossetti, "read the letter in my wife's presence, and my wife then returned it to me, both laughing and confused."

"A Book of Precious Stones" is the title of an account of the scientific, commercial, artistic and historical aspects of gems which has been prepared by Mr. Julius Wodiska, a practical jeweller. One specially interesting chapter deals with collections of gems in museums. The Putnams will publish the volume in the autumn. Another book which this firm will bring out about the same time is "The Bright Fortune," by Mrs. Wilfrid Ward.

There are not so many books on Spain as to make new ones unwelcome. The "Secret History of the Court of Spain, 1802-1906," by the late Rachel Challice, which was announced the other day, is of a period full of dramatic episodes. It is to contain rare historical illustrations. Among them will probably be one which is familiar to the student of Goya—his portrait group of Queen Maria Luisa and her family. It is a collection of particularly unpleasant visages.

"Spain: A Study of Her Life and Arts" is the title of a work in which Mr. Royall Tyler has undertaken "to give some account of the various schools of art which are represented by existing monuments in Spain, and of the manner of their adoption."

A new book by that indefatigable essayist Vernon Lee has just been announced. It bears the title of "Laurus Nobilis: Essays on Art and Life."

The legend that in his early days the late George Meredith was so poor that he invested all his funds in a sack of oatmeal, subsisting thereon while he wrote "Evan Harrington," is denied by Mr. J. A. Hammerton in his book "George Meredith in Anecdote and Criticism." One part of that picturesque if baseless story was to the effect that the novelist was not able to buy fuel and was accustomed to carry the bag of oatmeal across the room to keep himself warm.

Mr. Meredith's will leaves to his two children property to the amount of nearly $161,000. He left his "household and personal effects and all manuscripts, whether prose or verse, to his said son and daughter in equal shares, and the residue of his property as to one-half upon trust for his son, William Maxse Meredith, for life, with remainder to his wife, Margaret (Daisy) Meredith, for life, and ultimate remainder to the children of his said son, whom failing, to follow the trusts of the other half, which he left upon trust to his daughter, Mrs. Marie Eveleen Sturgis, for life, with remainder to her issue."

Charles Dickens, it is recorded, left an estate of nearly half a million dollars. Most of this seems to have been spent, if we may judge by the fortunes of some of his grandchildren.

The influence of France on English letters under the Tudors is dealt with in Mr. Sidney Lee's book, "The French Renaissance in England." The material is expanded from his recent Oxford lectures. The volume will be published in the autumn.

The innovation of pronouncing Shakespeare's words as they were probably pronounced in his own day has been carried out at a fête arranged at University College, London. The experiment inspires this comment by the Manchester "Guardian":

For "one touch of nature" Shakespeare probably said "own tooch of natter," and, very much like a modern Irishman, he would say, "A haste that wants discoorse of rayson." It would be "Loov's Labber's Lost" and the "Midsoommer Neecht's Draime." Scraps of "Hamlet" would sound thus:

"A haste that wants discoorse of rayson
Would haave moorned longer."
"Be they as pure [French u] as grass [grace]."
"A broken vooice and his whole foonction shooting [suiting]
With forms to his consayt."
"To take arms against a say of troobles."

Our ancestors of even some one hundred and fifty years ago said "Room" for Rome, "cheer" for chair, "obleeged" for obliged, "greet boul" (the "ou" as in "out") for "great bowl," and, further back, Milton would say "biling water."

A large number of illustrations will be found in the forthcoming book on "Country Residences in Europe and America," by Mr. L. V. Le Moyne. The villas and chateaus of Italy and France, the castles and manor houses of England, and the most effective country houses on this side of the ocean have all been drawn upon for the purposes of this volume. The author has endeavored to show how the later buildings were developed from the earlier ones.

The writer known as George Paston—Miss E. M. Symonds—is said to have discovered a considerable number of hitherto unpublished letters from the pen of Alexander Pope. Some of these will be printed in full in her book which is to be published soon under the title of "Mr. Pope: A Chronicle of His Life and Work."