illustrations in photogravure, color and halftone. It appears under the editorship of Arthur W. Coaten.

"The Renaissance Library" is the title of a series of volumes, printed for the booklover in a limited edition, which the Putnams are issuing in this country. A new font of Jenson type has been made for the series, which is being luxuriously manufactured in all its details. The "Hero and Leander" of Christopher Marlowe and George Chapman fills the first volume, and the two following are given to "Le Poesie di Lorenzo de Medici," edited by Janet Ross and Edward Hutton. Mr. Hutton is the general editor of this "Library," which will be devoted to works of the Renaissance in England, Italy, France and Spain.

Bacon & Brown, of Boston, have just brought out a book on "Scotch-Irish Pioneers in Ulster and America," by Charles Knowles Bolton. It is a systematic history of the emigration from Ireland to America before the Revolution. A register of the home towns in Ireland, of Scotch, English and Irish families among these pioneers is included, and there are a number of maps.

To the series of anthologies published by the Macmillan Company, in which we noticed Mr. Lucas's "Second Post" the other day, there has been added a "Book of Friendship," with an introduction by Samuel McChord Crothers. The quotations in prose and verse have been skillfully selected from many sources and have been grouped with that judgment for which Mr. Lucas has set the standard in these anthologies. Dr. Crothers, always a beguiling essayist, is on this occasion a little more obvious than usual, but he is nevertheless pleasantly readable. The illustrations by Mr. W. T. Benda are gracefully drawn and are touched with the right sentiment.

A series of facsimiles of the great MSS. of old English literature will be issued by the Early English Text Society as a memorial to the late Dr. Furnivall. Dr. Gollancz has been appointed director of the society.

We find in the London "Outlook" the reprint of a letter in which Mrs. Montagu, the "Queen of the Bluestockings," gave to Mrs. Piozzi her opinion of the then just published "Life of Johnson" by Boswell. She is hard on Bozzy:

In the first place poor Mr. Boswell is very often in that condition in which men are said to see double, perhaps in such circumstances their hearing is so much disorder'd, and then what is still stronger objection to his testimony, he could hardly have had any motive for his publication, but that of making it the vehicle of censure and scandal, certainly it does not contain anything that could do honor to the memory of his deceased friend. Could it be with that intention he makes the doctor call King William a scoundrel? Whigs, knaves? Speak with such intolerance of the Kirk of Scotland? Such contempt of the learned and ingenious professors of the Universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh from whom we owe some of the works in various (sic) which this age has produc'd? Would any man who wish'd his friend to have the respect of posterity exhibit all his little caprices, his unhappy infirmities, his singularities? These are excus'd by friends and intimates whose feelings are softened by experience'd kindness, and demonstrated virtues, but they disgrace a character to a reader as warts and warts would do a statue, or portrait, to a spectator. May this new invented mode of disgracing the dead and calumniating the living perish with the short lived work of Master Boswell.

The "short-lived work of Master Boswell"!

The longest papyrus in the world is the "Harris papyrus," which is in the British Museum, which is 135 feet in length and which contains the history of the reign of Rameses III. The next longest in existence is the "Greenfield papyrus," and this has just been presented to the museum by Mrs. Greenfield. It is a magnificent copy of the Theban Book of the Dead, to which is added a collection of invocations, addresses and hymns to Amen-ra, the great god of Thebes. This papyrus, it is stated, was written for a princess who dwelt in Egypt between B. C. 1040-1000. The whole of the upper part is filled with vignettes drawn in black outlines. This papyrus was found at Der-al-behari in the last century.

Mr. Birrell has contributed an entertaining preface to Mr. Barry O'Brien's book on John Bright. Here is a passage on Bright as an angler:

Forty years ago all good Radicals believed that their favorite orator was also a famous angler—not in the lake of darkness, though many half pay colonels would have found no difficulty in believing that, but in the lochs and rivers of the United Kingdom. Salmon was said to be his noble quarry. Outwardly, there can be no doubt, Bright pursued this avocation. I myself once saw him at Taynuilt, marching down to the Awe, rod in hand, a sober yet (apparently) an effective figure. We all love the incongruous, and here, firmly imbedded in the Bright tradition, was the very note we love. Mr. O'Brien now comes along and quotes one of Mr. Bright's hosts in Scotland, where the great man was supposed to come "for the fishing":

"He (Bright) was very fond of fishing, but he knew nothing about it. He could never be persuaded to hold the rod properly. He used always to hold it straight out as a coachman holds a whip. He scarcely ever caught anything. But he enjoyed himself, standing on the bank of a river or sitting in a boat, waiting calmly. He liked solitaire."

Disraeli used to carry a pocket Æschuylus about with him wherever he went; yet, according to his admirer, Sir William Fraser, he could hardly read a line of Greek; and now we hear of Bright carrying a salmon rod about with him, yet, according to this authority, not knowing how to hold it. We shall be told next that Mr. Gladstone never really cut down a tree. I, for one, am not disposed to give up the fishing tradition without a struggle. Some people have absurdly high standards.

Mr. A. R. Dugmore has gone to Newfoundland to make his fifth annual attempt to photograph the migrating caribou. If he succeeds at last in capturing not these elusive creatures but their portraits a new book will probably be evolved from his adventures.

Another hunting author, Mr. Hesketh Prichard, has also designs on the caribou. He has been in Labrador, whither he went to study Indian life, the caribou migration and the annual caribou slaughter by the Indians.

Let it be remembered by travellers that nobody must soap a geyser. Mr. Clifton Johnson, in his new book on the Rocky Mountains, quotes a Yellowstone Park official on the evil effect of such playfulness: "If soap was thrown in, it seemed to stir 'em up and make 'em spout. The largest geyser in the Park was ruined by a dose of soap which a soldier gave it, and which resulted in its blowing to pieces. Then there was a Chinaman who had a laundry in a tent at the Upper Basin. He emptied his soapsuds where they ran into a geyser, and the geyser exploded after a while and blew up the fellow's tent."

A letter which Benjamin Franklin wrote on May 8, 1775, was sold the other day in London. He notes therein his arrival in Philadelphia, where, next morning, he was unanimously chosen by the General Assembly as delegate for the ensuing Congress. "You will have heard," he adds, "before this reaches you of the Commencement of a Civil War—the End of it perhaps neither myself nor you who are much younger may live to see. I find here all Ranks of People in Arms, disciplining themselves Morning and Evening, and am informed that the firmest Union prevails throughout North America: New York as hearty as the rest."

The reminiscences of Clara Novello (Countess Giglucci), who died in 1908 at the age of ninety, have just been published in England. We are told that she "surprised Liszt at his trick of breaking piano strings for his admirers to make bracelets of, and she waltzed to Chopin's playing. Lady Beaconsfield showed her the family jewels and her collection of curiosities, pieces of cord which had hung notorious criminals. Beaconsfield impressed her as always getting himself up to look like a caricature and as economizing in conversation his best things." The quaintest memory of this eminent singer brings Charles Lamb before us as he stopped the flow of her lovely song with, "Clara, don't make that d—d noise!" Miss Novello was the heroine of the sentimental musical novel, "Charles Auchester."

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THOUGHTS ON PREJUDICE

Andrew Lang and His Bias in Favor of Queen Mary.

From The London Morning Post.

An innocent remark by a critic that I "will, of course, deny" that I am "prejudiced rather in favor of than against Mary Queen of Scots" suggests some thoughts in favor of that much maligned mental condition—prejudice. It is a pleasant thing to study, in ourselves and others, and the result of my meditations is that prejudice, in the things of the intellect, is universal; everybody is beset on every side by prejudices; and that, if he has a sense of humor and a sense of honesty, a man is apt to be all the more just because of his prejudices and his knowledge that he is prejudiced. Only the humorless are so ignorant of themselves as to believe that they are entirely without bias and prepossession, while all who differ from them are the victims of bias of various kinds and degrees. We are all full of prepossessions, down to the prepossession against being prepossessed. This led an eminent historian, now dead, into curious errors of opinion; so difficult it is to do what people talk lightly of doing, to keep the mind "in a just balance." It is like trying to keep a chair balanced on its hind legs; sometimes you think for a moment that you have succeeded, but down it comes. Nothing is more certain to give an appearance of prejudice than a keen sense of fair play.

The history of England, and still more the history of Scotland, have usually been written by scholars whose prepossessions were in favor of the winning side, or, as they say, of the cause of freedom. In fact, of course, there is no such thing as freedom; for example, a Catholic procession through the streets of Westminster cannot be permitted, while all persons who are not Catholics may "demonstrate" as much as they please. There is always some power which will not allow equal freedom to everybody. Thus, the Covenanters very properly resisted the attempt of Charles I to force the Anglican religion on their consciences; but very improperly (and no less naturally) insisted that he must force Presbyterianism upon English consciences. All that side of things, the long persecutions carried on by the friends of freedom of conscience, is slurred over by most of our historians; not by Hallam, but few are so fair as Hallam. If a historian insists on revealing in ghastly detail the sins against liberty of the professed children of liberty he is said to be bitterly prejudiced. He is prejudiced in favor of fair play, of serving up with the Protestant goose the sauce usually reserved for the Catholic gander.

If I am told that I will deny that I have a prejudice—in favor of Queen Mary, for example—Nature necessarily awakes in me a bias toward saying—what happens to be perfectly true—that I am violently prejudiced in her favor, and know it. This was Sir Walter Scott's position. Invited to write a biography of the Queen he refused, saying that his sentiments were in opposition to his reason. He could have done the work admirably, but he was too chivalrous. Except when under Protestant prepossessions, or under the bias of revolt from the helpless partiality of the Queen's too strenuous partisans, every one is naturally on the side of a beautiful girl of eighteen, launched into a frenzied world without one true friend, with nothing but her charm and her feminine craft, daily insulted in her religion by the preachers and mob, deserted by greedy and selfish nobles, the butt of the concentrated hatred and complicated intrigues of Elizabeth and her Ministers. In four or five years they drove her out of her true nature into a course at last of guilt as desperate as it was, to her, distasteful. All my prejudices are in favor of finding her guiltless; but if a man knows well that he is prejudiced he is warned to be minutely careful in his study of evidence. To my own chagrin I discovered items of evidence against Mary, and refutation of arguments pointing strongly to the fact that she was the victim of forgeries—points which had not, to my knowledge, been observed by her modern accusers. This would not have happened had I not been conscious of prejudice in her favor and bent on mastering the prepossession. Writers who believe themselves to be unprejudiced have not this safeguard; they have no check, they let themselves go, and call their adversaries the victims of prepossession.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

ART.

A HISTORY OF JAPANESE COLOR PRINTS. By W. von Seidlitz. With illustrations in color and black and white. Translated by Anne Heard Dyer and Grace Tripler. 4to, pp. xvi, 207. (Philadelphia: The J. B. Lippincott Company.)

A provisional essay in the synthetic presentment of our knowledge of Japanese color printing, and a guide for those who are unfamiliar with this subject.

BIOGRAPHY.

EDISON: HIS LIFE AND INVENTIONS. By Frank Lewis Dyer and Thomas Commerford Martin. Illustrated. In two volumes. 8vo, pp. ix, 472; 515. (Harper & Bros.)

A great deal of this narrative is given in Mr. Edison's own language. It treats of his childhood, early manhood, and then of his creative period, covering a stretch of forty years. Some brief statements regarding his principal inventions are given in the appendix.

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF THOMAS COLLIER PLATT. With twenty portraits in sepia photogravure. Compiled and edited by Louis J. Lang, with addenda. 8vo, pp. xxiii, 556. (B. W. Dodge & Co.)

Memoirs of his boyhood, student days, and the fifty-three years spent in the political arena.

RECOLLECTIONS OF ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS. His diary kept when a prisoner at Fort Warren, Boston Harbor, 1865; giving incidents and reflections of his prison life and some letters and reminiscences. Edited, with a biographical study, by Myrta Lockett Avary. Frontispiece. 8vo, pp. xiii, 372. (Doubleday, Page & Co.)

In this diary the vice-president of the Confederacy sets forth his political creed, gives his estimate of the public men of his time, and states his views of Davis and Lincoln.

LEADING AMERICAN MEN OF SCIENCE. Edited by David Starr Jordan. With seventeen portraits. 8vo, pp. vii, 471. (Henry Holt & Co.)

Biographies and critical estimates of the work of seventeen scientists, among them Benjamin Thompson, Audubon, Louis Agassiz, E. D. Cope, J. D. Dana, Jeffries Wyman and Benjamin Silliman.

THE LIFE OF BENJAMIN DISRAELI, EARL OF BEACONSFIELD. By William Flavelle Monypenny. Volume I. 1804-1837. With portraits and illustrations. 8vo, pp. ix, 401. (The Macmillan Company.)

Tracing his ancestry, his youth, his career as an author and his entry into politics down to the time of his election to Parliament.

CHINA UNDER THE EMPRESS DOWAGER. Being the history of the life and times of Tzu Hsi. Compiled from state papers and the private diary of the Controller of Her Household. By J. O. P. Bland and E. Backhouse. Illustrated. 8vo, pp. xv, 525. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company.)

DRAMA.

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