

study at the hands of those interested in the bettering of our own public administration. For this purpose the book before us furnishes an excellent outline, which will make a good basis for more exhaustive research.

My Study, and Other Essays. By Austin Phelps, D.D.; Professor Emeritus in Andover Theological Seminary. Charles Scribner's Sons. 1886.

THIS is the sixth volume which Prof. Phelps has published within two or three years. It has the general character of his volume before this, 'My Portfolio,' which was lighter and brighter a good deal than the three preceding volumes. It is not strange that there should be such a demand for his writings in certain quarters as to justify such frequent publication. His theology is hard, but his heart is evidently kind. His style is always vigorous. He is opinionated and dogmatic, and he is livelier reading upon these accounts. Whatever his subject, he can manage incidentally to get in a good deal of homely common sense, and the clerical love of a good story is very strong in him. For some of his best stories he is indebted to Emerson, and they are therefore pleasantly familiar. He is more remarkable for the energy than for the accuracy of his literary work. Thus, on page 293, he quotes a considerable passage from Emerson as his description of the Pilgrims. He does not localize it, but it is taken from the essay on Shakspeare in 'Representative Men,' and it has no reference to the Pilgrims whatsoever. On page 200, we read of "William G. Burney, the 'Free Soil' candidate for the Presidency." James G. Birney, the Liberty Party candidate, is probably intended. On page 183 Emerson's description of the "Chardon Street Convention," at which he was a sympathetic looker-on, is disingenuously made to pass for a disparaging description of an anti-slavery meeting. On page 98 Emerson is represented as having said, "Damn George Washington!" in a public lecture, which, except in quotation marks, he could not have done. Wendell Phillips's "God damn the Commonwealth of Massachusetts!" is severely reprobated on page 202. But this is only because the Professor is trying to make out a case against the abolitionists. Elsewhere he leaves the oaths out of his stories with evident reluctance, and hints at secret riches of profanity, and on page 90, telling how the Rev. John Ryland was overwhelmed by the story of the "middle passage," and how "the cultured reverence of years gave way" and he "broke out into a volley of imprecations," he asks: "Can we find it in our hearts to blame him?" Perhaps not. But if not, Phillips's monosyllable should certainly be recommended to mercy in view of the extenuating circumstances of the case.

Prof. Phelps's papers that name his book give an interesting account of his study, the men who have occupied it, its habitual visitors, and the schemes of evangelical enterprise that have had their inception there. A series of papers upon "Retribution" is the most elaborate in the volume. Prof. Phelps would have his readers believe that he maintains the creed of Calvin and Edwards in its original force, but his doctrine of eternal punishment for eternal sin is something foreign to the traditional theology, which argued infinite penalty for infinite sin, and declared that all sin was infinite because it was against an infinite God. Prof. Phelps calls no names, but his article on "The Hypothesis of a Second Probation" is a thundering broadside into the "New Theology," the "Progressive Orthodoxy," so called, of Andover.

Two articles on "The New England Clergy and Anti-Slavery" are hardly less amusing than the most amusing chapters of 'The Innocents

Abroad.' Prof. Phelps contends that the New England evangelical clergy were anti-slavery almost without exception, and that if there had been no abolitionists, the clergy would have put an end to slavery in a way that would have been pleasant all around: in fact, slavery was gradually dying out when the abolitionists began their assault upon it. Webster's 7th of March speech is a sufficient answer to this nonsense, and the recent Garrison volumes to this and all the rest. Those volumes bring us to the year 1840, when abolitionism had attained its maximum growth as a special organization. The abolitionists "more hostile to Christianity than to tyranny" had not then appeared upon the scene. Garrison was still as orthodox as Prof. Phelps. His doctrine of the Sabbath represented a more strict adhesion to the Bible than that of the orthodox party generally. It was not the heresy or infidelity of the abolitionists that alienated the clergy: it was the apathy and timidity and sectarian zeal of the clergy that forced the abolitionists to appeal from the Christianity of the churches to the Christianity of Christ.

The German Soldier in the Wars of the United States. By J. G. Rosengarten. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. 12mo, pp. 175.

WHAT was originally a public lecture has here grown into a volume, after passing through several forms of publication. It contains a carefully compiled list of regiments and of officers of German birth who served on either side in the war of the Rebellion. This may be considered the chief purpose of the book, and will make it useful for reference. In addition to this, the author has gone back to the Old French War, the Revolution, and the Mexican War, and recorded the names of German soldiers, or those of German descent, who took part in them. A good many interesting facts are thus preserved, and some interesting problems are suggested, relating to the early ties between Germany and this country. When, however, the author classes as Germans Gen. Muhlenberg, who was born in Virginia in 1746, with many of the "Pennsylvania Germans" equally natives of the country; traces the Hunters of Kentucky to German *Jägers*, and claims Heintzelman, Custer, Schriver, Shiraz, Ammen, and Haupt, all graduates of West Point and of families native in the country for several generations, as soldiers of German descent, the extent of the claim becomes amusing. One asks, Why not claim the whole by going back to the Saxon invasion of England?

Thoughts. By Ivan Panin. Boston: Cupples, Upham & Co. 1886. Pp. 85.

AT the first glance one perceives that the writer before us is no Russian, at the second glance that he is no thinker: and one is inclined to draw one's pencil through the title as meaningless. But if one continued to mark out all that is meaningless in the volume every page would read "dele." The critic stays his hand, however, for a moment here and there to question introspectively. Thus: Thought 430: "Where I cannot be grateful, I can still be thankful." I cannot be grateful that I am reading this book; am I thankful?

195. "If silence is good for the wise, how much better is it for the foolish." Why, then, is not Ivan Panin silent?

84. "Tolerance saith, hate not those differing with you; Charity saith, hate not those differing from you." Am I intolerant or uncharitable— which?—toward Ivan Panin?

87. "Have patience with the foolish; even to the lot of geese it may befall to save a Capitol." What chance is there that Ivan Panin will save Washington?

94. "Sincere praise may be injudicious; sincere blame always is." How injudicious I am now forced to be!

279. "It detracts naught from the razor that it cannot cut a rock. Say not, therefore, this is false. Rather, see whether thou art not the rock." Am I a rock? Ivan Panin is not a razor. I may say, therefore, this is false.

Thus and so the poor critic questions himself, and turns to the public for sympathy in his perplexities.

The Russian Storm-Cloud; or, Russia in her Relations to Neighboring Countries. By Stepaniak, Author of 'Russia under the Tzars,' 'Underground Russia,' etc. [Franklin Square Library.] Harper & Brothers. 1886.

CONSPIRATORS who enter pseudonymously the arena of political and historical discussion enjoy special advantages. They are expected to know and partly to divulge secrets unknown to those who observe and discuss things and events merely as they appear on the surface, and they are, therefore, sure of being eagerly listened to by curious crowds. They can state facts and views with the positiveness of men of action esoterically initiated. They will not be asked for their authorities, for indicating them would be betraying the secrets of the conspiracy as well as the actors in it. They have, on similar grounds, the privilege of speaking vaguely, of veiling a part of an assertion, of using ambiguities. As champions of a cause which is not strong enough to cope with its opponents in the open, they are excused for being passionate, bitter, uncharitable—especially if the cause is one which can appeal to the liberal sentiments of the world, and its defenders are victims of cruel oppression and persecution. Stepaniak well knows these advantages, and profits by them without stint, though, to do him justice, without rashly abusing them. As we have repeatedly had occasion to say in these columns, in reviewing his former publications (see Nos. 945 and 1038 of the *Nation*), he is prone to color and exaggerate with the recklessness of a fanatical partisan and combatant, but not to invent and deceive. His 'Russia under the Tzars' seemed to us, in regard to the authenticity of its pictures, to fall somewhat below the level of the earlier 'Underground Russia'; the book before us, which consists of a medley of essays—almost all republished from journals—we deem superior in the same respect to both its predecessors.

And not in that respect alone. Stepaniak's main fault is not lack of veracity in expounding views and facts, but lack of seriousness in reading history—contemporaneous or past, Russian or foreign—and superficiality in drawing conclusions: and he has evidently improved a little as a revolutionary student and reasoner since he wrote the preceding publication, and even while preparing the present one for the press. Of the six essays contained in the latter, "The Russian Storm-Cloud" (from which the general title has very improperly been borrowed), "The Russian Army and its Commissariat" (a revolting picture of official corruption), "The Young Poland and Russian Revolution" (written in a pro-Polish spirit which reminds one of Hertzén), "Terrorism in Russia and Terrorism in Europe," "European Socialism and the Dynamite Epidemic," and "A Revolt or a Revolution?" the last shows the most evidences of reflection, doubt, and hesitation in judgment. Here we find broad admissions as to the intellectual advance of Russia under the last Alexander—admissions which belie a considerable portion of the invectives against the Government for its endeavors to stifle all intellectual development; an instance of self-restraint as an assailant in giving a hearing to a calm view—Leroy-Beaulieu's—of the situation in

the Empire of the Czars; and some attempt at balancing the probabilities and chances of the revolutionary movement, including lines like these:

"The Russian revolution must for a certain time be the work of a comparatively small group of men, surrounded by a crowd of irresolute sympathizers. They are quite sincere in their sympathy, often willing to give occasional help to the strugglers. But they have no faith in the possibility of success, and cannot, therefore, throw in their lot with the revolution. To inspire this faith in their hearts, and to convert them into actual supporters, the revolutionists must show their strength in deeds and not in words. The great difficulty is to organize a body sufficiently strong to initiate the insurrection and to keep the field for a certain time. If not suppressed the first day, there are great chances that the thousands and thousands who are now irresolute and hopeless would join the banner of insurrection, rendering it no longer subduable. There is nothing chimerical in such an expectation in countries brimful of disaffection, and history affords some instances of the success of similar attempts. The temptation to try them is, therefore, very great—I may say irresistible. Neither disappointment nor cruel reprisals can prevent their being renewed again and again. Provided latent discontent exist, there will be always people sufficiently bold and willing to risk their heads again and again for such a golden prize."

It is clear to him who compares statements like these with the tone of former Nihilistic utterances, and with the teachings of Russian history, that the late decline of the revolutionary cause—the result of systematically rigorous and ruthless repression—has had a somewhat sobering effect even upon so inveterate workers in subversion *à tout prix* as Stepniak, and that they must do a great deal of arguing to convince themselves that this enterprise is not chimerical. In doing this they confound fierce serf risings, political assassinations, and regicidal attempts, in which Russian history abounds, with real revolutionary movements, of which in the annals of the Russian Empire there is only one solitary instance, the speedily suppressed military rising at the accession of Czar Nicholas, in December, 1825. They paint the shocking ignorance, superstition, and corruption prevailing among the one hundred million subjects of the Romanoffs, as excrescences owing their existence to an accidentally developed monster, Czardom; destroy the latter by a few vigorous blows, and there will be a Russian millennium of freedom, fraternal harmony, and enlightenment. That Czardom may possibly be a many-headed hydra, drawing its life-blood from yet unsubdued native barbarism and intellectual and moral sloth, is not deemed

worth examination. Russian conquering aggressiveness is discussed in the same way: the ever-renewed "Russian cloud-storm" arises only from perturbations in the political atmosphere caused by the insatiable greed and restlessness of the Romanoffs; destroy them, and the Russian bear will hug in peace the Polish lamb, the Turkish ox, and the Afghan boar. The Jacobins, too, predicted that a reign of peace would spring from the blood of the Bourbons—just before they were silenced by the cannon of Bonaparte—and Most teaches that all misery and crime would vanish with the State and the police.

Memorials of Merton College. With Biographical Notices of the Wardens and Fellows. By the Hon. George C. Brodrick, Warden of Merton College. Oxford: The Clarendon Press; New York: Macmillan. 8vo, pp. 415.

MERTON COLLEGE, although at the present day less spoken of than several of its fellows, is historically the most important of all the colleges of Oxford. Its establishment in 1264 "constituted an entirely new departure in the academical history of the Middle Ages. Not only was it the archetype upon which all the collegiate foundations at Oxford were moulded, but the *regula Mertonensis* was expressly adopted as a model for the oldest college at Cambridge" (p. 12). The colleges of the two great English universities, with their noble architecture, their charming grounds, and their remarkable social and intellectual life, may all be said to have sprung from the creative mind of Walter de Merton. But not only does Merton College stand as the type of the English colleges, and its chapel as one of the most beautiful creations of Gothic architecture, but the student of industrial and economical history finds here also one of his chief sources of information. It was chiefly from the records of this oldest of corporations that Prof. Rogers obtained the materials for his great 'History of Agriculture and Prices.' Mr. Brodrick's history of Merton College forms the fourth volume of the publications of the Oxford Historical Society. The history is in five chapters, treating respectively of the time before the Reformation, the sixteenth century, the reigns of James I. and Charles I., the Commonwealth and restored monarchy, and the period since the Revolution of 1688. Part II. contains biographical notices of the Wardens and Fellows, while five appendices give valuable documents and additional data.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

- Annual Register: A Review of Public Events at Home and Abroad, for the Year 1885.* New Series. London: Rivingtons.
- Arnold, E. *India Revisited.* London: Tribner & Co.; Boston: Roberts Brothers. \$2.
- Barns, W. E. *The Labor Problem: Plain Questions and Practical Answers.* Harper & Bros.
- Chamberlain, B. H. *A Simplified Grammar of the Japanese Language.* London: Tribner & Co.
- Cruise of the Alabama.* Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 50 cents.
- De Pavetbrune, G. *Les Frères Colombe.* W. R. Jenkins.
- Dewey, T. H. *A Treatise on Contracts for Future Delivery and Commercial Wagers, Including "Options," "Futures," and "Short Sales."* Baker, Voorhis & Co. \$4.
- Dwight, J. *Lawn-Tennis.* Boston: Wright & Ditson.
- Fawcett, E. *Romance and Revery.* Boston: Ticknor & Co. \$1.50.
- Flint, D. A. sr. *Medicine of the Future: An Address Prepared for the Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association in 1886.* D. Appleton & Co.
- Forbes, S. R. *Rambles in Naples: An Archeological and Historical Guide.* T. Nelson & Sons.
- Fothergill, Dr. J. *A Manual of Dietetics.* William Wood & Co.
- Holmes, Dr. O. W. *The Guardian Angel.* Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 50 cents.
- Hunter, W. W. *The Indian Empire: Its People, History, and Products.* Second ed. London: Tribner & Co.
- Jones, D. A. *A Treatise on the Construction or Interpretation of Commercial or Trade Contracts.* Baker, Voorhis & Co. \$5.50.
- Justina. [No Name Series.] Boston: Roberts Brothers.
- Lee, W. Baldwin. *Being Dialogues on Views and Aspirations.* Boston: Roberts Brothers. \$2.
- Lillie, Lucy C. *The Story of Music and Musicians for Young Readers.* Harper & Bros.
- Milne, J. *Earthquakes and Other Earth Movements.* D. Appleton & Co.
- Mombert, Dr. J. I. *Great Lives: A Course of History in Biographies.* First Series. Boston: Leach, Shewell & Searborn.
- Morley, J. *Critical Miscellanies.* Vol. II. Macmillan & Co. \$1.50.
- Murray, D. C. *Cynic Fortune: A Tale of a Man with a Conscience.* Harper's Handy Series. 25 cents.
- Poor's Directory of Railway Officials and Railway Directors. H. V. & H. W. Poor.
- Rolf, W. J. *The Young People's Tennyson.* Boston: Ticknor & Co. 75 cents.
- Sheldon, Prof. Mary D. *Studies in General History.* Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. 85 cents.
- Talmage, Rev. T. de W. *New Tabernacle Sermons.* E. B. Treat. \$1.50.
- Tchernushevsky, N. G. *A Vital Question: What is to be Done?* Thomas Y. Crowell. \$1.75.
- Tchernushevsky, N. G. *What's to be Done? A Romance.* Boston: B. R. Tucker. \$1.
- Thackeray, W. M. *Vanity Fair.* 2 vols. \$1.
- The Death of Hewfik Pasha: A Confession.* Funk & Wagnalls. 80 cents.
- Tinsau, L. de. *Madame Villeferon jeune.* New York: Christern.
- Trehear, E. *The Arvan Maori.* London: Tribner & Co.
- Tyler, Sarah. *Buried Diamonds.* A Novel. Harper's Franklin Square Library. 20 cents.
- Tucker, Rev. H. W. *The English Church in Other Lands, or the Spiritual Expansion of England.* A. D. F. Randolph. 80 cents.
- Van Dyke, T. S. *Southern California.* Fords, Howard & Hulbert. \$1.50.
- Vofzard, E. *Etude sur la langue de Montaigne.* Boston: Schoenhof.
- Wade, W. P. *A Treatise on the Law of Notice as Affecting Civil Rights and Remedies.* 2d ed. Chicago: Callaghan & Co.
- Warden, Florence. *Doris's Fortune.* D. Appleton & Co. 25 cents.
- Wells, H. P. *The American Salmon Fisherman.* Illustrated. Harper & Bros.
- Westcombe, W. H. *The Irish Question and the Issues it Involves: A Letter to the Prime Minister.* Scribner & Welford.
- Wilkinson, H. S. *The Eve of Home Rule: The Impressions of Ireland in 1886.* London: Kegan Paul, Trench & Co. 50 cents.
- Wilson, J. G. *The Centennial History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of New York, 1785-1885.* D. Appleton & Co.
- Winter, J. S. *Pluck: A Novel.* Harper's Handy Series. 25 cents.

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