

The preliminary chapter gives the pedigree and the early life and military service of the author, filling out the narrative to greater completeness as an autobiography by this account of his lineage and his youth. The supplementary chapter has an independent historical value of much importance. In it General Sherman gives the facts relating to the quarrel between President Johnson and Secretary Stanton, with some very interesting evidence touching the relations of General Grant to the President. This strongly tends to prove that Grant sympathized with Johnson in his view of the right of the Executive to insist upon having Cabinet officers in harmony with himself, and of the improper character of the Tenure-of-Office Act as applied to Stanton's case. The difference between them, it is intimated, arose when Grant had to choose between taking an aggressive part in opposing the operation of the law so as to make a test of its constitutionality, and a passive line of conduct which should avoid collision with either party. Then the General, though believing that Stanton was wrong in "sticking," and the President was right in asserting a power to remove, still naturally declined to be an active participant in the quarrel, and offended Johnson, who had reckoned upon his vigorous support. That Grant was already a candidate for the Presidency, though unavowed, counted for something in his determination of his line of conduct, as it fairly might. The statements of General Sherman on this subject are among the most conclusive and authoritative possible. His frankness and courage of opinion are indisputable, and his means of knowing the secret history of the time second to nobody's. It may fairly be said that he makes final disposition of the romance about Johnson's revolutionary purposes, and brings the whole chain of events within the ordinary purposes and motives of party intrigue or finesse; Johnson, Stanton, and Grant all being more or less openly in the field for the Presidential canvass of 1868.

Another topic of some importance, on which General Sherman's testimony is weighty, is that of the relations between the Secretary of War and the commandant of the army in ordinary administration. He gives very conclusive evidence that Grant, when General of the Army and at the beginning of his Presidency, was fully committed to the view that the military and disciplinary administration of the army should be conducted through the General in command. He carefully draws the line so as to show that this does not include or imply any diminution of the importance of the Secretary, who is the authoritative mouthpiece of the President. It is simply that, by making the General the channel through whom the business must be done, his judgment and knowledge are made available to give system and energy to the work. Sherman shows that under the influence of Rawlins, when the latter became Secretary of War, Grant reversed his own previous policy and fell into line with the custom of civilian Presidents, which has pretty uniformly resulted in making the position of the nominal commandant of the army a most uncomfortable and unsatisfactory one. The legitimate conclusion seems to be that the course originally proposed by Grant and advocated now by Sherman should be pursued, or that the office of commandant of the army should be abolished, and the affairs of the army be conducted by the Secretary of War through the generals in command of departments.

The ten years which have passed since General Sherman published these memoirs have not diminished the authority of the book or of the author. The correspondence in the appendix to the present edition is good proof that the criticisms to be fairly made upon it are neither very numerous nor important. In two or three instances

only are there matters of real moment in controversy between him and other men, and the instances are rare in which he has found it proper to revise the expressions he formerly used. In some instances he has softened the form while preserving the substance; in others he has supplied omissions; in a few he has corrected errors. It may safely be said that, for purposes of military instruction and for giving a clear and fair view of the events described, it takes, and probably will continue to take, the first rank among the personal memoirs of the war period.

*Madame Roland.* By Mathilde Blind. [Famous Women Series.] Boston: Roberts Brothers.

THE first hundred pages of this little volume are on the whole satisfactory; but it then becomes, instead of a biography of Madame Roland, a history of the Girondins, and a history written not by an historian. The somewhat rash generalizations and assumptions of the authoress could be better pardoned were they connected with absolute accuracy of historical statement; but when we find Mirabeau compared to Samson, with the assertion, "the Delilah who shore [sic] him of his strength being the Queen, by whom he was bribed," one not only remembers his own proud exculpation of himself, "Je suis payé, mais je ne suis pas vendu," but one would be glad to assure Miss Blind's readers that the opinion she entertains is not the generally received opinion of the relations between Mirabeau and Marie Antoinette. And again—though a much more unimportant point—she entirely misrepresents the character of poor Lanthenas, and mingles truth and error in this statement: "His name, having been included in the list of the proscribed, was struck out by Marat, who declared him to be a mean-spirited creature (*pauvre d'esprit*)." The fact is, Marat, his ex-frère in medicine, had some kindness for him, and declared to the Convention (to save his life): "As for Dr. Lanthenas, everybody knows *que c'est un simple d'esprit* (that he is not quite right in his head)." Why a man should be spared because he was "a mean-spirited creature," Miss Blind does not explain. "Le bon Lanthenas méritait de mieux finir," as Sainte-Beuve says.

Miss Blind is not felicitous in her translations. In an enchanting *rural* letter of Mme. Roland's, redolent of the deliciousness of the country, Miss Blind gives us this somewhat startlingly incongruous phrase: "I am growing asinine by dint of attending to the little cares of a piggish country life." The original is, "Je m'asine à force, et m'occupe de tous les petits soins de la vie cochonne de la campagne." Sainte-Beuve, quoting this same letter, explains to the reader that the word "asiner" is here employed because Mme. Roland was then drinking asses' milk; and it would have been well if Miss Blind had at least perceived that "et m'occupe" has not the force of "de m'occuper." And if she had remembered that "cochonner" means to bungle, to botch, she might perhaps have spoken of the "clumsy" rather than the "piggish" country life, and relegated to brackets containing the original humorous words the untranslatable and merely suggested ass and pig of the sentence, conveying to the English reader only Mme. Roland's sense of the welcome casting off of the weight of human customs of thinking and doing.

We have not at hand the original of the passage quoted on page 153, but we have every reason to believe that Miss Blind has there mistaken *citrouille* for *citron*—pumpkin for lemon—and translated *plaisant* (humorous), by "pleasing." "I saw . . . little Barnave, . . . cold as a lemon fricasseed in snow, to use the pleasing expression of a woman of another century." This

was Ninon de l'Enclos, who said of the young Marquis de Sévigné (as quoted by his mother): "C'est une âme de bouillie; c'est un corps de papier mouillé; c'est un cœur de citrouille fricassé dans de la neige." Lemon sherbet is not despicable; squash sherbet one conceives would be.

In calling the Duc de Saint-Simon "Henri Saint-Simon" (what would he have said to the omission of the *de*? and his name was Louis!) Miss Blind confuses him with his collateral descendant, the founder of Saint-Simonism; and also errs in placing a letter of his she quotes, "in the first quarter of the eighteenth-century," since it is addressed to Cardinal Fleury as minister, who only came into power in 1726.

These are trivial indications of a sort of blunderingness which pervades the book and colors the thought, and is not redeemed by charm of expression. But the personal narrative, as we have already said, is agreeable. Any sympathetic picturing of the staid youth of Manon Phlipon, and the cheerful domesticity of the first years of her married life, of the early bloom and later fruitage of her noble and ardent uprightness of soul, has, of necessity, a peculiar delightfulness.

*Review of the New York Musical Season, 1885-1886.* By H. E. Krehbiel. Novello, Ewer & Co. Pp. 233.

THEATRICAL and musical year-books have been issued heretofore, but seldom in so elegantly printed and conveniently arranged a volume as Mr. Krehbiel's. The carefully prepared index occupies as many as fifteen pages in small type, which gives an idea of the extraordinary activity of the past musical season. Beyond a doubt, it was the busiest ever known to musicians in this city, and we suspect that, so far at least as quantity is concerned, no foreign city has ever surpassed this record. For this reason, and also because the season marked the beginning of several new and important enterprises, the volume before us is very timely. It offers so many conveniences that it is to be hoped the sale will be sufficiently large to insure its continuance in future years; but even should this not be the case, the volume will remain a valuable historic record of the most important year in the history of music in America hitherto.

The plan of the book is strictly chronological. It begins with the production of the "Mikado" on August 19, and ends on April 18, the day after the close of the American opera season. All the important concerts and operatic performances under each date are mentioned, with the names of conductor, artists, and principal works on the programme. All the novelties and many other important works are described and critically discussed at considerable length. Two tables, given in the introduction, give a list of forty-four new orchestral and vocal compositions heard for the first time this year, and a list of ten new operas and operettas, including "Die Meistersinger," "Taming of the Shrew," "Queen of Sheba," "Lakmé," "Sylvia," "Manon Lescaut," "Trumpeter von Säckingen," "Gypsy Baron," "Amorita," and "Mikado." To these should be added "Don Caesar," given a few weeks ago. The introductory chapter also includes a brief review of the three Metropolitan Opera-house seasons, with statistics of the operas produced.

The number of operatic performances given at our two houses this winter was 127, of which 19 were sung in Italian, 52 in German, and 56 in English. Of first-class orchestral concerts there were 84. The Thomas popular concerts and the American Opera, as the two most important new enterprises, receive their full share of attention. No fewer than eleven pages are devoted to an

erudite analysis of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, and "Die Meistersinger" comes in for an article almost as long, at the end of which is reprinted, from Wagenseil, one of the original songs of the mastersingers which candidates had to sing, and which Wagner parodied in *Beckmesser's* music. The volume is handsomely bound, and should be in every musician's library.

*The Great Conspiracy: Its Origin and History.*  
By John A. Logan. New York: A. R. Hart & Co.

We have no idea of reviewing this volume. It is not a history, although it purports to be one. It is rather what might be called a narrative stump speech, with no limitation as to time of delivery except the orator's good pleasure or fatigue. Gen. Logan's thesis is, that the rebellion was the result of a combined pro-slavery and free-trade conspiracy for the control of the nation; that the Republican party "successfully solved" "the difficult and perplexing problems involved in the Reconstruction of the Union," and yet was credulously and good-naturedly led into taking back States and citizens bent on renewing the old conspiracy; and that these desperadoes got "on top," at the last Presidential election, "and they MEAN TO KEEP THERE—IF THEY CAN." With this shriek the book ends (so far as the main text is concerned) on p. 674. An appendix of 80 pages condenses the Lincoln-Douglas debates in 1858, which had already been summarized in chapter iv ("Popular Sovereignty") in 36 pages. In other words, this topic occupies a seventh of the book. On the other hand, the "Growth of the Slavery Question," chap. iii, is despatched in 16 pages, in which there is no allusion to the rise of abolitionism, and but one to the existence of abolitionists. They are then confounded with the party that voted for "John Birney" (as the index calls him) in 1844. That is all we learn about them in the entire "history." Gen. Logan is careful to avoid giving signs of

original research or original ideas. His political judgments are uncontrolled by any innate or acquired moral consistency. He blames (by implication) the Liberty party for defeating the election of Clay; as if this were playing into the hands of the slave power; but he is proud of his own part in trying to gain acceptance for the peace propositions before the outbreak of the civil war—a compromise in the interest of slavery which we should have expected of Clay had he been alive.

Although Gen. Logan fills but a modest space in the index, he allows himself enough room in his narrative to smooth over his pro-slavery record, and to repudiate once more the imputations cast on his loyalty to the Union. In so doing he quotes with evident satisfaction a specimen of his florid oratory, which will bear framing along with a precious sentence near the very close (pp. 672-674), only one and two-thirds pages long. His opinion of Fitz-John Porter could hardly have been kept out of his military chapters. In other respects it cannot be said that he obtrudes his personality on his readers, or that he specifically recommends himself to the electors of 1888. His evident plan is to go before them as a protectionist, a soldiers' friend, and a waver of the bloody shirt. Unlike the historian Blaine, he has no calculated flattery of the South, no apology for repudiation, no distribution of compliments for his colleagues in the Republican party. Indeed, his living contemporaries are scarcely mentioned, and we regret to observe that Mr. Blaine is relegated to the footnotes, where he figures simply among the yeas and nays on three Congressional occasions. Since the late candidate for the Vice-Presidency passes over the Reconstruction period entirely, courtesy to his old chief might have prompted a reference to the latest source of sound Republican views on this subject. But, then, Gen. Logan can plead that he is habitually sparing of references to authorities.

The volume is illustrated with a few maps, and with numerous portraits, rather oddly selected and cheaply executed.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

- Balzac, H. de. Eugénie Grandet. Boston: Roberts Brothers. \$1.70.  
Bates, C. The Law of Limited Partnership. Boston: Little, Brown & Co.  
Broglie, Duc de. Souvenirs: 1785-1870. T. 1. Boston: Schoenof.  
Campbell-Abbott. Sophocles for the Use of Schools. New and revised edition. In 2 vols. Macmillan & Co. \$2.75.  
Clerke, Agnes M. A Popular History of Astronomy during the 19th Century. Macmillan & Co. \$4.  
Cralk, Mrs. D. M. King Arthur. Not a Love Story. Harper & Brothers.  
De Amicis, E. Alberto. No. 1. W. R. Jenkins. 35 cents.  
Eckmann-Chatrian. Les Fiancés de Grinderwald. W. R. Jenkins. 25 cents.  
Face to Face. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.25.  
Hardy, A. S. The Wind of Destiny. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.  
Harris, Miriam Cowles. A Perfect Adonis. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 50 cents.  
Jevons, W. S. Letters and Journal. Edited by his Wife. Macmillan & Co. \$4.  
Kennard, Mrs. Edward. Killed in the Open: A Novel. Harper's Franklin Square Library. 20 cents.  
King, Capt. C. Marfan's Faith. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.25.  
Krehbiel, H. E. Review of the New York Musical Season, 1885-86. Novello, Ewer & Co.  
Langel, A. Fragments d'histoire. Paris: Calmann Lévy.  
Laveleye, E. de. La Péninsule des Balkans. 2 vols. Brussels: Merzbach & Falk; New York: F. W. Christern.  
Lubomirsky, Prince J. Tzar, Archiduchesse et Burgraves. F. W. Christern.  
Lucy, H. W. A Diary of Two Parliaments. The Gladstone Parliament, 1880-1885. Cassell & Co. \$1.  
Nourisson. Pascal: physicien et philosophe. Boston: Carl Schoenof.  
Oberholtzer, Mrs. S. L. Daisies of Verse. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.25.  
Oldcastle, J. The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster. Catholic Publication Society.  
Perez-Bonalde, J. A. Enrique Helne: El Canclonero (Das Buch der Lieder). New York: F. W. Christern.  
Quinet, E. Lettres d'Exil. T. III. Boston: Schoenof.  
Rand, E. A. The Camp at Surf Bluff. Phillips & Hunt. \$1.25.  
Scruples. Cassell & Co. 25 cents.  
Stanton, Evan. Ruhainah: A Story of Afghan Life. Cassell & Co. \$1.  
The Familiar Letters of Peppermint Perkins. Boston: Ticknor & Co. \$1.  
Theuriet, A. Bigarreau. Boston: Schoenof.  
Tidball, Mary Langdon. Barbara's Vagaries. Harper & Brothers.  
Tommy's First Speaker for Little Boys and Girls. Edited by Tommy Himself. Chicago: W. H. Harrison, Jr. 50 cents.  
Wilson-Fowler. The Principles of Morals. Introductory Chapters. Macmillan & Co. \$1.25.  
Winter, W. The Stage Life of Mary Anderson. George J. Coombes.  
Wolf, A. La Gloire à Paris. Boston: Schoenof.  
Woolf, Dr. P. Who is Guilty? Cassell & Co. \$1.  
Wolner, T. Tiresias: A Poem. London: G. Bell & Sons.  
Woolson, Constance Fenimore. East Angels: A Novel. Harper & Brothers.  
Woolson, Mrs. Abba G. George Elliot and Her Heroines. Harper & Brothers.  
Zeuthen, H. G. Die Lehre von den Kegelschnitten in Altertum. Erster Halbband. Kopenhagen: A. F. Høst & Sohn.  
Zola, E. L'Euvre. Paris: Charpentier; New York: Christern.

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