

the abuses of this system, it is to be feared that the United States, if Mr. Stutfield's statement is true (that "America, by the way, appears to throw the ægis of the Stars and Stripes over a surprising number of Jews in Marocco") is not without guilt in the matter. In discussing the future of the country, the author naturally deprecates the growth of the French influence, but does not venture to more than hint that Marocco should become a part of the British Empire. Yet the benefits flowing from such an acquisition would be considerable. For not only is Gibraltar "wholly dependent on Marocco for its supplies," but the country, which, it should be remembered, is only four days' sail from her shores, under a stable government would produce corn enough to "render England, with even a doubled population, independent of the rest of the world."

Florida Fruits, and How to Raise Them. By Helen Harcourt. New and enlarged edition. Louisville, Ky.: John P. Morton & Co. 1886. Pp. 347. 12mo.

THIS book gives a glowing account of the capabilities and prospect of fruit-culture in Florida, not only of the orange as the chief staple, but subsidiarily, of pineapples, bananas, and coconuts; also of grapes and figs, peaches and plums, strawberries, and the like, which are supposed to affect more northern latitudes; indeed, the conundrum which the fair author asks, "What cannot be grown in Florida?" she gives up entirely as a still unsolved problem. Apropos of the peach, we are told that "to Persia do we owe this most popular fruit, and yet, strange to say, in this its native home it was considered unwholesome"; and that "its first visit to foreign lands, and the first true appreciation it met with, was on Chinese soil, and there we find it flourishing and at home almost as early as it was noted in its native land." But De Candolle has recently shown that the peach was known and prized in China very long before it can have been known in Persia, and that the interior of China is its probable source. This may be worth noticing in the next edition, when the incongruity of the statement respecting the original unwholesomeness of this fruit with what follows may be explained. "That the peach was one of the trees in the Garden of Eden there can be no doubt, and surely God could have placed there, for the comfort of our first parents; no more delicious fruit than this." But would the Lord have given this originally unwholesome fruit among the trees "pleasant to the sight and good for food," or did an originally delicious fruit partake of the curse at the fall and become unwholesome until the "heathen Chinese" restored it to its pristine innocence?

Seriously, Mrs. Harcourt's book is full of practical information, teaching us not only how to raise fruits in Florida, but how to fight their ene-

mies and how to preserve and cook them (*i. e.*, the fruits). She even tells us to add sugar to our dish of fresh figs and cream, which well-ripened figs should not require; and, altogether, her bountiful instructions allow her to indulge the hope that, so guided, the "veriest novice may make a success of his new pursuit in his Florida home." He has our best wishes.

Study of the English Classics: A Practical Handbook for Teachers. By Albert F. Blaisdell. A.M. 4th edition, revised. Boston: Lee & Shepard. 1886.

MR. BLAISDELL is one of those teachers who have taken an active part in the educational reform in literary study in our schools, which consists practically in substituting the works of authors for manuals concerning them. The present volume contains schemes of courses, examples and types of lessons, exercises, recitations, reviews, etc.; and summary studies—a kind of syllabus—of seventeen representative authors, English and American. There are very many valuable hints and leading principles of use to teachers, and an unlimited number of examination papers, and thousands of trial questions. It is, in a word, a normal-school course for teachers, in the branch of literature. So far there is no fault to be found, and there can be no doubt of the excellence of the work and its utility when once its sphere is granted. Nor shall we do more than hint our impression that Mr. Blaisdell's students will not escape a danger to which his own eyes are wide open. The defect of the old system was that it taught literature as a form of history, biography, and criticism; the danger of the new system is that it will teach Shakspeare, Milton, and Pope as a form of grammar, mythology, rhetoric, etc. In fact, as one reads over the specimen questions, they bear a curious resemblance to the sort of interrogatories put by classical teachers concerning the text of Virgil, Ovid, and Cicero, and they lie under the same old charge often brought against this mode of instruction—that the exercise is not a study of literature in a true sense. On the first stanza of Gray's *Elegy* we have here three solid pages of questions, fine print. This exhibits only the ingenuity of the teacher. Literature, the highest culture study, is necessarily one of the last to be imposed; and it is doubtful whether it is not degraded by being made the medium of practical studies such as grammar, rhetoric, and "allusions."

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

- Alcott, Louisa M. *Jo's Boys, and How they Turned Out.* Boston: Roberts Brothers. \$1.50.
- Amusing Adventures, Afloat and Ashore: Three American Boys. 300 Engravings. Mrs. Frank Leslie's Publishing House. \$1.
- Autobiography of Leigh Hunt. Harper's Franklin Square Library. 20 cents.
- Biglow, M. M. *A Treatise on the Law of Estoppel and its Application in Practice.* 4th ed. Boston: Little, Brown & Co.
- Brooke, Rev. S. A. *The Unity of God and Man, and Other Sermons.* Boston: George H. Ellis.

- Child, F. J. *Poems of Religious Sorrow, Comfort, Counsel, and Aspiration.* Selected. New ed. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.25.
- Church, Prof. A. J. *Two Thousand Years Ago; or, the Adventures of a Roman Boy.* Illustrated. Dodd, Mead & Co.
- Clarke, Rev. J. F. *The Problem of the Fourth Gospel.* Boston: George H. Ellis.
- Clarke, Rev. J. F. *Vexed Questions in Theology: A Series of Essays.* Boston: George H. Ellis.
- Donaldson, Dr. S. J. *A Decalogue for the Nursery.* Boston: Oils Clapp & Son.
- English Illustrated Magazine, 1885-1886.* Macmillan & Co. \$2.50.
- Fasnacht, G. V. *Macmillan's Progressive German Course.* Second year. New ed. Macmillan & Co. 90 cents.
- Finley, Martha. *Elsie's Kith and Kin.* Dodd, Mead & Co.
- Finley, Martha. *Mildred's Boys and Girls.* Dodd, Mead & Co.
- Finley, Martha. *The Thorn in the Nest.* Dodd, Mead & Co.
- Frith, H. *Under Bayard's Banner: A Story of the Days of Chivalry.* Cassell & Co. \$1.50.
- Gilman, A. *Short Stories from the Dictionary.* Chicago: Interstate Publishing Co. 60 cents.
- Goethe, J. W. von. *Faust.* Introduction and Notes by Jane Lee. Part I. Macmillan & Co. \$1.00.
- Gosse, E. *Raleigh.* [English Worthies.] D. Appleton & Co.
- Gould, S. B. *Little Tu'penny: A Tale.* D. Appleton & Co. 25 cents.
- Graham, J. W. *Neera: A Tale of Ancient Rome.* Macmillan & Co. \$1.00.
- Hale, Lucretia F. *The Peterkin Papers.* Illustrated. Boston: Ticknor & Co. \$1.50.
- Hall-Mausfeld. *Hints toward a Select and Descriptive Bibliography of Education.* Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. \$1.75.
- Hamilton, A. *Works.* Vol. VIII. G. P. Putnam's Sons \$5.00.
- Hazlett, W. C. *Old Cookery Books and Ancient Cuisine.* George J. Coombes.
- Hawthorne, N. *The Snow-Image and Other Twice-Told Tales.* Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 50 cents.
- Heard, F. F. *Precedents of Pleadings in Personal Actions in the Superior Courts of Common Law.* Boston: Little, Brown & Co.
- Holbrook, Dr. M. L. *How to Strengthen the Memory; or, Natural and Scientific Methods of Forgetting.* M. L. Holbrook.
- Holmes, Margaret. *The Chamber Over the Gate.* Indianapolis: Charles A. Bates.
- Leisure Moments on Gough Square; or, The Beauties and Quaint Conceits of Johnson's Dictionary. By the author of *Shakspeare's Drafts from the Living Water.* Buffalo: Ulrich & Kingsley. \$2.25.
- Levermore, Dr. C. H. *The Republic of New Haven; A History of Municipal Evolution.* Baltimore: N. Murray.
- Lossing, B. J. *The Two Spies.* D. Appleton & Co.
- Maclay, A. C. *A Budget of Letters from Japan. Reminiscences of Work and Travel.* A. C. Armstrong & Son. \$2.00.
- Mathorne, Bishop. *Christian Patience the Strength and Discipline of the Soul: A Course of Lectures.* Catholic Publication Society. \$1.60.
- McElroy, Prof. J. G. R. *Essential Lessons in English Etymology.* Philadelphia: John E. Potter & Co. 75 cents.
- Morris, R. T. *How to Treat Wounds To-day.* Second edition. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.
- Mulholland, Rosa. *Marcella Grace.* An Irish Novel. [Harper's Handy Series.] 25 cents.
- Nafat, Maud. *Flowers and How to Paint them.* Cassell & Co. \$2.50.
- Nipher, Prof. F. E. *Theory of Magnetic Measurements, with an Appendix on the Method of Least Squares.* D. Van Nostrand.
- Pellissier, E. *Britannicus: Tragédie par Racine.* Macmillan & Co. 50 cents.
- Preble, W. F., Jr. *Collisions in United States Waters.* Boston: Little, Brown & Co.
- Publishers' Trade List Annual. 1886. Office of the *Publishers' Weekly.*
- Quick, R. H. *Pedagogical Biography, No. III. John Locke, No. IV. Rousseau.* Syracuse: C. W. Bardeen.
- Readings from Milton. Boston: Chautauqua Press.
- Roe, E. P. *He Fell in Love with his Wife.* Dodd, Mead & Co.
- Roe, E. P. *Nature's Serial Story.* Illustrated. Dodd, Mead & Co.
- Savage, Rev. M. J. *Social Problems.* Boston: George H. Ellis.
- Spender, Mrs. John K. *Both in the Wrong: A Novel.* Harper's Franklin Square Library. 20 cents.
- Swasey, J. B. *A New Essay on Man, and Miscellaneous Poems.* C. T. Dillingham. \$1.
- Thaxter, Celia. *The Cruise of the Mystery, and Other Poems.* Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.00.
- Thomas, Edith M. *The Round Year: Essays.* Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.25.
- Thorne, Ismay. *A Six-Years' Darling; or, Trix in Town.* E. P. Dutton & Co. 50 cents.
- Todhunter-Pearson. *A History of the Theory of Elasticity and of the Strength of Materials, from Galilei to the Present Time.* Vol. I—Galilei to Saint-Venant. 1639-1850. Cambridge: University Press.
- Ward, W. *The Clothes of Religion: A Reply to Popular Positivism.* Catholic Publication Society.

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BIOLOGY.

GENERAL BIOLOGY. By W. T. Sedgwick, Professor in Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and E. B. Wilson, Professor in Bryn Mawr College. 8vo, \$2.00.

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