

construction. He closes his annals with 1870. He might have made a better index than he did. On early ecclesiastical history he might have consulted Prof. Briggs's 'American Presbyterianism' to advantage. Excepting these and a few other minor deficiencies, his work is excellent both in conception and performance.

Letters of Horatio Greenough to his brother Henry Greenough. With biographical sketches and some contemporary correspondence. Edited by Frances Boott Greenough. Boston: Ticknor & Co. 1887.

THIS volume does not purport to give a complete biography of our first sculptor, but it serves for one; and, indeed, from these open and amiable letters and the modest narrative that connects them, the reader obtains a view of Greenough's life and an impression of his character, that are all sufficient. He was born into a talented family, several of whom won distinction and led useful lives, and he was educated at Harvard College. It was while there, and before he was twenty years old, that he made the model for *Bunker Hill monument* which, for form and proportion, was adopted. Soon after graduation he went to Italy, and there, he said, he "began to feel nature's value: I adored her before, but as a Persian does the sun, with my face to the ground." He was compelled by illness to return after a short stay, and, on reaching his own country, went to Washington, where he had commissions for a while; but it was not long before he was back in Italy, where, by the aid of Boston friends and the kindness of Fenimore Cooper, he remained at work until his reputation was established, and thereafter he made Italy his home for the greater part of his life. He was a warm patriot, however, in speech as well as in sentiment; he enjoyed his visits home, and he had the good fortune to die in his native land, December 18, 1852. He was only forty-seven years old.

Such a life is naturally told with much completeness in the letters written home. These are, however, in the strictest sense home letters, and they have the charm of familiarity, and occasionally something of the tedium of personal affairs and the limitation of view within the family horizon natural to such epistles. The best of them are those written in youth, when the freshness, the uncertainty, and the ambition of the chase for fame had their hour. There is a frankness, a genuineness, a real boyishness about these earlier confidences and experiences that keep them still vital; and with them must be included the package of return letters, written by his brother Alfred, which give us a passing glimpse of Boston at the beginning of the thirties, when John Hancock's house, in which the family were living, still commanded "a view of the whole city, country, and harbor," and when Greenough *père* was "the only real-estate dealer." We learn from this same batch of letters that Mr. Ticknor had the only copy of Shelley "in the country" (about Boston, let us hope) in 1831, and the editor adds that he was generous in

lending this and other rare works by "Elia, Goethe, Bulwer, and Disraeli."

Horatio's later letters are occupied largely with his orders and with other details of business and family interests; very little is to be found in regard to art or books or famous persons. But constantly one comes upon some little incident, some picture of nature, or pithy remark, or gets near to great events like the revolutions of '48, so that at the end there is a little wonder that such slight materials have turned out so well. The editor has handled his subject very deftly and pleasantly, and made it all interesting. It is painful to observe how Greenough was troubled and hurt by the difficulties of his negotiations with our Government in regard to the disposition and payment of his public works. His ideal statue of Washington has found few defenders, but his protest against the point of view from which it is now regarded, and his own intention that it should be seen in a closed chapel, are to be remembered. Independently of artistic merit, however, he was much vexed by the practical business involved in his engagements by the Government, and he took it very much to heart. He could bid the critics who suggested tossing his great work "into the Potomac" a very satisfactory defiance from the vantage ground of his ideal art; but no reply so solacing was to be found when the Treasury withheld a draft. He behaved very well, nevertheless, and, after his death, matters were properly settled. There is an account of Priessnitz, the founder of the water-cure, and of his establishment and manner of life at Graefenberg, and also a picturesque passage about the Malvern Hills and Wells. Greenough's love of wild nature was strong, and his eye for the salient points good; he seems to have been not unwilling to pen "a description" in his earlier years, and probably he was not greatly offended when the irrepressible Willis published a letter from "a young artist in Italy, as it is so redolent of the land from which it came, though not intended for the public eye." But it was in other days than ours that the lover of nature, too long cramped in his "bird's-eye Florence," breathing once more the New-England sweet-briar of a May morning, could write it down—"God is great and Newport is His abode."

With this gem of a former age we take leave of the volume, which those will like to read who are interested in the people and nascent art feeling of old Boston, and who enjoy the words of a simple and unbookish man to his own folk.

Poetry and Philosophy of Goethe. Chicago: S. C. Griggs & Co.

THIS volume contains the lectures and extempore discussions offered at the Milwaukee Literary School in August, 1886. This institution appears to be an imitation of the Concord School of Philosophy, or perhaps we should rather say an offshoot; at any rate, no less than five of those who contributed to the Concord lectures upon Goethe in 1885 were present at the Milwaukee school, and are represented in the volume before us, which is thus, as we should expect, very redolent of the Concord aroma. From Mr. F. B. Sanborn

we have a repetition, with some additions, of his Concord lecture upon "Goethe's Relations to English Literature," and from Mr. Denton J. Snider a chapter of his work on "Faust," noticed in the *Nation* of February 10, and also an ultra-Pindaric anniversary ode. One-third of the volume emanates from Dr. W. T. Harris, who contributes two formal lectures and a number of lengthy extempore discussions. A lecture by Mr. James McAlister upon "Goethe as a Scientist" is given according to a condensed report in the *Milwaukee Sentinel*. As reported, the performance has little or no value, and seems to have been inserted only as a peg upon which to hang Dr. Harris's attempted "rescue" of Goethe's theory of color. The best essay in the collection is one by Mrs. Maria A. Shorey upon the 'Elective Affinities,' which is a thoughtful and suggestive study, couched mainly in the literary English of the world's people. Even this, however, exhales in patches the Concord aroma, as witness the following sentence:

"Indeed, I think it will some time be admitted that he often grasped intellectually, if he could not continuously hold, the underlying principle of all progress from the slime, up through the struggling, teeming ranks of life to that half-poetic, half-prophetic dream (which haunts us all) of a race of men and women whose souls, purified by the discipline of the generations into harmony with celestial currents, know at last neither sorrow nor striving, but exist in peace, stirred only by the ebb and flow of the mighty ocean of divine desire and happy attainment."

The book is edited by Mrs. Marion V. Dudley, Secretary of the School, who in a prefatory note commends her work to the public in these words: "To emphasize the value of ideas; to stimulate profounder research; to cultivate immortal youth, is its earnest purpose." On the title-page, for some occult reason to us inscrutable, stands the motto, "Das Ewig-Weibliche zieht uns hinan."

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Battles and Leaders of the Civil War. No. 3. The Century Co. 50 cents.
 Burbank, Rev. W. H. Photographic Printing Methods. Scott's Manufacturing Co. \$1.
 Dostoyevsky, F. Prison Life in Siberia. Harper & Brothers. 20 cents.
 Dumont, A., and Chaplain, J. Les Céramiques de la Grèce moderne: Vases Peints. Paris: Firmin, Didot & Cie.
 Fein, G. M. The Bag of Diamonds. D. Appleton & Co. 25 cents.
 Finck, H. T. Romantic Love and Personal Beauty. Macmillan & Co. \$2.
 Gaboriau, E. Marriage at a Venture. Geo. Munro, Grammaire Albanaise. London: Trübner & Co.
 Greg, P. History of the United States. 2 vols. London: W. H. Allen & Co.
 Gréville, H. The Princess Roubine. Philadelphia: T. B. Peterson & Bros. 50 cents.
 Holtzendorff, F. von Handbuch des Völkerrechts. Vols. 2, 3. Hamburg: J. F. Richter.
 Horton, S. Dana. The Silver Pound, and England's Monetary Policy since the Restoration. Macmillan & Co. \$4.
 Howarth, H. H. The Mammoth and the Flood. London: Sampson Low.
 In an Evil Hour, and Other Stories. Geo. Munro.
 Jackson, T. G. Dalmatia, The Quarnero, and Istria. 3 vols. Oxford: Clarendon Press; New York: Macmillan & Co. \$10.50.
 James, Henry. Tales of Three Cities. 5th ed. Boston: Ticknor & Co.
 Karr, E. W. S. Shores and Alps of Alaska. London: Sampson Low; Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co. \$3.50.
 Meade, L. T. The O'Donnells of Inchfawn. Harper & Brothers. 20 cents.
 Meyer, C. F. The Chancellor's Secret. New Bedford: Jas. M. Lawton, Jr.
 Morfill, W. H. Simplified Grammar of the Serbian Language. London: Trübner & Co.
 Nettleship, Prof. H. Passages for Translation into Latin Prose. London: Geo. Bell & Sons.
 Pavlovsky, Isaac. Souvenirs sur Tourguéneff. Paris: A. Lavinie; Boston: Schoenhof.

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