

certainly a triumph of diplomatic skill as well as of humanity when Canning, as he said, changed the station of England "from the tail of Europe to the head," and actually succeeded in engaging France and Russia in the enterprise of assisting a people to throw off their allegiance to their rulers. The battle of Navarino was, it is true, fought after his death, but it was the necessary outcome of his policy and is properly associated with his name.

We are inclined to believe that the recognition of the independence of the Spanish-American colonies was really an act of retaliation for the interference of France in the internal affairs of Spain, and that the settlement of the difficulties between Brazil and Portugal was a continuation of the same policy. Canning unquestionably desired to check the meddling of European Powers with one another's internal affairs, but we are not convinced that he had any very genuine sympathy with aspirations for liberty where the interests of England were not involved. It is true that "behind the trenchant weapon of his brilliant and argumentative despatches lay the tremendous resource of invoking the hidden forces of revolutionary Europe," but we do not believe that Canning ever proposed to avail himself of this resource. He certainly opposed the reform of Parliament when the country was almost ready for revolution about it. Still, his foreign policy greatly pleased the Liberals; and Mr. Stapleton's estimate of his career is perhaps substantially correct. It is contained in the following passage:

"Step by step, under the consummate handling of the Foreign Secretary, the headstrong and arbitrary energies of the despotic Powers found themselves checked; everywhere Liberalism began to look up, and reasonable hopes and aspirations arose; outlets and prospects, unconnected with cruel violence and revolutionary madness, opened out in different directions; it became no longer necessary for a Liberal to despair; and all this was Canning's work; and the English Liberals and working classes gladly accepted Canning's sympathetic and generous administration as worth many Reform Bills."

Alberuni's India. An Account of the Religion; Philosophy, Literature, Chronology, Astronomy, Customs, Laws, and Astrology of India about A. D. 1030. Edited in the Arabic original by Dr. Edward Sachau. London: Trübner & Co. 1887.

THE author of this remarkable book was a Moslem scholar who was brought from his home in Central Asia by Mohammed of Ghazna, and settled at Ghazna. Here Alberuni acquired an extensive knowledge of Sanskrit, and investigated the customs, laws, etc., of the Hindus. Bringing to this investigation a mind trained by mathematical and philosophical studies, he made known the results in this work, remarkable alike for the extent and accuracy of its learning and for the careful scholarly spirit evinced by its author. Written in 1030, it is to-day of very great importance for scholars. Its value was recognized long ago, and as far back as 1843 Muuk pro-

mised to edit and translate it. For various reasons, however, the task has not been accomplished till it was undertaken by Dr. Sachau, who, having now published the Arabic text, will publish the English translation as soon as possible, which will be eagerly awaited by scholars.

The volume before us is a beautiful quarto, in which the Arabic text occupies 318 pages. An index of the words of Indian origin and a long preface add to its value. Dr. Sachau's name is a sufficient guarantee of the accuracy of the Arabic text. Some slips will be noted in the proof-reading of the preface.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Baker, J. F. A Treatise on the Law of Sales of Goods, Wares, and Merchandise as Affected by the Statute of Frauds. Chicago: Callahan & Co. \$5.
Brooks, H. M. Olden-Time Music: A Compilation from Newspapers and Books. Boston: Ticknor & Co. \$1.50.
Clare, Sister Frances M. Anti-Poverty and Progress. Belford, Clarke & Co.
Conway, R. S. Verner's Law in Italy: An Essay in the History of the Indo-European Sibilants. With a Detailed Map of Italy. London: Trübner & Co.
Corbett, J. For God and Gold. Macmillan & Co. \$1.50.
Corson, Juliet. Family Living on \$500 a Year: A Daily Reference Book for Young and Inexperienced Wives. Harper & Brothers.
Worthington's Annual. 1888. R. Worthington. \$1.50.
Wright, R. S. The Law of Criminal Conspiracies and Agreements. Philadelphia: The Blackstone Publishing Co.
Young, G. A. Whatever Is, Was: A New Theory of the Origin of the World. Legget Brothers, Younghusband, France. The Story of Our Lord. Longmans, Green & Co.
Zellar and Luchaire, Louis XI.' et la maison de Bourgogne. Histoire de France, racontée par les contemporains. Paris: Hachette; Boston: Schoenhof.
Zola, E. La Terre. Philadelphia: T. B. Peterson & Brothers.
Zwort, Edgar. Montesquieu. [Classiques Populaires.] Paris: Lecène & Oudin; Boston: Schoenhof.

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