

mere fact and opinion into the gold of literature; but this is partly the fault of the subject. Not even Mr. Hamerton could invest his abode in Germany, if he had one, with the nameless charm which pervades every page of his account of 'Round My House' in France. From Howitt and Mathews, of forty years ago, to Miss Parry of to-day, not one of many English writers who have described German life has been able to produce a work (we exclude fiction) of any literary value, unless we except Mr. Hawthorne, whose work is a satire rather than a description. All young Americans return from Germany full of enthusiasm, and dreaming of the time when they can resume their delightful life there. But if they resume it after a dozen years, as occasionally happens, they usually find that the charm lay in the glamour of youth and of intellectual emulation, not in the German background. Miss Parry, however, is less enthusiastic than is commonly the case, perhaps because too mature to be carried away by temporary impressions. She never forgets the American standard of manners, domestic comfort, and household sentiment, and finds that even in instruction Germany is behind America in some departments.

The preface to her book, written by another hand, dwells upon the fact that it is not a mere traveller's diary, but a view of German life from the inside. It is this, but hardly to the extent which the preface indicates or the author evidently thinks, in spite of the fact that she spent less than a year in Germany. She studied Latin at the Victoria Lyceum, and was regarded as a phenomenon in consequence; and indeed she would be deemed a phenomenon, as a Latin scholar, in any country, judging by the phrase "omnia est vanitas," the only one from that language with which she adorns her pages. It is not clear why she should quote the Old Testament in the Latin version, but it is certain that the translator of the Vulgate does not authorize the opinion that vanity is everything. Her chief effort, however, seems to have been to learn German, which, she says, she "resolved to conquer." We regret to say that, judging from the evidence her book furnishes, she has but imperfectly succeeded. There is an error of some kind on nearly every page; and though many of these are doubtless due to the printer (as when Varnhagen von Ense is distorted into "Von Hargen von Euse"), he cannot be made to shoulder all of them. Especially reckless is she with her genders, giving or withholding them with as much abandon as a cockney does his "h's." When she enters her boarding-house (the description of which is the best thing in the book), she finds "ten other pensioneren," meaning *Pensionäre*; on the table she finds a contribution-box "für den [die] Armen," as well as meets a "herzliche [s] Willkommen," after which she is "melded" (*gemeldet*) to the police; she is taken in to dinner by a "Herr Capitaine" (*Kapitän*, sea-captain, but the context shows that *Hauptmann*, captain in the army, is meant), and so on; while her ignorance of the difference between shall and will, and the frequent misuse of other words, make the reader think that less Latin (and German) and more English would improve her style. Perhaps her most singular error is where she confounds English and German in her version of the familiar legend of the Wartburg—"Wart, Berg, du sollst eine Burg werden"—which, *werden* here being translatable into "become," she quotes, "— du sollst eine Burg bekommen." Almost equally comical is the frequently recurring translation of the familiar phrase "es geht los" as "it goes loose," and of "gern haben" as "have kindly." But though our author's fund of general information, as well as of German, might be increased, we take leave of her with regret, and

shall remember with pleasure several of her entertaining pictures of Berlin life—above all, that of the "family of American ancestry," whose good deeds and charming manners are described so minutely.

Yachts, Boats, and Canoes. By C. Stansfeld-Hicks. *Forest and Stream* Publishing Company.

As a manual for amateurs who are seeking amusement in small boats and canoes, Mr. Stansfeld-Hicks's book, although roughly put together, will serve a useful purpose. It makes no pretence of being a scientific treatise—indeed, much of it is little better than a commonplace scrap-book; but it contains the facts that amateurs need to know, and it states them in such a way that they can be readily grasped. The author appreciates keenly the fascinations of single-handed sailing, and his enthusiasm for this most exacting and most delightful sport will find a warm response from all genuine yachtsmen. With anything larger than a three-tonner he has little to do. A considerable part of his book is devoted to the amusement that has come into vogue of late years, under the name of "model yachting." As compared with real yacht-sailing, model yachting, though in its diminutive way a pretty sport, hardly deserves its name. Apart from the element of danger, which of course is wholly wanting, and the uncertainty attending its conditions and results, there is no analogy between the miniature craft, used for automatic racing in tiny seas, and the real vessel navigating a real sea under the guidance of a mind and hand on board. In spite of its uncertain elements, however, model yachting bids fair to have a future, and the author's practical hints will assist its development.

Mr. Stansfeld-Hicks has of course a word to say on the vexed question of "skimming-dishes" versus cutters. He goes so far as to admit that "the present English type of racing yacht, which is produced by the tonnage rule taxing length and beam and allowing unlimited depth, though far superior to the shallow class of boat, has probably been carried to an extreme"; and he adds: "The contests between the *Genesta* and *Puritan*, *Galatea* and *Mayflower*, and especially the *Miranda* and the American schooners, show that beamy vessels of small proportionate displacement and large sail area are not to be despised; especially in smooth water and light winds." This is a handsome concession for an Englishman to make, though it is much like a Frenchman's saying, after the war of 1870, that the Germans were not altogether contemptible antagonists. After reading it, one is hardly surprised to learn from this ingenuous author that the Americans, "with *Puritan* and *Mayflower*, have kept up the idea that they are able to put something together that will get through the water." It may be suggested that the recent contest at Marblehead has come just in time to keep up still further this "idea," and that, as the race took place in genuine cutter weather, it has sufficiently proved that smooth water and light winds are not indispensable conditions for a victory of the *Mayflower* over the *Galatea*.

Chapters on English Metre. By Joseph B. Mayor, M.A. London: C. J. Clay & Sons.

IN the above-named work, Prof. Mayor has published certain papers, "greatly modified and expanded," originally read before the London Philological Society between 1874 and 1877, which form seven chapters of the work, and has added five other chapters. He entitles the work 'Chapters on Metre' "in order to show that it makes no pretence to completeness," and states his object

to be "to ascertain, by a process of induction, the more general laws of our modern metre, and to test the results in a variety of instances." He adds the wish "that some competent scholar would take up that historical side of the question which I have left untouched." While Prof. Mayor is acquainted with Schipper's 'Englische Metrik,' as he makes two references to it, he does not state that this is just the point of view from which Schipper's work is written, and when it is completed, probably during the current year, we shall have a complete historical development of English rhythms. Schipper's first volume ends with Lyndsay, and Prof. Mayor begins his studies with Surrey, so that the two do not occupy common ground.

The subject of English metre is one of great importance, and has been heretofore much neglected. It is an interesting sign of progress that scholars are devoting themselves to the study of it, notwithstanding the different "systems," so called, to a criticism of which Prof. Mayor devotes a large portion of his work. His introductory chapter assumes the postulate "that a scientific treatment of the subject of metre is possible and is desirable," and his criticisms are directed to ascertaining "how far this desirable end has been already achieved." He holds that the classical names of the feet are to be retained for the sake of convenience, it being clearly understood what they mean in English verse; that "the routine scansion" is "natural and necessary," as well as scientific—as against Mr. Alexander J. Ellis; and that it is "of use in the interests of education." In this latter aspect Prof. Mayor has a co-worker in this country in Mr. F. B. Gummere, who has endeavored to popularize a knowledge of metre in the interests of education, by his 'Handbook of Poetics.'

After a brief summary of the business of a metrist, Prof. Mayor proceeds to criticize the metrical systems of Dr. Guest, Dr. Abbott, Mr. Symonds, and Mr. Ellis, with brief notice of Prof. Masson and Mr. Keightley on the verse of Milton. The chapter on Dr. Guest's 'Antiquarian A-Priorism' is a work of supererogation, for no one can read Prof. Skeat's recent republication of Dr. Guest's work without realizing that it is altogether antiquated, and that no such cumbrous system can ever be applied to English metres, though we must give Dr. Guest credit for realizing the importance of accent in English verse, and for first attempting an historical treatment of English metre. Prof. Mayor's system is so similar to that of Dr. Abbott that the differences seem to be more a question of words than facts. He says, indeed: "In its general outline I believe this to be the true and natural system, giving technical expression to the practice of the best writers and readers of poetry, and not setting up an antiquarian standard to which they are required to conform." He thinks, however, that Dr. Abbott "is too much enamoured with a mechanical regularity, and makes too little allowance for the freedom of English versification." The criticisms touch mainly contraction and resolution in verse, which Prof. Mayor would restrict, and therefore admit anapæsts and dactyls more freely in iambic and trochaic verse. He objects, too, to the accentuation of *the, a,* and other light words usually unaccented, and so would admit the pyrrhic much more frequently than Dr. Abbott; but it is difficult to see how we are to get over accenting such words sometimes in Shaksperian verse, even though the stress may not be as heavy as that on a fully accented syllable, for a pyrrhic in iambic or trochaic metre will follow the normal accentuation of the foot. Dr. Abbott's remarks on this chapter show that the two are in closer agreement than one would suppose from Prof. Mayor's criticisms. Mr. Symonds's views, as given in his article on the

"Blank Verse of Milton" (*Fortnightly Review* for December, 1874) are styled "Æsthetic Intuitionism," and they are criticised as encouraging the delusion "that poetry is subject to no rules and admits of no science." "His æsthetic analysis may be excellent in itself, but it cannot take the place of the scientific analysis, nor is there the least inconsistency between them." Prof. Mayor finds himself in closer agreement with Mr. A. J. Ellis, and quotes largely from a paper read by Mr. Ellis before the Philological Society in 1876 in exposition of his system; but he well remarks upon this: "Whilst I admire, I with difficulty repress a shudder at the elaborate apparatus he has provided for registering the minutest variations of metrical stress"; and further: "If the analysis of rhythm is so terribly complicated, let us rush into the arms of the intuitionists and trust to our ears only, for life is not long enough to admit of characterizing lines when there are *forty-five* expressions for each syllable to be considered." This is a very just criticism of Mr. Ellis's elaborate, but, as it seems to us, purely ideal system. Mr. Ellis is enamoured of mechanical symmetry, and not one ear in a thousand would distinguish a tittle of the forty-five degrees of "force, length, pitch, weight, and silence" (!) that he has worked out in his comprehensive scheme; and he himself adds: "For all practical purposes the three principal degrees suffice, but fewer will not serve." But this gives us *fifteen* points to consider about every syllable, and practically excludes all but the initiated few from discussing metrical questions. For some of Mr. Ellis's complex distinctions Prof. Mayor fails to see any ground, and says: "To insist upon them as essential to the appreciation of rhythm seems to me to be putting an unnecessary burden on all students of poetry."

But the brief limits of this notice will not permit further discussion. Prof. Mayor has an interesting chapter on "Metrical Metamorphosis," but is not always consistent in his own scansion (cf. *myriad* on pp. 81, 88, 98, 189). His naming and classification of metres, with illustrations from Tennyson and the Hymn-Book, will be generally concurred in, though here, too, exception may occasionally be taken to the scansion of certain lines. He closes his work with a discussion of the blank verse of Surrey and Marlowe, of Shakspeare as seen in "Macbeth" and "Hamlet," and of Tennyson and Browning. We cannot assent to his accentuation of many of Surrey's lines, especially of proper names, and where he admits a trochee in the *fifth* place, which is particularly harsh in iambic rhythm. The Chaucerian accentuation was still alive for Surrey. We close with the remark that if any one needs to be convinced of the great superiority of Tennyson to Browning as a metrist, let him read Prof. Mayor's last chapter.

The Development of the Roman Constitution.
By Ambrose Tighe, formerly Tutor and Douglas Fellow at Yale College. [History Primers.] D. Appleton & Co. 12mo, pp. 131.

MR. TIGHE has rendered American scholars a very great service in placing before them a compact statement of the present accepted view of the early history of the Roman Constitution. Such a view, in a clear and connected form, has not hitherto been attainable in the English language; and students of the Roman institutions who had not access to German or French treatises, have been obliged to put up with the exploded theories of fifty years ago, or to search for a more correct system scattered through the pages of a general history. The only objection we have as a whole to the work before us is its brevity. It is an admirable sketch of its subject; but it is a subject which could not advantageously be com-

pressed within the pages of a "primer." In several instances the statement lacks precision merely because the author had not room to work out the point as was needed. References, also, and in some cases authorities, would have been very desirable.

Mr. Tighe has held pretty closely to Mommsen's views, as he states in the preface; yet he is not a slavish follower, but gives evidence of independent study and independent thinking. In some instances, he says, he has followed Mommsen "in spite of my own conviction that he is in error," instancing the notion "that the *gens* was a union of kinsmen." It is hard to say what is the duty of the compiler in such a case. Mr. Tighe has solved the problem by accompanying the accepted view with a discussion (p. 33) of its validity. This discussion is excellent, but belongs rather to the subject of the history of institutions in general than of Roman institutions. We think it would have been better to have simply qualified the general statement with some such phrase as "generally believed," or "believed by the ancients." This discussion is really out of place in a book as small as this.

The part of the book which satisfies us least is chapter v., "The Fight without the City"—not that this is not in the main correct and instructive, but that the author does not appear to us to have grasped the facts of the external growth of the Roman State as fully as those of the internal growth. In the first place, we have no definition of the city, that fundamental institution of both Greeks and Romans which hardly any English writer appears fully to comprehend. The successive stages in the development of the Roman power in Italy are not clearly marked, nor are the different classes of Italian States distinctly defined, in their relation to Rome. Neither the *municipia* nor the *coloniae Romanæ* are mentioned, nor are the two classes of *prefecturae*—those which enjoyed the *jus Cæritum* and those which were stripped of all local autonomy—distinguished. The section upon the Roman Roads is hardly more than a description, with no adequate account of their relation to the governmental system. In short, this chapter seems hurried and unduly abbreviated by the exigencies of the "primer." In the two succeeding chapters, "The Fight within the City" and "The Government of Rome," this defect is less observable, and these chapters are, as a whole, admirable. We think it a mistake to represent the secession of 494 as a result of the agrarian controversies; the agrarian laws were proposed as a remedy for the evils, but the evils themselves were principally due to other causes. The Canuleian law, a measure of fundamental importance, is not mentioned. The constitutional changes in sections 12 and 13 are overcrowded, so as to result in loss of perspective, another result of the compendious treatment: for example, the reader would certainly gather that the military *quæstors* were established directly after the decemvirate, instead of twenty-eight years later.

We have a few criticisms upon points of detail. It is perhaps probable, but by no means certain—and, we believe, without an atom of historical evidence,—that "the clan . . . had a natural head, who ruled over it with absolute power" (p. 44) in the earliest times. On page 49 there is no mention of the *lex curiata de imperio*. On page 79, "the" before "Foriæ" should be omitted. On the same page it is misleading to assert that the tribes of Servius Tullius "were made up after the analogy of the three original tribes." Even if each of the original tribes had a territory to itself—which has not been stated—yet this territory was simply an adjunct to the genealogical tribe, while the new tribes were primarily territorial. The Latin colonists were in later times "Roman citizens, who were willing to suffer a

diminution in their political rights" (p. 82), but originally they were in part Latin citizens. The money paid for the use of lands held by *occupatio* can hardly be called "a fixed annual rental" (p. 89); it was a fixed proportion of the produce. The statement (p. 116) that the duty of appointing the senators was given to the censors in 435 is incorrect: it was not until more than a century later. It seems to us that Willemas has proved that the *senatores peditarii* had "the right of speaking" (p. 117). It was only the *sixteen* earliest formed rural tribes that "took their name from the principal clans" (p. 119); the seventeenth, *Clustumina*, had a local name. In most of these cases the inaccurate statement seems to have come from the necessity of condensing and abridging.

Through the Fields with Linnæus. A Chapter in Swedish History. By Mrs. Florence Caddy. London: Longmans; Boston: Little, Brown & Co. 1887. 2 vols., pp. 347 and 376.

In these chatty and discursive volumes, notwithstanding the exceptions that might be taken here and there by an austere censor, Mrs. Caddy contrives to make a very life-like picture of Linnæus, and to bring him closer to the sympathies of ordinary educated people than he has ever been brought before. Her method is to follow the footsteps of the great naturalist on his way through life, to study and depict his environment at every stage, to accompany him on his scientific journeys, and make his observations with him—in short, to try to revivify all the scenes through which he passed. For this work the writer has prepared herself by visiting and carefully examining the various localities with which the fame of Linnæus is chiefly connected, and by travelling over at least a large part of the ground which he traversed. The aim of the work is not to build a new monument to a man of genius, nor to expound his theories or to explain his exact position in the history of science, but to take us with him, and enable us to see what he saw, to participate in his feelings, and to think his thoughts over after him. But we may as well let the author speak for herself as to her intentions:

"What the present generation knows about Linnæus is an obsolete system and a few trivial anecdotes. In painting his portrait I have tried to give as a background the things he saw, the scenes he moved in, the continuous diorama of his life, which abounded with adventure more than usually falls to the lot of scholars, whose fame is acquired in solitude." I wish it may be thought a pleasant yarn about Linnæus."

The first chapter is devoted to the neighborhood of the naturalist's early home, to the pedigree of his family, and to his boyish fondness for plants and insects; a second describes his school life at Wexiö, a third takes him to Lund, and a fourth to Upsala, where his bitter struggle with poverty is vividly portrayed. Then we accompany him on his first scientific journey through northern Sweden and Lapland, the descriptions at this point being based upon Linnæus's "Lachesis Lapponica." Then a journey through Dalecarlia is described, after which the author follows her hero to the Netherlands and the multifarious good fortune awaiting him there. The first volume ends with his journey to England in 1736. The second volume is less interesting; it deals with the life of Linnæus during the years of his prosperity, and the story of middle-aged success is always much less captivating as a story than that of youthful privation and struggle.

When, now, we turn from this very meagre outline of Mrs. Caddy's subject-matter, and would fain characterize her manner, which is in this case everything, we find a wealth of epithets suggesting themselves. Her manner is by turns learned, satirical, sentimental, polemical, didac-