

think that Prof. Adams does so. In its geographical aspects, it is not the public debt that causes the transfer of money from one section of the country to another, but the possession of capital. It would go on just the same, and to the same extent, if there were no public debt at all.

WILSON'S CHINA.

China: A Study of its Civilization and Possibilities. By James Harrison Wilson. D. Appleton & Co.

DESPITE the multiplicity of books on China, there is always room for an unhackneyed view of the vast empire, put into print. Dr. S. Wells Williams was, perhaps, the last of old-fashioned scholars who could or would write an encyclopedic account of the country and people. We now look for and can tolerate only the specialist and expert. In two parts of the great field there are few laborers, notwithstanding the white promise of harvest. About the China of the dawn of history or before it, and the China to be—China touched by science—we want good books. Of the making of these there is scarcely a beginning.

With a distinct purpose in view, Gen. James Harrison Wilson went to the Middle Kingdom. While inquiring into Chinese civilization and possibilities, and learning these from men and books, he studied, from horseback and with an engineer's eye, the face of the country. Then, as a practised railway manager, already familiar with the thorns and hard places in the seat of the presidency of a road, he looked at the obstacles, real, possible, and imaginary, to the introduction of traction by steam into the oldest of empires. He talked with the common people, studied their religion, prejudices, and superstitions, their houses and their graves, their fields, roads, and methods of trade and transport; and then interviewed mandarin and merchant. To any one familiar with Gen. Wilson's previous career, it goes without proof that our latest American traveller in China was well equipped for his task. Educated at West Point, a soldier during the whole of the civil war, an engineer and cavalry officer, a railroad builder and manager for twenty years, and well known recently as the President of the New York and New England Railroad Company, he set his eye on the only great country yet to be provided with railroads. His book is a commentary on the one text of progress in China.

Sailing from San Francisco October 19, 1885, after a visit to Japan and the run to Shanghai, he hurried forward to Tientsin. He had several encouraging interviews with Viceroy Li, and, at his request, made a midwinter journey of fifteen hundred miles on horseback through the three northeastern provinces of Chi-li, Ho-nan, and Shan-tung. A journey was made in central Japan, "the most beautiful country in the world"; and then a trip to Formosa, followed by a second visit to Tientsin. Between leaving and returning to New York, a year, lacking three days, elapsed.

In his twenty-one chapters, one of which is devoted to Japan, the author discusses his theme in the most practical manner. He touches upon the questions of population, education, government, foreign and missionary influence, and national history, only so far as they illustrate his one idea kept in view. He believes China need suffer from no fear of over-population, as the soil is able to support treble the present number of people. He notes and seizes, much more clearly than most outside visitors, the fact of China's long isolation. Surrounded only by pupil nations, and kept far away from equal or superior civilizations and their modifying influences by high mountains, cold steppes, malarious jungles, unnavigable ri-

vers, or oceans vexed only by natural forces, the Middle Kingdom stood for monotonous centuries like an island in the midst of the ocean. Now the old conditions are changed. Steam has wrought more wonders than all the dragons. The ocean has become a pathway, steppes and defiles can be made into roads by ties and rails, and, instead of vassals and tributaries, China is touched on her borders by arrogant Europeans—Russians, French, British. Only three or four days distant is the "neighbor-disturbing" Dragon-fly Country, with sea-going ironclads and the finest infantry in Asia. With the prospect of a railway from St. Petersburg to Vladivostok, another from Calcutta through Burmah to the borders of Yun-nan, and a fleet of steel cruisers in Yedo Bay, the question of railroads in China touches the instinct of self-preservation, and interests the Chinese soldier even more than merchant or mandarin. The nerves of China are said to be more obtuse than an alligator's, but nowadays nations get new nervous systems by means of iron and electricity. In spite of popular opposition and the feng-shuey (wind-and-water superstition), Li and the progressives have persevered in their schemes of telegraphic connection of the frontiers with the capital and its seaport. About 5,000 miles of wire are now in operation. "Military necessity" has spurred on the Government thus to adopt one of the cheapest and easiest features of modern civilization. In this there is hope for the speedy entrance of the locomotive.

In carefully weighed words, Gen. Wilson states his belief that China is very nearly ready for railroads, that even the popular prejudices can be overcome by wit and silver, that private wealth can be secured for the purpose, and that the progressive statesmen will gradually impress their views on the conservatives and win them over. This he believes, despite his thorough consideration of the fact that the attitude of nearly all the civil officers towards the foreign appliances of civilization is that of stolid apathy. In a word, Gen. Wilson believes that progress is possible to China. If one feels disappointment at the author's grave, judicial, and cautious statements, and longs for warm and rosy views, he must remember how often the sanguine prophets have failed. One who loves fact more than fancy will thank Gen. Wilson that he has so clearly, soberly, and industriously given the reader such lavish materials on which to build a sound opinion.

In its literary mechanism the book is to be commended. The style is clear, straightforward, with no attempt at rhetorical embellishment or originality of view, yet readable and pleasing. A good preface, analytical table of contents, index, and colored map, with print, paper, and binding, make this literary venture of a soldier and engineer a worthy inmate of the permanent library.

The Chief Periods of European History. Six Lectures read in the University of Oxford in Trinity Term, 1885, with an Essay on Greek Cities under Roman Rule. By Edward A. Freeman, M.A. Macmillan & Co. 8vo, pp. 250.

THE special merit of this course of lectures is suggestiveness. We do not know that Mr. Freeman has anywhere given so good a key to the problems of European history. It is not, as he himself says, a key which will unlock all these problems. It is but one out of many possible divisions into periods. "Another man might divide on some principle altogether different; I might myself divide on some other principle in another course of lectures." However this may be, the principle of division here followed is peculiarly suggestive. It is "the main outlines of European history, as grouped round its central

point, the Roman power." The heads of the chapters illustrate this: "Europe Before the Roman Power," "Rome the Head of Europe," "Rome and the New Nations," "The Divided Empire," "Survivals of Empire," and "The World Romeless."

But while the course is in its very nature full of instruction and suggestion, so that even these titles carry the reader right into the heart of the subject, we must say that the execution in detail is in great part perfunctory, to a degree very unusual with Mr. Freeman. The outline of the course has so much meaning that it is difficult to fill out this outline without a considerable amount of trite and indifferent matter which may fairly be called padding. He urges in the preface "that no one may be disappointed if he fails to find in this thin volume even a summary of all European history, much less a philosophical discussion of all European history." But, thin as it is, this volume of six lectures contains more than the necessary space for stating and elucidating his general outline. The essential points in this suggestive theme, of Rome in its relation to European history, even with all the illustration that is needed to give it fulness and clearness, occupy only a moderate proportion of these pages. We have never read any of Mr. Freeman's works in which his special fault of loading his pages with an excessive amount of detail, much of it of a recondite nature and much in a very allusive form, is so conspicuous as here. But then, we hasten to add that in none of his works will the reader meet with more, not merely of suggestiveness, but of bright and felicitous statement. After speaking (p. 45) of the historical relation of Gaul and Teuton to Rome in the building of civilization, he adds: "They who came as invaders only had to be dealt with as invaders and not as disciples. The Gaul who came before his time had his scourging at Sentinum. The Teuton who came before his time had his scourging at Aquæ Sextiæ and Vercellæ." Of Odoacer (p. 96): "The only difference between the revolution of 476 and a crowd of earlier revolutions was that Odovakar found that it suited his purpose to acknowledge the sovereignty of an absent sovereign rather than to reign in the name of a present puppet of his own creation." Of Theodoric (p. 97): "His rule was the best, as that of the Franks was about the worst, to be found in Roman and Teutonic Europe in his day. Still, fusion between Roman and Teuton was the very essence of Frankish rule; under the system of Theodoric no direct step towards fusion could be taken. It was the necessary result of his position that he gave Italy one generation of peace and prosperity such as has no fellow for ages on either side of it, but that, when he was gone, a fabric which had no foundation but his personal qualities broke down with a crash." Of Charlemagne (p. 108): "The truest view of the event of 800 is that the existing empire was split asunder, and that the western fragment, that which acknowledged the Frankish King as its Emperor, was in form enlarged by the addition of the territories of the Frankish King."

A line of thought which runs through the book, parallel with that of Rome, is that of the "Eternal Eastern Question." "In that abiding strife," he says (p. 5), "that Eternal Question, the men of the Eternal City, Scipio and Sulla, Trajan and Julian, played their part well indeed; but it was waged before them and after them as far back as the days of Agamemnon and Achilles, as near to the present moment as the days of Codrington and Skobelev." Few men have the gift of covering so much ground with one sentence as Mr. Freeman; and the sentence just quoted is the text for a large part of the volume. Another sentence in this connection deserves to be cited (p. 52): "Never, in truth, was the Eternal Ques-

tion so near to its solution, so near to a solution which might have stifled the life of Europe for ever, as when Hannibal debated in his mind whether he should march straight from the field of Cannæ to the gates of Rome."

The closing essay, from the *Contemporary Review*, "Greek Cities under Roman Rule," is in Mr. Freeman's best style, and deserves to be carefully read by all who desire to understand the fundamental nature of the Roman provincial rule. To be sure, it covers only half the ground, and one wishes that Mr. Freeman would do for the Roman power in the West what he has here done for the Roman power in the East. The work was a wholly different one: "There Rome did not enslave or destroy, but created. The towns of the West looked forward, while the Greek commonwealths looked backward." But the legal relation was identical in the two cases; and Mr. Freeman's brilliant and graphic delineation in detail will afford, for the whole subject, the best possible commentary to Mr. Arnold's excellent account of the Roman provincial government, or to Mommsen's lately published volumes.

A Contribution to the Bibliography and Literature of Newport, R. I.: Comprising a list of Books published and printed in Newport, with Notes and Additions. By Charles E. Hammett, jr. Newport, R. I.: Hammett; Providence: Rider. 1887. 4to, pp. 185.

If every lawyer owes a debt to his profession which can only be paid off by contributing something to the elucidation of the law, still more ought every intelligent bookseller to feel bound to make some record of the literature with which he has to deal. Newport is fortunate in having in Mr. Hammett a bookseller who is at the same time author, collector, and publisher. His exhaustive list of Newport publications must reach over a thousand numbers, beginning as early as 1647 with a theological tract, others following it at irregular intervals until 1725, at which date (annually produced by its local press, and on subjects of local interest or by local authors) there began a growing literature, here duly chronicled in an alphabetical list and in a chronological index, each checking the other and correcting it.

Apart from the interest in religious controversy, in which liberal Rhode Island strove against orthodox New England, the Newport succession of eminent preachers from Hopkins to Channing supplied abundant material in their sermons, often controversial, sometimes historical, and always theological. Then, too, next after the *Boston News Letter* of 1704, and the *Boston Gazette* of 1719, came the printer of the *Boston Courant* of 1721, James Franklin, the elder brother of Benjamin, and in 1732 issued the *Rhode Island Gazette*. He died in 1735, and was succeeded in his business as printer and publisher by his widow Anne, who, aided by her daughter and her son, James, a native of Newport, managed it until he was of age, when he became the partner of his mother and conducted the business in his own name. He began printing about 1754, published the *Newport Mercury* in 1758 (still issued), and died in 1762, when his mother resumed the business, but in partnership with a son-in-law, under the name of Franklin & Hall, who were in turn succeeded by printers in regular order down to the present century. The imprint of the Franklins in Boston and in Newport has almost as much value in the eyes of the bibliographer as that of the more famous brother in Philadelphia. It might be worth while, as it would be easy, to collect from Mr. Hammett's pages a complete list of the Newport Franklin books and pamphlets. Practically the Franklin press, under their name and that of their successors, Southwick, Edes, and Farnsworth, served the needs of

Newport for home productions, although many of Mr. Hammett's titles are of Newport books printed elsewhere. If James Franklin printed Penn's writings, it was more to supply the local Quaker demand than to contend for the control of that kind of theological literature. Morton's 'New England Memorial,' the earliest history of New England, first published in Cambridge in 1669, and in London in the same year, was honored with a third edition in Newport in 1772, the second edition being that printed in Boston in 1712; for this the local demand could not have been very great. One of the early London accounts of King Philip's War is that printed in 1676, and attributed by Increase Mather to "a Quaker in Rhode Island." Gorton and Codrington and John Clark and the early leaders and settlers of Newport printed their first works in London; nevertheless, the fourth New England press and the second American newspaper had their seat in that city.

It is curious to mark the medley of loyalty and patriotism in the years that ushered in and saw the Revolution. In 1775 the speech of George the Third and a poem on the conquest of Louisburg appeared from the same Newport press that printed Warren's oration and the address from the Continental Congress. 1776 brought Paine's 'Common Sense' and Hopkins's 'Address on Slavery.' In 1777 we find Blaskowitz's map of Newport and Chastellux's Travels, printed on board the French fleet, then in the harbor of Newport. (Mr. Hammett has made a special study of maps, and his bibliography is enriched by a very exhaustive account of all those that include Newport.) 1778 and the years of the English occupation of Newport produced Howe's loyal newspaper, Burgoyne's speeches, and other Tory publications. The same type served the invader that before and after the occupation was used by the patriotic native printer. 1783 produced *Edanus Burke's* sharp attack on the Cincinnati as the foundation of an aristocracy, a charge which was best met by the modest gathering of its members in Newport only this present summer.

To err is human, but to be a bibliographer without error would indeed be superhuman. Some of the mistakes in Mr. Hammett's pages are no doubt the printer's, and he modestly disarms criticism by inviting it for both sins of omission and those of commission. His cataloguing Shipley's sermon under "Lord [Bishop?]" is corrected by its being put properly under "Shipley." The reference to Trevett vs. Weeden ought to include a statement of the fact that the importance of that case is due to its being the earliest instance of an act of the Legislature overruled by the courts on the score of unconstitutionality; this, too, was before the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, and while Rhode Island was still living under its royal charter. The book is very attractive typographically, and reflects credit on the local press, and it is altogether a marked event in the literary history of Newport that its bibliography should be so well presented. Future editions may perhaps furnish still further evidence of its claim on public attention by corrections and additions that will enhance its value.

Photographic Printing Methods: a Practical Guide to the Professional and Amateur Worker. By the Rev. W. H. Burbank. Scovill Manufacturing Co.

THE photographic world will be under no small obligation for this very convenient compendium of all that is most wanted as information and instruction, whether to the practised printer who sometimes forgets formulas, or to the beginner who has them all to learn. It comprises all the

various methods of producing positive images from the negatives which are made in the camera—the ordinary silver print on albumenized and plain papers, iron and uranium, platinum, carbon, all the mechanical methods based on gelatine or asphaltum, and known as heliotype, collotype, albertype, etc., etc., or heliogravure, photogravure, etc., etc., and even the difficult processes of enamelling by photography and putting the positive image on the block for wood engravers; but we do not find the description of the Woodbury process, which is, of all, the most desirable for certain kinds of work, and the details given of the Ives and Meissenbach processes are hardly sufficient to enable a beginner to experiment on them.

But what is of the highest importance in all these processes, the peculiar quality of negative requisite for the method desired, is not touched on at all; and if a second edition of this manual should be called for, we recommend that this point be put in a most clear light. The negative that will give a satisfactory print on albumenized paper will often give most unsatisfactory results with any of the so-called matt prints, as platinotype, Eastman's bromide paper, plain paper, etc.; and this is one, and perhaps the chief, reason why the albumenized paper print still holds its popularity, though the most fugitive of all the silver processes. A negative for an albumenized paper print is only required to show all the detail in its shadows when held up to the light—every degree of gradation will appear in the print; while in the matt print all degrees below a certain depth of shadow will be lost in a uniform black. The negative for a matt print or any of the photogravures or heliogravures must, therefore, be made of a special character to avoid this difficulty—they must have as little deep shadow as is compatible with the subject, and the best results will be given by negatives which have only very small passages of perfect transparency, and as little as may be of high light, the greatest extent possible being of half tint, subdued lights, and illuminated shadows. A negative which, when held up in the direct sunlight, shows the most gradation and detail will generally give the best matt print, and if it is not intense in development, so much the better. Two or three specks of absolute transparency in the negative are all that is necessary in shadow, and a little more in high lights will give a matt print a beauty of effect which will leave no place for the glossy surface of the albumenized print.

The question of permanence is one of great importance in selecting a process, and here it is necessary to say that no silver process is to be considered absolutely permanent; in fact, only the ink-printed types are so. But of all the silver processes, the albumenized paper is the least to be trusted. The Eastman bromide process is fairly permanent, but will not resist bad air (sulphuretted hydrogen, etc.) or mineral acids. The platinotype, if thoroughly washed from its iron salts, will resist anything but aqua regia; the carbon and Woodbury prints, though perfectly permanent as regards fading, will sometimes crumble and leave the mount through decomposition of the gelatine which forms the vehicle of the image.

The index of this manual is badly arranged and perplexing, and some carelessness is noticeable in the proof-reading. For instance, on page 55, in the formula for sizing for platinum prints, we read, "aniline blue powered [*sic*], 10 to 20 drops." What is a drop of powered (powdered?) aniline? And speaking of the platinotype print, which is the acme for amateurs, we may say that, in spite of all the directions as to development, which prescribe soaking for five seconds, we have always found that the best and most brilliant prints were got by printing sufficiently, and then drawing the print rapidly across the surface of