

the pages of less known authors whom it seems unnecessary to mention.

Supposititious was taken from the Latin *suppositivus* or *suppositivus*, comparable with which are *adscriptivus*, *adventivus*, *collativus*, *collectivus*, *commentivus*, *conductivus*, etc., etc. Such an adjective is based on a supine; and its termination expresses manner of origin. It is singular, therefore, that scholars like Bp. Mountagu and Abp. Williams, for instance, should have elected, instead of *supposititious*, *suppositious*, which, answering to the factitious *suppositiosus*, from the stem *suppositio[n] + -osus*, should denote fullness or abundance of what is signified by *suppositio*. Actual adjectives similar to *suppositiosus* are seen in *ambitiosus*, *contentiosus*, *seditionus*, and *superstitiosus*. This pedagogy must be pardoned. It is risked in preference to possible obscurity.

Except to import "fraudulently substituted," as, for example, when qualifying *child*, *supposititious* is hardly authorized by good usage. Mr. Dickens, in his 'Little Dorrit,' 'Great Expectations,' 'Our Mutual Friend,' and elsewhere, makes it equivalent to "supposed," but with dubious warrant, old or recent.

What may be called, for distinction, the Latinistic *suppose*, akin, in sense, to *supposititious* and the ineligible *suppositious*, is defined by Dr. Johnson, "to put one thing, by fraud, in the place of another," but is left unexemplified; and his editors, Archdeacon Todd and Dr. Latham, go no further. It is not very unusual, however; nor are the related *supposite* and *supposition* unknown. Proofs here follow:

"Finding his wife Hyperia, that, in like manner, was delivered, but of a dead child, he supposed this in the stead." "Your nephew dyed at Sea, and . . . I supposed my sonne in his place, who was receiv'd for him; and ever since he has been bred as if he had bene the true Tygranes." Anon., *Ariana* (1636), pp. 77, 203.

"No supposed, false, subintruded God or Gods." Bp. Richard Mountagu (died 1641), *Acts and Monuments*, etc. (1642), p. 11.

"The Philistines would not suffer the feet of men to tread upon that threshold upon which their but fictitious and supposed Deitie had fallen." Rev. William Jenkyn, *The Stil-Destroyer* (1645), p. 23.

"He was then in a place where they understood nothing better than *supposing* of false titles, and never remember any reasons but such as they know will please their Clients." Anon., *The Comical History of Francion* (1655), Books I.-III., p. 62.

"What he brings of the *supposite* and imaginary causes of Paul, Barnabas, and Peter, proves," etc. Rev. Dr. Robert Bailie (1653), *The Disswasive vindicated* (1655), p. 21.

"I beleve I am not blameable for making this *supposition*" (of my sonne). Anon., *Ariana* (1636), p. 203. See the second quotation from this work, *supra*.

Quotations are added for several more words, equally new to lexicography, derived from *supponere*:

"Hence there can be no difficulty in the meaning of the word *Suppositivity*, which is the Abstract of the *Suppositum*." Rev. John Serjeant, *Solid Philosophy* (1697), p. 99. Dr. South, too, has *suppositivity*. *Suppositat*, which it presumes, I have not met with.

"Whether (in any art or science whatsoever) a bare Hypothesis, or sole *suppositary* argument, may not be gratis, and, with the same facility and authority, be denied, as it is affirmed." Rev. John Gaule, *The Mag-astro-mancer, or the Magical Astrological Diviner posed and puzzled* (1652), p. 107.

"Witness, for instance sake, those queries, whether God be *materia prima*, and whether Christs divinitie might not *suppositate* a fly." Rev. John Doughty (1627), *A Discourse*, etc. (1628), p. 12.

"Passions, as Actions, are of Persons or *Supposites*." Dr. Richard Burthogge (1674), *Causa Dei* (1675), p. 55.

Copious beyond the conception of all but

very diligent readers was the experimental vocabulary of bygone times. Superficial observers are wont to credit our own age with extraordinary addiction to the misusage of new terms. Yet, as can have escaped no one accustomed to incursions into the dark corners of old libraries, scientific technicalities apart, the seventeenth century was no whit behind the nineteenth in opulence of verbal innovation.—Your obedient servant,

F. H.

MARLESFORD, ENGLAND, July 23, 1888.

Notes.

A NEW edition, the fourth, of that excellent English handbook, 'Descriptive Astronomy,' will be published next year; and its author, Mr. George F. Chambers of Eastbourne, Sussex, recognizing that a book of such character must necessarily have many general defects, as well as contain a certain number of errors, notifies the astronomical world that he is prepared to welcome suggestions and corrigenda from any and every quarter.

G. P. Putnam's Sons will publish immediately the President's Message in large type, small quarto, with sixteen full-page moral and graphic illustrations from original designs by Thomas Nast. The "Questions of the Day" edition of the President's Message, with annotations by R. R. Bowker, which has been delayed for some important additional material, will be ready about the same time.

G. S. Fellows & Co., New York, announce 'Protection Echoes from the Capitol,' "containing 1,200 aphorisms and leading principles of the protective policy," by Thos. H. McKee; and 'Memory Systems, New and Old,' by A. E. Middleton.

J. B. Lippincott Co. have in press 'An Elementary Treatise on Human Anatomy,' by Prof. Joseph Leidy; 'Inebriety: its Causes, its Results, its Remedy,' by Franklin D. Clum, M.D.; 'Tenure and Toil; or, Rights and Wrongs of Property and Labor,' by John Gibbons; 'Embroidery and Lace,' from the French of Ernest Lefebvre; 'Jesus in Modern Life,' by Algernon S. Logan; 'The Writer's Handbook'; 'A Marriage of Shadows, and Other Poems,' by Margaret Veley; 'Sinfire and Douglas Duane,' by Julian Hawthorne; 'The Owl's Nest,' from the German of E. Marlitt; 'Memoirs of a Royalist,' by M. de Falloux; 'Life of Henry M. Stanley,' by the Rev. H. W. Little; and 'With the Camel Corps up the Nile,' by Count Gleichen.

'The Pillars of Society, and Other Plays,' by Henrik Ibsen, edited by Havelock Ellis, will be the September volume in the "Camelot Series"; 'Poems by Southey,' edited by Sidney R. Thompson, in the "Canterbury Poets"; a 'Life of Bunyan,' by Canon Venables, in the "Great Writers." Thomas Whittaker is the American publisher of these series.

In the making of pretty books England has been rapidly advancing of late, without, however, in any way threatening the preëminence of France. It is as a pretty book that we are inclined to receive Mr. Alfred Pollard's new edition of Sir Philip Sidney's 'Astrophel and Stella' (London: David Stott). The type is well chosen and the page well shaped, albeit a thought too scant for the text; the paper is suitable; there is a frontispiece, and altogether the book reveals that its maker took thought and knew bookmaking to be an art. It is well made, also, in another sense, for the editor has done his work in scholarly fashion, supplying

an adequate introduction, many various readings, and ample notes.

Quite in place in the Messrs. Putnam's "Nugget Series" is La Motte Fouqué's 'Undine,' with 'Sintram' contained between the same covers—the first prettily illustrated. The little volume is convenient for the pocket, yet ornamental for the library shelf or table.

The end of Pepys's Diary; Essays and Tales by Addison; Johnson's Lives of Addison, Savage, and Swift; and Plutarch's Lives of Pyrrhus, Camillus, etc., form the most recent additions to "Casell's National Library."

Several years ago we reviewed Myers's 'Outlines of Ancient History,' commending the author especially for his success in making a readable book by "willingness to omit names and dates which are not essential." He has since published a 'Mediæval and Modern History' marked by the same qualities; and the earlier work is now transferred to the publishers of the later (Boston: Ginn & Co.), and republished in a revised form. In this revision President Myers has associated himself with Prof. W. F. Allen of the University of Wisconsin, who has undertaken the Roman portion, to be issued next year. In the present edition, therefore, the history of Rome appears in its original shape, as a temporary arrangement; this portion being without the maps and illustrations, which are abundantly provided for the revised work. As compared with the original, this revised edition of the Oriental and Greek histories is somewhat enlarged, and, on the whole, improved. The maps, as in the modern history, are mostly taken (by permission) from Freeman's Atlas. The illustrations are well selected, and are genuinely illustrative—a rare thing in American school histories. On the whole, we know no brief account of ancient history so well suited as this to be read by intelligent persons (not young children) who wish to acquire an accurate outline of events and to seize the spirit of the past.

Mr. John S. White's 'Recent Examination Papers for Admission to Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Sheffield Scientific School,' etc. (Boston: Ginn & Co.), speaks for itself as a work of practical utility for teachers of preparatory schools. It ought, however, either to be provided with a table of contents, or to have the several institutions designated by the headlines of the pages.

Prof. D'Ooge's 'Colloquia Latina' (Boston: D. C. Heath & Co.) is the result of his own experience in stimulating the interest of beginners in Latin by oral dialogue. The dialogues here devised (or partly borrowed from classic authors) have attractive subjects and a considerable variety, and are capable of being much extended by a skilful teacher. They are quite above the ordinary attempts in this direction, which are apt to be dreary enough.

Mr. W. J. Rolfe and his son, Mr. J. C. Rolfe, have edited with notes Macaulay's 'Lays of Ancient Rome' for parallel reading during the study of Latin (Harpers). A portrait of Macaulay is prefixed, and there are other illustrations, some of which, we venture to think, ought to be retired from general circulation in favor of more recent and authentic representations. The editors dispute Matthew Arnold's judgment of the Lays as poetry, and fortify themselves by reproducing two English and one American counter-judgments. However this may be decided, there can be no doubt that the Lays are good enough poetry for youth, and are capable of being made into an acceptable text-book. Their declamatory quality and easy memorizing insure them a long vogue among schoolboys.

The 'Lessons in English, adapted to the study

of American Classics,' by Sarah E. Husted Lockwood (Boston: Ginn & Co.), we commend to the attention of teachers of high schools and academies, without feeling sure how far the use of it will approve the scheme. It is at least not a dull or forbidding text-book.

We cannot praise highly Mr. William Williams's 'Composition' and Rhetoric, by Practice' (Boston: D. C. Heath & Co.). Although a teacher might find handy the examples here amassed, the execution as a whole falls far short of being masterly.

Whitney's 'Compendious German Grammar' (Henry Holt & Co.) celebrates its twentieth year by appearing in a sixth edition. The typography is wholly new and greatly improved; and besides the general revision (which, by the way, has not disturbed the order of paragraphs and sections), a fresh set of exercises has been added of a very practical sort. While the new orthography has not been adopted, it has been bracketed throughout.

Some two or three years ago, Mr. H. S. Hall, Master of the Military and Engineering Side, Clifton College, and Mr. S. R. Knight, late Assistant Master at Marlborough College, England, published an 'Elementary Algebra for Schools.' It met with unusual success, a second edition having since appeared. They have now given us a 'Higher Algebra, a Sequel to Elementary Algebra' (Macmillan), which is worthy of a more extended notice than we have room for. It is an octavo of over 500 pages, embracing an unusual variety of topics, the table of contents alone covering nearly 14 pages. De Morgan used to say that some men were born algebraists, some geometricians; but great talents, even in one department, by no means necessarily implied equal gifts in the other. Messrs. Hall and Knight seem to be "born algebraists." It is true they give us no new discoveries of great importance—a book intended for practical use in the higher class of schools is, perhaps, not the place for the communication of new discoveries—but they certainly thresh the old straw with new and smoothly working flails. One of the most striking and even surprising things about the book is the collection of examples by which the abstract principles are illustrated. They are distributed through the work under the proper heads, and the answers to all of them are given at the end of the volume. Chapter 33 is intended to be an exposition of the elementary principles of determinants, and to serve as an introduction to larger treatises. It is by far the most unsatisfactory in the book.

Those who wish a short, neat, and clear exposition of the elements of determinants will find it in a recently published work of Prof. W. G. Peck, formerly Professor of Mathematics at West Point, and for many years and now occupying the same position in Columbia College (New York: A. S. Barnes & Co.). It covers only 47 pages, but Prof. Peck is extraordinarily felicitous in the composition of "small books on great subjects." The chapter of Messrs. Hall and Knight was evidently written out of other books. Prof. Peck's little work was quite as evidently written out of his own head. Not that there is anything original in it, but it is manifestly the result of reflection upon the materials furnished him by previous writers—of digestion and assimilation—and hence it has the symmetry and consistency which mark the product of a single mind.

The July number of the *English Historical Review* is unusually rich in the field of early English history. The first article, a very short one, by F. W. Maitland, "The Suitors of the County Court," undertakes to show that attendance upon the county courts was not, in the

thirteenth century, the right of all freeholders, as is usually assumed, but was an obligation resting probably upon certain tenures. "The West Saxon Conquest of Surrey," by H. E. Malden, maintains that Surrey did not form integrally a part of the kingdom of Sussex, and narrates the contest for this territory of the West Saxons against Kent and Essex. Belonging to a later period is "The Early Life of Thomas Wolsey," by T. W. Cameron. "Hrotsvitha of Gandesheim," by W. H. Hudson, gives an account of the writings of the Nun of Gandesheim, holding that, while genuine, they "had very little influence upon the development of the drama in modern Europe," and James J. Breck Perkins shows that "The Great Condé" has enjoyed a higher reputation than he deserved—"as a soldier he yields to Turenne, and, except as a soldier, there was little in Condé to excite our approbation," witness "his turbulence when young," "his obsequiousness when old," and "his greediness, selfishness, and want of principle" all through life. The "Notes and Documents" are largely devoted to Cromwell, and contain two diaries of Waterloo.

The "plunder of the churches" at the establishment of the Reformation in England, is one of the most serious charges against the reformers. Cobbett's 'History of the Protestant Reformation' (§§ 207 and 208) speaks of "the value of the images, censers, and the like," as the motive of the plunderers, and says, "The robbers took away everything valuable, even down to the vestments of the priests." Very likely there was such pilfering, in the confusion of the change in some places. It is interesting, however, to compare the account in contemporary documents. The *East-Anglian* (Ipswich, England) has had for two or three years a series of records, entitled "Certificates of Church Goods in Suffolk, temp. Edward VI." Here we have, for the several parishes of Suffolk (and some of Essex), a certified statement of the church goods sold, and the disposition of the money received. We have looked these over with some care, and have found that the money was uniformly expended in objects of genuine public interest; the things sold were of course such as could be of no service in the reformed worship, usually pixes, etc. The following (for Wrentham, Nov. 4, 1547) gives a fair idea of the character of these transactions. Sold, May 1, plate to the value of £30 (at 4s. 3d. the ounce). "Employnets wth thusen": Allowed to the buyers for waste, 13s. 4d.; "in setlynge furthe Solders to srue the Kynge," £10; "for makyng a greate Dyke for wywnynge of a comon to the comne wealthe of the poore in thsame Towne," £12; paling for the "Gylde halle" yard, 13s. 4d.; repairs of same house, 16s.; "one Surplysse wt sleveys commanded to be bought by the Kings visitors," 10s.; cloth, etc., for seven new surplices, 24s.; "for .iiij. chalde of lyme to deke the churche," etc., 32s.; "And so remayneth in the Towne boxe to thuse of thsame Towne" 50s. 8d. These calculations, by the way, do not quite balance. It is to be noticed that this sale, as well as some others, was in the reign of Henry VIII. Suffolk, it is well known, was a stronghold of Protestantism and Puritanism, and Wrentham was perhaps the headquarters of Puritanism in the county, being the home of the Brewsters.

An antiquarian correspondent asks how we shall designate the relationship of a man to his widow's son by a second marriage. Diagrammatically, the situation may be represented thus:

Richard ————— Mary ————— Peter²
(son) John (son) Henry

Peter is John's stepfather. Richard is Henry's "step-back father," suggests our friend.

Quite the best among the examples of photogravure which make up the portfolio of *Sun and Shade*, No. 1, are two portraits of the rival Presidential candidates. We are much mistaken if the physiognomist would not read strength and weakness in them respectively. The other plates, to the number of eleven, show the process of the Photogravure Company of this city in divers employments, now copying a canvas by Le Rolle, now a lithograph, and again scenes from the theatre and from nature. This medley is hardly adapted for binding, and, indeed, is provided with a loose cover, which is all it needs. The office of the Company is at No. 853 Broadway.

We have received the third or August number of the *Scottish Art Review*, published at Glasgow by Kerr & Richardson. It is, without giving promise of being an authoritative expounder of art, a readable magazine, of varied and orderly contents. An etching and a phototype after Corot, and Romney's *Lady Derby*, are the plates of the number.

On the recommendation of the Minister of Public Instruction, King Humbert has issued a decree regulating the manner in which Italy proposes to celebrate the fourth centennial of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus. This will consist mainly in the publication of the collected works of the great navigator, and of all the documents and charts which will throw any light upon his life and voyages. This will be accompanied by a bibliography of the works published in Italy upon Columbus and upon the discovery of America, from the earliest time down to the present. The head of the royal commission charged with the preparation of this edition is Cesare Correnti, President of the Italian Historical Institute, and among its members are Signors Amari, Cantù, Desimoni, and the Marquis Doria. An appropriation of 12,000 lire has been made to cover the expenses of this work, which is now, if we are not mistaken, about to be undertaken for the first time. Different editors have published portions of his writings, as Navarrete the account of his voyages, and Major his letters; but no one has yet collected all his writings into a single edition, though an index to them was published in 1864.

Following the example set by the Radicals of Rome, in their efforts to erect a statue to Giordano Bruno, the Liberals of Venice have voted a monument to Fra Paolo Sarpi, to be placed in the little square of Sta. Fosca, not far from the spot where he was stabbed in 1607. Opinions may differ as to the permanent political value of the services which Sarpi tried to render to Venice, but unquestionably he deserves some greater memorial than the tombstone at San Michele. Unfortunately, at the present time this monument not only is construed, but is intended, to be a demonstration against the Church. Designs for it are to be sent in for public competition to be opened in October and continued during November.

—In the August *Macmillan's*, Mr. Sidney Colvin gives a foretaste of the new material in his forthcoming edition of the letters of Keats to his family and friends. It has been previously known that Mr. Jeffrey of Louisville, who originally furnished the bulk of the most interesting letters for Lord Houghton's use in his life of the poet, tampered with the text, and the true readings and cancelled passages of a portion of the correspondence were restored in Speed's American edition a few years ago. Mr. Colvin has had the use of others of the original letters, and has found in them similar omitted parts

which he will publish, so that we are likely to have at last a final edition. There is apparently nothing of serious importance in the changes, but the originals afford a fuller and in some parts a more natural expression of Keats's mind. Among the items of interest is the mention of his friend Reynolds as the author of the satire on "Peter Bell," which appeared before the poem itself came out and gave offence to Lamb, who wished the author "whipt at the cart's tail" for it; and, following on this, inserted in the journal-letter, is a review of the skit by Keats which was afterwards printed in the *Examiner*. This piece of prose was hitherto unknown, but, trivial as it is, has some interest. The new passages are liberally quoted from in this article, and cover many subjects, as was the habit of Keats's pen. The best one is his description of meeting Coleridge, of which we already have Coleridge's own account. It is too long to be reproduced here, but it gives the list of topics spoken of by Coleridge in the two-miles walk "at his alderman-like after-dinner pace"—an endless list—and winds up with this brief but effective stroke of description: "I heard his voice as he came towards me—I heard it as he moved away—I had heard it all the interval—if it may be called so." This was the time that Coleridge felt "death in that hand," as Keats took leave of him. The first draft of "La Belle Dame sans Merci" is given, with some light jesting remarks upon its technique by the poet, and it appears from the paper that its date was April-May, 1819, the blossoming time of Keats's genius. It is matter for congratulation that these letters have at last fallen into the hands of a competent editor. The magazine contains also the first of a series of papers by Mr. Pater, upon Gaston de La Tour, in the style of his 'Imaginary Portraits.'

—Mr. James Knowles, the editor of the *Nineteenth Century*, has had the wit and skill to persuade some of the leading foreign diplomatists in London to contribute articles on topics relating to the government of their own countries which they are best qualified to treat. Mr. Phelps, our Minister, expounded the Constitution of the United States—but its letter and its spirit rather than its actual working—and he therefore said nothing particularly new or striking. The articles in the June and July numbers by M. Waddington, the French Ambassador, on local government and county councils in France, should be read by every thinking American. Not only is the subject one which is little known, and about which it is difficult to obtain accurate information, but the articles contain instructive lessons and useful hints on subjects of great importance to us. The statements made by a man who has a practical knowledge of his subject, are very different from all that can be learned by a mere theoretical study of the French Constitution and laws. The most interesting part is that explaining the machinery by which the French have built and kept up their splendid system of public roads—the best in the world—and the want of which is such a blot on our civilization. M. Waddington's remarks on the manner in which the taxes for keeping up the roads are imposed, and by which the men who use the roads most are taxed especially for their maintenance, contain suggestions that are useful to us not only in the country, but in our large cities. The paving taxes in New York, for instance, are assessed entirely on the real estate in the street to be paved or in its immediate vicinity, on the absurd supposition that the advantage of a good pavement accrues only to the owners of that property in giving it an increased value. The majority of house-owners

in New York rarely use the street except for walking or riding in a horse-car. The brewers, the manufacturers, the shippers, the owners of drays and heavy carts, who use the streets most; and who succeed in destroying the best pavement very shortly after it has been laid, pay nothing for the paving; whereas in France they pay very highly on account of the damage which they do to the roads, and their assessments are regulated yearly after a discussion between them and the authorities.

—A very important contribution to our knowledge of the English laboring classes is to be found in Mr. Charles Booth's very suggestive paper on the "Condition and Occupations of the People of East London and Hackney, 1887," published in the *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*. The aim of Mr. Booth, whose similar investigations in respect to the Tower Hamlets attracted wide attention last year, is "to show the relation which poverty, misery, and depravity bear to regular earnings and comparative comfort, and to describe the general conditions under which each class lives." He accordingly divides the population of the district under examination, numbering about a million souls, from information collected from house to house and family to family by the School Board visitors, into eight classes designated by the letters of the alphabet. The four classes A-D include the poor, using the term in its widest sense, A being the "loafers and semi-criminals," and D those who have "small regular earnings." Between these are the "poor," persons having a "sufficiently regular though bare income, such as 18s. to 21s. per week for a moderate family," and the "very poor," who fall below these meagre figures and live in a state of chronic want. In these four classes are to be found a little over thirty-five per cent. of the population, the largest proportions being in the second, the "very poor," and the fourth classes; the "loafers" forming only a little over one per cent. Mr. Booth then proceeds to show the causes of this poverty. These he divides into three kinds, which he terms questions of employment—that is, irregular work, low pay, and small profits; questions of habit, as intemperance; and questions of circumstance, as illness or large family combined with irregular work, etc. Out of sixteen hundred families of the classes A and B, 4 per cent. were loafers, those who will not work; 55 per cent. were "very poor" because of irregular work, etc., 14 per cent. on account of drinking habits, and 27 per cent. because of illness or large family. The condition of twenty-four hundred families in classes C and D was due in 68 per cent. to irregular work, 13 per cent. to intemperance, and 19 per cent. to illness or large family. It appears, therefore, from these figures that irregular work and low wages are the principal causes of poverty. In this connection Mr. Booth insists strongly upon the fact that "the poverty of the poor is mainly the result of the competition of the very poor." To the rich "the very poor are a sentimental interest; to the poor they are a crushing load." And he adds, evidently confident of the feasibility of his remedy: "The entire removal of this class out of the daily struggle for existence I believe to be the only solution of the problem of poverty."

—Another important observation is upon the necessity of "organizing the enforced leisure" of the poor. He makes no suggestion as to the methods, beyond referring to Mr. Auberon Herbert's plan for educational classes, and inviting the workmen's clubs to endeavor to supply some other place of rendezvous for the unemployed than the public house. There is

one ray of light which breaks the gloom of this paper in the confident statement that "the hordes of barbarians of whom we have heard, who, coming forth from their slums, will one day overwhelm modern civilization, do not exist. The barbarians are a handful, a very small and decreasing percentage." Among the numerous tables which Mr. Booth has prepared as the result of his investigations are ten showing the occupations of the inhabitants of East London and Hackney. From these it appears that by far the largest proportion are engaged in the clothing and furniture trades and upon the docks. From another table we learn that one million, out of the four millions who live in London, are in the "classes in poverty sinking to want." At the close of his paper Mr. Booth stated that an inquiry similar to his was about to be undertaken in Central London and Manchester; also, that the results of his investigations were soon to be published in a book "of which he would be editor, and to which there would be several able contributors," and which would deal with many points referred to in his paper, and especially in the discussion which followed its reading before the Society.

—Vol. 4 of the Astor Library Catalogue carries on the alphabet from R to Z, and finishes this important work in 4,276 pages, as it has been determined to accompany this author-catalogue with no subject-catalogue or index—not even such as was printed with the earlier catalogue. A subject-catalogue is really much needed at the Astor Library, that which was furnished with the original catalogue having been only a fragment of what Dr. Cogswell intended; and, though it serves a purpose, it falls far below what the public has a right to expect from so large a library. But economical reasons, we believe, prevented the Library from completing the former work according to Dr. Cogswell's plan. The Library has a subject-catalogue on cards of the portion covered by these volumes, and also of the later accessions since 1880, or, at least, is supposed to have such a catalogue. But we know from experience that, so far as the volumes covered by this author-catalogue are concerned, the subject-catalogue is rather unsystematic and imperfect, so that it strangely leaves a large number of volumes, to say nothing of articles in periodicals, unrepresented. We hope that before long the Library will print such a subject-catalogue as it needs and the value of its contents deserves. The method and the merit of the present catalogue we have already discussed; but it may be interesting to note here, among its curiosities, that the largest number of pages is given to the letter B, 404, and S comes next with 357, then M with 323, and C with 300. A leads the vowels with 240 pages, and is followed by U with 109, and E with 104. The smallest number of pages falls to X, 1½. U also contains the longest entry under one main heading, viz., United States, which requires 76 pages, or, including the entries in which United States appears as a part of the title, 82. The public is very much indebted to the Trustees for so valuable a help in consulting the resources of the Astor Library.

—The convention for the creation of an International Union for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works was signed at Berne, Switzerland, on September 9, 1886, by the representatives of ten countries: Germany, Belgium, Spain, France, Great Britain, Hayti, Italy, Liberia, Switzerland, and Tunis. The exchange of ratifications took place on September 5, 1887, also at Berne; but on that occasion Liberia was not represented, and, therefore, did not become one of the countries of the

Union. The treaty by which the Union was created, in accordance with its twentieth article, went into force three months after the day upon which the ratifications were exchanged, namely, December 5, 1887. Although only nine States, therefore, entered into this most important Union at the time of its formation, its promoters are hopeful that ultimately all civilized countries—including even the United States—will become members, and article eighteen of the convention provides that any country may accede to it in the future, provided the domestic laws of the country secure to authors and artists a protection for their works equal to that granted by the terms of the Union. Notification of such accession is to be sent in writing to the Swiss Government, and the latter, through the Bureau of the Union, is to communicate the fact to all the other countries. Accession implies a full adhesion to all the provisions of the convention and admission to all of its advantages. The first country to avail itself of the privilege of accession is the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. A law to permit that State to enter the Union was passed by its Chamber of Deputies on April 25, agreed to by the Council of State on May 11, and approved by the Grand Duke, King William III. of Holland, on May 23 this year. This was followed, June 27, by a royal decree promulgating the accession, which is to date from June 20, 1888; and notice to that effect was promptly sent, on July 10, by the President of the Swiss Confederation, to the other countries of the Union. The Grand Duchy takes its place in the sixth class as regards its contribution to the expenses of the International Bureau, its present proportion being, therefore, about one fifty-fourth part of the entire expenditure.

—Every contribution to a better understanding of our modern literary English is welcome, all the more so when it betokens careful and systematic study. Such is Morsbach's 'Ueber den Ursprung der neuenglischen Schriftsprache,' a pamphlet of nearly 200 pp., published by Henninger Bros., Heilbronn, 1888. The author's general position is that the language embodied in the London documents (public and private) from 1384 to 1430 may be taken as the prototype of our modern literary English. It comes nearest to the language adopted and perpetuated by Caxton and his press in the latter half of the century. And from Caxton's speech to that of Shakspeare and the King James Bible is but a short step, we add. Some opposition has already shown itself in England to Morsbach's view; but we suspect that this opposition rests, in the main, upon a misconception. As we understand the author, he does not assert that the actual spoken language of London—what we should call fifteenth-century Cockney—is the prototype of Caxton. He merely implies (his language is not so precise as we could wish) that there seems to have grown up in and around the public offices of London a conventional *modus loquendi et scribendi*, which had official currency throughout the greater part of England. If this be so, London document-English played in the fifteenth century a part analogous to the Saxon-Chancery German in Luther's time. At any rate, whether we accept or reject Morsbach's opinion, the bulk of his work is not to be assailed, for it consists of 150 pp. of analysis of the language of the documents from every point of view, phonology, declension, and conjugation. It is the most satisfactory grammatical discussion that one could wish. Only at one point do we feel called upon to raise the voice of protest. Morsbach, with many of his German colleagues, speaks con-

tinually of *Northern* speech, *Anglian* influences, and the like. To our mind Mercian would be the better term, especially since Sweet's edition of the *Vespasian Psalter* has enabled us to follow this great Midland speech from a very early date. "Northern" suggests too much the language of Northumbria. And "Anglian" should be restricted to the Peterborough region.

DOMESDAY STUDIES.

Domesday Studies: Being the papers read at the meetings of the Domesday Commemoration, 1886. With a bibliography of Domesday Book, and accounts of the MSS. and printed books exhibited at the Public Record Office and at the British Museum. Edited by P. Edward Dove, of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law. Vol. I. Longmans, Green & Co. 1888. 4to, pp. 399.

In this age of centennial celebrations, it is right and fitting that so remarkable a centennial as the eight hundredth anniversary of the compilation of Domesday Book should not have passed without notice. The commemoration took place two years ago, but it is not surprising that so long a time has elapsed before the publication of proceedings so extensive, varied, and abounding in puzzling detail. The first volume consists entirely of papers read at the meeting; the second volume, "which will be published as soon as possible," will contain the rest of the papers, together with bibliography, index, etc.

The extreme importance of this unique document was only slowly realized, and for many centuries it was, to all intents and purposes, unknown. The full recognition of its value, and its systematic study, were only made possible by the development of the scientific methods of historical study in the last century. About a hundred years ago (1783) it was printed in two volumes. Shortly after, it was made the subject of careful analysis by Sir Henry Ellis, whose labors, embodied in a series of indices which make up the third volume (published in 1816), have formed the indispensable foundation for all subsequent study. This analysis has been made once for all, and will for ever be a monument of Sir Henry Ellis's well-directed industry. His discussion of the subject-matter of the survey, with definitions and classifications, had great value at the time, and formed the starting-point for further investigations; these later investigations have, however, corrected and superseded his conclusions in many particulars. In the same year (1816) a fourth volume was published, containing supplementary matter—the Exon Domesday, the Ely Inquest, etc.

Since the publication of Sir Henry Ellis's labors, a vast amount of work has been accomplished in detail, especially by the late Rev. R. W. Eyton, who, as Mr. Round says in the present volume (p. 191), "may, perhaps, fairly be described as the greatest of our Domesday scholars. He may be said to have saturated himself with the Record, and to have been virtually the only student who has really grappled with the Survey and explored its inmost recesses. . . . The great characteristic of his work was his marvellous and untiring industry." Mr. Round adds, however: "Whether his judgment or his critical acumen were equal to his devouring industry, I must be permitted to doubt." Mr. Eyton's most important publication upon the subject is his 'Key to Domesday,' based upon the survey for Dorsetshire. The Commemoration of 1886 will probably prove an important epoch in the study, by commencing a more systematic coöperation in the examina-

tion of the document, and laying the foundation for the coördination of the work of different students. A "Domesday Society" has been proposed, and the "Selden Society," devoted to the study of the history of English law, has been organized, and has commenced the publication of early documents bearing upon the subject.

The papers contained in the present volume are for the most part directed to the examination of certain fundamental technical expressions, upon the proper understanding of which must depend any fruitful study of the subject. The thing to be firmly fixed in the mind by the student is, that the document is named the *Exchequer Domesday*: that it was not drawn up for the purpose of taking a census in the modern sense, still less of enlightening posterity as to the social and economical history of England in the eleventh century, but solely to assist in the collection of the revenue. What is to us its principal value was not present in the minds of those who collected the statistics; consequently, the information we can derive upon the points most interesting to us must be purely incidental. The system of taxation being based upon the land, it follows that, for revenue purposes, the divisions of the land are the first thing to be considered; and consequently we find these territorial areas described with exactness in every part of the Survey, as the most important feature of it. The nomenclature is not uniform; the divisions are given as *hides* in most counties, as *carucates* in the northern counties, and as *solins* in Kent; but as these divisions, by whatever name, form the basis of taxation, obviously the first thing to be done is to ascertain their exact meaning. Upon this subject a great deal of labor has been employed, but perplexities, confusions, and apparent contradictions in the data have been so great as heretofore to baffle the most industrious researchers. The key to the problem was discovered by Mr. Eyton, in the fact that the term *hide* and *carucate*, as used in Domesday, were "terms denoting fiscal value rather than areal quantity" (p. 192); the establishment of this true principle, "that the hide of Domesday (that is, the *hida ad geldum*) was not a measure of area, but a unit of geld assessment, led him to reject the conception of the hide as being ever a definite areal measure." Here, according to Mr. Round, is his mistake; in the double use of the term, as an areal measure (of one hundred and twenty acres), and as (in Domesday) a unit of assessment, is to be found the source of the confusions and contradictions alluded to.

The largest number of papers by any one person in this volume is the three by Canon Isaac Taylor, who contributes the interesting article on Domesday Survivals, printed in the *Contemporary Review* two or three years ago, a paper on "The Ploughland and the Plough," and one on "Wapentakes and Hundreds." The paper upon "The Ploughland and the Plough" brings out a very important fact—the coexistence of the three-field and the two-field systems, with the rule for testing them; his examples are taken from Yorkshire, the county of his residence. This same local association gives interest to the paper upon "Wapentakes and Hundreds," in which he establishes an equally important principle. It is generally assumed that Wapentake was the name given to the Hundred in the Danish counties. This he shows to be a mistake, saying that, "instead of the Wapentakes of the Danish shires 'answering,' as has been affirmed, to the Hundreds of the Saxon counties, it would appear that they were districts of three times the extent [containing three Hundreds each], probably constituted for