

whom no freak of irresponsible eccentricity seems too extravagant.

Perhaps one of Mr. Mapleson's paragraphs may fairly serve as a specimen :

"Some rude critics having declared of Signor Fancelli's singing that it would have been better if he had made a regular study of the vocal art, he spoke to me seriously about taking lessons. But he declared that he had no time, and that, as he was making money by singing in the style to which he was accustomed, it would be better to defer studying until he had finished his career, when he would have plenty of leisure" (ii., 288).

Mr. Mapleson is at all times delightfully British in his patronizing attitude towards America, although he has a faculty for blundering about American matters, phenomenal even in an Englishman. He was pleased with his reception here, and he repeatedly asserts that he and his company, on their arrival in American cities, were greeted by thousands of citizens accompanied by military bands. Curiously enough, he omits to tell us that the President of the United States met him on the dock, or that he was escorted to his hotel by the entire American army. Perhaps this omission will be rectified in the next edition, when it would be well, also, to correct the many misprints. There is an index of proper names, which is a most welcome appendage to a book as full of anecdotes as this.

History of the Christian Church. By Philip Schaff. Vol. VI. History of the Reformation. Vol. I. Charles Scribner's Sons.

The present volume of Dr. Schaff's History treats of that period which is commonly called the Era of the Reformation. It begins with Luther and goes as far as the Diet of Augsburg, a period of only thirteen years. The last volume before this, the fourth, carried the history of the Church only to the beginning of the great war of the Investitures in the year 1073. This leaves, therefore, somewhat more than 400 years to be handled in the fifth volume, if Dr. Schaff should ever see fit to address himself to that task. This enormous disproportion will always be a source of regret to all those who believe, as we do, that Dr. Schaff's book is, on the whole, as far as it has gone, altogether the best book on church history for the use of students. The wide learning and broad sympathies of the author make his earlier volumes indispensable to any reader of English who desires to get the latest word on the great questions involved. The abundant references to literature, contemporary and modern, are perhaps the most valuable feature of the whole work.

Why Dr. Schaff, with many years of vigorous life before him, should have made so long a skip from the eleventh to the sixteenth century, may be guessed from the first words of this sixth volume: "The Reformation of the sixteenth century is, next to the introduction of Christianity, the greatest event in history." The Reformation means to him the outbreak under the lead of Luther and Calvin, and its history seems to him, therefore, a thing that can be properly told by itself. This is a point of view in which he has the example of most of the older writers on the subject, but it is one which we hoped the great work of Canon Creighton had definitely made an end of. The real interest of the Reformation to the historian is not in the outbreak so much as in the long preparation for it. The principles of the Reformation were all distinctly enunciated long before Luther; and his true position in history is not as the great originator, but as the fiery and often inconsequent leader of the people, who dared to

put into a telling, popular form ideas which were already struggling for expression.

That Dr. Schaff should have allowed himself to be governed by this view is the more to be regretted because the earlier writers, influenced, perhaps, by the same considerations, have always treated the period immediately before the time of Luther in a decidedly step-motherly fashion. It is next to impossible to recommend to students a good book on the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. The greater dramatic interest of the following period has drawn popular attention away from a time which, if we are seeking for the really fertile age of the new ideas, is distinctly more interesting.

The best justification for Dr. Schaff's choice, however, is in the fact that he has given us a book decidedly more useful to the student than any other history of the Reformation with which we are acquainted. His personal enthusiasm for the character of Luther lends a warmth to his presentation which does not detract from its value as (on the whole) a very accurate one. He sees the faults of his hero, but he regards them as those of a man who was too much of a man not to have great faults. The work has especial interest as the first Protestant history which has met the attacks of Janssen in detail. Answers to Janssen there have been enough; but a complete history, written by a Protestant with this latest attack in view, had not yet been written. Our author's attitude towards his opponent is dignified and fair-minded. He admits his great learning and his desire to get at "historical truth"; but he denies his point of view from the start, and, with that denial, must reject his conclusions.

To say that this is a great or an original book would be extravagant praise. It is, however, a true and a useful book.

Montesquieu. By Albert Sorel. Translated by Melville B. Anderson and Edward Playfair Anderson. [The Great French Writers.] Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co. 1888.

M. SOREL's study of Montesquieu is one of those pieces of literary criticism, so common nowadays in French literature, which suggest many more questions than they answer. It is an *aperçu*, the object of which is to make a sketch, to present a picture, to give us an idea of a man, without committing the author to any particular views, or involving his judgment in serious responsibility. The fashion was set, not, as many people seem to suppose, by Sainte-Beuve—for every word uttered by Sainte-Beuve was weighty and to the point—but by a race of imitators, who failed to perceive that his manner was nothing without what lay behind it. M. Sorel does his work very well. He gives us a fair notion of what Montesquieu did, but he does not contribute much that is new. We knew before that Montesquieu was one of the pioneers of modern political philosophy; that he helped, without knowing or intending it, to pave the way for the French Revolution; and we strongly suspected that a great deal of his speculation was wholly groundless, or, rather, that the groundwork of his speculation was often flimsy and unsubstantial. Perhaps the exhibition of this weakness is the best part of M. Sorel's work.

If we ask ourselves, What did the 'Esprit des Lois' contribute to political philosophy? we do not feel very confident of more than one thing, and that one certainly of great interest to American students—the idea of the separation of the three departments of government, entirely undreamt of in the ancient world or in

the middle ages, now a commonplace fact. This is one of the great political discoveries of history, as important as the representative principle or the laws of political economy. It is a curious fact that almost all the advances in political science of any importance have been made since Montesquieu's time, and to a great extent because he pointed out the way.

But what we should like to have is, not a vague impression of all this, but a definite estimate of Montesquieu's position. Was he anything more than a skilful describer of what he saw, or was he an original thinker? Was what he learned in England thought so striking on the Continent because it was strange, or because, by a comparison of French and English polity, he really brought out a contrast pregnant with political meaning? Did he owe his vogue in great measure to his literary qualities and his social position? No one can answer these questions satisfactorily but a master of the philosophy of government. A purely literary estimate will not do. We do not by any means desire to condemn M. Sorel's essay. It is very pleasant and easy reading, and has a slight individuality of style which the translators have succeeded in preserving very well.

Die Italienische Literatur der Renaissancezeit. Von Adolf Gaspary, Professor an der Universität Breslau. Berlin: Robert Oppenheim. 1888.

THE writer on classic Italian literature has to complain rather of the abundance than of the scantiness of his material. So popular has the study of the national authors become with Italians of our generation, that even while a student writes, vast quantities of fresh pamphlets are incessantly accumulating, until the work of revision seems almost endless. The apparent hopelessness of the task, however, has not deterred two competent teachers from giving a connected form to the results of modern investigation. The one, Bartoli, a scholar whose taste for original research has been favored by his position in the University of Florence, began publishing in 1878 his great 'Storia della Letteratura Italiana,' of which he has now produced seven volumes (one of them unfinished), devoting the seventh to Petrarch. The other, Gaspary, a man of good judgment and philosophical bent, but forced by his situation to rely mainly on the works of others, has mastered his subject with admirable thoroughness. He brought out, over three years ago, the first volume of his 'Geschichte der Italienischen Literatur' (largely the result of his lectures in Berlin), and now offers us the second, a study of the Renaissance.

The new volume begins with Boccaccio, and should have carried us to Tasso; but three chapters on the sixteenth century, treating respectively of the *novella*, of the treatise, dialogue, and letter, and of history and biography, were crowded out of this part and left over for the third. Whole chapters are given to Boccaccio, Bembo, Ariosto, Castiglione, and Pietro Aretino; one chapter deals with Poliziano and Lorenzo de' Medici, another with Pulci and Bojardo, another with Pontano and Sanzaro, still another with Machiavelli and Guicciardini. Thus the work of each of the great masters is presented in its entirety. The writings of the less important authors are, on the other hand, assigned to their proper places in the chapters on "The Successors of the Great Florentines," "The Humanists of the Fifteenth Century," "The Vulgar Tongue in the Fifteenth Century and its Literature," "Lyrical Poetry in the Sixteenth Century," "Heroic Poetry in the Sixteenth Century,"

"Tragedy," and "Comedy." Since, however, the influence of the masters is traced in the productions of their followers, and the works of the minor authors receive some attention in the chapters devoted to the leaders, the whole book seems, in spite of its arrangement, to form an uninterrupted history of literary development in Italy. This appearance of unity could not, of course, be obtained if the author's language were at all clumsy or disconnected; but Gaspari displays here, as in the first volume, a wonderful gift of easy transition, and a clear, graceful, natural style, which makes every part of the subject appear in its proper light, and renders the book an attractive one, not only for specialists, but for all readers who have the least interest in letters.

Four Years with the Army of the Potomac.

By Regis De Trobriand, Brevet-Major-General U. S. Vols. Translated by George K. Dauchy. With Portrait and Maps. Svo., pp. xix, 757. Boston: Ticknor & Co.

The original book by General De Trobriand was written in French and published in Paris soon after the close of the civil war. The translation by Lieut. Dauchy is exceptionally well done, and the publishers have brought the English edition out in excellent style. The author was a French resident of New York when the war began, and became Colonel of the Fifty-fifth New York Volunteers, known as the French Regiment. His service was wholly in the Army of the Potomac in the Third and afterwards in the Second Corps. His opportunities for observing were good, and he has told his experience in a very lively and attractive way. Written for European readers, the book is more full in general explanation of the causes of the Rebellion and the political phases of the struggle than would have been necessary if it had been intended for American use; but even in this part of his work the author is never dull. The most valuable and interesting matter is, of course, the personal narrative of experience.

The chapters upon the organization of the volunteer regiments in this city, the first lessons in camp life at Washington, the transfer to Fortress Monroe, the siege of Yorktown, and the battle of Williamsburg, are very telling and vivid pictures of those events. They carry with them such internal evidence of the sincerity of the author that they are authoritative and fully trustworthy. General De Trobriand was prostrated with the Chickahominy fever soon after the advance towards Richmond, and his sufferings are made to add to our knowledge of the vicissitudes of military life. His account of the practical working of the Sanitary Commission and of the devoted, untiring labors of its officers in the field; from Mr. F. L. Olmsted down, is one of the very best in print. The picture of the noble women at their work upon the hospital boats at White-House stirs one's heart to-day as if the event was of yesterday.

The author's personal estimate of the prominent men with whom he came in contact is also useful, as supplying traits of character and individual peculiarities which help us to give living substance to the important actors in the great contest. The part which suffers most by lapse of time is the general criticism of campaigns, and the apportionment of merit and blame among those in highest responsibility, both military and civil. Our means of adequate judgment to-day are many fold greater than they were in 1865; even a general of brigade had, at that time, to jump at conclusions, whenever the subject

was beyond the scope of his personal knowledge. The spirit of the book is a fair and candid one, though the author was not without personal prejudices, and it is a record of honorable service in a stirring military career.

Lectures on Geography, delivered before the University of Cambridge during the Lent Term, 1888, by Lieut.-Gen. R. Strachey, President of the Royal Geographical Society. Pages 211. Macmillan & Co. 1888.

THE four lectures printed in this volume were evidently intended to call the attention of university students to the science of geography rather than to give them any detailed information concerning that extensive subject. Gen. Strachey's presentation of the general facts of geographic science is well calculated to accomplish the end he had in view. In the first chapter he gives an excellent summary of the steps in the progress of the knowledge by which geography came to be at once a science and an art. The remainder of the book is devoted to that part of the earth science which now receives the general name of Physiography. The operation of physical forces on terrestrial phenomena, the influence of the form and movements of the earth, as well as of the external features, on the condition of organic life, is in the main the theme of the three succeeding lectures. In all that relates to the application of geographic science to the interests of man, Gen. Strachey is a distinguished master of his subject, and therefore this little book, though it contains less than 50,000 words, is worth the attention of the many persons who desire to obtain authoritative short accounts of the several sciences.

The critic who seeks a point upon which to hang objections could find it in the failure of the author to dwell on the geological side of geographic history. The best results of modern geographic inquiry consist in the body of knowledge which has been gained concerning the history of continental growth. There is no subject better suited to catch the attention of university students than this, for the reason that it calls for the constructive imagination which it is the first function of academic training to develop, and it serves in an admirable manner to aid in the training of that faculty. Although our author touches upon the hypothesis of geological evolution, it does not seem to the present writer that he makes sufficient use of this department of knowledge.

The style of the book is generally good. There are a few unreasonably long parenthetical sentences, which leave the reader a little in doubt as to the author's meaning. This difficulty probably arises from printing lectures as they were delivered, when accent could qualify the phrase in a way beyond the power of punctuation. The book is excellently printed, but there is unhappily no index and a very insufficient table of contents. This is the more to be regretted as certain parts of the work have a decided value for students.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Alcott, A. B. *Ralph Waldo Emerson*. 2d ed. Boston: Cupples & Hurd. \$1.50.
Allen, G. *The Heart of Don Vega*. Westerly, R. I.: George C. Champlin.
Barron, E. A. *The Viking*. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co. \$1.
Bernhardt, W. *German Novelles for School and Home*. Vol. II. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co.
Bliss, W. R. *Colonial Times on Buzzard's Bay*. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$2.
Burt, B. C. *A Brief History of Greek Philosophy*. Boston: Ginn & Co. \$1.25.
Coring, C. R. *Aalesund to Tetuan: A Journey*. Boston: Cupples & Hurd. \$2.
Dimond, Mary B. *A Handbook for the Pilgrims: Thoughts by the Way*. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co. 75 cents.

Encyclopædia Britannica. 9th ed. Vol. XXIV. and last. Ura Zym. Boston: Little, Brown & Co.
Filmore, J. C. *Lessons in Musical History*. Philadelphia: Theodore Presser.
Fitzgibbon, H. M. *Early English and Scotch Poetry*. 1250-1500. White & Allen. \$1.25.
Freer, Martha W. *Henry III., King of France and Poland*. 3 vols. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$7.50.
Grimm, Prof. H. *Life of Raphael*. Boston: Cupples & Hurd.
Haggard, H. R. *Colonel Quaritch, V. C. A Tale of Country Life*. George Munro.
Heald, Sarah E. *Mother Kate and the Brownies*. Philadelphia: Sunshine Publishing Co.
Kendall, H. *The Kingship of Men: An Argument from Pedigrees; or Geography Viewed as a Science*. Boston: Cupples & Hurd. \$2.
Lauman, Prof. C. R. *A Sanskrit Reader: With Vocabulary and Notes*. Parts I., II., and III. Boston: Ginn & Co.
Law, E. *The History of Hampton Court Palace*. Vol. II. *Stuart Times*. Illustrated. London: George Bell & Sons.
Lowe, R. W. *An Apology for the Life of Colley Cibber*. Written by Himself. New ed. 2 vols. London: J. C. Nimmo.
Mathews, W. S. B. *New Musical Miscellanies*. Vol. II. *How to Understand Music*. Philadelphia: Theodore Presser.
McMaster, J. B., and Stone, F. D. *Pennsylvania and the Federal Constitution 1787-1788*. Philadelphia: Historical Society of Pennsylvania.
Morse, Lucy Gibbons. *The Cheezles: A Story*. Illustrated. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.50.
Murray, W. H. H. *Daylight Land*. Illustrated. Boston: Cupples & Upham.
Nye-Riley. *Railway Guide*. Illustrated. Chicago: W. Dearborn Publishing Co. \$1.
Parker, J. *The People's Bible: Discourses upon Holy Scripture*. Vol. IX. Fink & Wagnalls. \$1.50.
Personal Memoirs of P. H. Sheridan, General United States Army. 2 vols. Charles L. Webster & Co.
Reeder, A. P. *Around the Golden Deep: A Romance of the Sierras*. Boston: Cupples & Hurd. \$1.50.
Robertson, E. S. *The Children of the Poets: An Anthology from English and American Writers of Three Centuries*. White & Allen. \$1.25.
Sharp, W. *Sonnets of This Century*. White & Allen. \$1.25.
Sharp, Mrs. William. *Songs and Poems of the Sea*. White & Allen. \$1.25.
Sharp, Mrs. William. *Women's Voices: An Anthology of the Most Characteristic Poems of English, Scotch, and Irish Women*. White & Allen. \$1.25.
Shorthouse, J. H. *The Countess Eve*. Macmillan & Co. \$1.
Simon, J. *Victor Cousin*. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co. \$1.
Sladen, D. B. W. *A Century of Australian Song*. White & Allen. \$1.25.
Spralling, H. H. *Irish Minstrelsy: A Selection of Irish Songs, Lyrics, and Ballads*. White & Allen. \$1.25.
Stanley, Dean A. P. *Historic Memorials of Canterbury*. First Am. ed. A. D. F. Randolph & Co. \$3.
Stevens, Agnes. *How Men Propose, etc.* Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co. \$1.50.
Sylvia, C. *A Heart Regained: A Novel*. Boston: Cupples & Hurd. \$1.
Taylor, L. *Chess: A Christmas Masque*. London: T. Fisher Unwin.
The Thoughts of the Emperor M. Aurelius Antoninus. G. P. Putnam's Sons.
Thomas, G. *Goethe's Torquato Tasso*. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co.
Toistol, Count L. N. *What to Do?* Thomas Y. Crowell & Co. 50 cents.
Tomson, G. R. *Ballads of the North Country*. White & Allen. \$1.25.
Two Gentlemen of Boston: A Novel. 5th ed. Boston: Ticknor & Co. 50 cents.
Underhill, H. G. *Easy Exercises in Greek Accidence*. Macmillan & Co. 50 cents.
Upton, G. P. *The Standard Symphonies: Their History, their Music, and their Composers*. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co. \$1.50.
Uzanne, O. *The Mirror of the World*. Illustrations by Paul Avril. London: John C. Nimmo. 31s. 6d.
Van Daell, A. *Träumereien*. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co.
Van Daell, Dr. A. N. *Heine's Die Harzreise*. Boston: Charles H. Kilborn. 25 cents.
Van Santvoord, H. *Half-Holidays, Elysian Dreams, and Sober Realities*. John B. Alden Co. 75 cents.
Verrall-Bayfield. *The "Seven Against Thebes" of Æschylus*. Macmillan & Co. 90 cents.
Von Elchenhorff, J. F. *Leaves from the Life of a Good-for-Nothing*. Translated by Mrs. Wister. Illustrated. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. \$5.
Waddington, S. *Sacred Song: A Volume of Religious Verse*. White & Allen. \$1.25.
Waddington, S. *The Sonnets of Europe*. With Notes. White & Allen.
Walker, Dr. T. *Journal of an Exploration in the Spring of the Year 1750*. Boston: Little, Brown & Co.
Wallace, L. *The Boyhood of Christ*. Harper & Bros.
Walsh, W. S. *Paradoxes of a Philistine*. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.
Ward, Mrs. Humphry. *Miss Brotherton*. Rand, McNally & Co.
Ward, Mrs. Humphry. *Robert Elsmere*. 2 vols. Macmillan & Co. \$3.
Warner, C. D. *On Horseback: A Tour in Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee*. With Notes of Travel in Mexico and California. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.25.
Warwick Brookes's. *Pictures of Child Life*. With Biographical Reminiscences by T. Letherbrow. \$1.25.
Waugh, Ida. *Bonny Fairies: Verses by Amy Ella Blanchard*. Worthington Co.
Werner, E. *Dantra*. Translated by M. J. Safford. Chicago: Rand, McNally & Co.
Wheeler, H. *Second Lessons in Arithmetic*. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 60 cents.
White, Margaret E. *After Noon tide*. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.
Whitman, W. *November Boughs*. Philadelphia: David McKay.
Whittier, J. G. *His Writings*. In 7 vols. Vols. I.-IV. Poems. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.50 per volume.
Wide Awake. Vol. Y. Boston: D. Lothrop Co. \$1.75.
Wiggin, Kate D. *The Birds' Christmas Carol*. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 50 cents.
Wight, O. W. *People and Countries Visited in a Wind-ing Journey around the World*. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$2.
Wilstach, J. A. *The Divine Comedy of Dante*. Translated into English Verse, with Notes. 2 vols. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.
Winter, W. *Wanderers*. Boston: Ticknor & Co.
Wood, J. G. *Natural History Readers*. No. V. Boston School Supply Co.