

Herodotus falsified, just where his notebook failed him, where his "dragomen" deluded him. If Herodotus withholds the name of Osiris, apparently from motives of reverential awe, it is really because he was hiding his ignorance; if he does not mention Sophocles, it is "because he had not learned him at school." These whimsical speculations, which are worth propounding as after-dinner paradoxes, are answered by Mr. Lang with a patience and urbanity which they hardly deserve. Historians like Grote and Curtius, and editors like Stein, have no such verdict to give of the character of Herodotus; indeed, he carries his own credentials. His careful readers generally become his friends. They are won by his large and humane spirit, his simplicity and good sense, his diligent curiosity, and the love of truth that is transparent through his narrative. Nowhere can they discover the shifty, vainglorious, dishonest personage, half knave and half dupe, whom Professor Sayce detects in the first three books, and who, he strangely enough admits, may be trustworthy in his history of the Persian invasion.

When we come to details, it is to be noted that the Egyptologist criticizes as history what our author expressly gives out as current tradition. "I am telling you here," he says in the 'Euterpe,' "what was told to me. Let every man adopt what seems credible to him. It is my purpose throughout my work to record what I heard from my several informants"; and this warning, given in general, he repeats from time to time, by one sign-post or another, with the most conscientious frankness and assiduity. This means, of course, that he was not professing to give history, in a strict sense: he was observing manners and customs and collecting traditions; he was doing, in fact, all that could be expected of a highly intelligent and painstaking traveller, who visits many countries without a knowledge of their language, and without access to original documents and inscriptions. The tools of later research, of the linguist and the archaeologist, were not in his hands. No man was ready at that time to write a scientific history of the East or of Egypt. As Professor Maspero justly remarks of the 'Euterpe':

"He was not writing a history of Egypt. Indeed, with the best of opportunities, he could have given us only a few lists of dynasties, and have taught us nothing more than the original texts teach us to-day. On the other hand, we should have lost those marvellous narratives, with their occasional broad naïveté, which he has so charmingly repeated to us, on the faith of his guides. We should not have known Pheron, nor Proteus, nor Rhampsinitus; and this, I believe, would have been a great loss. The monuments tell us, or will some day tell us, what was done by the Ramesses, the Thothmes, and the Cheops of the real world. Herodotus lets us know what was the common talk concerning them in the streets of Memphis."

The curiosity of Herodotus, to whom no trait of human nature was uninteresting, was keener, perhaps, in matters of religion than in any other subject. By training, and probably by inheritance, he was learned in mysteries and oracles and ritual. He easily identifies certain duties and rites of the Egyptians with those of his own country, and naturally concludes that they were borrowed from the oldest civilization known to him. "The hypothesis of borrowing," says Mr. Lang, "has always been a favorite with the learned." It must, of course, still be admitted, in cases where it is supported by sufficient reasons. Unquestionably, Adonis, and Aphrodite as a goddess of the sea, came from the Phœnicians; nor can we refuse the unsophisticated evidence of the Homeric hymns, and of early poetic legend sustained

by historic probabilities, that the worship of Dionysus and Demeter and Apollo was imported at some early period. When, however, we widen our circle of facts and resemblances beyond those known to Herodotus, when we find, for instance, the rites of the Aztecs and the Zunis strikingly similar to those of Babylon and Egypt—we are driven to the theory which Mr. Lang has fortified in his 'Myth, Ritual, and Religion,' and which we have already discussed in reviewing that work.

The present edition of the 'Euterpe' is limited to 500 copies. The material and make-up of the volume, like that of the 'Cupid and Psyche' which preceded it, is as harmonious and attractive as a bit of rare old china. The translation chosen by Mr. Lang, with his delicate sense of literary fitness, was first printed in 1584. The translator is unknown, though the initials B. R. may stand for Barnaby Rich. He abounds in racy colloquialisms, such as, "to serve with the same sauce," "in a bad box," "I'll pipe ye such a dance," "as true as the man in the moon." His work entirely absolves itself from all care and burden of exact scholarship. He revels especially in a good story, and tells it with a delicious freedom which sometimes amounts to entire independence of the author. Compared with his slang and exuberant loquacity, the Ionic grace of Herodotus shows severely simple. But his ease and vigor and the antique flavor of his vocabulary smack of Mandeville and Marco Polo, and match to a nicety that enchanted dawn of travel and discovery which will never more return so long as Kiepert and the ordnance-maps endure.

Historical Review of the Legislative Systems Operative in Ireland, from the Invasion of Henry II. to the Union. By the Rt. Hon. J. T. Ball, L.L.D., D.C.L. Longmans, Green & Co.

THIS terse, able, and calmly written book is purely retrospective. The author eschews all reference to present politics. None the less is it a valuable contribution towards the formation of clear views regarding the settlement of the Irish question. We are not aware of any other work in which the history of the legislative systems operative in Ireland is so clearly traced. We see that probably before, and certainly after, the time of King John, legislative assemblies (under the name at first of councils and afterwards of Parliaments) were convened by the Kings of England in Ireland. Originally all who attended them were personally summoned. In the reign of Edward I. counties were empowered to send representatives. A similar privilege was soon after extended to some cities and towns. The number of counties, cities, and towns thus privileged increased along with the extension of English rule. Originally the members of these assemblies met and deliberated together. At a later date they divided into two houses. The development of the representative principle was slow and imperfect. Until the reign of Henry VIII. the natives were practically excluded; until the reign of Elizabeth neither Ulster nor Connaught enjoyed more than occasional representation, and then only to the extent of two members in the case of the former, and four of the latter. The Commons in the Parliament of James I. (called in 1613) were increased by 100 members. No qualifications of race were required from either electors or elected. The inhabitants of the kingdom were, without distinction, nominally at least, "taken into his Majesty's gracious protection." The constitution of the Irish Parliament was then a counterpart of the English. Its capacity of

action was very different. It was subject to the restraints of Poynings's law, under which the approval of the Privy Councils of Ireland and England were necessary before it could pass any valid enactment. It was also checked in its action by the assumption of authority on the part of its English rival to legislate for Ireland.

Under the Commonwealth no legislative assembly met in Ireland. We have germs of the idea of union in there being a certain number of members called by Cromwell to his Parliament. Under Charles I. and under William III. and Anne, the English Parliament in express terms legislated for Ireland over the heads of the Irish Parliament. After the union with Scotland, the Parliament of Great Britain distinctly declared that it had full power and authority to bind the kingdom and people of Ireland. From the Restoration, therefore, the legislative system operative in Ireland was basely subservient to the English in all that concerned the welfare of the Irish people. It was, in the words of Grattan, "a squabbling, fretful sectary, perplexing her little wits, and firing her furious statutes with bigotry, sophistry, disabilities, and death."

Mr. Ball traces the growth of the spirit of independence in Ireland through Molyneux and Swift, the life of the Volunteers, and the establishment of Parliamentary independence under Grattan in 1782. He marks the course of events and tendencies which culminated in the union, and impartially gives the arguments for and against that measure. It is difficult to rise from this portion of the work without being impressed with the faults and failings of the Constitution of 1782. It did not stand, because it could not stand; much less could it have stood the increasing complications and closer pressure of later years. Unless Irish statesmen had shown a clearer appreciation of the situation than they did between 1782 and 1800, especially upon such occasions as the discussion of Orde's commercial propositions, a closer and more workable relation between the countries, if not effected by bribery in 1800, would have been effected by force later on. It is impossible to turn over the pages of this book without believing that Pitt and Castlereagh and Cornwallis acted with a sincere belief that their Union would ameliorate and elevate the condition of Ireland. If the experience of eighteen years brought to light the flaws in Grattan's Constitution, so has the experience of eighty-eight years (whose history is outside the scope of Mr. Ball's book) proved the weakness of Pitt's Union. Let us hope that whatever rearrangement of the relations between the countries the future has in store will prove of a happier and more permanent character.

Mr. Ball appears to us too hard upon the character and doings of James II.'s Irish Parliament. It appears to us to have been broader and fairer in its spirit towards all classes of the community than those which succeeded it under the houses of Orange and Hanover. To Irishmen there must be touches full of deep pathos in every book relating to the history and constitutions of their country. In happier times to come, they will perhaps be able to read with greater equanimity than can Irishmen of the present day such passages as those which occur in one of Grattan's speeches given at considerable length by Mr. Ball, when he dwells with fervor upon the then position and glories of Ireland: "You [the Irish Parliament] are the greatest political assembly in the world; you are at the head of an immense army; nor do we only possess an unconquerable force, but a certain unquenchable pub-

lic fire, which has touched all ranks of men like a visitation."

No library pretending to any completeness regarding Irish affairs should be without Mr. Ball's book.

Cardinal Wolsey. By Mandell Creighton, M.A. [Twelve English Statesmen.] Macmillan & Co. 1888. 12mo, pp. 226.

Of all English statesmen there is perhaps none of whose character and career it is so difficult to form a just estimate as Cardinal Wolsey; not, as in the case of Cromwell, because of uncertainty as to motives or difference of opinion upon fundamental questions of policy, but because there really seems to be no accepted standard of judgment for him. He belonged in full neither to the old nor the new; or, if he did belong to the old by reason of his training and his official position, he directly and consciously prepared for the new by his prescient statesmanship and conservative spirit of reform. His pitiful subservience in the matter of the divorce has prejudiced our moral judgment against him; and yet, until this fatal temptation came to him, he appears, on the whole, an honorable man, if ambitious and self-indulgent.

Mr. Creighton has succeeded in explaining the inconsistencies and perplexities in Wolsey's career, and helping us to a correct standard of judgment. As a statesman, he rates him very high, reckoning him almost alone among English statesmen as deserving "to be estimated by what he chose to do rather than by what he did. He was greater than his achievements." But his actual achievements were not small; judged by them alone, "he was probably the greatest political genius whom England has ever produced; for at a great crisis of European history he impressed England with a sense of her own importance, and secured for her a leading position in European affairs, which, since his days, has seemed her natural right" (p. 2). This was his work as a national statesman, at that important crisis which marks the commencement of modern history, when international relations began to take a leading place in affairs, and the great international contests of the last four centuries were inaugurated. In this contest of giants, it was Wolsey who first vindicated for England a decisive place and influence. This point Mr. Creighton has worked out with care and elaborateness, and it is the key to the principal part of his work; but we are bound to say that in detail the diplomatic contests in question—perhaps the most difficult thing to narrate—are not always made lucid or even intelligible.

The chapters upon internal affairs are more satisfactory, and the closing chapter, "The Work of Wolsey," is every way excellent. His relation to the divorce is carefully discussed, and receives all the extenuation of which it is capable.

"He could not work under cramped conditions," we are told (p. 213). "When he was restricted to the small matter of the divorce, his hand lost its cunning. He was, though he knew it not, fitted to serve England, but not fitted to serve the English king. He had the aims of a national statesman, not of a royal servant. Wolsey's misfortune was that his lot was cast on days when the career of a statesman was not distinct from that of a royal servant."

"The matter of the divorce was sprung upon him, and it would have been well for Wolsey's fame if he had retired rather than involve himself in the unworthy proceedings to which it led. But the temptation to all men to think themselves necessary in the sphere which they have made their own, is a subtle one; and those who begin by hoping that they may minimize inevitable mischief, end by being dragged into the mire."

Of the divorce:

"It would have been difficult for him to find in the proposal itself a sufficient reason for withdrawing from politics, even if he could have done so with safety. Not even Wolsey could foresee the king's obstinacy and tenacity of purpose, the depth of meanness to which he would sink, and to which he would drag all around him. Wolsey found himself powerless to resist, and the growing consciousness of moral turpitude practised to no purpose degraded him in his own eyes and robbed him of his strength. When once the divorce question was started, Wolsey was pushed on to his ruin by a power of imperious wickedness, which debased others without losing its own self-respect."

"So when we speak of the fall of Wolsey, we mean more than his irrevocable loss of power. He had lost his inner strength, and no longer kept his hold upon affairs. . . . The words of the dying man are often quoted as showing the misery of those who trust in princes' favor. But they are not merely an echo of a far-off state of things which has passed by for ever. 'To serve one's country' may have a loftier and more noble sound than 'to serve one's king,' but the meaning is not necessarily different. The thought in Wolsey's heart was this: 'If I had served the spiritual interests of my country as I have striven to serve its material interests, my conscience would be more at rest.' For Wolsey was a true patriot and had noble aims. Much as he might deaden his conscience, he did not extinguish it; and his last judgment of himself expressed the sad conviction that neither his patriotism nor the nobility of his aims had saved him from actions which he could not justify, and which his conscience loudly condemned."

The book is therefore significant for two things—it shows us clearly what Wolsey did for England, and it gives us reasons for a more lenient judgment than is ordinarily passed upon him.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Abbott, E. A History of Greece. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$2.25.

A Collection of Letters of Thackeray, 1847-1855. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$1.25.

Aus Kaiser Friedrich's Tagebuch 1870-1871. New York: S. Zickel, 19 Dey St. 40 cents.

Babylonia. Boston: D. Lothrop Co. 75 cents.

Balfour, Dr. S. A. Ancient Egypt; or, Mizraim. Buffalo: Am. Polytechnic Co.

Björnsön, B. Sigurd Slembe: a Dramatic Trilogy. Translated from the Norwegian by W. M. Payne. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.50.

Brandt, Prof. H. C. G. First Book in German. Boston: Allyn & Bacon. \$1.

Burdick, L. D. Through Field and Wood: Lyric Verses and Sonnets. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.25.

Burrows, M. Cinque Ports. Longmans, Green & Co. \$2.

Callings, Mary Whifton. Sharing the Profits. Boston: Ginn & Co. 25 cents.

Concise History of Australian Settlement and Progress, together with Full Reports of the Centennial Celebrations in 1888. New York: E. N. Erikson. 65 cents.

Cook, Prof. A. S. Phonological Investigation of Old English. Four Problems. Boston: Ginn & Co.

Coolidge, Susan. Clover. Boston: Roberts Bros. \$1.25.

Cowper, F. The Captain of the Wight: A Romance of Carisbrooke Castle in 1488. E. & J. B. Young & Co. \$1.50.

Darmesteter, J. Lettres sur l'Inde. A la Frontière Africaine. Paris: Alphonse Lemerre.

De Puy, E. Cora. Temperance Work of the World. Chicago: Women's Temperance Publication Association.

De Trobriand, R. Four Years with the Army of the Potomac. Translated by George K. Dauchy. Boston: Ticknor & Co.

Douglas, J. Strange Threads. John B. Alden. 50 cents.

Dumas, A. The Three Musketeers. 2 vols. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. \$3.

Earle, J. A Hand-Book to the Land Charters and Other Saxon Documents. Oxford: Clarendon Press; New York: Macmillan.

Field, Margaret. The Secret of Fontaine-la-Croix. D. Appleton & Co. 50 cents.

Fitzgerald, E. Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

Foot, Mary Hallock. John Bodewin's Testimony. Boston: Ticknor & Co. 50 cents.

Gaspard, Mme. de. Under French Skies; or, Sunny Fields and Shady Woods. The Baker & Taylor Co. \$1.50.

Giaque, F. A Manual for Notaries Public, General Conveyancers, Commissioners, Justices, Mayors, etc. Cincinnati: Robert Clarke & Co.

Gizycki, Prof. G. Moralphilosophie gemeinverständlich dargestellt. Leipzig: W. Friedrich.

Goode, G. B. The Fisheries and Fishery Industries of the United States. Section II. A Geographical Review of the Fisheries Industries and Fishing Communities for the Year 1889. Washington.

Groff, W. N. Etude sur le Papyrus d'Orbiney. Paris: E. Leroux.

Hart, V. G. Western China: A Journey to the Great Buddhist Centre of Mount Omei. Boston: Ticknor & Co. \$2.

Henty, G. A. The Cat of Bubastes: A Tale of Ancient Egypt. Scribner & Welford.

Howe, E. W. A Man Story. Boston: Ticknor & Co. \$1.50.

Hume, D. A Treatise on Human Nature. Oxford: Clarendon Press; New York: Macmillan.

Ingram, J. H. Elizabeth Barrett Browning. Boston: Roberts Bros. \$1.

Keats, J. Laminated Illustrative Designs by W. H. Low. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.

Knox, T. W. The Boy Travellers in Australia. Harper & Bros.

Lamb, C. Essays of Elia. Edited by Augustine Birrell. 2 vols. Macmillan & Co. \$3.50.

Lane-Pool, S. The Life of the Right Hon. Stratford Cairns. From his Memoirs and Private and Official Papers. 2 vols. Longmans, Green & Co. \$12.

Lathrop, G. P. Gettysburg: A Battle Ode. Chas. Scribner's Sons.

Libbey, Laura Jean. The Hetress of Cameron Hall. George Munro. 25 cents.

Longfellow's Remembrance Book. Boston: D. Lothrop Co. \$1.25.

Macmillan, H. Roman Mosaics; or, Studies in Rome and its Neighborhood. Macmillan & Co. \$1.50.

McCulloch, H. Men and Measures of Half a Century: Sketches and Comments. Chas. Scribner's Sons.

Mendelssohn, F. Letters to Ignaz and Charlotte Moscheles. Translated and edited by Felix Moscheles. Boston: Ticknor & Co. \$2.

Mentis, Adah Isaacs. Infelicity. Illustrated. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.

Moore, G. Confessions of a Young Man. Brentano.

Norris, W. E. The Rogue. Henry Holt & Co. \$1.

Orcutt, H. Among the Theologues. Boston: W. B. Clarke & Co. 75 cents.

Page, T. N. Two Little Confederates. Illustrated. Chas. Scribner's Sons.

Paul, R. Oliver Cromwell. Translated from the German. Scribner & Welford.

Poole—Fletcher. Poole's Index to Periodical Literature. The First Supplement, from January 1, 1882, to January 1, 1887. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$3.

Porter, Rose. The Story of Mary the Mother. Boston: D. Lothrop Co. \$3.

Publisher's Trade List Annual. 1888. Office of the *Publisher's Weekly*.

Randolph, H. F. Fifty Years of English Song. Selections from the Poets of the Reign of Victoria. 4 vols. A. D. Randolph & Co.

Ronayne, M. God Knowable and Known. Benziger Bros. \$1.25.

Shapcott, R. The Autobiography of Mark Rutherford, and Mark Rutherford's Deliverance. Scribner & Welford.

Sidney, Margaret. Old Concord: Her Highways and Byways. Boston: D. Lothrop Co. \$3.

Starr, Dr. L. Hygiene of the Nursery. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son & Co. \$1.50.

Stephen, L. Dictionary of National Biography. Vol. XVI. Drant—Edridge. Macmillan & Co. \$3.75.

Stern, S. A. Footings of Travel in China and Japan. Philadelphia: Porter & Coates.

Stevenson, B. L. Edinburgh: Picturesque Notes. New ed. Macmillan & Co. \$1.25.

Stoddard, Elizabeth. Temple House. Revised ed. Cassell & Co. \$1.

Tenth Census of the United States, 1880. Vol. XVII. Water Power. Part II. Vol. XIX. Social Statistics of Cities. Washington.

Vandegrift, Margaret. The Dead Doll, and Other Verses. Illustrated. Boston: Ticknor & Co. \$1.50.

Veley, Margaret. A Marriage of Shadows, and Other Poems. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.

Venables, Rev. E. Life of John Bunyan. London: Walter Scott; New York: T. Whitaker.

Verny Lady. How the Peasant Owner Lives in Parts of France, Germany, Italy, Russia. Macmillan & Co. \$1.

Waite, A. E. Elfin Music: an Anthology of English Fairy Poetry. London: Walter Scott; New York: T. Whitaker. 40 cents.

Walford, L. B. A Mere Child. Chicago: Rand, McNally & Co.

Walford, L. B. Her Great Idea. Henry Holt & Co.

Walsh, W. S. Béranger's Poems in the Versions of the Best Translators. Illustrated. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.

Walworth, Jeanette H. That Girl from Texas. Belford, Clarke & Co.

Walworth, M. F. Zahara: A Plea for Empire. G. W. Dillingham.

Ward, Mrs. Humphry. Robert Elsmere. Macmillan & Co. 50 cents.

Warner, C. D. A Hunting of the Deer, and Other Essays. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 45 cents.

Watneck, Dr. O. A Common-Sense Elementary Conversation Grammar of the German Language. F. W. Christern.

Welch and Duffield. Latin Accidence and Exercises. Macmillan & Co. 40 cents.

Wells, D. A. Relation of the Tariff to Wages. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 20 cents.

Wentworth, G. A. College Algebra. Boston: Ginn & Co. \$1.65.

Wesselhoef, Lily F. Sparrow, the Tramp: A Fable for Children. Boston: Roberts Bros. \$1.25.

West, J. H. The Complete Life: Six Sermon-Lectures. Chicago: Chas. H. Kerr & Co. 60 cents.

West, Prof. A. R. P. Terentii Africi et Hevaton Timorovm-nos. Harper & Bros.

Westall, W. Mr. Fortescue: An Andean Romance. D. Appleton & Co. 40 cents.

Whitney, Prof. W. D. Compendious German Grammar, 6th ed., revised. Henry Holt & Co.

Wilcox, Ella W. Poems of Pleasure. Belford, Clarke & Co.

Willett, E. The Search for the Star: A Tale of Life in the Wild Woods. Thomas Y. Crowell & Co. \$1.25.

Williams, R. P. Laboratory Manual of General Chemistry. Boston: Ginn & Co. 30 cents.

Wilson, Mrs. M. C. Renée: a Romance. Chas. T. Dillingham. \$1.50.

Wings, P. H. American Prisons in the Tenth U. S. Census. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 25 cents.

Winsor, J. The United States of North America. Part II. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

Woolner-Williams, Capt. Incidents of the Honourable Artillery Company. With Maps and Illustrations. Boston: Lothrop, Macdonald & Co. \$4.

Worcester's Academic Dictionary. Illustrated. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.50.

Worcester, Dr. A. A New Way of Training Nurses. Boston: Cupples & Hurd. 50 cents.

Work, H. C. Marching through Georgia. Illustrated. Boston: Ticknor & Co. \$1.50.

Wright, M. E. Light, and Heat. Longmans, Green & Co. 80 cents.

Yonge, Charlotte M. Our New Mistress; or, Changes at Brookfield Earle. Thomas Whitaker. \$1.25.

Zola, E. The Dream. Illustrated. Chicago: Laird & Lee.

Zola, E. The Dream. Translated by Mrs. Eliza E. Chase. Chicago: Raud, McNally & Co. 50 cents.