

the impression of the guide-book from her information, which is as good as a guide-book, all the same, to one of the most delightful holiday-grounds in England. If she sets off on another cruise some day, we beg that she will let us again share her holiday fun, and be kindled by her fresh interest in beauty and romance.

THE CHILD WORLD. By Gabriel Setoun. Illustrated by Charles Robinson. New York: John Lane. \$1.50.

Of Mr. Robinson's part in this book it is impossible to speak too highly. His deftness, originality, and his surprisingness, always pleasant in kind, are indescribable in words. Buy the volume and you have a lasting treasure. Silence is best respecting Mr. Setoun's part. Beside the Jane Taylor and Dr. Watts verses of a far-away childhood these seem very insubstantial stuff, and lamentably tame if compared with their model, Stevenson's *Child's Garden*. But Mr. Robinson has not minded. The prosiest phrase has set his fancy soaring. The atmosphere of commonplace in the verse has never hampered him.

#### BOOKMAN BREVITIES.

Messrs. Little, Brown and Company have added to their subscription edition of the works of Captain Marryat two more volumes, consisting of *Masterman Ready* and *The Settlers in Canada*. Mr. Johnson, his editor, claims for the volume that it is the most famous and certainly the best of the short series of stories for children which Marryat began comparatively late in life, under the impression that "his former productions, like all novels, had had their day, and for the present at least would sell no more." It is exactly suited for children, abounding in detail, simple in conception, and pathetic without being melancholy. We know that Marryat loved children and understood them, and the children's own vote, which must be final, is almost universal in high praise of *Masterman Ready*. It was Foster who wrote these words of encouragement to the author: "You ought to make a fortune out of these little books. I know no book of its kind so popular as *Masterman Ready*. Children don't read it once, but a dozen times; and

this is the true test." The first edition of *Masterman Ready* was printed in three volumes in 1841. *The Settlers* has also been a favourite, although its conventional didacticism is rather trying in our age. It has the merit, shared with all Marryat's work, of being thoroughly pleasing, healthy, and readable. Twenty volumes of this edition have now appeared, and in less than two months we may expect to have the whole edition (to be complete in twenty-four volumes) in our hands. (Price, \$3.50 per volume.)

The Macmillan Company have brought out a beautiful edition of Washington Irving's *Alhambra*, with a charming introduction by Elizabeth Robins Pennell, illustrated with drawings of the places mentioned by Joseph Pennell. The book is beautifully bound with full gilt edges and decorated cover. The numerous illustrations by Mr. Pennell add a new interest to this edition and make it very attractive. (Price, \$2.00.) The same firm has begun the publication in conjunction with the Messrs. Dent of a series called the Temple Classics, edited by Israel Golanetz, M.A. The first two volumes are *The Life of Nelson*, by Robert Southey, and Wordsworth's *Prelude*. The little books are very tastefully and daintily produced. (Price, 50 cents per volume.)—We have received from Messrs. Scott, Foresman and Company, Chicago, a new edition of the very popular books of William Mathews, of which some hundreds of thousands must have been sold since they were first published. The titles are *Getting on in the World*; *Oratory and Orators*; *Words: Their Use and Abuse*; and *Hours with Men and Books*. A portrait of Dr. Mathews is given as a frontispiece, and other portraits are added by way of illustration.

A handsome portfolio has been issued by the Berlin Photographic Company of this city, called *The Hermitage*, consisting of eighty-four large photogravures directly reproduced from the original paintings in the Imperial Gallery at St. Petersburg. It is one of the finest set of pictures ever produced, and the portfolio well merits the praise which has been awarded it. A prospectus will be mailed to any person on application.

*Midshipman Farragut*, by James Barnes, is the story of Farragut's youthful cruises.

ing during the War of 1812 ; and though cast in the form of a tale of adventure, it is, in its essentials, based upon historical records, and especially upon the memoirs of Commodore David Porter as recorded by his son the Admiral. It is good reading for boys, nor will grown people who take it up and read a few pages be disposed to sniff at it. (Appleton's. Price, \$1.00.)

A recent issue of the International Scientific Series (D. Appleton and Company) is a book which will prove a treas-

ure to music students. In *The Evolution of the Art of Music*, by C. Hubert H. Parry, we have, within the limits of a single volume, a clearer, more comprehensive, and scientific treatment of the development of music than is often found in more elaborate and expensive works on the same subject. Some of the chapter headings are : "Scales," "Folksongs," "Incipient Harmony," "Rise of Secular Music," etc., and at the end is a most interesting chapter on "Modern Phases of Opera."

## AMONG THE LIBRARIES.

The New York State Library Association and the New York City Library Club held a joint meeting with the Brooklyn Public Library Association at the Art Building in Brooklyn on Thursday, January 14th. An interesting series of papers and discussions was held, followed by a dinner at the Clarendon Hotel, and by a public meeting in the evening in the Academy of Music, in the interest of a free public library in Brooklyn.

The Cumulative Index of Periodical Literature, which was carried on for the year 1896 by the Public Library at Cleveland, O., has proved a success, and will be continued and enlarged. Libraries should support this enterprise, and lessen, so far as may be, the burden on the Cleveland Library.

The Century Association of New York City has just issued a catalogue of about four hundred pages of the library of the late John Graham Lorimer, compiled by the librarian, Mr. Senter, and under the direction of Mr. Paul L. Ford, who writes an introduction. This collection was bequeathed to the Century Association by its collector. It seems to be a miscellaneous library of standard literature and some Americana. Just how it will be valuable as a whole to a club does not appear to a casual observer. It would seem that a club library ought to be maintained as a moderate-sized, carefully selected collection of fresh and useful books. It is not right, of course, to look a gift horse in the mouth, but it is often judicious to look very critically at a gift library, especially if it be given under conditions.

The Princeton University Library is early reaping the fruits of the late celebration of its magnificent new Library Building. Mr. J. S. Morgan has presented to the Library his splendid collection of early editions of Vergil, certainly the most complete in the country, and valued at not less than \$50,000. This is likely to be supplemented in the near future by the careful collection of all critical and other matter relating to Vergil, which will make a most interesting body of literature. It appears that Mr. Morgan has been wise enough to realise that a gentleman who is sufficiently wealthy to gather a unique and precious collection in any department ought not to be so poor that he must suffer it to be scattered and lost. The only safe and rational way to insure the preservation of such collections is to incorporate them in our great university and public libraries.

It is pleasant, therefore, to note that the splendid collection on Dante, which has been gathered and presented to Cornell University Library by Professor Willard Fiske, is being constantly supplemented and made more complete by that gentleman's zeal as a collector, and his generosity as a patron of the Library. In the same manner the Avery Architectural Library in Columbia University is receiving constant accessions through Mr. Avery's benefactions.

The Dante collection in Harvard University Library, formed by the union of the collections in Harvard and those of the Dante Society, was for many years the most complete in that field in this country. It is interesting to observe