

man in that province, he went well recommended to England, and there, April 21, 1772, was ordained a Deacon by Edmund of Ely in Mayfair Chapel, Westminster, London, and April 23, with the Rev. Braidfoot of Virginia and Rev. White, later the highly honored Bishop of Pennsylvania, ordained a Priest by the Bishop of London. In the autumn of 1772 he settled at Woodstock, Va.

W. J. MANN.

PHILADELPHIA, August 17, 1886.

THE YOUNG DEMOCRACY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Your comment on the Democratic State Conventions of Indiana and Tennessee in your "Young Democracy" editorial in this week's *Nation* will apply with equal force to the Democratic and Greenback State Conventions of this State, held on the 18th. The assembly of delegates to each Convention was composed largely of young men. George L. Yapple, the candidate for Governor, is but thirty-six, and a number of the other candidates on the ticket are young men. The managing men were all young. The manager of the Yapple canvass was Mr. Rowley, of the *Lansing Journal*, almost a boy. The real head and front of the Greenback party—and now Secretary of the Greenback State Central Committee—was C. S. Hampton, of Harbor Springs, scarcely thirty. The candidate for Secretary of State was P. B. Wachtel, of Petoskey, about the age of Yapple.

The leading men were all young. The only contest between the older element and the younger was in the Greenback Convention on a ballot for candidate for Governor—ex-Gov. Begole against Yapple, the latter leading three to one. The gatherings were orderly, well dressed, and quiet, but full of determination and enthusiasm. I did not see but one delegate under the influence of liquor. The platform probably fairly represents the Democrats of this State, and presages, as your correspondent from West Virginia recently predicted, an eventual "long, hard fight" on that line; but the enthusiasm in support of the President and for tariff reform is great. The outlook for Democratic or Fusion success this fall is good.—Respectfully yours,

H. J. MARTIN.

VERMONTVILLE, MICH., August 21, 1886.

BLACK SPIRITS AND WHITE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: It would perhaps be scarcely courteous to send the following story to the *English Journal of Psychical Research*, or to its American child; but it seems a pity that the readers of the papers therein published should not have the benefit of this narrative. And if I may not assume that your readers are also their readers, I will shift my ground and plead for its admission to your columns because of the interest attaching to such an amusing occurrence in the lives of historic personages, especially when told by one of the most famous of them. I extract it from the 'Memoirs of Cardinal de Retz.' The incident took place, apparently, in 1640, when the future Cardinal was about six-and-twenty and as yet only an abbé. He was just then much befriended by Mme. de Vendôme (the daughter-in-law of Henri Quatre), and by the excellent Bishop of Lizieux (Caspean), whose devotion to Louis XIII. may be remembered, and who, just at this time, was doing his best to bring about the conversion of M. de Turenne, already famous, though only some two years older than M. de Retz. These circumstances, and some others not worth entering into, threw these three men into frequent companionship with one another and also with Mme. de Vendôme and her daughter, and one day they all went out together to Saint-Cloud, accompanied

by Mme. de Choisy, a great lady of the day, a M. de Brion, and Voiture, the well-known Academician of the Hôtel Rambouillet. It was for the purpose of giving the Bishop a theatrical entertainment. The good prelate, who was a great admirer of Corneille's tragedies, did not scruple to listen to one provided it were out of town, and the company but small. So to Saint-Cloud they went and were so well amused there that, as the nights were at the shortest, the day began to dawn as they returned. On the way—

"Our coach suddenly stopped. As I was at one of the boots (*une des portières*) with Mlle. Vendôme, I asked the coachman why he stopped, and he answered me in a very amazed tone, 'Would you have me drive over all the devils that are there in front of me?' I put my head out of the door, and, as I have always been very short-sighted, I saw nothing. Mme. de Choisy, who was at the other boot with M. de Turenne, was the first in the coach to perceive the cause of the fright of the coachman; I say in the coach, because five or six footmen who were behind were crying out 'Jesus Maria!' and already quaking with fear. M. de Turenne, at the shrieks of Mme. de Choisy, jumped out of the coach. I thought we were beset by highwaymen, and I got out of the coach likewise. I took one of the footmen's swords, and, drawing it, went to join M. de Turenne on the other side, whom I found looking steadily at something I could not see. I asked him what he was looking at, and he answered in a very low voice, jogging my arm: 'I will tell you; but these ladies must not be frightened.' They were in truth howling rather than shrieking. Voiture began an Oremus. The sharp tones of Mme. de Choisy may be not unknown to you. Mlle. de Vendôme was at her beads; Mme. de Vendôme was trying to confess herself to M. de Lizieux, who said to her: 'Daughter, be not afraid; you are in the hands of God.' The Comte de Brion was on his knees, chanting very devoutly with all our footmen the Litanies of the Virgin.

"All this went on, as you can imagine, at once and in less than no time (*en même temps et en moins de rien*). M. de Turenne, who had drawn the short sword at his side after he had stared into the distance as I have already told you, turned to me with the same air with which he would have asked for his dinner, or with which he would have given battle, and uttered these words: 'Let's go towards them.' 'Towards whom?' replied I, and truly I thought everybody had lost their senses. He answered me: 'I actually believe that they may be devils.' As we had already made five or six steps forward and were consequently nearer the spectacle, I began to perceive something, and what appeared to me was a long procession of black phantoms, which caused me at first more emotion than it had M. de Turenne. But making the reflection that I had long sought to come across spirits, and that apparently I had here found them, my excitement made me move more quickly than the deportment of M. de Turenne permitted his doing. I leaped forward towards the procession. The people in the coach, who thought us encountering all the devils in the world, made a great outcry, and yet it was not they who were the most frightened. Some poor reformed barefoot Austin Friars, who are called Black Friars, were our supposed devils; and seeing two men approaching with swords in their hands, they were in the greatest terror, and one of them, coming forward, called out: 'Gentlemen, we are poor friars, who do no harm to any one, and who are going to bathe in the river for health's sake.' We turned back to the coach, M. de Turenne and I, with such bursts of laughter as you can imagine, and he and I made at that moment two reflections, which we told one another the next morning. He declared to me that at the first appearance of these imagined phantoms his feeling was of joy, though he had always thought he should be frightened if he ever saw anything supernatural; and I confessed to him that the first sight had startled me, though I had wished all my life to see spirits. The second observation that we made was that all that one reads in the greater number of biographies is false. M. de Turenne assured me that he had not felt the slightest start, though he agreed that I had reason to believe from his fixed gaze and slow motions that he was much startled; and when I confessed to him that I had been startled at first, he declared that he would have sworn on his soul that I had felt no emotion but of courage and spirit."

But this discussion, which the Cardinal continues, concerning the veracity of history we will not enter into. One word only in conclusion. Will all Psychical Researchers observe that if M. de Turenne and M. de Retz had not got out of the coach, the Austin Friars might never have been discovered, and coachman, footmen, ladies, Bishop, and Academician would all have testified to devils disappearing in the river? *

Notes.

T. Y. CROWELL & Co. will publish in the early autumn a translation of Don Armando Palacio Valdés's novel, 'Marta y Maria,' from the pen of Mr. Nathan Haskell Dole.

On September 1 Thomas Whittaker will issue 'Records of an Active Life,' by Heman Dyer, D.D.; and a volume from the unprinted sermons of Charles Kingsley, entitled 'True Words for Brave Men.'

Harper & Bros. will publish the last novel of the late Mary Cecil Hay, completed on her death-bed, 'A Wicked Girl'; and a thoroughly revised edition of the late Dr. Worthington Hooker's 'Child's Book of Nature.'

John Bernard, sometime Secretary of the Beef-steak Club, was an English actor who was in America during the last years of the last century. He was an acute observer and kept a voluminous diary. He died nearly sixty years ago, but his American notes have only recently been rescued from oblivion. They have been edited, with an introduction and abundant notes, by Mr. Laurence Hutton and Mr. Brander Matthews, and will be published shortly by Harper & Bros.

Mr. Lang's 'Letters to Dead Authors' have got into a second edition in England, and in the preface to this Mr. Lang half-promises a second series, which will include epistles to Homer, Hawthorne, Swift, Longfellow, Montaigne, Pepys, and Thucydides. To this edition he has also appended this neat little "Envoy":

"Go, letters to the irresponsible Ghosts
That scarce will heed them less than living Men.
For now new Books come thicker than, on Coasts
And Meads of Asia, through the sea-birds when
The snow-wind drives them South in clamorous Hosts
From their salt marshes by Cayster's Fen."

M. Austin Dobson has written a Prologue for Mr. E. A. Abbey's illustrated edition of "She Stoops to Conquer," soon to be published, and he is engaged on an annotated edition of Goldsmith's 'Poems,' for the Clarendon Press, which will publish it uniform with his excellent volume of 'Selections from Steele.'

Among books recently published in France may be mentioned 'Les Dernières années du duc d'Enghien,' by Count Boulay de la Meurthe (Paris: Hachette). The author, in a previous work, had proved himself very familiar with the period immediately preceding the Consulate. In this he shows how the arrest of the Duc d'Enghien, in 1804, was brought about, and how, partly by his own imprudence and partly owing to false reports made to Bonaparte, his iniquitous execution took place at Vincennes.

M. le vicomte Onfroy de Thoron is known by two works on Equatorial America. He has just published an astonishing pamphlet, 'Découverte du Paradis terrestre et de la langue primitive parlée depuis Adam jusqu'à Babel' (Paris: Leroux). In this the author tries to establish that the primitive language is no other than the Quichua, still in use among certain native tribes in Peru, Ecuador, and Bolivia.

A very interesting volume has recently been published in Paris by Fetscherin & Chuit: 'La France socialiste: Notes d'histoire contemporaine,' by Mermeix. The author gives an account of the various socialist doctrines of the day, of their origin and development, and of the

aspirations and projects of the leaders of the revolutionary movement. He thinks the present state of things favorable to them; that they are no longer a little band ready for any upheaval and without ideas or settled plans, but a great mass, counselled and led by deserters from the classes threatened; and that the only safety for society in future is in a wise and strong union which will demand immense sacrifices of opinions and prejudices from all.

Burma is the subject of an interesting paper by Mr. J. Annan Bryce, published in the August Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society. A rapid sketch is given of the physical features of the country and its productions, with a more detailed description of little known parts which the writer has explored within the past five years. Vegetation appears to differ in one respect from that of most tropical countries, in that there is a "great number of flowering trees and shrubs, many of which are sweet scented. There is hardly any time of the year at which the landscape is not bright with the bloom, and the air loaded with the perfume, of one or more of these trees, and they are often in such masses as to form a striking feature in the scene." Of the various races which inhabit the whole country, the Burmese number between three and four millions, or one-half of the population. They are a hardy, vigorous people, but their passionate love of sport and impatience at restraint, unfitting them for military service, are causing them rapidly to fall behind the more diligent but probably less intelligent Hindoo and Chinese. This is the more to be regretted as in certain characteristics—less servility and more regard for truth, for instance—the Burman is far superior to the other races who dispute the supremacy with him. Mr. Bryce has even a kindly word to say for King Theebaw, many of whose cruel acts were "political necessities in the eyes of his advisers, and the details were often grossly exaggerated by the newspapers in India. In regard to one batch of alleged massacres, that which is said to have taken place in 1880, I can say with confidence that, having been in Mandalay at the time, and having taken trouble to get to the bottom of the evidence, I am firmly convinced that the allegation was absolutely devoid of foundation."

In the same number Col. Ardagh gives some account of the Red Sea petroleum deposits, which in April last were discovered to be commercially worth working. From the want of drinking water on this part of the coast, it is proposed to lay a pipe line 150 miles to Suez, where the storage tanks and refineries will in that case be built. Mr. J. W. Wells, in a description of the sugar plantations near Pará, on the Tocantins River, says of the Amazon's delta generally: "I do not know of any place on the globe that is so exceptionally favored by nature for the cultivation of tropical produce, and yet which is so little utilized." A market is near at hand and prices are high, while the soil is so rich and the climate so equable "that it is only necessary to plant anything in plots of plantations in rotation, to have a continual crop of any produce all the year round." In one place he saw a "cane-field twenty years old, from which yearly crops had been taken without replanting." There is also an abstract of the valuable report on Tunis, the result of a tour last autumn, made to the Foreign Office by Sir Lambert Playfair, the Consul-General. He gives a very favorable account of the condition of the country since its occupation by the French. There are excellent roads, cultivation has largely increased, and the state of financial affairs is most satisfactory, there being a surplus for public works. He regards the country as "one large archaeological museum, and a perfect library of epigraphical treasure, previously unexplored. . . . Triumphant arches, city gates,

ruins of temples, mausolea, and Roman forums are still found in their classic grandeur," though they are in great danger from the greed of the railway contractors, "who look upon Roman ruins as quarries of good bricks."

The *Scottish Geographical Magazine* for August contains a paper on the resources of the lower Congo, by H. Nipperdey, formerly Director of Agriculture in the Congo Free State, which is not very encouraging as to the commercial prospects of the new State. In treating of the food-stuffs, he mentions the curious fact that "none of the means of subsistence cultivated by the negro at the present day are indigenous in Africa. They have all been introduced within three hundred years by the Portuguese or others," and it is accordingly an interesting question as to what they lived upon before this time. Following this is a description of a paradise discovered in the Patagonian Andes by Col. Fontana, Governor of Southern Patagonia, as related by him to the Argentine Geographical Institute last June. An exploring expedition, headed by the Governor, set out from Chubut, a Welsh colony numbering about three thousand souls on the eastern coast, in October, 1885. After several days' march in a southwesterly direction across the characteristic stony wastes, they came, in the Andine region, in lat. 43°, upon a great lake surrounded by verdant meadows and forests of fine timber. "Further on we came upon plains of strawberries and currants, as if we were in some market-garden near a populous city." The expedition turned back within a short distance of the Pacific, and reached their point of departure after an absence of four months, having explored about three thousand miles.

'The Customs and Songs of the Turkish Serbs' is the title of a work which has lately been published in St. Petersburg by I. S. Yastreboff. The compiler has devoted many years of personal labor to collecting these songs and customs on the scene of their production. His collection, which contains nearly 600 songs, fills out former collections of Servian national poetry with fresh and rich material. In order to render his work available for those who are not versed in the Servian tongue, the compiler has appended a brief dictionary of Servian words and Turkish expressions.

'The Annals of My Life,' by N. I. Gretsch, is a book which throws great light on Russian society and the system of government at the end of the eighteenth century. Gretsch was born in 1787, and died in 1868. After his death a few fragments of these annals appeared in various Russian journals, but they have never been known as a whole until their recent publication in St. Petersburg. They contain many curious details of the times of the Empress Catherine and of the Emperors Paul and Alexander I., which have up to this date never been fully described. Gretsch was able to obtain information from behind the scenes, which constitutes the value of his memoirs.

The only serious historico-literary work evoked by Gogol's famous comedy, 'The Revisor,' has just been published in Moscow by Nikolai Tikhonravoff. It is now known (and it was not wholly unknown before) that the comedy appeared to spectators and to readers in two different forms. It was not played in the theatre as it was printed, and theatrical critics, who were familiar with the printed text, often reproached the actors for mangling it. Mr. Tikhonravoff has now published the first stage text, with minute indications of the variations in other well-known manuscripts and the first printed text. To this edition he has prefixed an ample introduction, containing the history of the play founded upon these various texts and Gogol's transcriptions. It is known that Gogol labored long

and assiduously over his works, and 'The Revisor' confirms his own statements on this point. He had it in hand from 1832, when the first rough draft was made, until the last corrections were made in 1842. It was licensed by both the theatrical and the ordinary censor, at the same time, in 1836, but not all the changes in the stage text were introduced into the printed version. This probably arose from the difficulty of making alterations in print, and Mr. Tikhonravoff says that Gogol attached more importance to perfecting the stage than the printed text, since the conditions of censorship were more unrestrained and easier at that time for the printed than for the acting version. On the St. Petersburg boards the stage text of 1836 was given until 1870; on the Moscow boards until 1882; and meanwhile the printed text was exclusively that of 1842. These two texts had nothing in common in the majority of the scenes. The publication of the original text, as presented by Gogol to the theatrical censor, with indications of all the changes made by Gogol himself, and by the censor up to the date of the final stage and printed forms of the comedy in 1836, furnishes very curious materials for the study of Gogol's methods. Just at that time he was beginning a new period in his career, which is indicated in his own letters, when the "demand for diverting himself with innocent, careless scenes" was being replaced by the deeper requirement of artistic comicality, which imparted to 'The Revisor' its great social and literary importance.

We have been reminded that our musical correspondent at Bayreuth, in the number for August 12, writing of Wagner's treatment of the mediæval legend of Tristan and Isolde, falls into error when he says (p. 135): "By the introduction of the magic love potion he removes the action of the lovers from the region of mere amorous adventure (as treated by the mediæval poets) to the sphere of inevitable tragic necessity." But the magic potion and the consequent character of fatality attached to the love of Tristan and Isolde is a necessary part of the original story, and is found in all the old versions of it, both in verse and in prose. It is one of the characteristic differences between this story and the more recent and much less ideal one of Lancelot and Guinevere, so similar in many external respects. The beauty of the stories of Wagner's music-dramas depends, not upon what he adds to the old poems which he uses, but upon his choice of their oldest and most poetic forms and incidents.

The eighth and what seemed to be the concluding volume of M. Lorenz's 'Catalogue général de la Librairie française depuis 1840,' was published in 1880. The first fascicule of a ninth volume has just appeared (Boston: Schoenhof). This is really the first number of a new work, which will be a catalogue of all books published in French from the 1st of January, 1876, to the end of 1885. It will be in two volumes, forming the fourth part of the General Catalogue. The author announces his intention of publishing in 1888 a final volume, which will contain a classified index, according to subjects, of the two volumes now in course of publication. The catalogue is in every respect excellent, giving, besides sufficiently full titles, bibliographical and biographical information which cannot be found elsewhere. It is very clear and accurate, and as complete as such a work could reasonably be expected to be.

—In the September *Atlantic* Mr. P. G. Hamerton's second paper, comparing the French and English peoples, easily outranks everything else in thoughtfulness, freshness, and literary handling; and, like its predecessor, it gives a shock to several antiquated notions. Few convictions are more firmly settled in the British mind than that the French are a fickle nation, liable to periodical

attacks of revolutionary mania, never settled and never likely to be; to the British throne Paris is as sand to the rock, and consequently the French have been pooh-poohed at politically by the English after the uncivil fashion of which the Laureate has given more than the one example Mr. Hamerton so gently deprecates. We, too, think of the French temperament and Rochefoucauld's maxim, "Tout arrive en France," at once. But Mr. Hamerton, as a writer, is in nothing more successful than in his discovery of happier points of view than are afforded by the beaten path of old landmarks. The reader will be told in this article that this depreciation of French political genius is petty; that the numerous written constitutions since 1789 are a proof of an order-loving spirit; that there seems great probability, in the age now coming on, of France being the country of stability and England that of vast and disturbing change in the structure of society and the state, and, in fact, the Presidency may outlive the throne. In his last delightful chapter the author reads Mr. Arnold a lesson for joining in the common cry that in France the poor hate the rich; one must go into Lancashire to find class-hatred, says Mr. Hamerton, and forthwith takes us there with a few pertinent anecdotes. The rest of the number is very readable also, with a note on Whipple by Col. Higginson, a sketch of the paper-money craze in 1786 by John Fiske, and an excellent paper in respect to the property rights of married women, in which it is very meekly suggested that the law has gone beyond justice in relieving the wife's property from any charge for the household, and even for her own maintenance; both the husband and the creditors of his estate are pleaded for.

—*Harper's* contains no article of specially marked interest, but is a number of even and high excellence of the sort that seems to place this magazine beyond competition as a periodical devoted to the contemporary. The article which is somewhat inappropriately entitled "Ferdinand Barbedienne" is made up of a sketch of the modern growth of the artistic bronze industry in Paris, an account of mechanical processes involved in it, and a description of the manufactories which form, as the author says, a kind of industrial republic specifically Parisian, and not without instructiveness in these times. The portraits, both literary and pictorial, of the working-men in Parliament are another attractive feature; and it will be interesting for those who oppose "labor in politics" to observe that these representatives are men formed by the unions, of which most of them are officers, while it is also noticeable that many of them are religious men of a pronounced preaching kind, and temperance reformers of the total-abstinence group. Prof. Ely, continuing his discussion of the railroads, comes to his foreshadowed conclusion that public control should be exercised either by delegated authority of a recognized kind or through direct State-ownership, which he prefers; and in the course of his reasoning lays down in very terse and clear terms a number of general propositions of a socialistic color, to the effect, for example, that State-help is another form of self-help; that the State's duty is limited only by the possibility of man's development in all his nature; that one generation should not assume to grant rights and privileges in perpetuity, and the like. Col. Higginson tells the adventurous story of the development of our foreign trade by the Salem sea-captains from the Revolution to the Embargo and the War of 1812; and there are several other hardly less interesting papers on short-horn cattle, strawberry culture, and those two subjects of perennial importance, the United States Navy and the sun.

—The total eclipse of the sun which occurs early

in the morning of Sunday next, has long been known to astronomers as the "great eclipse of 1886"—a name derived from the extraordinary duration of the total phase, six minutes thirty-five seconds in the most favorable locality, thus approaching within about a minute of the greatest duration possible under any conditions. The prospective value of such an eclipse will be apparent if we compare its totality with that of some recent eclipses which have become famous in astronomy—that of the 17th of August, 1868, belonging to the same saros as the eclipse of the present year, and widely observed in India, with a duration of about six minutes; of the 6th of May, 1883, visible for about five and one-half minutes in the Caroline Islands; of the 29th of July, 1878, for three and one-half minutes in the Western States; of the 7th of August, 1869, for three minutes in the Western and Southern States; and of the 16th of May, 1882, for about a minute and a half in Egypt. Most unfortunately, however, it so happens that all the localities where this eclipse will have an unusual duration are on the water instead of on land, and astronomers have not yet found any way of mounting their instruments on shipboard with sufficient stability to enable them to make observations of value. Still, the path of the eclipse of 1886 is so long that, after reaching all the way across the Atlantic, from the African to the South American continent, there is enough foothold left for the astronomer to set up his instruments and get good observations, if only he can have a clear sky. Near Benguela, on the west coast of Africa, the eclipse will remain total something less than five minutes; but the locality is not an inviting one, and Congress failed to make the appropriation necessary to defray the expenses of such an expedition as the Government astronomers had planned to send to that point. So far as we know, no observing party of any nationality will watch the eclipse from the African coast, and no American astronomers will, we believe, observe it at all, except, perhaps, one or two who may have gone to the only other available point—in the island of Grenada, of the Windward group, off the northeast coast of South America. Here the moon will completely hide the sun for something more than three and one-half minutes, and a large English party now stationed there may be expected to get good results if the sky is auspicious.

—The personnel of this expedition, which left Southampton on July 29, includes Mr. J. Norman Lockyer, the celebrated spectroscopist, who will photograph the eclipse with two telescopes so arranged as to take three-inch and three-quarter-inch pictures of the solar corona, some of the exposures being instantaneous; Dr. Arthur Schuster, who will photograph the corona and its spectrum also; Mr. Turner and Mr. Maunder, assistants in the Royal Observatory, who will conduct a variety of spectroscopic and photographic work; the Rev. S. J. Perry of Stonyhurst College, who has a large outfit of apparatus, and will observe, among other things, the first and the last contact spectroscopically, also any difference he may be able to detect in the spectrum of the inner corona near the poles and equator of the sun; Prof. Thorpe, replacing Capt. Abney, who will observe the intensity of light of the corona; and Capt. Darwin, who carries a coronagraph, an instrument invented by Dr. Huggins for taking photographs of the corona in full sunlight. It is made without lenses, the image being formed by a concave mirror, thus reducing the amount of scattering light to a minimum. A comparison of photographs taken before and during the eclipse may be expected to show whether the light effects obtained on the plate

are due to the true corona or to some atmospheric or instrumental cause. Also, when the sun is partially eclipsed, the image of the moon should be shown eclipsing the corona. To any one seeing the sun totally eclipsed on that day the sky will present an unusually brilliant spectacle, the bright star Regulus being close to the sun, Mercury and Venus and Saturn to the north, and Mars and Jupiter to the south, and all these objects being approximately in line. The eclipse cannot be seen at all in North America, except as a very partial one, for a short time after sunrise, in the States east of the Mississippi River and south of the forty-third parallel.

—The Philadelphia Social Science Association publishes an interesting paper by Mr. Robert Adams, jr., on "Wife Beating as a Crime and its Relation to Taxation." Mr. Adams was a member in 1885 of the Pennsylvania Legislature. At the request of one of his constituents he introduced a bill to provide corporal punishment for all "male persons convicted of wilfully beating their wives." The bill was defeated in the Senate, 26 to 16. The Senator who thus introduced the bill did so by "request," and was not himself in favor of it at first; but a study of the subject converted him, and in the paper above named he presents some reasons in favor of the measure. It appears, by a quotation from Darwin, that, "with the exception of the seal, man is the only animal in creation which maltreats its mate or any female of its own kind." English statistics are quoted as showing in the three years 1874-1876 an average of over 2,000 aggravated assaults per year made by husbands on their wives. In Pennsylvania, for the year 1885, there were 525 complaints by wives against their husbands for "brutal beatings"; 337 of these complaints were endorsed by the grand jury, and 211 of the husbands were convicted and sentenced "for terms averaging three months each, thus depriving their families of necessary support." This statement gives only a part of the actual cases: "Hundreds of minor cases appear before the justices of the peace, or are settled before trial." "Many more wives are abused who will not make a complaint." Most of the husbands complained of were foreigners, and were "under the influence of liquor." The author insists successfully, we should think, that such a law would not necessarily be unconstitutional as authorizing a "cruel and unusual punishment," or rather "a cruel punishment," which is the phrase of the Pennsylvania Constitution. The experience of Maryland is referred to, where a law of this sort was passed in 1883, "and the District Attorney of Baltimore informed the writer that after the first conviction the crime ceased as if by magic in that State." The author does not discuss the subject from the point of view that flogging is a form of punishment which brutalizes the offices of the law and all who take a part in it. But if the experience of Maryland may be relied upon, that objection is mainly answered.

—Scarcely a week passes in France without bringing about the inauguration of a statue or bust of some great man of a past more or less remote. In the month of July alone there were more than half-a-dozen such solemn occasions. The monument to Lamartine we have already mentioned. The statue of Diderot collected the free-thinkers not of France only. The author of 'Kraft und Stoff,' Dr. Büchner, made a speech upon this occasion, and M. Hovelacque, the President of the Municipal Council, answered in the name of the city of Paris. M. Hovelacque, who never misses an opportunity of preaching doctrines dear to his heart, had a subject which seemed fully to satisfy him when he pronounced the eulogium of Denis Diderot, "the real chief of the materialistic scientific school," in whom the

orator saluted an "apostle of modern times." The theatrical character of the proceedings upon the occasion of the unveiling of the bust of Rabelais at Meudon made this small event rather interesting. Two literary societies, composed of men from the south of France, the *Félibres* and *La Cigale*, took upon themselves to atone at this late day for the neglect of northern Frenchmen. Under the pretext that the "jolly priest" of Meudon, a native of Chinon, in Touraine, had studied medicine at Montpellier and dwelt for some time in the Golden Isles, the *Isolo d'oro*, they came to an understanding with the municipal authorities of Meudon, and the result is a bust by the sculptor, M. Truphème, of the author of Gargantua and Pantagruel. On the 11th of July the invited guests were received at the station by a picturesque *cortège*, composed of ancient heralds-at-arms and lansquenets surrounding the triumphal car of Gargantua, followed by twelve "thélémistes" in brilliant costumes and a numerous corps of "escholiers" of the sixteenth century. In this order they proceeded to the little square where the bust had been erected with the inscription: "À François Rabelais, Curé de Meudon, Docteur de Montpellier et Caloyer des Isles d'Hyères; Les Cigaliers et les habitants de Meudon." M. Henry Fouquier was the orator of the day. In a very bright introduction he denied that the Frenchmen of the south wished to claim as one of their conquests a man who belongs to all France. After this speech M. Mounet-Sully of the Comédie-Française recited a charming poem by M. François Fabié, "*La Cigale à Rabelais*." We have been so fatigued, not to use a more violent and expressive word, by the semi-official and bombastic verses pronounced of late at the foot of various statues, that the stanzas of M. Fabié come as a graceful reminder that poetry is still possible on such occasions.

THE INDIAN EMPIRE.

The Indian Empire. Its history, people, and products. By W. W. Hunter, C.S.I., C.I.E., LL.D. 2d edition. London: Trübner & Co.

THIS compilation belongs to that class of books which, according to Charles Lamb's classification, bears the same relation to literature, properly so called, as does a backgammon board lettered on the back to represent the 'History of England.' It is the work of a clever man and an accomplished writer, and must have demanded a great deal of labor in its preparation; but it is difficult to conjecture the kind of reader for whom it can have either utility or interest. The "general reader" is generally credited—upon no trustworthy evidence, so far as we can see—with an insatiable voracity for every species of information; but if there be one of these persons who could sit down and work his way through Dr. Hunter's 'Indian Empire,' he ought to be put under a glass case and preserved for the instruction of posterity as an extraordinary *lusus naturee*. His thirst for information would indeed be abnormal. From the "physical aspects" of India, he would pass lightly to a study of her "Non-Aryan populations"; then of the "Aryans," then the Buddhists, the Greeks, the Scythians, the Hindus, the Moslems, the Mahrattas, the British; agriculture, trade, geology, meteorology, vital statistics, and much other miscellaneous information. The student, on the other hand, of one or more of these various subjects would be repelled from Dr. Hunter's by another cause. It is an attempt to achieve the impossible. "The book," to quote the author's own words, "tries to present within a small compass an account of India and her people," and no account can be given in a small compass of so vast a subject without being

misleading and unsatisfactory. Dr. Hunter is himself partially aware of this:

"Continuous condensation," he says, "although convenient to the reader, has its perils for the author. Many Indian topics are still open questions, with regard to which divergences of opinion may fairly exist. In some cases I have been compelled by brevity to state my conclusions without setting forth the evidence on which they rest, and without any attempt to combat alternative views. In other matters, I have had to content myself with conveying a correct general impression, while omitting the modifying details."

The opening sentence of this paragraph ought, we think, to be reversed and run as follows: "Condensation, although convenient to the author, has its perils for the reader." We cannot profess to be an authority on the greater part of the matters treated of in this volume, but to a few of them we have devoted considerable thought and study, and of these we are bound to say that Dr. Hunter has, in our judgment, signally failed, in many instances, to "convey a correct general impression." To say this is to make no impeachment of Dr. Hunter's ability or veracity. It is the natural consequence of the method which limitations of space have compelled him to adopt—namely, that of "stating his conclusions without setting forth the evidence on which they rest." When we remember that upon nearly all the controverted points of Indian history (and their name is legion) the controversy is upon the evidence—upon the authenticity, that is, of the facts which are appealed to in support of this or that conclusion—the omission which Dr. Hunter acknowledges, deprives his historical dissertations of all value for any student who is not prepared to accept his conclusions at second hand.

Apart from this, however, there is another consideration which makes this volume of very doubtful value as an independent testimony to either the past or present condition of India. It is an official publication, prepared and published by a highly paid official of the Indian Government, and it is idle to suppose that one occupying this position can weigh evidence or state facts with the calm dispassionateness of a Grote or a Thirlwall. The consequence is that the more nearly he approaches the present day, the more grievously does an instructed reader find occasion to complain of Dr. Hunter's way of putting things. The impartial historian withdraws further and further in the background, and his place is supplied in the most unwelcome manner by an advocate holding a brief in favor of the bureaucratic system by which India is governed at the present day. We do not mean that Dr. Hunter is guilty of deliberate and intentional inaccuracy, but that from his position he is unable to weigh impartially the relative value of different orders of facts; that he places, so to speak, the emphasis on the wrong place, and is a great deal too apt to write as if good intentions on the part of a Government were identical with successful administration. Take, for example, the following passage, contrasting the present state of land-tenure with that which prevailed in India anterior to British rule:

"Legal titles have everywhere taken the place of unwritten customs. Land, which was merely a source of livelihood to the cultivators and of revenue to the state, has become a valuable property to the owners. The fixing of the revenue demand has conferred upon the landholder a credit which he never before possessed, and created for him a source of future profit arising out of the unearned increment. This credit he may use im- providently; but none the less has the land system of India been raised from a lower to a higher stage of civilization—that is to say, from holdings in common to holdings in severalty, and from the corporate possession of the village community to individual proprietary rights."

There is hardly a sentence in this passage which

does not, to our thinking, convey an impression to the mind exactly the reverse of the truth. For example, it may be true, in a sense, that "legal titles have everywhere taken the place of unwritten customs"; but of what advantage is that to the peasant proprietor of India if, under the "unwritten custom," he enjoyed a sense of security in his property which is altogether wanting under the British system of "legal titles"? And that that is so is a fact notorious to every one who has been in India. It is a common but most mischievous error to suppose that individual rights of property did not coexist with the ancient village-community system, which the English have done so much to break up. They did; and, being founded upon "unwritten custom"—i. e., upon the common faith and sanction, and the immemorial practice of the community as a whole—they were practically impregnable. But, by the English system of "legal titles," the rights of each little cultivator are recorded in a language which he does not understand; are in the custody of underpaid native officials over whom he has no control; are virtually inaccessible to his inspection; and, by means of fraud and bribery, have, in myriads of cases, instead of serving as a protection, become the means of ousting him from his little possessions. In nothing has British rule in India failed more signally than in giving firmness and security to the tenure of landed property.

Again, Dr. Hunter says that "the land system of India has been raised from a lower to a higher stage of civilization; that is to say, from holdings in common to holdings in severalty, and from corporate possession of the village community to individual proprietary right." There might, perhaps, be some cause for congratulation in this change if the transition had been effected with deliberate foresight and intention. Actually, however, the British rulers of India could not conceive that landed property could be held anywhere except upon precisely the same conditions under which it was held in their own island; and the havoc and desolation which, under this mistaken impression they have wrought in their newly acquired Indian possessions, is one of the most harrowing stories on record. When the village brotherhood tried to explain to the English official that they did not know what a "landlord" meant, the latter imagined that they were seeking to impose upon him; but, not being able to discover the genuine article, he seized upon some unfortunate official in the little village republic, and insisted upon investing him with all the responsibilities of a landlord. This man was held responsible for the payment of the revenue, and when he failed to do that, which was wholly beyond his power, the entire village community was sold out for a demand of which they had never heard, and found themselves transformed, by the flourish of a pen, into tenants at will of some greedy money-lender who had bought them, like so many head of cattle, at a public auction. As compared with the land-revenue system of their Moslem predecessors, that of the English in India must be pronounced a ruinous failure. The leading feature of the Moslem system was to root, so to speak, the entire machinery for the assessment and collection of the land-tax in the soil itself, and thus to give to all the functionaries employed a personal interest of the most stringent kind in the reduction of the State demand. The whole hierarchy, from the Zemindar downwards, were holders or cultivators of the lands which they had to assess, and it is obvious at a glance how strong a protection against undue exaction on the part of the state was provided by this felicitous arrangement. But an English revenue collector and his horde of native underlings are altogether divorced from the soil. Their duty is merely to realize the revenue at the ap-