

What are the facts? Harvard is governed by a far closer corporation than is Yale. The Yale Corporation is composed of the President, the Governor of Connecticut, ten self-elected clergymen of the State, and six graduates, elected by the alumni. Harvard is governed by a self-electing corporation of seven—the President, the Treasurer, and five other gentlemen. A quorum for the transaction of business is made by the President and three of the Fellows, provided the others have been warned of the meeting. The college property is held and managed entirely by the Corporation. The Overseers ordinarily have no voice in the investment or disposition of funds, but their consent is necessary in matters relating to the statutes, regulations, appointments, and internal administration of the College. The graduates have no direct hand in the management of the funds. Harvard College, in short, is governed by a small self-electing body, held responsible to the Board of Overseers elected by the graduates. It will be seen that the graduates of Yale have a much larger direct share in the government of their alma mater than the Harvard graduates have. These facts are found in the opening pages of the Harvard Catalogue.

In respect to elective studies, says Mr. Page:

"Yale stood till five or six years ago just where she stood in the eighteenth century, and stands to-day almost exactly where Harvard stood in 1841. Of course, the opportunities of choice are far greater at Yale to-day than they could be at any American college forty-five years ago; but they are still far inferior to the advantages which Cambridge now affords."

It would be difficult to combine more misrepresentation in so short a space. In the first place, Mr. Page seems entirely ignorant that two extensions of the optional system have recently been made at Yale. In 1876 four hours a week of elective work were allowed juniors and seniors; in September, 1884, the first trial was made of the present system, which allows the juniors to choose eight-fifteenths and the seniors twelve-fifteenths of their work. But let us see what Harvard had in 1841, which Mr. Page says was almost exactly what Yale has now. The Harvard Catalogue of 1841 mentions certain electives without particulars, but in 1844 we find electives offered. The choice, however, was not given to the student, but to his parent or guardian; and if they failed to exercise it, the Faculty laid out a course as their own judgment dictated. As late as 1871 the Harvard seniors had five and a half hours of required work, against three hours now required at Yale. Mr. Page, for a Yale graduate, is commendably generous to the Harvard of forty-five years ago. His remark, "If elective studies are good, why were they not adopted years ago?", applies equally to Harvard if we go back fifteen years. Yale had the germ of the elective system as far back, at least, as 1821, the date of the earliest programme of studies that I know of, when for one term the juniors could choose between fluxions, Greek, and Hebrew. French was added to this list in 1825-6, Spanish in 1826-7, German in 1841-2, and Italian in 1845-6. At this time the seniors had a similar limited choice. The policy of the College has varied somewhat in this respect. Mr. Page should have informed himself on these matters before assuming that the optional system was unknown at Yale till five or six years ago.

To conclude with Mr. Page, it seems to me that he measures the two colleges too much by numbers, especially by the numbers of students that attend them. Is not that somewhat parallel to judging two authors by the number of readers they attract? The judgment may be correct and it may not. The popular patronage of a college proves much or little, however advantageous it may be, according to the popular standards of culture. Inasmuch as American

standards are too often sadly utilitarian, the popular judgment of a theory of education may easily be somewhat untrustworthy. Oberlin has twice or three times as many students as Amherst. Is Oberlin better? It may be and may not be; only, numbers are not the final criterion. The graduate department at Johns Hopkins contains twice as many students as the Harvard department, though it is hardly ten years old. Is it that much better?

It seems to me that a very simple reason for the expansion at Harvard may be given in addition to the common ones. By relaxing all restrictions requiring fixed courses of study, she has taken a position filled by no other institution. Here is the oldest and most celebrated university in the land changing its character, offering opportunities of specialization hitherto out of the reach of the American student. Harvard stands in her new position practically without a competitor, while Yale, still preserving a curriculum somewhat like that of Amherst, Princeton, and others of our best colleges, competes with them. Obviously we should expect immense expansion at Harvard and only moderate growth at Yale. Yale has grown as rapidly as her sister institutions of her own kind. Suppose Yale to adopt the Harvard system, then Harvard would have one competitor and probably grow less rapidly. Yale could never reap as much as Harvard, since Harvard secured the first fruits. Whether it would be wise for Yale to attempt to follow Harvard in this respect is very much doubted. It is a grand thing to have Harvard offer the immense advantages she does, but it would be mischievous if she should be imitated by all the institutions in the land.

Another cause for Yale's slower growth deserves a word. She draws some sixty per cent. of her students from outside the State, a large proportion from the West. Now of late the Western colleges have been improving rapidly, and are competing with Yale more and more for this Western contingent. Harvard does not feel this competition so heavily because of her unique character. The fact that some ten per cent. of her undergraduates are special students, not studying for a degree, illustrates how her growth has been accelerated by entering a new field.

There are other points about the comparison instituted by Mr. Page which might be touched upon, but I believe enough has been said to show that his conclusions need to be taken with some allowance if one desires to form a fair estimate of the present position of Harvard and Yale.

EDWARD G. BOURNE.

NEW HAVEN, March 8, 1886.

Notes.

A FORTNIGHT ago we announced the undertaking of the Faculty of Political Science of Columbia College which will shortly be embodied in the *Political Science Quarterly*. A recent gift of \$15,000 by Mr. John E. Thayer to Harvard University, to establish a publication fund in political economy, is, we learn, soon to be utilized after the foregoing example. The University will, at the opening of the next academic year, begin to publish at regular intervals a series of contributions to political and economic science. They will neither be limited as regards authorship to the work of members of the University, nor represent any particular economic school, or method, or set of ideas. Rather, according to its capacity, the series will be made a repository for anything in the way of discussion, investigation, or criticism which is believed likely to promote the study of the science and its literature. At this time we are unable to give

any further details, except that what is contemplated is not a series of monographs. In other words, the publications of this kind at Johns Hopkins, Columbia, and Harvard will supplement, not rival, each other. Together they mark an epoch in the political education of the American people, and have a high and cheering significance.

Cupples, Upham & Co., Boston, will publish a limited parchment-bound edition of Mr. Rideing's 'Thackeray's London'; 'The Log of the Ariel'; and a new work from the German on 'Electric Lighting.'

D. C. Heath & Co. announce 'Systems of Education,' by Professor John Gill, of the Normal College, Cheltenham, England.

Johnson's 'Rasselas' and Lamb's 'Ulysses' will be added to their "Children's Classics" by Ginn & Co.

'Mrs. Peixada,' a new novel by "Sidney Luska," is announced for early publication by Cassell & Co., who have also in press 'No. XIII: The Story of the Lost Vestal,' by Emma Marshall.

The Chicago University, which has already absorbed three periodicals, is about to add to itself another, and will henceforth be known as *Unity and the University*.

Outing for March is the first issue under the direction of Mr. Poultney Bigelow and in New York. Mr. Bigelow's travels about the globe have well qualified him for the charge of this wholesome organ of outdoor life and sports. The present number is fully up to its high standard of literary and artistic excellence. We remark the usual instalment of Mr. Thomas Stevens's record of his extraordinary bicycling trip around the world.

The second (March) number of the *Academy* (Syracuse, N. Y.: George A. Bacon) confirms the impressions we derived from No. 1. Mr. Bacon manifests a strong editorial sense, a clear head, a modest and undogmatic spirit. It is already manifest, too, that this periodical meets a want, and has touched a responsive chord in those who are engaged in secondary instruction. Nor do we know of any other publication which would have been as fitting and natural a medium for the recent address, by President Adams, of Cornell, on "The Educational System of Germany," printed in full in the issue before us.

General Buell's paper on Shiloh in the current *Century* is reinforced by one on the same battle by Gen. W. F. Smith in the March number of the *Magazine of American History*. It stops short of the first day's fighting, and will doubtless have a sequel.

The February *Antiquary* (New York: D. G. Francis) is on the whole a light number, but none the less readable. It opens with "Stories of Noddledom," by W. A. Clouston—Gotham being apparently a principal town of Noddledom. "Quaint Conceits in Pottery," by Llewellyn Jewett, contains amusing cuts of "Sussex Pigs" and "Toby Fillpot." Other entertaining illustrations are found in a notice of Mr. Ashton's 'Dawn of the Nineteenth Century.' "The Black Assize at Oxford in 1577," by Dr. Frederick Pollard, is a valuable contribution to medical history. "Black Assize" is the name given to a session of court at which an epidemic of fever breaks out, caused by the filth and confinement of the jails. Dr. Pollard examines one of the most famous of these, with the aid of a plan of the locality. Mr. H. B. Wheatley commences a series of papers upon "Precious Stones" with an account of Pearls. Mr. Richard Davey has the opening article of a series on Beatrice Cenci, in which he makes use of the newly-discovered evidence in regard to her and her family. The present paper is devoted to showing the bad character, as well as inferior origin, of her father

Francesco Cenci. Mr. A. Folkard, on "The Antiquity of Surnames," proves that surnames were in use in the Anglo-Saxon times. This, too, is to be continued. Other short papers are on "The Lord Mayor's Show in 1590," "Lewisham Wells," and "Newly-Discovered Fresco Paintings in an Old Danish Church."

Two substantial but likewise entertaining articles occupy the forefront of *Le Livre* for February. L. Derôme recites the origin and career of the first *Revue de Paris* (1829-1845), founded by the versatile Dr. Véron, whose *article de début*, written by Sainte-Beuve, was an attack on Boileau of which the writer grew less proud as he grew older. In the files of this Review one may see other beginnings equally instructive, and there is much evidence lurking in them concerning the literary history of the most famous Romanticists—Victor Hugo, Mérimée, Charles Nodier, etc., with Delacroix, Rossini, and Tony Johannot. M. de Saint-Heraye, on the other hand, treats of the first bibliographical journal, the *Annales Typographiques, ou Notice du progrès des Connaissances humaines* (Paris, 1759). In connection with a short-lived though really earlier periodical, the *Bibliothèque annuelle et universelle* of Burtin and the Abbé Ladvocat (1751-1758), M. de Saint-Heraye alludes to these editors as "les auteurs," apparently after the usage we lately pointed out as once prevalent in England, of addressing the Editor as the Author. We seem to see the same thing in a contemporary reference by the editor of *L'Année littéraire* (1759) to the plan of "l'auteur des *Annales typographiques*," where one might, to be sure, interpret *auteur* by 'founder'; and again, thus, "M. Morin (c'est le nom de l'auteur des *Annales typographiques*) a certainement beaucoup d'érudition. Il rapproche les ouvrages publiés sur la même matière," etc., where the editorial function is uppermost in the writer's mind. However, Littré does not record any such meaning under *auteur*. In the "Chronique du Livre" are printed some inedited verses by Alfred de Musset.

A list of 376 rivers, large and small, of all countries, with length, distance of mouth from source, and watershed areas, approximately estimated, is given in No. 120 of the Berlin Geographical Society's Journal. The Nile ranks first in length, the Mississippi second.

Mr. M. M. Ballou's 'Edge-Tools of Speech' (Ticknor & Co.) is a thick volume of nearly 600 pages, full of "elegant extracts," which will delight those who think the free use of them a mark of culture or of thought. Prose predominates, we should say, but the poetry is disguised by being printed as prose. Foreign authors are cited in translation. The compiler's range includes at one extreme Josh Billings, whose aphorisms are quite as good as those of more literary characters, and better than platitudes like this from William Howitt: "Whoever has not ascended mountains knows little of the beauties of Nature"; or this ordinary remark from Emerson: "We are disgusted with gossip"; or this stimulating "edge-tool of speech" from Cowley: "Merab's long hair was glossy chestnut brown." Mr. Howells is one of the latest laid under contribution, in this from 'Silas Lapham'—"It is certain that our manners and customs go for more in life than our qualities." The classification is sometimes forced, as when we find under Flirtation, "Who is it can read a woman?" It is often incomplete, as, after disposing of Originality, Mr. Ballou puts the same kind of texts under Plagiarism, with no cross-reference. The heading Woman, it would be safe to say, includes less than a quarter of the quotations in which the word occurs. To gather these together there is no index, nor is there any index of authors, though a useless list is given.

Beyond some half-dozen corrections in the

ascriptions of poems, and the bringing down of biographical dates to 1884, and more tasteful typography and binding, we perceive nothing to remark in the new edition of Schaff and Gilman's 'Library of Religious Poetry' (Funk & Wagnalls), first published in 1880. It is a good and comprehensive collection, though the term "religious" is construed somewhat narrowly, as if a hymnology had been contemplated.

A very attractive book has been made by rendering into English Froebel's 'Mutter- und Kose-Lieder' ('Mother's Songs, Games, and Stories,' London: William Rice). The ladies, Frances and Emily Lord, who have done this, have of course preserved the pictures which are the basis of Froebel's object-lessons, though with a reduction in scale which somewhat impairs their usefulness; and they have rearranged the music for children's voices, with pianoforte accompaniment. The translators lay stress on the fact that this work, unlike others on the theory of education, puts a "distinctly prepared means" into the hands of those who have not a knack of inventing. That its value lies more in its suggestiveness than its "means" can be inferred from such rhymes as these, which a dime-novel could not surpass in unreality, though their motive is apparent and respectable:

"Though black the Charcoal Burners are in face,
Though grimy are their shirts, ill-shod their feet,
Their hearts are kind and warm, and always beat
For what is blameless, good, and right, in every place."

'Holly and Mistletoe, or Songs across the Snow,' written and illustrated by E. T. G. (Baltimore: Glass & Co.), is a seasonable production, especially as to the second part of the title. The illustrations, with their winter sparkle, and the whole getting up of the letterpress, are in taste and refined execution far above the usual holiday gift-books—if books they may be called that books are none, but rather a cross between Christmas cards and a portfolio. If we had leisure to read the songs—twenty-five in number, ten of them illustrated—we might judge whether "E. T. G." writes as well as she paints. Our trial with "Golden Rod," which we took by way of sample, was fairly encouraging.

Mr. B. F. Harding, teacher of Greek in St. Paul's School, Concord, N. H., is the author of a little book of forty-four pages on 'Greek Inflection' (Boston: Ginn & Co.). It has various objects in view, among them to "furnish a large number of words for ready use as paradigms," to "suggest a systematic and scientific treatment of the noun and verb," to be used "for parallel work with the grammar, . . . by the beginner as well as by the more advanced scholar or teacher," to "collect in small compass the latest developments of philology," on the subjects of case-endings, terminations, person-endings, and the inflection of the noun and verb generally, and "to form a stepping-stone between the school and comparative grammars." We shall leave our readers to judge of the success of an attempt to accomplish all this within the limits of about forty pages. The book is really an attempt to teach the inflection of the Greek noun and verb according to the "stem theory," by a new method which presents many points of originality and ingenuity. That the "stem theory" is destined to supplant all others in teaching Latin and Greek we have no doubt; but we do not think the manner in which it is here presented is the best. The book is, however, suggestive, and well worth the perusal of teachers, even though they may not adopt it for use in the class-room.

"Twenty-second thousand" must be inscribed on the new edition of the late Stephen S. Foster's famous anti-slavery tract, 'The Brotherhood of Thieves; or, a True Picture of the American Church and Clergy,' about to be issued by Mr. Parker Pillsbury of Concord, N. H.; the prior

edition having been exhausted. We have before called attention to Mr. Pillsbury's inexpensive series of reprints, which includes also J. G. Birney's 'The American Churches the Bulwarks of American Slavery,' and Mr. Pillsbury's own 'The Church as It Is; or, the Forlorn Hope of Slavery'—all a part of the anti-slavery warfare of the forties, and a repository of irrefragable testimony as to the pro-slavery subserviency of churches and ministers of almost every denomination. Every public and every theological library should have them, and every student of the abolition agitation. A larger and recent work by Mr. Pillsbury, 'Acts of the Anti-Slavery Apostles,' whose field of retrospect is principally New Hampshire, and which has taken its place among the important memoirs of the period to which it relates, is likewise procurable of the author-publisher.

From the Government Printing-office we have Vol. 13 of the Census, being the Statistics and Technology of the Precious Metals, prepared, under the direction of Clarence King, by S. F. Emmons and G. F. Becker.

It is a pleasure to be able to declare that a book about a game of cards—most of which are a weariness to the flesh and a provocation to assault and battery—accomplishes exactly what it intends; and this can be declared of 'A Handbook of Whist and Ready Reference Manual of the Modern Scientific Game,' by "Major Tenace" (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons). It is a successful attempt to set forth dogmatically the proper play at any given condition of the game, leaving explanation and discussion to other works, which the genuine student of whist may be supposed to have in his possession.

Mr. Edward Roth, 1135 Pine Street, Philadelphia, makes slow but steady work with his index to *Littell's Living Age*. The biographical section ends in No. 8 at Lord John Russell.

The first report of the Art Students' League of New York, by the President, Mr. Frank Waller, is on our table. Its encouraging retrospect covers a period of ten years.

Mr. Christern has received the catalogue of the eighth exhibition of the French Water Color Society. Its illustrations are made to ornament the pages very effectively.

We have had occasion more than once to commend the admirably edited and neatly printed 'Nouvelle Bibliothèque Classique' of M. Jouaust, the latest issues of which are a four-volume Rabelais and a three-volume Bossuet. The new quarterly Bulletin of the Librairie des Bibliophiles now announces that there will soon be added Montaigne's Essays and a selection from the interminable writings of Voltaire. Another announcement from the same Bulletin is that M. Jouaust has now for sale most of the original drawings from which the etchings were made that have adorned the many beautiful books he has published in the past ten or twenty years.

One of the chief points in which Waitz's view of the development of the feudal system has heretofore failed of general acceptance has been his assertion that gifts of land by the Merovingian kings created only a limited and not a full right of property. This view has been received with general scepticism, especially by jurists, who have been unable to find any support for it in the legal ideas of the time. An important paper on the subject from the distinguished historian of law, Professor Brunner, has just appeared in the Transactions of the Berlin Academy (for December 17, 1885). He asserts that the reason given by Waitz for the inability of the jurists to accept his views, that they demand a doctrine to be fully developed before they can recognize its existence, is not the true one, but rather that the early adoption of the principles of the Roman law in regard to gifts of this sort has

induced jurists to overlook the scattered traces of earlier German ideas. He then proceeds to a study of the subject worthy to rank in some respects with the celebrated studies of Sickel in the Transactions of the Vienna Academy on the related subject of the Immunities. In this he attempts to recover from the usages of other Germanic nations, and from the scattered notices in Frankish diplomas, the standpoint of the early German law in regard to such gifts, and decides that the only satisfactory conclusion is that gifts of land from the Merovingian kings created only a limited right of property unless a full right is expressly granted. This is the more noteworthy as Brunner has heretofore maintained the opposite view, as in Holtzendorff's 'Encyclopædie,' 1882.

Halliwell-Phillips writes to an American correspondent: "I am well aware of the two great defects in my 'Outlines' to which you allude, the want of a good index and of an account of the engravings. I had made considerable progress with both of them last spring when I was almost suddenly prostrated; and, feeling from what the doctor said that a long and absolute rest was a necessity, I preferred issuing the volume without them to deferring its publication for an indefinite period. As it was, though pretty well in general health, I was unable to do book-work all the summer, the examination of the records of two towns being pretty much all that I managed to get through with during upward of six months. If I have better luck this spring, these blemishes will, I hope, be removed. What I have left of literary ambition has been abundantly satisfied by the kind reception my book has met with in every direction, especially among American students—a reception that is stimulating me to do my best to add to its utility."

At Reykjavik, on January 21, died suddenly Bergur Thorberg, Governor-General of Iceland; or, as the Icelanders themselves style their highest official, "Landshöfðingi," or "Head of the Land." He was born at Hvanneyri, in the extreme north of the island, January 23, 1829, was educated at the University of Copenhagen, became a judge, and then Governor of the southern and western provinces; he was made acting Governor-General May 1, 1883, and received a year later the permanent appointment. He was the first native Icelander who, for many generations, filled the office, his immediate predecessor, Hilmar Pínsen, being by birth a Dane, though a descendant of an Icelandic family. Governor Thorberg was a man of marked courtesy, of great honesty of purpose, and of ready eloquence. Those who have visited his library and seen his table covered with the principal reviews and literary journals of Scandinavia, Germany, and France, will bear testimony to his broad culture. His widow is a daughter of the island's venerable bishop, Dr. Pétur Pétursson. It is worthy of note that, two days after the decease of Governor Thorberg, news reached Reykjavik of the death at Copenhagen of the ex-Governor-General Pínsen, who was at the head of the Icelandic Administration from 1865 to 1883, and who, after his resignation, became a member of the Danish Cabinet.

—Lippincott's for March is very agreeable reading. Fiction occupies the leading place, and Mr. Brander Matthews's short story, "Perchance to Dream," is very bright, ingenious, and pleasing, with just enough of dramatic compression and interaction to give relief and vivacity to the tale itself. One suspects that the author's study in French comedy was the most fortunate training a novelist of his cosmopolitan "machinery" could have, and perhaps tyros in the art might profitably take a hint from this. The attractive article of the number is Mr. Laurence Hutton's

historical résumé of "The American Play," by which he means drama American in theme as well as in authorship. He displays the most detailed knowledge of his subject, as was to be expected, and though our dramatic literature turns out to be very ephemeral and insignificant, both intrinsically and by comparison, the story is made entertaining. The magazine's symposium, which it calls "Our Monthly Gossip," has received its share of the fresh life infused into the whole body, under the new management, and two of the participants, at least, write cleverly. One of them brings the discussion of "Our Literary Centre" to a *reductio ad absurdum*, perhaps unintentionally, by pointing out that if the test is the output of published matter, Washington is more than the rival of New York, and if it is original quality and excellence, then the Southwest, or, to choose a locality, Murfreesboro', Tenn., is the omphalos of our literary republic. Further than this the discussion can hardly go. We expect now that some one of these minor chatterers, who have a corner reserved for them in nearly all the magazines, will suggest the location of our "National Westminster Abbey" in the Yellowstone Park.

—The Century for March, besides its usual assortment of fiction, has one of Mr. Benjamin's interesting papers upon Persia, another chapter on our recent architecture, with examples, and a sketch of "Italy from a Tricycle," of which the character is sufficiently indicated by its title. Mr. Washington Gladden contributes the serious public article, and adds one more to his persistent efforts to invigorate our social life, with a catholic Christian spirit. He discusses the "Strength and Weakness of Socialism," and criticises in particular Gronlund's recent work on the 'Coöperative Commonwealth.' The subject naturally falls into the two divisions of grievances and remedies, or the critical and constructive aspects of the movement now demanding wide attention for itself; and Mr. Gladden seems to accept the validity of the criticism while he rejects the proposed reconstruction. It is scarcely necessary to add that he is of that group who hold that a revival of the religious spirit on the side of philanthropy—or, as he might prefer to put it, the Christianization of our economical system—is the one thing needful; not the elimination of the motive of self-interest and the method of competition altogether, but their limitation by a humane public spirit and the coöperative system in the industrial groups. The paper is suggestive of the advance of opinion, and helps to state the social problem in clearer terms for popular apprehension. Every such article is a gain.

—General Buell's paper on the battle of Shiloh is one of the most important that have yet been published. Its chief interest, of course, lies in the fact that it is his response, as Commander of the Army of Ohio at the time, to General Grant's statements of the character of that engagement and the results of the first day's fighting. The subject has been one about which much bitter feeling and prejudice has gathered, and opposite opinions are almost fiercely held by the surviving officers and men of the two great army organizations of the Tennessee and the Cumberland. General Buell's paper, although certainly guarded in expression, is really a determined attack upon the military reputation of both Grant and Sherman as connected with that campaign. It is unfortunate that it conveys the impression that it is written from the enemy's point of view (in the military sense), and that, if its reasoning is correct, the Confederates had nothing to do in the late afternoon of April 6 but to capture the remnant of Grant's army almost without resistance. That this is an exaggerated view is sufficiently clear from the simple fact that such a capture

was not made before Buell's divisions could cross the Tennessee. To thus put Grant's command quite *hors de combat* was logically necessary in order to show that what General Buell calls the second battle of Shiloh was the victorious work of the Army of Ohio alone, or substantially alone. A very significant counterpart to this article is found in the "Memoranda," where, from a respectable Confederate source, is clear confirmation of the fact that Beauregard's order withdrawing his troops was being executed at the Confederate left and centre before the final attack by their extreme right at dusk; thus showing that Grant was correct in saying that the "furor of the attack was exhausted" before that time. There was glory enough on the two days for both the national organizations and for the brave Confederates to boot, and the unprejudiced reader will not sympathize with an army *esprit de corps* which seeks victory over its comrades more than over the common foe. This paper has valuable additions to the views from photographs of the field and the river at Pittsburgh Landing, and excellent portraits of Generals Crittenden, Wood, McCook, and Terrill.

—The Southern Bivouac for March has a valuable contribution to the history of the "Kentucky Resolutions of 1798 and 1799." This consists in part of a facsimile of Thomas Jefferson's letter of December 11, 1821, to J. Cabell Breckenridge, in which he avows the authorship of the Resolutions. There is also a facsimile of a printed copy of the Resolutions as they passed the Legislature, of which the author of the article says it is "an original copy now in the possession of the writer." The reproduction of the letter, with the address, frank, and postmark, conclusively settles the disputed point as to the person to whom the letter was addressed. The face of the letter had no address upon it, and the executor of Mr. Jefferson, finding a copy among the deceased statesman's papers, was misled by its phraseology into supposing it was addressed to a son of Wilson C. Nicholas, of Kentucky, and so endorsed it. From this the error has passed into general history. An inspection of the facsimile shows how naturally this occurred in the absence of the proper address. Mr. Jefferson accidentally omitted a comma in his sentence mentioning the trio of gentlemen who consulted over the matter at Monticello. The letter reads: "your father Col. W. C. Nicholas and myself happening to be together," making apparently a conference of but two persons. The restoration of the outer address of the letter proves that "your father" and "Col. W. C. Nicholas" were different persons, the former being John Breckenridge. As to the second document (the facsimile of the printed copy of the Resolutions) the evidence is less conclusive. It is known that varying versions of the Resolutions got early into print with every apparent mark of authenticity. Attention was formerly called to this matter in the Nation (vol. 37, pp. 330, 392, 414). A facsimile of an old printed copy therefore proves nothing unless it be established when, where, and by what authority the printed copy was made. For the authenticity of the present one nothing is offered but the assertion of the author of the article; an omission which would indicate that he was not aware of the precise form the discussion has taken. The original archives of Kentucky of that date were lost in an accidental burning of the State House many years ago. The Governor of the State had been authorized to send copies of the Resolutions to the other States, and some of these official transcripts should be in existence. Till they are found, it would seem premature to assume that the official text is restored—certainly not without full evidence of superior authenticity of the copy produced. The effect of any al-

leged modifications by Mr. Breckenridge in Jefferson's original draft would be a question still further on.

—Henry Stevens, who died at his house in London on the last day of winter, had lived there forty years, but was by birth a Vermonter. His father, a farmer far up the Connecticut, when the boy had learned "small Latin and less Greek" from the village minister, gave him a colt and told him he must work his passage through college. The youngster rode to Middlebury, entered the freshman class in 1838, sold his horse to pay for books and board, and eked out his income by teaching penmanship. After a year or two, obtaining a committee clerkship in Washington, he became acquainted with Peter Force. Thanks to a few old Revolutionary papers sent to the young clerk by his father, he obtained from Mr. Force and others funds enough for his support while completing his collegiate course at Yale. Being a bibliomaniac, both by heredity and habit, he was eager to see a library worthy of the name. Obtaining a loan of eight hundred dollars, half from Mr. Force and half from Francis Parkman, he crossed the ocean in 1846. Before he had rambled very long in the British Museum he detected some of its weak points. In an interview with one of its managers he pointed out its lack of certain American books it could not afford to dispense with. In this exposure he showed such intelligence that he received a commission to supply the deficiency. Faithful in little, he was gradually commissioned to do much. In 1884 he told an American visitor that he had furnished the Museum library with a hundred thousand books or pamphlets. He showed him one thin volume for which he was paid two hundred and fifty pounds. He had supplied the greatest of British libraries with the larger part of its American books. In turning over its catalogue for an illustration, he opened to the name of Joshua Bates, once President of Middlebury College, and read the titles of twenty-eight of his publications garnered up there by Mr. Stevens. One of his early enterprises was buying up the books of Washington from the proprietor of Mount Vernon, and forcing the solid men of Boston to pay well for those of them that were retained in America. Another of his exploits was gleaning and gathering so many papers of Dr. Franklin that Congress paid thirty thousand dollars to secure them. Mr. Stevens was followed abroad by brothers, and trained up a son to take his place as a literary and pre-eminently an historical intermediary between the New World and the Old. His book-store lately showed more than fifteen thousand curious and rare pamphlets relating to America, each bound up as a separate volume, and his last labors were in preparing a catalogue of this unique collection. On the whole, while cosmopolitan in his relations, he always turned fondly to his mother State. He named his house Vermont Cottage. G. M. B., meaning 'Green Mountain Boy,' was the only title he would affix to his name. When a freshman at Middlebury he had advertised his wish to be a writing-master by writing his proposals, in a superb hand, on a sheet of paper which he stuck up on the bulletin-board. That sheet he carried to London and hung it in a frame in a conspicuous place on the wall of his store. No doubt it hangs there still.

—A writer in St. Petersburg, reviewing a translation into Turkish of Griboyedoff's famous comedy, "Woe from Wit," gives some curious details about the stage on the shores of the Bosphorus. Within ten years not a few plays have been written in verse by Turkish authors. Thanks to them, the close-drawn curtains of the harem become more than transparent. They show the women not jealously veiled, but in their ordina-

ry home dress, in the midst of an exact reproduction of the furniture and decorations of the harem. Even their soft, musical speech, almost a dialect of itself, is reproduced. The subjects are chosen sometimes to present the comedy of manners, and sometimes the tragedies of which that life is full. The writer further notes the change that has been rather rapidly going on in the last few years, from a kind of blind aping of western manners in certain respects to an intelligent study and understanding of western civilization, especially of its literature. An interesting list is given of books translated into Turkish since the beginning of the reign of Abdul-Aziz. The most important are Chateaubriand's 'Atala'; Victor Hugo's 'Les Misérables,' 'Ernani'; Dumas's, 'La Dame aux Camélias,' and his father's 'Monte Christo'; Sue's 'Les Mystères de Paris,' Octave Feuillet's 'Le Roman d'un jeune homme pauvre,' Lamartine's 'Graziella,' X. de Maistre's 'Les Prisonniers du Caucase,' Volney's 'Ruines,' Silvio Pellico's 'Le mie Prigioni,' 'Robinson Crusoe'; 'The Winter's Tale,' 'Othello,' 'The Merchant of Venice'; Molière's 'Le Bourgeois gentilhomme,' 'Le Mariage forcé,' 'Le Médecin malgré lui,' 'Tartufe'; Émile de Girardin's 'Cléopâtre,' selections from Voltaire, La Fontaine, and Fénelon—of 'Télémaque' there are two translations. It may be added that all these books are regularly for sale by the leading bookseller of Constantinople, who, by the way, is an Armenian.

TWO RECENT BOOKS UPON CALIFORNIA HISTORY.

History of California. By Theodore H. Hittell. Volume i. San Francisco: Pacific Press Publishing House. 1885.

History of the Pacific States of North America. By Hubert Howe Bancroft. Vols. xiv and xv. California, vols. ii (1801-24) and iii (1825-40). San Francisco: A. L. Bancroft & Co.

THE Territorial history of California was until very recently an obscure and, in many parts, a quite unknown field. Lawyers, toiling over the great land cases, had indeed produced and printed a few very valuable historical briefs, such as Dwinelle's 'Colonial History of San Francisco.' The life of Junípero Serra, by his friend Palou, together with a few travellers' books, had also been made the basis of many tales about the early mission life. But nearly all the rest of the history of the Territory of California, before the conquest in 1846, had remained a mystery, concerning which we were ready to believe almost any story that an apparently well-informed person might repeat. Of a sudden, however, this blank ignorance has passed away, and all things are become new. Mr. Hubert Howe Bancroft's elaborate history has reached, with the volumes before us, the year 1840, and now comes Mr. Theodore Hittell with the first of his two volumes, wherein he reaches the end of the Spanish rule in California, and begins the history of the Territory under Mexican government. The second and closing volume of Mr. Hittell's work is to bring his history to the admission of the State of California in 1850, while the fourth and fifth volumes of Mr. Bancroft's history are expected to cover the years from 1840 to 1846, the conquest by the Americans in 1846-47, and the remaining Territorial history as far as to the gold discovery in 1848. Thus, in a very short time, we may expect to have two elaborate and independent accounts of the whole life of California before 1849.

Two questions occur at once to the general reader's mind when he sees these bulky volumes, whose contents are so very largely made up from previously inaccessible manuscript sources, and whose methods of treatment are, in both cases, so space-consuming, and, in form at least, so tho-

roughgoing. Why, one first asks, has our previous knowledge of Territorial California been so meagre, so inaccurate, often so legendary? For these books contain on nearly every page information never before in print, and very frequently correct errors of many years' standing and of wide prevalence in previous literature. And why, on the other hand, one again asks, has it been found necessary, now that the truth has at last been studied, for both Mr. Bancroft and Mr. Hittell to state it at such length? The paradox of this sudden transformation, whereby one of the most ill-treated of our Territorial histories becomes of a sudden one of the most elaborately and minutely investigated of all, deserves explanation. The answer to both our questions lies no doubt partly in the singular love of the modern Californian for colossal undertakings. Either the Californian must utterly neglect and despise the colonial history of his province, or else he must endeavor, so to speak, to provide means for a careful cataloguing of every bullock whose hide was ever exported from Mexican California: such seems the inevitable expression in this direction of the fine energy and the somewhat extensive ambitions of a community whose youth was passed in dreams of gold, and whose later years have been devoted to vast industrial and commercial undertakings. The wealthy Californian of mark and intelligence undertakes some such task as founding his own private university, producing his own private school of literature, or leaving as his monument the greatest observatory on earth, just as the wealthy Californian of mark but not of intelligence is contented with building a bigger house than his fellow-millionaire, or with owning more acres of land than his rival. Such sorts of magnificence extend themselves very readily to the methods of scholarly work. Mr. Bancroft is a wealthy Californian of a certainly uncommon intelligence and power for work, and Mr. Hittell's ability and energy are also undoubted. Mr. Bancroft's book is on a far larger scale than Mr. Hittell's, but both books agree in a scrutiny of the early history of California such as shows an ardent desire to produce not only serviceable, but also monumental books.

But in another way, also, our questions may receive a partial answer. This minute scrutiny of the old California life expresses not only the private ambitions of authors, but the late and now fruitless repentance of the American as he remembers the little world of life that his cruel progress in California has destroyed. If there was any purpose strong in our American mind in the early golden days of California, it was to neglect, to despise, or to ignore everything peculiar to the natives of the land that we had so rudely seized. For years we set our faces against the customs and the rights of the former inhabitants. Only the strong necessities of land litigation could force us to begin the study of the older history; but this study, vivified after a good many years by the warmth of poetic sentiment, has now, under the influence of the personal ambitions aforesaid, suddenly assumed the imposing proportions of these works. We who came to condemn have remained to study most lovingly and devoutly.

As to the relative merits of these two books as they stand, a considerable examination has convinced us that not only in bulk, but also in scholarly completeness and in accuracy of detail, the work of Mr. Bancroft and his collaborators is greatly superior to Mr. Hittell's work. In readability, however, Mr. Hittell's book stands on the whole a little higher. In fairness toward the people described, in good sense, in sound judgment of the meaning of facts once fully ascertained, both books seem, so far as we can now decide, nearly equal—a fact which cannot fail to be of great value to any future student of the subject. As the case stands, then, one cannot be