

attention, by various voluntary acts, by the influence of music, and by changes of the weather, as well as by other influences. The paper, with its few thousand experiments on one man, leaves us, as Dr. Lombard says, only at the very beginning of a research whose medical and psychological importance is almost certain to prove very great. Then follows a paper on "Dermal Sensitiveness to Gradual Pressure Changes," by the editor and Yuzero Motora. Mrs. Christine Ladd Franklin describes "A Method for the Experimental Determination of the Horopter," and Dr. Joseph Jastrow discusses the Psycho-Physic Law in its relation to the traditional scale of star magnitudes. Then follow a number of elaborate book reviews, several shorter reviews, and a goodly collection of notes. One wonders whether it will be possible, even for this indefatigable editor, to spread so full a feast once every quarter henceforth.

—By way of a criticism of this first number there occurs to us a remark which may seem very ungracious, but which is not meant to be so. The exclusion by the editor of "speculative psychology" as such from the scope of his journal might, indeed, be interpreted as a necessary result of the division of labor in our day. But, alas, the captious reader of the lengthy and able book reviews is tempted to declare, with some amusement, that the exclusion of "speculation" from this journal apparently means that only the editor shall be allowed the privilege of speculating in its pages. For surely Prof. Hall is disposed to speculation, and he can in no wise wholly drive out nature, try as he will. The "dangerous chasm between mind and matter" is, we learn on p. 145, "slowly closing," by virtue of the researches of modern neurology. In fact, the "undevout neurologist," as one "might almost say," "is mad." Though (p. 146) "the psychological movement" must be "kept, in the severest sense, experimental and scientific," yet (p. 162) the "experience of a man who has had the invaluable training of abandoning himself to long experimental research," is described as producing a feeling of the "organic unity" of nature, a feeling which has a sense "far deeper than what speculation knows." In short, for Prof. Hall, experimental work is full of general philosophical suggestions, and he continually, if often rather vaguely, gives expression to these suggestions. Surely those pious feelings of the experimenter, when he reflects on the "organic unity of nature," and knows his feelings to have such a deep sense—these are not matters "in the severest sense experimental and scientific." They are fragments of metaphysics; and when Prof. Hall speaks of them, as he does, so often and so warmly, he "speculates," like the born philosopher that he is. Shall none of his contributors be permitted to do likewise? But we hasten to explain the ungraciousness of our words. What we really mean is, that while a journal mainly devoted to the recording of experimental work in psychology is, indeed, a great boon, no editor of such a journal ought to hope to bar out "speculation" from his pages altogether. That Prof. Hall has in his own work broken his own rules in the first number of his journal is not to his discredit, nor does he mean to give himself liberties that he forbids to his contributors. What is illustrated in his inconsistency is simply the impossibility of drawing any arbitrary line outside of which "speculative psychology" shall lie. The whole matter is simply a question of more or less, and while the work of this journal will, of course, be mainly empirical, it will undoubtedly contribute a great deal to speculation in our country.

PERRY OF JAPAN.

Matthew Calbraith Perry: A Typical American Naval Officer. By William Elliot Griffis. Boston: Cupples & Hurd. 1887.

In this biography the entertaining author of 'The Mikado's Empire' and 'Corea, the Hermit Nation,' partly continues the series of works which we owe to his former residence in Japan, and partly ventures into fresh woods and pastures new. His prime motive was to satisfy the curiosity of the Japanese themselves in regard to the man who forced them into the current of Western civilization. To do this, however, was to supply a real want in American history, no other life of Perry having been written; and it is clear that, whatever restraints the thought of his Japanese audience may have imposed on Mr. Griffis, his domestic audience more largely and immediately shaped the treatment of his subject. He offers his narrative for the edification of the youth of both nations, the Japanese especially.

The work is sure of a favorable reception and a permanent place in public and private libraries. It is not likely that any other admirer of Perry will ever make the laborious researches which Mr. Griffis has cheerfully undertaken, condensing the fruit of them into a moderate-sized volume easily handled and read. His original draft, he says, was very much more extended, and on some accounts it is to be regretted that he had to abandon the larger scale. For this reason, possibly, there is a lack of chronological precision in the progress of the life; and certainly a freer handling, with plenty of space, would have enabled Mr. Griffis to substantiate with documentary evidence his positions in disputed matters, and to make more perspicuous some complicated historical phases, like the revolution in Japan. Take the claim he makes for Perry as the originator of our naval apprenticeship system. Perry's crucial experiment, made with a picked crew and under no restriction, was a flat failure. "The *Somers*," we read in the appendix, "sailed away full of happy hearts beating with joyful anticipations, yet destined to make the most painful record of any vessel in the American navy." What happened? "On this sad subject," our author replies, "either to state facts or to give an opinion, we have nothing to say." He mentions a "real or imaginary mutiny and its consequences," desertion, and attempts to be released by civil process. But this leaves us wholly in the dark, and we do not even so much as get a word from Perry himself on a theme about which he must needs have written much in explanation and self-defence. Here not to go into particulars exposes the biographer to the imputation of partisanship, and this is eminently the case when we come to the dispute with John Randolph over the alleged flogging on the *Concord* in 1830. This was Perry's ship, and she carried Randolph on his mission to Russia. The Minister made odious comparisons between the treatment of the sailors and of negro slaves, and asserted that during the voyage he saw more flogging on the *Concord* than could be witnessed on his plantation in a much greater length of time. We are told that, "supported by his own officers, who voluntarily made flat contradiction of Mr. Randolph's assertion, Perry convicted the erring Virginian of downright falsehood." "Two sets of his papers on the subject are now in the naval archives," and we ought to have had extracts from them and Randolph's *ipsissima verba*, in order to be persuaded that the latter falsified what he saw. But we must be content with Mr. Griffis's assurances.

This last topic suggests another direction in which expansiveness would have been desirable.

Perry is credited with having done much 'by his methods' to abolish flogging in the navy. Making every allowance in abatement of Randolph, we are forced to conclude that these methods had availed little towards the end aimed at when Perry had supreme control, as on the *Concord*. Moreover, when asked for his official opinion as to the advisability of abolishment, on the eve of its being enacted, he began by taking the testimony of old sailors—very much as a slaveholder might have asked his slaves whether they wanted to be free; and, after all, he recommended a *gradual* change. This shows that he was subdued to the barbarous system he had worked in, and that he had no innate abhorrence of it. He had, of course, both directed floggings and administered them with his own hands, for the most trivial as well as for the most serious offences. Still, conceding all that Mr. Griffis claims for his hero on this head, we can but think that our author missed his opportunity to set off Perry against the system in a way that would have been truly profitable to the youth alike of America and of Japan. Flogging has been abolished less than forty years, yet how few know the atrocity which attended it, or what floating hells of cruelty and vice our naval vessels were when Perry came up in the service. A book for his purpose lay ready to Mr. Griffis's hand—for, though now rare, it may be found in public libraries. We mean McNally's 'Evils and Abuses in the Naval and Merchant Service Exposed,' published in Boston in 1839. It appears to us useful, not to make extracts from it here, but to borrow some *inedited annotations* upon it by a common sailor shortly after the book appeared—a witness, moreover, of many of the abominations recorded in it.

"In 1824," he says, in the manuscript before us, "I shipped for the first time in the United States Navy under the command of Commodore John Rodgers. As I had been some time in his British Majesty's Navy, I considered myself an adept in the usages of a man-of-war. But I was mistaken, and soon found out I was destined to experience treatment to which I had before been a stranger, and which I considered that no officers belonging to any civilized country could adopt. . . . I joined the United States ship *North Carolina*, lying at Norfolk Navy-yard, in September, 1824.

"I have seen men punished for being ugly on board of a man-of-war. When I belonged to the *North Carolina* 74, a man by the name of David Seeley, who had spent the best part of his time on the ocean, and was much broken in health by hard usage, was washing his clothes on a cold winter's morning, when the first lieutenant came along and demanded who he was. 'I am a man,' was the reply. 'Did you come out in this ship?' 'Yes, sir.' 'You lie—I never saw you before, and d—n you! stand up to that gun; you are too ugly to be seen about decks.' The boatswain's mate was called, and the poor old tar received thirteen lashes for his deformity.

"It was the order to face inboard, when called to stand by your hammocks, and to keep perfect silence. One evening, while obeying this order, a man stepped on my toe. In a whisper, I told him to get off. The first lieutenant came off the poop deck and called me out of the ranks, and very politely told me to pay him a visit to the bow gun in the morning. Accordingly I went, when he gave me thirteen lashes, and asked me if I knew what it was for. I told him that I did not know. 'I saw your lips moving, you d—n son of a b—,' was his answer.

"I have seen him come along the gangway and knock down men, giving them a black eye, and then punish them for having the same. The man told him he gave it to him, when he called him a liar, and ordered him thirteen lashes.

"While lying in Hampton Roads we experienced some heavy snow-storms, and the first lieutenant —"

But why linger in American and slave-cursed waters under the very shadow of the lash? Let us proceed to that Mediterranean station which was deemed an officers' paradise—always looked

upon in time of peace as the most desirable, to use Perry's own words. The huge *North Carolina* having moved in 1825 to Spanish waters, Mackenzie, who afterwards hung the mutineers of the *Somers*, wrote admiringly "of the herculean form and martial figure of the veteran [Rodgers], who as monarch reigned over 'the hallowed region of the quarter-deck,' the 'band of music in Moorish garb,' the 'groups of noble-looking young officers.'" "A 'thousand eyes are fixed' on 'the master spirit,' hats are raised, soldiers present arms, the 'side boys' detailed at gangways to attend dignitaries—eight to an admiral, four to a captain—are in their places, and the blare of brazen tubes is heard as the Commodore disembarks." So Mr. Griffis; but our man-of-war's man shows the other side:

"In the *North Carolina* 74, under John Rodgers, a man by the name of Robert Patterson got intoxicated and gave insolence to the Commodore, for which he received thirty-six lashes with the cats. A man by the name of Henry Blake took French liberty, was compelled to stand on the capstan all night, in the morning he received twenty-four lashes with the cats. He died cursing Commodore Rodgers. Off Malaga, a man by the name of Peck (formerly an editor of a paper in Boston) and a boy by the name of Martin Clark got intoxicated. A whip was rove from the main yard-arm, and the culprits slung in a carpenter's pair of trousers, with a bottle of three quarters of water and one of rum tied round their necks. They were then run up to the yard-arm and ordered to drink; but as they put the bottles to their mouths, the rope was let go, and they descended a distance of forty feet or more into the water. This was fine sport for the young officers. After this was repeated a number of times, they were taken on board, more like dead men than alive ones, but not before Clark, the boy, was severely hurt by striking the sheet anchor. The Commodore, fearing Peck might publish the affair to the world, made him schoolmaster for the cruise. Poor fellow, he was blown up in the steam frigate *Fulton*."

If we followed our sailor guide deeper into this Inferno, he would take us to the *Delaware* under Commodore Crane and Captain Mix, the *Java* and the *Warren*, under Captain Skinner, and, worst of all, what he calls the "masterpiece of tyranny," the *Constellation*, under Captain Wadsworth. And we should see him, in his last cruise, in the same *North Carolina* in which he first sailed a dozen years before, still recording outrageous inhumanity, though under a new commander (Ballard) and in South American waters.

We have not space to discuss some ethical questions which naturally arise when a clergyman is the biographer of a warrior. Mr. Griffis, too, expressly disclaims any intention "to glorify the profession of arms, to commend war." Perry's part in the Mexican war is extenuated on the ground that he was not in sympathy with the aggression, which Mr. Griffis properly characterizes, and that he simply obeyed orders. Some of his Southern associates and subordinates evaded that necessity on the eve of the civil war by resigning from the navy, and this in Perry's case would have been a high moral lesson for youth. The Prince of Würtemberg having held that to be happy it was enough to discharge well the duty to which one was set, Not so, answered his correspondent, Rousseau. "Surely, Turenne, when devastating the Palatinate with fire by order of his Prince, did not enjoy true happiness." And if we substitute virtue for happiness, we feel how poor was the excuse of any soldier or sailor who participated in the Mexican war against his conscience. As our Frenchman wrote, on another occasion, of his persecutors, the Parlement of Paris, "They ought not to say they did their duty, but that they plied their trade." The invasions of Mexico and of Japan had this in common, that they were concocted by a strong Power against a

weak. Whatever may be said of their results, they were not justifiable in the forum of morals; and we feel a natural doubt as to just what instruction high-minded boys or young men will draw, if left to themselves, from Perry's relation to both. We have endeavored in this notice to reinforce Mr. Griffis's meritorious work in its quality as a tract—if we may so term it without disparagement.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS.—II.

VARIOUS pleasant little stories of Nora Perry are collected in 'A Flock of Girls and Their Friends' (Ticknor & Co.). Miss Perry knows how to make her maidens very bright, kindly, and spirited, and to teach moral and practical lessons in a very acceptable way. These stories of girls just as they are, and just as they ought to be—of girls at home, at school, in social life, working for a living, or helping some charity—are all of the present day, except two charming ones of Revolutionary times. None will lack pleased and profited readers.

The name of Hjalmar H. Boyesen is, of course, a guarantee of interest and originality in any book bearing it. In 'The Modern Vikings: Stories of Life and Sport in the Norse-land' (Scribners) we find a series of delightful tales, most of which at any rate have already been eagerly perused by readers of *St. Nicholas*. Presented in book-form, with a picture on the cover of the descent of a steep hill on *skees*, they are very taking.

Readers of *St. Nicholas* need no introduction to Mr. Palmer Cox's 'The Brownies Their Book' (Century Co.). The little people whom his pencil has created are frolicsome, mischievous, good-hearted, as in the Old World imagining of them, but no European artist would have corporealized them as he has done with his "American humor." That some of the humor evaporates when the cartoons are massed together in a book, we are not prepared to deny. Still, even the monotony of the type is relieved by the repetition of certain constant characters, like the policeman, the Fenian, the Chinaman, and the dude. The jingling narrative is in keeping with the pictorial accompaniment.

Mr. Andrew Lang throws off a free translation of a folk-tale from French Flanders in 'Johnny Nut and the Golden Goose' (Longmans). The interjection of his own humor is naturally for the delectation of older readers, as in the parting shot—"Do not you believe any learned man who tells you that Johnny is the Sun, and that the Goose is the Sun, and that the Passing Belle is the Moon, or nonsense of that kind, which, my dear children, is *far too common*!" Whether the illustrations, by Am. Lynen, were made expressly for this edition, we are not informed. They are quaint and often truly decorative, and the book altogether is a very attractive redressing of an old, old tale.

The frequent recurrence of old ideas, sometimes scarcely veiled under new forms, is what a reader of the many fairy books compiled for the present generation must expect; and, however interesting such recurrence may be to students of folk-lore, it will hardly make stories more attractive in the eyes of young people. There is a fair amount of novelty in 'Fairy Legends of the French Provinces' (T. Y. Crowell & Co.), translated by Mrs. M. Carey, with an introductory note by J. F. Jameson of Johns Hopkins University, but there is no lack of striking resemblances to things we have all read before. The tales are taken from two different French publications, but the original sources are carefully noted; for example, at the end of the story of "The Tailor and the Hurricane"

we find a statement that it was "Told by B. Tassel of Plouaret (Côtes-du-Nord)." The latter part of this story, by the way, is almost identical with one which we meet in Mrs. Norton Harrison's 'Bric-à-Brac Stories.' There is a good deal that is exaggerated and a deal that is revolting in this book, as in most others of its kind. It seems a pity that the rough tales, which come so unpolished from the mouths of the people, could not all be refined and softened by the genius of an Andersen fore being placed in the hands of children.

Charles Carleton Coffin follows up his 'Flock of '76,' 'Boys of '61,' etc., with 'The Drum-Head of the Nation' (Harpers). It treats of the First Period of the War of the Rebellion, from its Outbreak till the Close of 1862. It will be followed by two other volumes, thus making much fuller history of the war than is contained in 'The Boys of '61.' The opening chapter, titled "Causes which brought about the War," is rather ambitious in its scope for this grade of historical work. The author's endeavor to cast light from all points on the origin of civil strife results in confused and hurried passing from topic to topic, even where these are of great importance and demand either much abler handling or to be let alone. To sum up even part of the antagonisms between freedom and slavery from the times of our Saxon ancestors to the conspiracy of Secessionists, in the space of a few pages, is much to attempt, and the resulting chapter is only so far from scholarly, but lacks clearness. The State's Rights doctrine and controversy, for instance, need much better elucidation. Two succeeding chapters, called respectively "The Conspiracy" and "The Uprising of the Nation," are more satisfactory; and here the brisk style, so little suited to philosophizing, comes in well enough to make the narrative move on with a good deal of animation. In the next chapters we come upon the first battles, and are soon plunged into details of marches and fights, of which there is no lack to the end of the book. To some people the subjects are interesting, to others they will always be dull, no matter how well told. But Mr. Coffin does his best to enliven the monotony of such writing with entertaining anecdotes and with graphic touches, which bring near us the thoughts and feelings of those stirring times. His abuse of the historical present, however, is a grave fault of style. All in all the book is well adapted to interest and instruct the young reader. There are many illustrations—portraits of famous characters, maps of battle-fields, etc., etc. The paper is tinted, the type very clear.

'Historic Girls,' by E. S. Brooks (Putnam's), a companion to 'Historic Boys,' by the same accomplished story-teller. The several volumes of this writer exhibit an unusual degree of skill in choosing attractive subjects from various periods of history, and working them up in fitting guise for the reading of our boys and girls. The girls of the volume before us have flourished at all epochs from Zenobia of Palmyra to Mataoka of Pow-ha-tan (Pocahontas); and on must not be surprised in so multifarious a collection to detect here and there errors of fact, more or less serious. The stories appear, however, in the main to follow faithfully the authorities, and we cannot blame a writer, in stories of this kind, if he has more regard for romantic interest than for absolute historic verity. The stories are worth telling of their own account, and will serve at once to give their young readers some knowledge, and to quicken the historical imagination. Less pardonable is it, because really misleading, to speak of France and England in the third century, and