

## Notes.

J. B. LIPPINCOTT Co. will issue on March 1, in connection with the Edinburgh publishers, the first volume of a new edition of 'Chambers's Encyclopædia,' to be completed in ten volumes following one another at short intervals. The maps will be increased in number, and a special set for the United States introduced; the illustrations will be largely renewed, with the aid of photography. Articles written in this country are marked "Copyright."

A 'Life of Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet,' founder of deaf-mute instruction in America, is about to be handsomely brought out by Henry Holt & Co.

Charles Scribner's Sons announce for early publication Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett's 'Sara Crewe,' uniform in style with the author's 'Little Lord Fauntleroy'; a new novel by George W. Cable, entitled 'Bonaventure: A Prose Pastoral of Acadian Louisiana'; and 'The Tailor-made Girl,' by Philip H. Welch, with full-page illustrations by C. Jay Taylor.

Harper & Bros. publish directly the fifth volume of Kinglake's 'Invasion of the Crimea'; 'Monarchs I have Met' by W. Beatty Kingstons; and a pamphlet for the times called 'Tariff and Revenue Discussed,' containing the President's recent message and Blaine's counter message, and the articles by Henry Watterson and Senator Edmunds in the last two numbers of *Harper's Monthly*. A wide circulation of these documents in juxtaposition is much to be desired.

A noticeable number of fresh ventures in periodical literature lie upon our table. We name first the monthly *Our Day*, "A Record and Review of Current Reform," edited in Boston by Mr. Joseph Cook, with the assistance of Miss Frances E. Willard (Temperance department), Prof. E. J. James (Labor Reform), Prof. L. T. Townsend (Education), Anthony Comstock (Prevention of Vice), Rev. C. S. Eby (Missions), and Rev. G. F. Pentecost (Church Work). Five of this staff of writers contribute to the January number. Some of the leading articles are "Shall Utah be Made a Mormon State?" "The Prospects of Prohibition" (by Neal Dow), "Woman as Preacher," "Indictable Art," "The National Divorce Reform League" (Rev. S. W. Dike). The magazine is attractively printed. The *American Anthropologist* is a quarterly publication of the Anthropological Society of Washington, in continuation of their "Transactions." The January number has papers on "The Law of Malthus," by President Welling of Columbian University; "The Development of Time-Keeping in Greece and Rome," by F. A. Seely; "Anthropological Notes on the Human Hand," by Dr. Frank Baker; and "The Chane-abal Tribe and Dialect of Chiapas," by Dr. D. G. Brinton. Mr. Thomas Hampson is the publisher. The *Teacher*, a monthly educational magazine in the quarto form, comes to us from this city. It looks for its support mainly to the female teachers in the common schools, the editors being themselves of that class. "Its hope is the advancement of pedagogy in all its departments." We hope, therefore, that it will lend a hand to the movement for the higher education of women in New York. It is published at No. 1157 Broadway. *Italia* is the title of a monthly magazine published in English at Rome (New York: International News Co.). Its aim is to spread a knowledge of the current of modern life in literature, politics, economy, art, music, etc. A biographical sketch of the statesman Giovanni Lanza, who died in 1882, leads the

table of contents for January. Fiction has a place in the scheme. Finally, we speak of the unseen when we mention the *Children's Illustrated Magazine* started last month by Seeley & Co., London. Two full-page designs in colors will be a standing feature.

In another column we have said our say about President Eliot's Harvard report. On the two topics of science preparation and English preparation, useful commentaries (direct and indirect) will be found in the *Syracuse Academy* for February. We refer to the articles, "How to do Laboratory Work in Chemistry and Physics in High Schools," by Mr. James H. Shepard; "Teaching English Literature," by Miss Anna C. Brackett; and "College Requirements in English," by Mr. W. C. Collier. We are very glad to place on our shelves the bound second volume of this magazine—the highest attainment in practical pedagogic journalism yet made in this country.

Some sickening examples of the way in which Jared Sparks tampered with the text of Washington's private letters are given by Mr. William Henry Smith in the February (or Washington) number of the *Magazine of American History*. He afterwards prints with literal faithfulness several of the letters thus mutilated, and fourteen which Mr. Sparks omitted altogether. They all bear date of 1758, and are addressed to Col. Bouquet. The originals are in the British Museum.

Ought imaginative works to be illustrated; and, if yes, by their authors when capable? This is the burden of a symposium or conversation on book illustration devised by the editor for the January *Portfolio* (Macmillan). We cannot think Mr. Hamerton more successful than commonly happens in such dramatic characterizations. Nevertheless what the poet, scientist, artist, and critic (Mr. Hamerton himself, by confession) have to say is very instructive. In the critic's estimation, Rossetti did wisely to refrain from illustrating his own compositions, whereas "Thackeray's illustrations have a great interest, but it is only psychological. His books, with all their satire, are kinder in their views of human nature than his drawings," which are very defective. Ruskin "is an artist when he writes, a student when he draws. In writing he unhesitatingly sacrifices accuracy to effect, and that is quite characteristic of an artist." In drawing, just the reverse. "Victor Hugo's drawings are violent," "a savage utterance, partly made in fun, like the thumping on the piano of some vigorous but uncultivated amateur." There is in them "a sort of grim humor and a real turn for the grotesque." The *Portfolio* opens the new year well, offering a fine etching after Millais's portrait of the painter Hook, and one not less admirable by Mlle. Poynot after Henner's "Une Créole."

*L'Art* for January 1 (Macmillan) is, as usual, largely given up to notices of illustrated holiday publications, with samples of the plates. Its sole article is on the late Gustave Guillaumet, from whose drawings many pleasing and effective selections are made. The etching is after A. Brouillet's "Une Leçon clinique à la Salpêtrière."

A portrait of Whittier at the age of eighty that is true to feature and to character without being senile—such is the life-size lithographic print issued by Houghton, Mifflin & Co. So remote from the still genial face is the feeling of weakness or decay, that one could fancy the firm lip just closed from repeating some stern poet-prophet message, like

"The bolts which shattered Shinar's tower  
Hang, smoking, for a fiercer fall!"

The Maimonides Library of this city, whose

collection is now close upon 30,000 volumes, makes an appeal for contributions of every sort of document illustrating the history of the Jews in America.

No. 26 of the Harvard Library, "Bibliographical Contributions," catalogues the Carlyle collection of books relating to Cromwell and Frederick II., bequeathed by their former owner to this depository. Mr. William Coolidge Lane is the compiler.

Mr. Ford's 'Bibliotheca Hamiltoniana' has been seconded by Mr. Hamilton Bullock Tompkins with a 'Bibliotheca Jeffersoniana,' published by the same firm (Messrs. Putnam) in uniform size and typography, and also in a limited edition. It is a thoroughly well executed piece of work, and much to be prized. The most interesting of the three hundred odd entries is, of course, bibliographically speaking, the 'Notes on Virginia,' of which from twenty to thirty issues and editions are recorded, one being in French and another in German. On the whole, the number of French translations is smaller than might have been expected. There is one of the 'Manual' and one of the first inaugural address, besides Conseil's 'Mélanges Politiques et Philosophiques.' Three Italian translations are mentioned. Only the more important messages have been taken note of by Mr. Tompkins. A complete set, he tells us, has not existed since the burning of the Capitol in 1814.

Mr. S. S. Rider, in his *Providence Book Notes* for February 4, supplies a title overlooked by Mr. Tompkins, viz., Sears's 'American Politician,' 1842, containing a memoir of Jefferson, his inaugural and first message. In the same number it is demonstrated that no woman was ever hanged for witchcraft in Rhode Island, nor were there any proceedings under the statute imposing the penalty of death for that offence.

A writer in a recent number of the *Kölnische Zeitung* gives an interesting account of the newspaper museum at Aix-la-Chapelle, founded by Oscar von Foreckenbeck. It now contains files or specimens of over 17,000 different papers, nearly half of the newspaper press of the world, and is receiving daily additions from every part of the globe. Dr. Wilhelm Joest, the author of a work on the German press in other than European countries, has recently sent to it his collection of 1,200 papers, making it more complete in this department than in that of papers published in Germany. The great curiosity of the Museum, framed and hung upon the wall, is No. 46 of the *Texas Democrat*, published at Houston March 11, 1864, and printed on wall paper.

The January number of *Petermann's Mittheilungen* opens with an account by Graf Pfeil of a recent journey through Uesugha on the east coast of Africa. Though chiefly devoted to descriptions of the soil and geological observations, it contains some interesting notices of the natives and their customs. A detailed description is also given of a wooden musical instrument, very similar to our xylophone, together with the notes of a melody ordinarily played upon it. This paper is accompanied by a map, as is also Dr. Lange's notice of two river systems in southern Brazil.

Dr. Guido F. Verbeck of Tokio, Japan, the American missionary whom the Mikado's Government placed at the head of their educational system immediately after the civil war of 1868-69, has published his 'Conspectus of the Japanese Verb in all its Conjugations.' In this excellent aid to the mastery of the Japanese language, notwithstanding its brevity and compactness, in ninety-five pages, this scholar has

presented to the eye the substance of many native grammars and dictionaries.

The *Nation* of August 18, 1887, contained an account of the excavations which had been conducted on the site of the ancient Greek city of Sicyon by the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. These excavations were resumed in the autumn, and work there has only recently ceased for the winter. The orchestra and its entrances have been cleared of the layer of earth which covered them. The new finds have not been numerous, but are of considerable importance. The chief is the head of a statue of Parian marble, of good Greek workmanship, about life-size. It was broken into three pieces, but the face is uninjured, with the exception of the nose and one brow slightly marred. It is pronounced to be a Dionysus with extreme feminine traits. A torso was found to which this head may prove to have belonged. Another head was brought out from some retreat by a peasant, and removed to Athens by the Government. A large head of mediocre workmanship was also found in the excavations. These are valuable as the only known specimens of Sicyon art.

Dr. Sigmund Fraenkel, a pupil of Prof. Theodor Nöldeke, has done valuable service for Semitic lexicography by separating from the Arabic lexicon the words of Aramean origin ('Die Aramäischen Fremdwörter in Arabischen,' Leyden: E. J. Brill), and he has in turn discussed the origin of these words, quite a number of which are derived from Persian and Greek. From its arrangement, as well as from its material, the work has an interest for other than lexicographical students. Dr. Fraenkel has disposed of the words treated into groups, like house, food, clothing, and ornaments; animals, agriculture, minerals, names of wines and their receptacles; seamanship, military, writing; artisanship, and trade; Christian religion, statesmanship, etc. The student of history can see at a glance how valuable such a work may become for him, enabling him to separate the indigenous from the foreign both in church and state, in literature, and in the family.

We have received two parts, going as far as fromm, of the fourth improved edition of F. Kluge's 'Etymologisches Wörterbuch der Deutschen Sprache' (Strassburg: Trübner). We gave a full notice of the first edition in January, 1884. Since then the book has been criticised for its brevity and conciseness, but the author is to be congratulated on not having yielded to the temptation of enlarging it. It is a matter of surprise to us that this work has not been translated into English.

The new edition of 'La France Protestante,' the great biographical and bibliographical dictionary of the French Protestants, has reached the sixth volume, the first half of which, completing the letter F, has just been published. The most noteworthy articles are those on the Estiennes and Farel. It also contains a much fuller list of "forçats pour la foi" than the first editors were able to print.

M. Eugène Réveillaud, the author of a history of Canada and the French Canadians, has discovered in the archives of the department of Seine-et-Oise a manuscript 'Histoire Chronologique de la Nouvelle France,' from 1504 to 1632. The author, a Récollet father, Sixte Le Tac, relates with much vivacity the attempts of the Jesuits to become sole masters of Canada. M. Réveillaud is about to publish the work with notes and documents. The subscription price is announced at ten francs, to be raised to twenty after publication.

In anticipation of the celebration of the centenary of the French Revolution, the

Minister of Public Instruction has ordered the collection of material for a 'Histoire Impartiale de la Révolution.' According to a circular recently issued, this is to be grouped under these general heads: "État des personnes (Clergé, Noblesse, Tiers-État); État des terres, Administration (Administration générale, Finances, Justice, État militaire et maritime, Instruction, Beaux Arts); Agriculture (Industrie, Commerce)."

An eminent American instructor writes us as follows: "During the past fortnight, I paid about 30 per cent. duty on one package of books, while duty must have been charged on pamphlets of 40 or 50 pages in two other packages, unless the duty charged was excessive. Some of these were new publications which I desired for immediate use in my professional work, in teaching and in research, and I was more troubled by the delay in the Custom-house than by the 'duty.'"

—The February *Century* is a most excellent number. The Seward-Lincoln correspondence, which has been widely noticed, is a genuine surprise. There could not be more conclusive evidence of the little estimation in which Lincoln was held, when he took office, by the head of his party in the East. The act itself, the scarcely veiled suggestion that Lincoln should resign his functions into the hands of his Secretary of State, is sufficiently remarkable; but the policy Seward foreshadowed, with its two foreign wars, shows how far the would-be prime minister was from having a true sense of the country's situation, and it is a dreadful blow to Seward's reputation for statesmanship that he harbored at all such impossible ideas. He did not understand Lincoln's Fabian mind, which waited until all sides had been heard and all projects discussed before he came to the decision; but this lack of acquaintance with the President's character was excusable, while his own failure to penetrate the internal situation, and his wildness of aim in thinking to fight Spain and France, with Virginia on the point of secession, is a marvel of error. The Chicago Convention had builded better than it knew in placing Lincoln at the head of the ticket. The second article of greatest interest is the Landor correspondence with Miss Boyle, which is of value rather because letters of this kind are rare in our literature than intrinsically. Mr. Lowell's critical introduction is only too brief, and, interesting as is his portraiture of Landor in his old age, one wishes he had had more to say, especially of Landor's poems. Mr. Lowell seems to be thinking of him almost entirely as a prose author. The Russian papers of Mr. Kennan continue to be admirable, and in this instalment the jealously closed secret of the Petropavlovsk fortress has enough light shed on it to make one hope that the fate of the Bastille will yet overtake it. Other articles upon the history of stage-setting, ranch-life on the plains, Paris, and especially the comprehensive contribution of Gen. Sherman on the general military science of the war, are well worth more extended notice than we can give them. The weakness of the number is in its poetry, and of such a performance as Mr. Maurice Thompson's, which is a kind of Nat Willis rendering of Walt Whitman, it is difficult to say whether there is more decomposition of sense or of poetic art in it. It almost rivals Will Carlton's great effort in the Christmas *Harper's*.

—The latest publication of the Shelley Society, a type-facsimile of the 'Epipsychidion,' 1821, contains an admirable preface by Rev. Stopford Brooke, which may be profitably brought into connection with Arnold's recent

essay, in which he endeavors to sensualize Shelley in all his relations to women as a man of an "entirely human inflammability." This is a gross view and grossly put, and it is especially unjust to confuse Shelley's idealizing temperament with sensuality in such a case as his attraction towards Emilia Viviani, who is the figure of the 'Epipsychidion.' This poem is the most difficult of his works, because it contains his theory of love, and is, moreover, a poetic and obscure allegory of his own search for ideal beauty, which he symbolizes by its highest imaginative form—woman. Mr. Brooke does not discuss this theory; but he states it fully and freely. Speaking previously of Shelley's Platonism, he says:

"Hence arose a theory of personal human love which traverses the code of social morals, and that theory Shelley held. It was that to bind ourselves down to one object of love alone was not wise, because then we rendered ourselves incapable of seeing and realizing those different aspects of the ideal Beauty which we could find in other minds, in other personalities.

Whether Mary liked that theory, whether it has any rightness in it at all, how far Shelley practised it or refrained from putting it into practice, is not the question now.

This is a theory capable of being used to promote licentiousness by those who have the sensual idea of love and beauty. By Shelley, who abhorred sensuality, it could not be used in that manner. But he saw no reason whatever why he should not, while he was faithful to his marriage tie, give deep affection to other women, and find represented in them other phases of the absolute beauty, which phases he was bound to feel and gain through them."

—This represents Shelley, on the philosophic side of his mind, very well, and in writing 'Epipsychidion' that was the side he was expressing. The element of reality in it, so far as Emilia was concerned, is very slight. He used her charm for him, which sprang from her pathetic situation and personal beauty, as Raphael might have seen some models and dreamed a Madonna. In other words, his mood was not one of "inflammability," but of idealization. He was amorous, but so, certainly, was Milton; and to confound warmth of temperament with the soulless pleasure of sensuality is a wrong to our nature. Those who have read Mr. Arnold's essay, which seems to us one to be much regretted, cannot find a better illustration of the way in which Shelley thought and felt about love, and made it a mystical element in his poetry and an ideal worship in his life, than this preface, which contains much sound and temperate criticism of Shelley's modes of expression, both in their weakness and in their surprise. To the essay are added the fragment "On Love" and the beautiful "Una Favola," which is an earlier prose 'Epipsychidion' with Emilia left out.

—The forty-sixth birthday of Sidney Lanier, the Southern poet and musician, was celebrated in Baltimore on February 3 by a company of his personal friends and associates. It is nearly seven years since he died, and his fame appears to be constantly increasing as the ideal of his aspirations is more clearly discerned. He has never been a "popular" poet—perhaps he never will be. To some minds he appears obscure; to some he seems like a poet of another age discoursing on modern themes; to others—and this number is growing—he seems a poet of the future, the herald of better things to come from the pens of those who are inspired by the ideas that animated him. Whatever may be his ultimate position, the celebration in Baltimore shows that his life and writings have already made a strong impression on a large number of gifted and earnest minds. The immediate occasion of the assembly was the presenta-



tion of a likeness of the poet to the Johns Hopkins University. The sculptor, Ephraim Keyser, now at work on the Arthur monument, modelled the bust during Lanier's life, and caused it to be cast in bronze. When a kinsman of the poet, Mr. Charles Lanier of New York, heard of the existence of this work of art, he generously gave it to the University in which Lanier had been a lecturer. A citizen of Baltimore offered the pedestal. To receive the gift, a company of perhaps one hundred and fifty persons assembled in the hall where the poet had read his lectures on the Growth of the Novel, English Literature, and on the Science of Verse. There stood the bust crowned with laurel; on the pedestal hung his flute; at the base was a bed of flowers. Musicians representing the Peabody Orchestra, in which for years Lanier had played the flute, took part in the exercises. One of his musical compositions, adapted to words of Tennyson's, and one of his own poems, which a friend had set to music, were sung. Miss Ward, sister of Lanier's biographer, read selections from his poems. Father Tabb, a Catholic priest who had shared with Lanier the privations of prison life during the civil war, read a sonnet in commemoration of his friend; another sonnet came from Richard E. Burton of Connecticut, and longer poems from Mrs. Turnbull of Baltimore and Joseph Cummings of Tennessee. Just before the hour of the meeting, the mail brought some exquisite lines from Miss Edith M. Thomas, which, like the poems already mentioned, were read aloud. Professor Tolman of Ripon College, once a pupil of Lanier's, contributed a critical estimate of his 'Science of Verse,' and Mr. Burton prepared a list of printed articles and poems, some thirty in number, which have appeared since Lanier's death, many of them by writers of distinction. President Gates of Rutgers College spoke in words of affectionate admiration of the ethical influence of Lanier's character and life. Many interesting letters were received, and three of them, those of Lowell, Richard W. Gilder, and Edmund C. Stedman, were read. Finally, as a choice memento of the hour, a card, designed and given by Mrs. Whitman of Boston, was offered to every one of the company. Upon one side of the card were a wreath of laurels, the name and date, and the words "Aspiro dum exspiro," and on the other side the lines with which Lanier closed his hymn to the Sun, in the first of the "Hymns of the Marshes":

"Ever by day shall my spirit, as one that hath tried thee,  
Labor at leisure, in art; till yonder, beside thee  
My soul shall float, friend Sun;  
The day being done."

—The Wisconsin State Historical Society is well-nigh coeval with the State. It has just held its thirty-fifth annual meeting, and the State lacks some months of being forty years old. The Society has no rival west of the Alleghanies. Its library numbers 60,722 bound volumes, and its pamphlet collection some thousands larger—a total of 123,449. The seventh volume of its catalogue has just been published, and the tenth and eleventh octavos of its historical collections are now in the press. Its volumes of Shaksperiana are 885, those on the War of the Rebellion 1,617, newspaper files 5,240. A class catalogue has been published of works on the Rebellion. The art-gallery contains 149 portraits of men who have figured in State history. The Indian relics and stone tools are numerous, and the magazine of copper implements is nowhere surpassed, or surpassed only in Buda-Pesth. Among the manuscript treasures are autographs of every one of the fifty-six signers of the Declaration of Independence,

and something more than a signature in the handwriting of almost all of them. The historical gatherings are garnered up in a wing of the State Capitol which was built a few years ago to contain them. This building was considered to be fire-proof, as well as to afford ample room and verge enough for the accumulations of ages. It now appears, however, that in fifteen years the Society will be crowded, and must say: "The place is too strait for me; give place to me, that I may dwell." For this reason, and still more in order to enshrine such historic jewels as cannot be duplicated where the assurance that they cannot be burned will be doubly sure, the Wisconsin historiophiles are impatient to obtain, through munificence private or public, new and larger quarters in an edifice isolated and incombustible. Their past successes encourage the hope that their will will have its way. Alexander Mitchell, the Milwaukee banker and railroad president, who died last April, was for some time President of the Historical Society. Hence a memorial address concerning him was delivered at the annual meeting. The speaker, Prof. James D. Butler, confined himself to Mr. Mitchell's financial career. Imported from Scotland as a clerk in a so-called insurance company, Mr. Mitchell turned it into a bank, and the only one for thirteen years in a State twice as large as Scotland and growing faster than any of our States has ever grown. He became the foremost banker in the Northwest, and then was for more than twenty years conspicuous among railroad kings. The railroad fragments which, when he took hold of them, were less than 400 miles long, he expanded so as to leave them with a length of more than 5,000 miles. No man has moulded Wisconsin history with a more potent hand.

—In 1879, Dr. Grímur Thomsen of Bessetad, himself a poet, whose lyrics, though not numerous, are of a high order, began to make the necessary collections for a memorial edition of the poetical works of the Icelandic hymnologist, Hallgrímur Pétursson. The task proved no easy one, for not only were some of the editions of the poet's verse, running back through two centuries, very rare, but many productions bearing his name, yet of more or less doubtful authenticity, were in existence, demanding a good deal of careful sifting before the table of contents of the proposed collection could be made out. There were variations, too, of some importance in the printed texts of the religious verse, especially in the issues of an early date, and others in the few manuscripts to be found in the Icelandic libraries. As for the non-religious verse, no real attempt had been made to gather it together, much less to edit it. The long labors of Dr. Thomsen have now resulted in the appearance, a few months since, of the first volume of 'Sálmar og Kvæði eftir Hallgrím Pétursson,' a very handsome specimen of Icelandic typography—the presses of Reykjavík being, in fact, not at all inferior, in the quality of their work, to those of far larger European capitals. An engraved portrait of the poet, in his stiffly fluted Lutheran ruff, forms the frontispiece. The volume comprises the fifty 'Hymns on the Passion' (*Passiu-sálmar*)—the one great poetic classic of the modern literature; the versified paraphrase of the first book of Samuel, and a fragment of the second (*Samúels-sálmar*); and the 'Spiritual Chain' (*Andleg- Kedja*), or verselets based on the Gospels, which is ascribed by Dr. Thomsen to the pen of Hallgrímur, mainly on internal evidence. The book ends with some pages of notes, among them being a bibliography of the 'Passion Hymns' more complete than any yet compiled. It enumerates

thirty-six editions, beginning with the first (issued at Hólar in 1666), or, including the present one, thirty-seven—an average of a new edition every six years. Dr. Thomsen has prefixed an instructive essay on the life and literary activity of the poet, with an incidental account of early Icelandic hymnology. He shows with what astonishing rapidity the German Reformation and post-Reformation hymns reached the remote island and were turned into the vernacular. Their fire and fervor doubtless awoke the slumbering memories of the previous Skaldic ages, for they speedily found not only translators, but imitators, and the whole land burst out in a chorus of hymns, the echoes of which are still heard; sacred verse forming a disproportionately large part of the new literature. No other of the religious bards has reached the eminence of Hallgrímur Pétursson, but many have been remarkable in their way, turning not alone the books of the Bible, but popular collections of sermons, or meditations, or prayers, into series of hymns. The second volume of Dr. Thomsen's edition, now printing, is to contain the remaining hymns of the author, and his secular verse—much of which, singularly enough, is broadly humorous, but showing often a marvellous metrical ingenuity. This will still leave material enough for a supplementary third volume, to contain his *rímur* (tales in verse), and his religious prose (chiefly prayers and meditations).

#### FROUDE'S WEST INDIES.

*The English in the West Indies*; or, the Bow of Ulysses. By James Anthony Froude. Charles Scribner's Sons.

THE value of a book will always be determined mainly by the author's purpose in writing it. It may have no value even if the author's purpose is well settled in his own mind, because he may be a bungler in his art. But even if he is not a bungler, his work will be bad if he is overmastered by something quite different from the task he has set out to do and really thinks he is doing. The central idea of Mr. Froude's work on the West Indies is that England ought not to grant home rule to Ireland. This is the beginning, the middle, and the end of it. All that he tells us about the West Indies is scaffolding for an argument on the Irish question. He takes his departure from London with the Gladstonian jargon ringing in his ears. He escapes it until he reaches the islands; although the remembrance of it sadly mars the pleasure of the journey by sea. When he finds himself in West Indian waters, the greatness of Rodney and the contrasted littleness of Gladstone, and indeed of all English Parliamentary orators who have ever lived, with the possible exception of Chatham, who was essentially a man of war, come over him with new force. At Jamaica he gets his first mails from home. Of course they are filled with the everlasting Irish question, and so we have the whole thing over again. We do not intend to follow Mr. Froude's Irish debates. As critics of his West Indian observations, we neither approve nor disapprove his positions regarding home rule, but we present one paragraph from his musings in the island of Jamaica. *Ex uno disce omnes*:

"Mr. Sexton says that if England means to govern Ireland, she must keep as large an army there as she keeps in India. England could govern Ireland in perfect peace without an army at all, if there was no faction in the House of Commons. Either party government will destroy the British empire, or the British nation will make an end of party government on its present lines. There are sounds in the air like the cracking of the ice in the Neva at the in-