

Notes.

CHAS. SCRIBNER'S SONS have in preparation 'The Tailor-Made Girl,' society dialogues from *Puck* by Philip H. Welsh; and a study of the conditions in which Mormonism took its origin, by J. H. Kennedy, editor of the *Western Magazine of American History*.

'Shakspeare in Fact and in Criticism,' by Appleton Morgan, is in the press of Benjamin & Bell.

T. A. Trollope's 'What I Remember' will be issued in this country by the Messrs. Harper, as will Smiles's 'Life and Labor, or the Characteristics of Industry, Culture, and Genius.' They announce, too, 'Mr. Absalom Billingslea, and Other Georgia Folk,' by Col. R. M. Johnston; and a series of "English Classics for School Reading," edited by Dr. William J. Rolfe.

W. S. Gottsberger announces 'Leon Roch,' a romance by B. Perez Galdós, from the Spanish by Clara Bell, in two volumes, and a new translation of 'Paul and Virginia,' also by Clara Bell.

Thomas Whittaker issues this month 'Readings and Prayers in aid of Private Devotion,' by Bishop Clark of Rhode Island; 'A Manual of Church History,' by Rev. Arthur Charles Jennings, author of 'Ecclesia Anglicana'; and 'An Exposition of the Apostles' Creed,' by the Rev. John Eyre Yonge.

Ticknor & Co., Boston, announce for immediate publication 'Queen Money,' a new novel by the author of 'The Story of Margaret Kent'; 'Looking Backward; 2000-1887,' by Edward Bellamy; 'Under the Southern Cross,' by Maturin M. Ballou; 'Trinity Church, Boston, Mass.,' being the fifth of the 'Monographs of American Architecture,' a portfolio containing 22 gelatine views and 1 heliochrome, 13x16 inches; and a 'Decennial Index of Illustrations in the *American Architect and Building News*,' 1876-85.

Henry Stevens & Son, London, issue this month 'Johann Schöner, Professor of Mathematics at Nuremberg: a Reproduction of his Globe of 1523, Long Lost,' etc., with new translations and notes on the globe by the late senior member of the firm, and a bibliography by C. H. Coote of the British Museum.

A new "Library of Philosophy" is to be undertaken by Swan Sonnenschein & Co., London. The first title on the list is 'Sensationalists: Locke to Mill,' by W. S. Hough, Ph.M., of Michigan, who will also produce, by way of introduction to the Library, a translation of Erdmann's 'History of Philosophy,' in three volumes, whose appearance is set down for October. The general editor of the Library is J. H. Muirhead, M.A.

The Century Co. has issued in beautiful form the first volume of the War Papers of its magazine, doing everything to make it attractive which large pages, clear type, good paper, and excellent printing can do. As the papers originally appeared, no chronological order was observed; but in the book form they are so arranged as to make a consecutive history, beginning with the bombardment of Sumter. New papers have been added to the series to supply vacancies and to bind the whole into one narrative, so that a considerable percentage of the volume is new matter. We have frequently expressed our high estimate of the value of the series, and little more can be added except to say that the exceptionally high character has been maintained to the end. The novel scheme of printing side by side the story of battles and movements as told by men of opposite sides who participated in them, was a

delicate experiment, but has proved a great success. Union and Confederate soldiers have told their remembrances in a generous spirit, and the presentation of both sides has never degenerated into controversy or lost its dignity. The tone has, in fact, been so cordial that it most resembles that of a group of comrades comparing their memories with mutual respect and good-fellowship.

A Boston lady has induced T. Y. Crowell & Co. to reprint from their Tolstoi volume, 'Ivan Ilyitch,' the short story, "Where Love Is, There Is God Also"—a touching exemplification of "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren," etc. A pretty tract in white and gold is the result.

A little book by Helen Ekin Starrett (Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.) is called 'Letters to Elder Daughters, Married and Unmarried,' and is full of good advice and wholesome suggestion about housekeeping, home comforts and influences, occupation for women, etc. Two most sensible chapters are entitled respectively, "Household Decoration" and "The Relative Importance of Things." Thoughtful and liberal are those on "Women's Clubs" and "The Superior Woman." Almost the only idea advanced which seems to us mistaken is that of the desirability of banishing from the houses, at any rate of people of moderate income, both cook and cooking. But surely it is better to have "the household fires burn warm and bright" in kitchen as well as parlor; for not only do we want the means of ready hospitality, of consulting private preference, and of giving some individuality to the home-table, but also our daughters need to keep their opportunities for practical education; and then again, in sickness how can we spare the home-kitchen?

Another little book which has come to our notice is 'A Bundle of Letters to Busy Girls on Practical Matters' (Funk & Wagnalls). Miss Grace Dodge has written it and dedicated it to her "Dear Friends and Fellow-members of the 38th St. Working-Girls' Society." As may be inferred from the author's name, and from the title and dedication, it has a practical and not in the least a literary aim. The plain talks in it go straight to the point without mincing matters, and are such as must do a great deal of good to those for whom they are designed. It is hard to particularize any portions when all are so good; still, mention might be made of a chapter on "Men Friends—Prospective Husbands and Wives," and of another on "Marketing and Food." They are clear, forcible, important. In her introduction, the author expresses a wish that her book might lead to gatherings of young women for familiar talks similar to those which she has epitomized in it. It ought to do good, and should be widely disseminated.

We bespeak a wide reading for Gen. Francis A. Walker's paper on "Arithmetic in the Boston Schools" in the *Syracuse Academy* for January. The evil he attacks (and it is by no means local) is very great, and the only way of reducing the makers of text-books to reason is that adopted by the School Board of Boston in its prescriptions as set forth by Gen. Walker. We observe with pleasure that the new volume of the *Academy*, which begins with the February number, is to be enlarged for the third time, with a proper increase in the price of subscription. As the editor truly remarks, "These three successive enlargements may be accepted as an indication that there is a field for just such a journal as the *Academy*, . . . devoted solely to the interests of secondary teachers and their work." The *Academy* offers a prize of fifty dollars for the best essay on "Science in

Secondary Schools." "Contestants must confine themselves simply to practical exposition of results sought, and of the means of attaining these results in the school-room." Literary merit will be a subordinate consideration. The essay must not exceed 5,000 words, must be signed with a fictitious name, and must reach the office of the *Academy* not later than March 15, 1888.

The *American Meteorological Journal* for December contains a contribution to the literature of the supposed increase in rainfall upon the Plains, but it cannot be said that it is a contribution to our knowledge of the subject. The author, Mr. Harrington, who is one of the editors of the magazine, finds, by a comparison of two rainfall maps of different dates, that the later one places the lines of equal rainfall further to the westward upon the Plains than the earlier one does, and argues therefrom that the rainfall has increased. He even builds higher upon this foundation of sand, and evolves the rate at which the rainfall of this region is increasing. Had Mr. Harrington been aware that these rainfall maps are but crude generalizations from insufficient and contradictory data, that there is often no good reason, beyond the judgment of the maker, for drawing a line of equal rainfall in one place rather than in another, fifty or a hundred miles away, as is perfectly well known to those who have constructed such maps, he would have displayed more caution in his conclusions. If we add that the maps which he used were the Blodgett map, published thirty years ago, and now universally discredited, and the Dennison map, which was published to sell, the worthlessness of his conclusions becomes apparent.

Genealogical Queries for 1888 (Newport: R. H. Tilley) is in the printer's hands.

The *American Annual of Photography and Photographic Times Almanac* for 1888 (Scovill Manufacturing Co.) is a solid volume of 329 pages, with a generous addition of advertisements, not inferior in interest to the text. The illustrations, as in last year's issue, are examples of a variety of "processes," with a promising new photolithograph among them. The frontispiece landscape study, a photograph by Obernetter of Munich, is an exceptionally fine performance.

Routledge's Almanack for 1888 is a close approach to the indispensable *Whitaker's*, differing from the latter in such a way as to supplement it usefully. Not containing so much matter, its print is larger. The arrangement of its main sections is convenient, being alphabetical, as, Amusements in and about London; Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces; Art of the Year; Banking, Finance, etc.; Colonies and India; Commerce and Trade; Ecclesiastical; Educational and Scholastic Establishments; Foreign Countries, and so on to Science and Sports and Pastimes. The editor apologizes for crudities and errors in a first venture, and asks for corrections. We may notice, then, that Mr. Manning's successor in the United States Treasury has been overlooked, and that Mr. Lamar's second initial is transformed from Q into O.

Recent events give unusual interest to the *Hawaiian Almanac and Annual* for 1888 (Honolulu: Thos. G. Thrum). The preliminary tables are followed by the present Constitution of the Hawaiian Kingdom, "subscribed and sworn to by His Majesty" on July 6, 1887, with its "Whereas, the Constitution of this Kingdom heretofore in force contains many provisions subversive of civil rights, and incompatible with enlightened Constitutional Government," etc. The revolution which led to this is briefly described under the Retrospect for the Year.

The literary articles offer nothing striking this year.

Armand Colin & Cie., Paris, send us the fourth issue of their *Annuaire de l'Enseignement Primaire*, edited by M. Jost, Inspector-General of Public Instruction. It is a plump pocket volume, with abundant statistics. The personnel is particularly well recorded, and we have also a chronological summary of official decrees and other documents pertaining to primary instruction for the school year 1886-87, other decrees in full, list of medallists, prescribed text-books, etc. These sections are followed by contributed articles on sundry topics, such as the Teacher's Position Abroad (part of a series); Overpressure in the Primary School; Recitation in the same; What We See in the Heavens (an illustrated familiar discourse on astronomy); Literary Instruction in the Upper Primary School; Music in the School Course; Geographical Review for the Year; Progress of Science, Obituary, Bibliography, etc., etc. Where in this country should we look for the analogue of this capital little publication?

The latest international yacht contest is commemorated in one of those handsome volumes published on occasion by the Boston city fathers—'A Testimonial to Charles J. Paine and Edward Burgess, from the City of Boston, for their Successful Defence of the *America's* Cup.' The account of the municipal reception to owner and designer of the *Volunteer* in Faneuil Hall is preceded by a very convenient history of the Anglo-American races from that at Cowes in 1851 down. But admirable above all is the rich series of illustrations, mostly photographic, showing the Cup, the *America*, *Puritan*, *Genesta*, *Mayflower*, *Galatea*, *Volunteer*, and *Thistle*, Faneuil Hall decorated for the reception, etc., with portraits of Gen. Paine and Mr. Burgess engraved on steel. This comparison of the craft—in one instance during a race—is very instructive, and we suppose is to be had nowhere else.

Ten more parts of the condensed *Universal History* issued by Grote at Berlin, under the editorship of Plathe, Hertzberg, Justi, Pflugk-Harttung, and Philippson, come to us from B. Westermann & Co. These numbers, 70-79, deal partly with Vandals, Visigoths and Burgundians, and the German states erected within the Roman Empire, and partly with the Thirty Years' War and the succeeding European epoch. The authoritative text is, as usual, enriched with a large number of authentic engravings, contemporary where possible, and including portraits, facsimiles of official documents, caricatures, etc., battle scenes, manners of the times, coins, armor, maps, etc., etc. The mechanical execution throughout is admirable.

Another first-class work, the 'Allgemeine Naturkunde' (Leipzig: Bibliographisches Institut), we receive from the same American house in Parts 79-107. In these are concluded vol. ii of the Descriptive Geology and vol. i of the Plant Life, while Dr. Friedrich Ratzel's Ethnology is continued, largely with reference to Africa. Here again the illustrations greatly enhance the value of the publication. Among the chromolithographs we remark one showing the autumn coloring on Lake Erie.

The announcement is authoritatively made that there is at length a prospect of a complete and correct edition of the Masora. The firm of Romm in Wilna (publishers of the splendid edition of the Babylonian Talmud recently brought out) have in hand a new edition of the so-called great Rabbinical Bible, to which Dr. Seligman Baer (well known as the collaborer of Prof. Franz Delitzsch in the publication of the best edition of the Hebrew Bible) has undertaken to furnish the Masora. The arrangement adopted

will be the same as in Jacob-ben-Hayyim's edition, with this exception, that wherever a word occurs for the first time, there all that is Masoretic in regard to it will be given; so that, by the help of a Concordance, any particular rubric will be readily traced. The first part of the manuscript is already in the printer's hands. Ever since the sharp review by Dr. Baer of Ginsburg's edition of the Masora, in the fortieth volume of the *Journal of the German Oriental Society*, it has been expected that Dr. Baer would undertake this work. It is generally agreed that Dr. Ginsburg's work is poorly edited, and so unscientifically arranged as to be of little practical use.

Mr. Isaac Myer, 209 S. 6th St., Philadelphia, is about issuing to subscribers 'The Philosophical Writings of Solomon Ben Yehudah Ibn Gebirol, or Avicbron, and their Connection with the Hebrew Qabbalah and Sopher haz-Zohar,' etc., etc. Only 350 copies will be printed, from type.

The land question has never been settled in the case of the Crown peasants of the Transcaucasian territory; and before setting about this important task the Ministry of Imperial Domains decided to investigate extensively the actual economical condition of the peasants on Crown lands in that region. This investigation was undertaken in 1884, and is now completed. It was conducted chiefly by natives of the country who had received special technical instruction, and each settlement was handled separately. The results have been printed at Tiflis in seven huge volumes, containing invaluable materials for the study of life in one of the least known districts of the Russian realm. Among other curious facts thus brought to light are some connected with a community of land which has always been supposed to be peculiar to Slavic and chiefly Great-Russian tribes. But it now appears that the same system, on a higher scale, exists among the natives of Transcaucasia, with a singular tendency to parcel out the land with an eye to the greatest profit of the poorer portion of the community. The "Tens" (*dagi*) are voluntary associations of householders, which are formed either every year or when a fresh partition of the land takes place. They take their land in common and afterwards parcel it out among their members, enjoying the privileges of irrigation together and acting as a unit in the matter of taxes, police duty for the settlements, and so on. As nothing will grow without artificial irrigation, the question of water-rights presented a difficult problem, which the natives have solved by devising a very complicated system of water administration.

—The January *Century* opens the new volume with the usual variety of light and serious prose; but the number itself is an unusually good example of the fixed type, and offers a fair occasion for congratulation upon the character of our most popular magazines. Several articles are of a high order, but among them four at least should be singled out. The Russian paper by George Kennan describes the state of the provincial prisons. The incurable barbarism of the system is well brought out. The degradation in material matters, the cruelty inflicted on such of the prisoners as have mind or feeling to suffer as men or women, and the means of secret communication by the knock and figure alphabets, are the substantial topics. It is not surprising that, as we learn from the press despatches, these pages are blotted out by the Russian censor of the foreign mails. The instalment of the Lincoln biography is concerned with the formation of the Cabinet and the first conferences in the White House about Fort Sumter,

and contains several interesting unpublished documents. The economy which should be practised in the matter of food is treated by Professor Atwater, but without any fresh suggestion. The character of Ruskin, whose portrait is the frontispiece of the number, is treated with great frankness and after an heroic fashion by Mr. Stillman, who has little opinion of him as an art critic, but regards his moral and humanitarian nature with what can only be called veneration. His wounds, whatever else may be said of them, are those of a faithful friend, and he publishes a letter written many years ago to him by Ruskin which is an admirable expression of helpful friendship. The paper upon the Catacombs by Dr. Schaff is a good illustration of the circumstances and spirit of early Christianity in the days of its simple poverty; the two sketches of travel in the West are entertaining; and Mr. Cable's novel easily leads the fiction, of which there is sufficient. An interesting letter upon Hawthorne's patriotism concludes the number. This is a list which, if not eminent for literature, is eminent for usefulness.

—The Modern Language Association held its fifth annual Convention in the chapel of the University of Pennsylvania on December 28, 29, and 30. There was present a large delegation representing the leading universities, colleges, and schools of the country. The University of Pennsylvania welcomed the Convention in a reception given the first evening, at which Dr. Pepper, the Provost, made the address, followed by Prof. MacAllister, who discussed the place of modern literature in the education of our time. In the absence of James Russell Lowell, the President, Dr. Garnett of the University of Virginia, Prof. Joynes of the University of South Carolina, and Prof. Morgan Hart of the University of Cincinnati, successively presided at the sessions. A committee was appointed to present a memorial to Congress asking for a remission of taxes on foreign books. Another committee was appointed to organize a phonetic section of the Association. The papers read at the several sessions were—by Prof. Tolman of Ripon College, on the Style of Anglo-Saxon Poetry; by Prof. White of Cornell, on the Modern-Language Seminary System; by Prof. Lang, on the Face in the Spanish Metaphor and Proverb; by Prof. Primer, on Charleston's Pronunciations; by Dr. Wood of Johns Hopkins, on the Brief or Pregnant Metaphor in the Minor Elizabethan Dramatists; by Prof. Fortier of Tulane University, La., on Louisiana Folk-lore; by Prof. Kroeh of Stevens Institute, on Methods of Teaching Modern Languages; by Prof. Karsten of Indiana University, on Speech Unities; by Prof. Collitz of Bryn Mawr, on the Weak Verbs; by Prof. Sheldon of Harvard, on the Canadian French Dialect in Maine; by Dr. Goebel of Johns Hopkins, on Paul's Principien; by President Shepherd of the College of Charleston, on Macaulay's English; by Prof. Smyth of Philadelphia, on American Literature in the Class-room; by Dr. Bright of Johns Hopkins, on the English Curriculum in the University; by Prof. Elliott of Johns Hopkins, on the Earliest Works on Italian Grammar and Lexicography Published in England. Very great interest was shown in papers that gave the results of original investigations in living dialects, which Prof. Elliott of Johns Hopkins has done so much to promote. The hospitality of the University and the citizens of Philadelphia was characteristic of the City of Brotherly Love. Each day's sessions were relieved by receptions given by the Provost of the University at his residence, by the Uni

versity, the Historical Society, and the Penn Club. The Association is now an established and flourishing institution, whose members represent the best scholarship of the country. Its Contributions enter on their third volume. So successful has been its organ, *Modern Language Notes*, that a Review has been projected to take its place among the leading quarterlies. The next Convention will be held in Cincinnati.

—Mr. H. T. Frueauff writes us from Easton, Pa.:

"Your article on the 'Book Trade in Germany' was exceedingly interesting, both to the trade in general and, no doubt, to your book-buying readers. While reading the review of the *Jahrbücher* article, I wondered whether you had seen and your German readers perused the exceedingly interesting romance called 'Eulen und Krebse,' by August Niemann, commenced in No. 3 of the *Neue Monatshefte des Daheim*. The plot of the story is centred in Leipsic, among the bookmakers and booksellers. Incidentally, a clear and interesting insight into the 'book world' of that greatest of book cities is woven into the story. As far as I know, no book has ever been written in any language with this object in view. No doubt many familiar with the German language will find much to interest them in 'Eulen und Krebse.'"

—Hollingbury Cope is "that quaint wig-wam on the Sussex Downs which has the honor of sheltering more record and artistic evidences connected with the personal history of the great dramatist than are to be found in any other of the world's libraries." Thus Mr. Halliwell-Phillips speaks on the title-page of his latest list of Shakspeare rarities. In all former editions his claim is more moderate, saying, instead of "the world's libraries," *south of the metropolis*. This calendar of curiosities, lately printed "for private circulation and presents only," will have a charm for all Shaksperians. It is an octavo of 168 pages, and chronicles 805 memorabilia. The comments of the author add much to their significance. They indicate lines on which, as he remarks, "a large work could hardly fail to be welcome to the student" of Shakspeare. His regret is that "the time occupied in gathering together the necessary artistic and literary material has practically excluded the collector himself from the opportunity of making an effective use of his accumulations." We hope better things. Mr. Phillipps is eleven years younger than Gladstone, has not a tithe of his disquiets, can never rest except when hard at work, does all his writing before noon, and some of it before light. He is still good for another *opus magnum*. The two hundred Shaksperian volumes of Mr. Phillipps, with other unique relics, as their possessor maintains, have cost more pains and perhaps pelf than would have been requisite for accumulating fifty thousand modern books on the works of the dramatist. *Ponderentur, non numerentur*. Aside from printed matter, the Hollingbury treasures are of the four following classes: (1.) Early engraved portraits of Shakspeare, among which the Droeshout is easily preëminent. (2.) Authentic personal relics, such as the title-deeds of his estates in Stratford and of the Blackfriars theatre. (3.) Documentary evidences respecting his estates and individuals who are connected with his biography, such as autographs of Southampton and Essex, Sir Thomas Lucy, and John a' Combe. (4.) Artistic illustrations of localities connected with his personal history. In this last line neither the Bodleian nor the British Museum has anything worth speaking of. The Hollingbury display is unique aside from that at the birthplace, which owes its own existence to Mr. Phillipps.

—Our copy of Mr. Phillipps's curiosity Calendar, coming through the Post-office, was detained there till a customs duty was paid. But this book, like a hundred others by the same author, and a majority of those imported by American specialists, would never be reprinted in the United States. The tax then protects no American industry, unless perhaps the salary of here and there a customs officer who arbitrarily, at the port of landing, marks by guess the amount of duty. We say "arbitrarily," for on the same work we have sometimes paid a dollar tax and sometimes half-a-dollar. But while this tariff protects nobody, it is a tax on knowledge, and bears hard on our least lucrative profession, that of scholarly specialists. These are the men who send abroad, each in his own department, for the most advanced works—works too far advanced to be popular—and which therefore stand no chance of American republication. The best of these scholars are frequently not salaried professors, and are often hindered from ordering a book subject not only to a tax, but to one imposed at the caprice of an official a thousand miles away, and which, however illegal or unreasonable, they are not likely to get abated. Publishers ought not to be jealous of a little mercy shown to these students struggling to keep abreast of the times. With this view of things it was provided in the United States Postal Laws of 1879 (section 1135) that "collectors of customs may in their discretion remit duties on importations of single copies of books of less dutiable value than one dollar, when such books are intended for the personal use of the addressees." Under this regulation we imported Skeat's 'Etymological Dictionary' as it was published number after number. Many students did likewise, and by their comments they no doubt doubled the sale of American editions when our publishers brought out the completed work. This law worked well in other ways more than we can now speak of. But in 1882 this system was broken up by the Secretary of the Treasury, who "instructed collectors that all books of whatever value, bound in stiff covers, or which are usually so bound, should be treated as dutiable at 25 per cent." (Postal Laws of 1882, p. 785.) We first became aware of this change when we sent for the 'Oxford Parallel New Testament,' a sort of Tetrapla that has never been reproduced in this country, and never will be, but which is invaluable, showing at the same time not only the Authorized and the Revised Versions, but the original of both. The book and the postage were costly, but the tariff was the last proverbial peppercorn.

—Mme. Boucicaut, the head of the great Parisian establishment of the Bon Marché, and the widow of M. Aristide Boucicaut, its founder, died last month at the age of seventy-two years, leaving her immense possessions in a manner which calls for special attention. No statement of the actual amount of her wealth has appeared—probably it cannot be even approximately estimated at present, so great is it; but the dispositions she made of it were of corresponding largeness, and deserve the widest admiration. A fortune laboriously and honorably accumulated has been generously scattered in a rain of the most liberal benefits. The Bon Marché, the largest and most successful of the great Parisian houses of which Zola's "Au Bonheur des Dames" was only a type, grew gradually out of the little shop which once occupied a very small part of the vast space now covered by the buildings of the great establishment into which it has developed, under the wise care of the two who began life

there as small shopkeepers. Ten years ago M. Aristide Boucicaut died, but the Bon Marché continued to be conducted by the surviving proprietor according to the wise and generous plans that had been perfected during his lifetime, by which the employees, according to their position and the length of their services, shared in the profits of the establishment. About three hundred of these employees, who have gradually been associated with the proprietor, make up the *Société civile*, as it is called, of the Bon Marché. To this *Société civile du Bon Marché* Mme. Boucicaut has left the whole vast establishment, including the buildings and the land upon which they were erected, the whole valued at about \$12,000,000. To the various employees of the Bon Marché, whether men or women, divided into classes according to their positions and length of service, she left legacies varying in amount from \$200 to \$2,000; and to the workmen and women of all kinds employed about the establishment, including mechanics, watchmen, and inspectors, divided also into classes in the same way, from \$20 to \$200. There are more than three thousand persons of the two classes, and the amount of these legacies alone is much beyond \$3,000,000.

—Besides these great sums, she also leaves to the *Société civile* her favorite country residence at Fontenay-aux-Roses near Paris, valued at \$200,000, to establish there a convalescent hospital and refuge in old age for the employees, and for its use an additional sum of more than \$120,000. Her estate at Bellême, her husband's native place, together with a large sum of money, in all more than \$120,000, she leaves for an asylum for the old women, and for the establishment of workshops for the young girls of the place. To two societies for the benefit of young workmen, and one for young workingwomen in Paris, she gives \$400,000, and to five charitable associations of artists, musicians, actors, teachers, etc., and also to the "individualités souffrantes de la Presse parisienne," \$120,000, in sums of \$20,000 to each. Besides making the *Assistance publique* of Paris her residuary legatee, she leaves, beyond all these bequests, for other specified charitable purposes, more than \$1,275,000, of which \$100,000 is distributed among the "ministres des divers cultes reconnus en France," the Archbishop of Paris, the grand Rabbi of France, the presidents of the consistories of the confession of Augsburg and of the *Église réformée*, and the representative of the orthodox religious interests in Paris. These are not all her objects of interest even among what may be called her public bequests, for her numerous legacies to relatives and friends are not published; but they are enough to show the breadth and intelligence of her sympathies and the liberality of her mind as well as of her heart. It is not strange that there should have been an immediate proposal, upon the publication of this will, which so nobly crowns her life's labors, to erect a monument to Mme. Boucicaut in the square on which the buildings of the Bon Marché front. It was well said editorially in the *Temps* that she had considered not less carefully and ably the good works she left behind her than she had in life the direction of her commercial affairs; and this blending of worldly wisdom and "other-worldly" wisdom, this combination of intelligence of the head and of the heart, certainly deserves a long commemoration in one way or another. The *Temps* does Americans the honor to consider such a disposal of wealth acquired in one generation as an example of republican virtue the like of which has hitherto been witnessed only in America and England. We fear

we have as yet nothing to compare with this example.

—About a year ago M. Henri Bouchot contributed to the "Bibliothèque de l'Enseignement des Beaux-Arts" an admirably clear and concise study of 'Le Livre—L'Illustration—La Reliure'; and now we have before us 'The Printed Book: its History, Illustration, and Adornment, from the Days of Gutenberg to the Present Time,' translated and enlarged from M. Bouchot's volume by Mr. Edward C. Bignmore (New York: Scribner & Welford). The translation is fair to middling, neither better nor worse than the average; although a French sentence like "La maison Hachette, fondée par un des normaliens du mouvement libéral, au commencement du siècle, fut avec Lahure la promotrice du relief ainsi compris et pratiqué," is not adequately represented by this English sentence: "The house of Hachette, founded by one of the normal teachers of the liberal movement, at the beginning of the century, was, together with Lahure, the promoter of relief so inclusive [*sic*] and practical [*sic*]." Yet it is only fair to say that blundering of this sort is not frequent. The enlargement announced on the title-page consists in little more than the addition of a few English illustrations—in the double sense of the word. It would have been well and easy for the English translator to have enlarged the French author's meagre paragraph about commercial binding, the machine-stamped cloth-covering which the English early developed, and in which they are even now excelled only by the best American work. The translator's references to the United States are inadequate and ignorant, but good-natured and well-meaning. The cuts are not as carefully printed as in the original French book. But, making due allowance for these blemishes, 'The Printed Book' is one of the best volumes about the history of bookmaking now accessible in English; perhaps it is not too much to say that it is quite the best, for we do not know where to look for another book covering just the same field. It is to be noted in favor of the translator that he has supplied an index of sixteen columns.

MR. ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON'S COLLECTED PAPERS.

Virginibus Puerisque, and Other Papers.—Memories and Portraits. By Robert Louis Stevenson. Charles Scribner's Sons. 1887.

THESE two volumes, with a third, 'Familiar Studies of Men and Books,' already noticed, contain the author's history, not in an explicit and formal way, as if he had deliberately set himself down to a narrative of his life and opinions, but as one may gather in conversation with some frank stranger the incidents and views which make his life and his soul his own. The world is not told, but the reader is allowed some degree of intimacy, or so it seems; and this is the secret of those felicitous essayists, the best fireside companions, who, talking of intellectual things, keep telling us something out of their own life by the way, and win our confidence by giving us their own. Mr. Stevenson is a lover of the old masters of the art, and rambles with the fashion of their gait; one feels often enough that he has not been long from Montaigne's company, or that he has left Hazlitt in the lane, as indeed he acknowledges, with a certain pride in the acquaintance and in the thought that he has studied their air. But the personal element, his own individuality, is there, too, and gives to these little papers, in spite of their remarkable unevenness in literary quality, the physiognomy of the author, as

boy and man. He has one great characteristic of the good autobiographer in the fact that he is very interesting to himself; the things most closely connected with his own doings hold the next place; and everything else comes far behind. Those youthful papers which deal with generalities of life, are not to be used in denial of this preoccupation; youth is not less self-absorbed because it does not know enough to be specific. In his warm vindication of the claim of the young man to be as wise in his own generation as the declining Psalmist in his, and in the whimsies and paradoxes which he revolves about the subject of marriage in the very spirit of literary mischief, the self-assertion is only a lower degree of a decent kind of bumptiousness. He meant to present in these something that he could call "life at twenty-five"; but he grew old too soon to commit the deed outright, and so we get only a few specimens of his rawness, just enough to give a pleasing smartness to the taste.

Mr. Stevenson announces himself at once as a Scotchman by ancestry and tradition, by landscape, college, and humor, and by a certain physical toughness and wild-weather feeling, hard to define, which is never far to seek in his pages. His fancy, taking a cue from heredity, makes a queer excursion in the sketch of "The Manse," devoted to a kind, sharp portrait of his "minister-grandfather," in which he goes hunting for half-a-dozen of his ascendants in his own instincts and impulses, and knows not whether it is more strange that he should carry about with him some fibres of the old man, or that there was in the cool old clergyman an "aboriginal frisking of the blood that was not his," and that the primeval one, "Probably Arboreal (scarce to be distinguished from a monkey), gambolled and chattered in the brain of the old divine." It pleases him to be humorous about it, but he tells his ancestry on both sides, with interest in their lives and just pride in the stock. His memoir of his father has a clear truthfulness and honesty in it, and a certain solemnity which sets it apart curiously from the other papers; and there are no more pleasing passages than those which describe his vacation at the island of Earraid, when his father and uncle were building the light at Dhu Heartach, or which elsewhere show him as his father's son.

In depicting the characters of others who stood about him in his boyhood he not only succeeds in making them lifelike, but he lends his own appreciation to our eyes, and we see them by the help of his memories and associations. They are Scotchmen of the type known through the world. None is better than the figure of Robert Hunter, once Sheriff of Dunbarton, but "whether originally big or little" is more than the youth could guess. At the first knowing he was "all fallen away and fallen in; crooked and shrunken; buckled into a stiff waistcoat for support; troubled by ailments which kept him hobbling in and out of the room; one foot gouty; a wig for decency, not for deception, on his head; close-shaved, except under the chin, and for that he never failed to apologize, for it went sore against the traditions of his life." Two stories are told of him, not to be passed over, one, that, being a moderate in religion, he was much struck by a conversation between two young lads, revivalists. "'H'm,' he would say, 'new to me, I have had—h'm—no such experience.' It struck him," adds Mr. Stevenson, "with a solemn philosophical interest that he, a Christian as he hoped, and a Christian of so old a standing, should hear these young fellows talking of his own subject, his own weapons that he had fought the battle of life with, and—'h'm

—not understand.'" The other story springs from his fondness for Shakspeare, of whom he was very fond, "but *Othello* had beaten him: 'that noble gentleman, and that noble lady—h'm—too painful for me.'" This is very charming characterization, and when passages like these are found in a book, they will endear it though they be few. But in one single essay the author has drawn a sketch of the general Scotch nature, especially as contrasted with the English, in country, education, and temperament, which within its limits is as speaking a bit of national portraiture as one will meet with in a twelvemonth. Englishmen, he says, don't know Scotland and don't care to know; they are as indescribably ignorant of the sister kingdom as of foreign countries; and by contrast the Scotchman's wonder at England as a land of the south, an Italy to his Switzerland, with warmth and populousness, and a fuller and softened civilization, and the earth made habitable for a more refined race, is brought home with an ingenuousness not far removed from pathos.

But all this, delightful as much of it is, is no more than the atmosphere of these recollections and meditations, and is incidental; the subject of the story is really Mr. Stevenson, the romancer. He was born so, to dream for himself in boyhood, and after a time for the world. These volumes are full of anecdotes of early days, records of lonely hours and the moments that are remembered in sensitive persons as experiences, hours of friendship and days of adventuring, and many a tell-tale mood over books and in the face of life. Yet there is no obtrusive forwardness in the confessions, and, after finishing the reading, perhaps one does not remember very much that is worth keeping fresh, does not seem to know a great deal about events and persons such as would fill the stage in a biography, but he does feel that he knows the author very well indeed. Of one thing he is certain, and that is that Mr. Stevenson became a romancer as the grass grows. The glimpse of his childhood in his delightful paper upon the "Penny Plain and Two-pence Colored," that is, on the juvenile play-books for the toy theatre; the chapter upon a certain graveyard, between a prison and a hotel, and overlooking screaming railways, line on line, where, he says, "in the hot fits of youth I came to be unhappy"; the landscapes, the rock or shore or moorland which were always calling to his brain to restore to them their story; the sheep-dogs and the Pentlands; the nooks seen and remembered from the windows of railway carriages in foreign lands; the journeyings on foot with health, and the happiness of slow dying at Mentone—all these things are of a piece: whether normal or morbid, they are the stirrings of the imagination in youth. There is felt, too, incessantly the strong contact of life on the pulses and nerves, as well as its touch on the brain. In some degree the purely physical, the athletic side, seems dwelt on with an excess of fullness: particularly in what are easily distinguished as the essays of "life at twenty-five," there is the note of youth in the eulogy of living and in the doctrine to obey the impulse, cost what it will, and not to be afraid of Pan. An open, hearty nature, daring, and sentimental, and sound, anxious—perhaps over-anxious—to have its share in life, greets us from the pages, and makes us acquainted with the young man before he became an author in his own right, and was still making strong friendships with books, not always the best, one thinks, but always sincere. He tells us what six of these have lasted, and are the inner circle of his intimates now: Scott ("one or two" of the novels, but we trust this