

The "instructions" have not indeed been publicly issued with us; but for that reason it is all the more important to warn the public against the wiles that are practised to conjure money from their pockets. I venture, therefore, to send you a literal copy of a document of which I accidentally became possessed, issued to their solicitors by the proprietors of a "family paper" in one of our principal cities. The paper had at the time, to my personal knowledge, a very wide circulation in the country, and the means by which it was obtained are made manifest in these instructions.

Each solicitor was provided with a "chromo" for exhibition, a copy of which would be furnished to every subscriber, and here are the directions for trapping the game:

INSTRUCTIONS TO AGENTS.

(Confidential.)

Never say at first that you wish to solicit a subscription.

Attract the attention and excite the interest by showing the chromo which you must always have at hand.

Presuming that you have previously ascertained the name of the party you address, you may use some such words as the following:

"Mr. —, I have taken the liberty of calling to show you the most pleasing and artistic chromo ever made in America. It is after a painting by Sir Joshua Reynolds, one of England's famous painters. It is printed in sixteen different impressions in oil to get the coloring and shading of the original painting. It sells in the art stores for ten dollars. (This mention of the retail price rarely fails to attract attention.) But I do not sell them. The chromo is given to all subscribers to the paper I represent, the largest, cheapest, and most entertaining family paper in the country."

You may then go on to show the points and excellence of the chromo; what people and the press say of it, etc., etc.

Having succeeded in exciting an interest in the picture, the agent should proceed to show that the paper alone is worth the subscription, and the combination is the greatest offer ever made by a publisher to the American people.

The agent should be provided with a small book, an ordinary pass book will do, which at the proper point he should produce and show the names he has secured. Be careful never to do this in a manner that will convey an impression that you expect thus to influence the party you are addressing.

Answer all objections with quiet good humor.

Never argue a point. Objections are generally simply excuses for not subscribing. The best way to treat them is to go on with your story till they are forgotten.

Do not be put off by promises to subscribe at a future time. People will often say, "Perhaps I'll subscribe when you call again." This is only an excuse; urge the advantage of subscribing now.

Get the names of some of the leading and most influential persons of all sects belonging to the place. You can often accomplish it by frankly confessing your object in securing their names. It has great influence. Many agents keep all their old lists, as they may often secure subscribers by exhibiting them.

The grand secret of obtaining subscribers is influence. Get a list properly started, and men and women will subscribe because their neighbors have done so. Go first to the most influential men—clergymen, editors, etc.—and secure their names and written commendation if you can. Never disturb a man when busy. Don't talk too much.

Make a memd. of all who are out when you call, and don't fail to call again.

Study this circular carefully and keep it for future reference. The hints it contains were written by one who has had wide experience, and knows the pleasures and troubles of a canvassing agent.

It is melancholy to reflect that such widespread imbecility exists as is proved by the mere fact of the issuance of a document so obviously the result of experience in dealing with it. Perhaps its publication may have a wholesome effect upon some of those who are its intended victims.

H. W. S. C.

MINNEAPOLIS, July 7, 1888.

Notes.

MACMILLAN & Co. will be the American publishers of a cheap edition of Mrs. Humphry Ward's 'Robert Elsmere.'

Our readers have already received such an inkling as we could give them of the extraordinary interest pertaining to the Wagner-Liszt correspondence lately published in Germany. With commendable diligence Dr. Franz Hueffer has completed an English version, likewise in two volumes ('Correspondence of Wagner and Liszt.' New York: Scribner & Welford). The translator's competence for his task is a very comforting assurance, and he has had the good sense to omit nothing, and to cleave closely to the style of the original, even at the expense of fire and flow which might occasionally have been attained by paraphrase. He speaks feelingly in his preface of his wrestling in certain letters with Wagner's grammatical carelessness and obscurity of diction. He promises, if the public will support him, hereafter "to supply notes and a serviceable index, to give a clue to the various persons who are hidden under initials." It is much to be regretted that the index was not prepared for the present edition. Dr. Hueffer would also have honored his aim to produce a "facsimile" by another breach with the German edition. The date-lines of the letters should have been put at the head, not the end, and a running-title or other device should have announced the writer in each case.

A selection of Mendelssohn's letters ('Briefe von F. M. Bartholdy') has been edited by Mr. James Sime for the Pitt Press Series of Cambridge University (New York: Macmillan). Mr. Sime furnishes an introduction and notes. The text is in the German character. It has been derived from the "Reisebriefe" and from the correspondence of the years 1833-1847.

A sixth edition of Mr. Sweetser's 'Maritime Provinces: A Handbook for Travellers' (Boston: Ticknor & Co.) proves that one every other year is the rule, and that the attractiveness of this part of the continent is steadily appreciated. In fact, since the first editions of this guide-book, Eastern fashion has virtually annexed one island, Campobello, adjacent to our shores. Mr. Sweetser is the best companion who has yet presented himself for the excursion tourist in this part of the Dominion.

Miss Charlotte M. Yonge has deserved well of all those who appreciate honest effort, and it is therefore with no desire to be disagreeable that we say of her 'What Books to Lend and What to Give,' recently issued in London, that it is very parochial, and distinctly inferior in breadth and in disinterestedness to Miss C. M. Hewins's 'Books for the Young,' which Miss Yonge seems never to have heard of. Perhaps the limitations of Miss Yonge's lists can best be shown by an extract or two from her pages: "The tales that have any dissenting bias, or which appear to involve false doctrine; are, of course, omitted" (p. 13). "In spite of all its peculiarities," the 'Pilgrim's Progress' "must be admitted; it is not likely that Bunyan's doctrines will do any harm (!), though for these purposes we do regret that Dr. Neale's edition, arranged for Church people, is out of print" (p. 51). Mark Twain's 'Prince and Pauper,' a "most diverting book, . . . has one grievous flaw—it marries a man to his sister-in-law, but only in the last two pages, and with so little preparation that the passages might be extirpated without any one missing them" (p. 61). We approve of the frankness with which Miss

Yonge inserts the titles of her own books—an editor who is worth his salt should not be squeamish; Longfellow, who was a model editor, quoted abundantly from himself. But we do not quite see how it is that Miss Yonge omits 'The Prince of the House of David,' 'Ben-Hur,' and 'In His Name.'

Under the title 'Civics for Young Americans' (A. Lovell & Co.) Mr. W. M. Giffin undertakes to explain the forms of government in general, and to expound in particular the Constitution of the United States, with such simplicity as to insure their "easy comprehension by the youngest reader." Such a task is only possible if we use the term "comprehension" in the narrowest way, and it could even then be accomplished only by a writer much more thoroughly acquainted with political history than Mr. Giffin seems to be. He apparently supposes that true patriotism is to be aroused in children by indiscriminate laudation of our own institutions, and ignorant disparagement of those of other countries, especially England. A generation ago this conception prevailed, but we have advanced beyond it. We now have several books upon government that reflect this advance, and are yet elementary enough for such scholars as have attained a proper age for these studies, and this book is in most respects so inferior that it cannot enter into competition with them.

Pertinent to this subject is a little descriptive list of works on civil government constituting "Circular of Information, No. 1," of the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Good Citizenship. Of this organization we hear for the first time. The Rev. E. E. Hale is President; Mr. Edward Atkinson is one of the Vice-Presidents; the Secretary is C. F. Crehore, M.D., whose address is Box 1252, Boston. We owe to its Committee upon Courses of Reading and Study the pamphlet before us, whose aim is to operate directly upon the pupils in the public schools by providing lists of text-books, commentaries, and books of reference. Thus in section 1 we have Andrews's 'Manual of the U. S. Constitution,' Miss Dawes's 'How We Are Governed,' Nordhoff's 'Politics for Young Americans,' etc., etc., analyzed and rated for the teacher. The same helpful scheme is observed throughout. The Committee have in contemplation a similar service to higher institutions—a list of courses in reading, or select libraries, to be had for \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, etc. This is all admirable, and Massachusetts cannot bound the sphere of the Society's influence.

Shakspeare's 'Richard II.' and 'Henry V.' (Part I.), Plato's 'Crito and Phædo,' Coventry Patmore's Poems, and Clara Reeve's 'Old English Baron' are the latest additions to "Casell's National Library."

'La Littérature française au moyen âge,' by M. Gaston Paris (Paris: Hachette; Boston: Schoenhof), has just appeared. This is the first of the four volumes of the "Manuel d'ancien français IX—XIV^e siècle," which has been in preparation for some years. The three other volumes are to be a 'Grammaire sommaire de l'ancien français,' a 'Choix de textes français au moyen âge,' and a Glossary. These promise to be the most complete and valuable initiation into the old French language and literature that has ever been made. A selection from them, for use as a class-book, was issued last year under the title, 'Extraits de la Chanson de Roland et de la Vie de Saint Louis par Joinville' (Paris: Hachette; Boston: Schoenhof). This contained about 300 pages of glossaries and grammatical observations, besides valuable literary and other notes. The first volume of the complete work now published is a sketch of mediæval French literature, which will be at-

tractive, not only to the special student, but to any one interested in the study of literature.

Two years ago M. Octave Uzanné gathered together his lighter essays on books and book-making, and sent them forth as 'Nos Amis les Livres,' and he has now made a second and similar collection, 'Les Zigzags d'un Curieux: causeries sur l'art des livres et la littérature d'art' (Paris: Quantin; New York: F. W. Christern), which is almost uniform, externally and internally, with its pleasant predecessor. Most of the eight chapters have appeared in *Le Livre*, which M. Uzanne edits. There are papers about women book-lovers (of whom Mr. Lang has also written charmingly), about modern French engraving, about autograph collectors, about Balzac, about Baudelaire, and also about trifles, great and small. M. Uzanne's style is precious and yet modern; he has a touch of his own, and looks at life and at literature out of his own eyes. His attack on the papers of Paris for the enormously greater attention paid to plays than is given to books, is lacking neither in piquancy nor in verity; though it is likely to be unprofitable enough, as far as any direct result is concerned. The plea for the reconstruction and improvement of the Hôtel Drouot, where Parisian sales by auction are chiefly held, is one which we can heartily echo. M. Uzanne's book is admirably printed on Dutch paper, in an edition limited to 665 copies.

For the thirteenth time MM. Noël and Stoullig send forth their solid 'Annales du Théâtre et de la Musique' (Paris: Charpentier; New York: F. W. Christern), and to this account of the dramatic doings of 1887 M. Jules Claretie, now the director of the Théâtre-Français, contributes an interesting preface, in which he indirectly answers the charge that the Comédie-Française is in its decadence, by an apt comparison with the stage of a century ago, and an ingenious accumulation of the pessimistic sayings of those who have seen the stage "going to the dogs" regularly every few years. The unique position of the theatre M. Claretie manages is also shown by the fourth appearance of another annual, 'Répertoire de la Comédie-Française,' by M. Charles Gueulette (Paris: Librairie de Bibliophiles; New York: F. W. Christern), a dainty little book, nearly uniform with the beautiful series of the 'Almanach des Spectacles.' The performances of what other theatre in the world would afford material for a volume every year? For M. Gueulette's books M. Abot has etched a series of admirable portraits of the actresses who now adorn the stage of the Théâtre-Français—Mmes. Bartet, Dudley, Reichemberg, and Baretta. To the volume for 1887 M. Edouard Thierry, one of the most erudite of French dramatic critics, and himself a former manager of the Théâtre-Français, contributes a preface, in which he shows how the recent breaking down of the prejudice against the stage has brought on the boards performers in greater abundance than ever before, and from wholly different classes of society.

Dainty likewise is the *Annuaire des Traditions Populaires* (Paris: Maisonneuve, 25 Quai Voltaire), containing first the constitution and by-laws of the Popular Traditions Society; then a list of its members; then, by way of garnishing, sundry *contes* and *chansons*—one or two broad and broadly illustrated; and, finally, a "bibliothèque folklorique," by M. Loys Brueyre, which speaks for itself. An old engraving of the Temptation of Eve here reproduced is in style manifestly of German origin; and this is confirmed by the serpent's having a woman's form—Méphistopheles's "aunt" (*die berühmte Schlange*).

The American sale of Daudet's 'L'Immortel';

Mœurs Parisiennes' has been bespoken by William R. Jenkins, 851 Sixth Avenue, who has ventured upon an order of 1,000 copies for this market.

We duly chronicled, on the appearance of its first issue, the new departure taken by 'Pierer's Konversations-Lexikon' in its seventh edition (Stuttgart: W. Spemann). *Pari passu* and on the same page with the customary cyclopædic matter, an added narrow external column is made to carry twelve linguistic dictionaries under one alphabet. Moreover, equivalents in the same languages are affixed to each German word in the major alphabet. The labor implied in this combination, to insure accuracy, can, as the publisher truly says, not be imagined by one who has not seen a proof-sheet of the work. Nevertheless, the price remains low and within the reach of the ordinary buyer. The first fifteen parts of the 'Lexikon' are now before us, ending with the article on Asia. There are numerous illustrations, particularly under the rubric Architecture, maps of a simple and popular sort, excellent colored plates of fruits and flowers. The engravings have for the most part the stamp of an earlier school and generation, but they are all useful and authentic, and the newest are process work and quite as good as is called for. Of the text it may be said that the new polyglot feature "on Joseph Kürschner's system," as above described, constitutes the chief distinction of the 'Lexikon' over others.

A searching but good-tempered review of Mr. Froude's 'English in the West Indies,' which originally appeared in *Timehri*, the Journal of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society of British Guiana, comes to us as a reprint (Demerara: The Argosy Press). The writer is Mr. N. Darrell Davis, and his title is sufficiently suggestive: "Mr. Froude's Negrophobia; or, Don Quixote as a Cook's Tourist." Mr. Davis holds that "the future of the West Indies belongs to the Mixed Race." So far from the mulattoes dying out, they number one to every four Africans in Jamaica. Intermarriages are increasingly numerous throughout the archipelago. This year jubilee celebrations will signalize the fiftieth anniversary of (actual) emancipation, and "promise of themselves," says Mr. Davis, "to be a refutation of Mr. Froude's cynical attempt still further to blacken the Black Man." "Froudacity" is a neat word of Mr. Davis's coinage to express the variety of error which habitually distinguishes the historian's utterances.

The imposing form of *Current Literature*, a new monthly just launched at No. 42 W. Twenty-third St., and intended "to deal with current literature in an eclectic way," is all that the projectors have achieved which is worth mentioning. A greater premium on intellectual dissipation, or a more striking example of the confusion of standards of taste, we do not remember. The compilers are most scrupulous in giving credit to the esteemed contemporaries from whom they borrow, and both writers and editors may be flattered by the compliment; but as many crimes are here committed in the name of Literature as ever were in the name of Liberty. The original contributions are very meagre.

Appearances do not belie the *Journal* of the Gypsy Lora Society, printed by the Constables in Edinburgh, and edited by Mr. David MacRitchie, at 4 Archibald Place, in that gray metropolis of the North. The aim of this new publication is to further the solution of the vexed questions relating to the gypsies, as; whence come they? when did they first set foot in England, in America, etc.? No. 1 has articles on Turkish and Catalan Gypsies, on the

Early Annals of the Gypsies in England, a specimen Rumanian-Gypsy Folk-Tale; statistics of the race in Germany; South-Austrian Rumanian applied to versions of Shakspeare and the Bible, etc., etc. Not the least interesting portion is the Notes and Queries. The whole number has a refreshingly authoritative stamp, and is a capital beginning.

Apropos of our correspondence on another page concerning the Bologna festival, we must mention the great beauty of the special edition of the *Illustrazione Italiana* (Milan: Fratelli Treves) relating to this memorable occasion. "Bononia Docet" is its title. In the compilation of its contents and in the choice of subjects for engraving, the greatest judgment and taste have been displayed. The portraits are numerous, and include King Humbert, Rector Capellini, Boselli, Gandino, Carducci, Guerrini, Saffi, etc.; while town and University are depicted in many aspects.

—The twentieth annual meeting of the American Philological Association was held in Amherst July 10, 11, and 12, with an unusually large number of members present. The President, Prof. Isaac H. Hall of New York city, delivered the opening address on Tuesday evening on "The Legacy of the Syrian Scribes." During the session, papers were read on "A New Allegory in the First Book of 'The Faerie Queen,'" by J. Ernest Whitney; on "Changes in the Roman Constitution proposed by Cicero (De Leg. iii, 3, 6-5, 12)," by Prof. William A. Merrill; on "The Cure Inscriptions from Epidaurus," by James R. Wheeler, Ph.D.; on "English Pronunciation, how Learned," and "Volapük and the Law of Least Effort," by Prof. F. A. March; on "Theories of English Verse," by the Rev. James C. Parsons; on "Peculiarities of Affix in Latin and Greek," by Charles S. Halsey; on "A Consideration of the Method Employed in Lighting the Vestal Fire," by Morris H. Morgan, Ph.D.; on "Contamination in Latin Comedy," by Prof. F. D. Allen; on the "Tripods of Hephestus," in Hom. II. xiii, by Prof. Thomas D. Seymour; on "Impersonal Verbs," by Julius Goebel, Ph.D.; on "The Authorship of the Cynicus of Lucian," by Josiah Bridge, Ph.D.; on "The Identity of Words," by Prof. L. L. Patwin; on "Observations on the Fourth Eclogue of Vergil," by Prof. W. S. Scarborough; on the "*Lex Curiata de Imperio*" and "On the Locality of the *Saltus Teutoburgiensis*," by Prof. William F. Allen; on "Arbutus," by Prof. F. P. Brewer; on the "Adrasteia in Plato's Republic," by Prof. Seymour; and on "The History of the Medicean Manuscripts of Cicero's Letters," by Robert F. Leighton, Ph.D. The paper on the "Theories of English Verse" called out a spirited discussion on the essential character and beauty of English metre. On Wednesday evening the Association was given a reception by Prof. and Mrs. L. H. Elwell in one of the chapter houses. At a business meeting, Prof. Seymour of Yale University was elected President for the ensuing year.

—Never has there been such a generous output by the English Dialect Society as this year, when four volumes are issued (London: Trübner), of which one alone, Mr. F. T. Elsworthy's 'West Somerset Word-Book,' fills 876 octavo pages. The others are the third and concluding part of Mr. Robert Holland's 'Glossary of Words used in the County of Chester'—a kind of supplement; Mr. Thomas Darlington's 'Folk Speech of South Cheshire'; and Messrs. Parish and Shaw's 'Dictionary of the Kentish Dialect, and Provincialisms in use in the County of Kent.' Mr. Elsworthy's performance is almost as near to being first in quality as in bulk, and

will be found extremely readable. Thus, under the word *douse*, 'to use the divining-rod for the purpose of finding springs of water,' we have an account of this much debated operation, beginning with the positive statement, "The faculty possessed by some individuals is truly marvellous." The editor tells of three "professional dowers" who independently located the same spot on a high and apparently very dry spot where a sanatorium was to be built; and inasmuch as one of his daughters has the power to some extent, and asserts that she cannot twist the rod by any conscious effort, Mr. Elsworthy concludes against chicanery. Of the sixth letter of the alphabet he tells us that

"it will usually be found that words beginning with *f* which have come to us from the Latin, whether through French or not, and all imported words in *f*, keep their initial letter sharp and distinct, while archaic and Teutonic words, though written with *f*, are sounded as *v*. It is the neglect of this rule, and of the cognate one as to *s* and *z*, which has made Western dialect writers ridiculous to native ears—from Ben Jonson and Shakspeare down to *Punch* and the local newspapers. Even Peter Pindar and Nathan Hogg have transgressed very frequently. On the other hand, it often happens that words in initial *v*, especially when emphasized, are pronounced as in sharp *f*."

From the side of its phonetics, we have been struck with the many resemblances of the West Somerset dialect to our own negro speech, and there is one emphatic word, *inty*, rendered 'not I,' and used after a negative assertion, curiously like the Sea Island *enty*? an interrogation of surprise. "Indeed" could be substituted for either locution. Yankeeisms also abound in this dialect. The *Athenæum* having called "*riding in a gig*" an Americanism, Mr. Elsworthy retorts that "no other phrase would be used by a Somerset native." Our very colloquial and rather vulgar "So long!" is also a familiar valediction in England. "Well then, *zo long!*" is a very common form of saying *good bye*. It "is mostly used in West Somerset, especially about Bruton, but is heard occasionally in the West."

The Kentish dialect is, we are told, peculiar rather in its phraseology and pronunciation than its words, yet some of these, as collected by Messrs. Parish and Shaw, are very singular. That after an elaborate glossary of the dialect of Cheshire County there should still be room for a good-sized one for South Cheshire, is proof of the wonderful wealth of the mine worked by the Society. Mr. Darlington has had the benefit of Mr. Holland's labors, and occasionally offers a criticism, as in discrediting a specimen of dialect poetry admitted by the latter to his Part III. Notable in this supplementary issue is *enoo*, a plural form of *enuf*, as "muck *enuf* for my gráind, an' pratas *enoo* for set it"; but most valuable are the several lists showing the pronunciation of place and family names, the collection of proverbs, colloquial sayings, weather lore, etc., the tales, poems, and customs. We subjoin some samples of phonetic abrasion in place names: Altrincham (pronounced Awtojum, Awtridgum, Thrutchum), Cholmondeley (Chumly), Davenport (Dainput), Eardswick (Yarzie), Gawsorth (Gözuth), Hough (Uf), Hough's Bank (Aoof's Bonk), Hurdfield (Utsfält), Macclesfield (Maxfält, Maxilt, Max'lt), Piemond-stall or Plemstall (Plimston, Plimsta), Ringway (Runja, Runjy), Tiverton (Teert'n), Wild-boardclough (Wilbertluf). In personal names, take Bancroft (Banky), Greenhalgh (Grinna), Heald (Yeld), Mainwaring (Mannerling), Schofield (Scowsel), Woolstencroft (Oos'ncroft). Cheshire seems also to be the home of a proverbial comparison probably losing ground in this country, though well known to the last

generation. Mr. Holland gives it—"As queer as Dick's hatband, as went nine times round and would na tee at last." In South Cheshire, according to Mr. Darlington, they say—"it went nine times rained, an' wudna reach the tie"; and he declares he can make nothing of this expression. Mr. Darlington's glossary deserves very high praise for its execution. He gives the pronunciation, with outlines of the grammar, of the South Cheshire speech, which is very exclusive, so that only three per cent. of Romance words are to be found in it.

The Society's fourteenth annual report is prefixed to Mr. Darlington's volume. Of chief interest is the part which relates to the projected English Dialect Dictionary, to be edited by the Rev. A. Smythe Palmer. Nearly one hundred workers, one-fourth being ladies, are pledged to read books for quotations, or to contribute word-lists or oral specimens. Only about one-twentieth of the sum deemed necessary for the publication (\$25,000) has been raised, but the Rev. W. W. Skeat, who is acting as Treasurer of the fund, is so eager for the fruition of this great enterprise, that he assumes the burden of any deficiency on the 31st of December, 1888. But it would not be just to allow him to make this sacrifice out of his own pocket.

The mails bring the news of the sudden and accidental death, at barely two-score years, of Edmund Gurney of London, whose essays, "Tertium Quid," were reviewed in our pages not many weeks ago. Mr. Gurney gave all who knew him such a sense of intellectual power that what he had already published seemed but a prelude to some certainly exceptional future philosophical achievement. As it is, his reputation will depend largely on the development of "Psychical Research." If that proves a sound movement, he will of course have the celebrity which falls to successful forerunners and founders. Pending that, he has by that monument of patience and fairness, the 'Phantasms of the Living,' at least forced a new present branch of study on the unwilling scientific world. His experiments on certain post-hypnotic states have broken ground in what promises to be an extraordinarily fruitful direction. His 'Power of Sound' is the freshest and truest book on æsthetics in English, and possibly in any language. His personal graces were rare; and such were the keenness of his demands on life, the depth of his aims, the subtlety of his intellect, and his capacity for work, that one cannot but feel as if the destroying angel had outdone even himself in heartlessness, by cutting such a man off ere he had fairly begun, as it were, to show his hand.

A certain amount of opposition to international copyright is due to the ignorant notions of many people as to what is secured when a copyright is taken out for a book. The belief is prevalent that it is the *idea* of the book, or some novel conception of the subject-matter of the work, or some discovery that is set out in it which it is intended to protect. This confusion is no doubt partly due to the unfortunate mixing up of copyright and patent-right, due in its turn to the linking together of these two subjects in the section of the Constitution which authorizes Congress to legislate concerning them. It doubtless also partly arises from the difficulty experienced by persons who have never written a book, in realizing that to discover or think out the ideas which it is intended to illustrate in a projected work, is but the first and often the easiest step in its production. They know nothing about the difficult art of expression, and have no conception of the labor involved in properly presenting to the

reader the thought in the mind of the writer, and therefore find it hard to understand that it is the product of this latter kind of labor, and this only, which is protected by the law of copyright. Mr. Henry George, in the *Standard* for June 23, in answer to a correspondent who declares that he has no belief in "any natural property in the creations of one's brains," says some pertinent things upon this point. Concerning the difference between the patent for an invention and the copyright of a book, his contention is that the former, granting rights of property in an idea, "rests on no natural right, but can only be upheld as a matter of policy," whereas the latter gives no property in ideas, but "merely recognizes the right of property in a particular form, itself a product of labor, in which ideas are made tangible; a right which, irrespective of questions of policy, is a natural right—resting on the same ground as the right of the fisherman to the fish he catches, of the farmer to the crop he raises, of the builder to the house he constructs." The true basis of the right of property in anything is that it "was produced—i. e., brought forth—by human exertion." But discovery can give no right of ownership, even though "this discovery may be the result of labor," Mr. George argues, for "no man can discover anything which, so to speak, was not put there to be discovered, and which some one else might not in time have discovered"; therefore, "the expenditure of labor in the invention or discovery of the idea of a machine gives no natural right of ownership in the idea," the natural reward of labor so expended being in the "use that can be made of the discovery without interference with the right of any one else to use it."

Coming to the protection of literary property, Mr. George says:

"Now a book—I do not mean the printed and bound volume which is the result of the labor of printers, bookbinders, and subsidiary industries, but the succession of words which is the result of the labor of the author—if not a material thing, is quite as tangible a thing as a machine. And in the labor that goes to its production there are the same two separable parts. There is what I have called the 'labor of discovery,' which goes to the idea of the book, and as to which, as in the case of the inventor of the machine, the author must draw on those who have gone before. There is also the labor of production—labor of essentially the same kind, though it deals not with matter, but with immaterial things, as that which in the case of a machine is expended in bringing wood, steel, brass, etc., into certain proportions and relations. It is this labor of production, which results in a tangible identity, that gives ownership to the author as a matter of natural right. And it is this right of ownership not in ideas, but in the tangible result of labor expended in production, that copyright secures."

Mr. George enlarges upon the non-appreciation by persons not authors of the labor involved in "writing out" a book (to which we have referred above), and concludes by expressing the hope that his correspondent will, upon reflection, come to the conclusion that the recognition of the right of property in literary productions, "instead of being like that system of spoliation called protection, an impairment and denial of natural right, is but the securing to the author of the natural reward of his labor."

—*La Réforme Sociale*, the fortnightly organ of the "Société d'Économie Sociale" founded by Le Play in 1856, contains, in its number for June 16, an article by M. Henri Duquaire, on the law of inheritance in France, and its relation to the birth-rate. The subject is not a new one, having been discussed by Le Play himself in his 'L'Organisation de la Famille,' published in 1871, and, in the same year, in a

volume by M. Claudio Jannet. In another column we notice a French statistical work in which the subject recurs. M. Duquaire can hardly be said to have proved his thesis, or to have added anything novel to the discussion. He deals too much in rhetorical phrases about the true, the beautiful, and the good. The picture he draws of the rural population of France, however, has curious points of resemblance to that presented in Zola's 'La Terre,' and this corroboration from an unexpected quarter constitutes, perhaps, the chief strength of his argument. That the French laws limiting the right of bequest have worked great moral injury, and should be considerably modified, if not repealed, we are firmly persuaded. The interest of this fact for us lies in its application to the current reaction in favor of Government interference and over-legislation. The a-priori arguments in favor of the existing French laws of inheritance are as strong as can be desired, and the principal argument against them is the general contention, so forcibly put in the writings of Herbert Spencer, that the State should not meddle.

—As bearing on this general topic, another article in the same journal may be mentioned, namely, that on compulsory insurance of workmen, and its leanings to State socialism. Here again, while the doctrine is sound and clear, the method of treatment is confused and vague. Correct economic reasoning is weakened by an incongruous admixture of religious considerations which appeal to a different class of minds. The same question is handled in a strictly scientific manner in the last two numbers of Schmoller's *Jahrbuch*, but the German writers are inclined to uphold the doctrine of State interference which the French writer attacks. A third article, on the causes of the fall of Poland, suffers from the same defects as the other two. The writer, S. Fudakowski, examines and rejects various theories that have been advanced, but when he comes to substitute one of his own, he loses himself in a cloud of rhetoric and glittering generalities. A question like this is not to be dismissed in a paragraph, but it may be said that historical authorities agree that the ancient kingdom or republic of Poland carried the seeds of destruction in its vitals. Its inherent weakness was so evident that, in a speech made to the Diet in 1661, John Casimir predicted the dismemberment of the country by Brandenburg, Austria, and Russia.

LEA'S HISTORY OF THE INQUISITION.—II.

A History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages. By Henry Charles Lea. 3 vols. Harper & Bros. 1888.

In a former notice we spoke of the first volume of Mr. Henry C. Lea's 'History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages.' In the first half of that volume he described the peculiar conditions of European life and thought which produced the Inquisition, and in the second he gave an account of the origin of the institution and its methods of procedure. In the two volumes now before us we have what might with more propriety be called a 'History of Religious Persecution in the Middle Ages' than a 'History of the Inquisition.'

The second volume is devoted to an account of persecution in the several countries of Europe, and also to the organization of the Inquisition as the instrument in that persecution. In many cases, however, the part played by the Holy Office was so small, or so wholly secondary to the action of local authorities, that one finds

it difficult to discover the exact thread of connection. Notably is this the case in the account of heresy in Bohemia, occupying a quarter of the volume, and culminating in the recital of the trial and condemnation of John Hus by the Council of Constance. Hus, up to the time of his appearance at Constance, had been dealt with wholly by the episcopal authority in Bohemia, partly on its own account, partly as agent for the papacy. At Constance he was in the hands of the Council and its agents. The only connection of his trial and that of Jerome with the Inquisition lay in the fact that the methods employed were those which the frequent persecutions for heresy had made familiar to all Europe.

The third volume treats of special fields of inquisitorial activity, and includes under that heading the dealings of the Church with spiritual heretics, political heretics, and such as showed their heresy by pretending to practise any form of sorcery or occult art. The story of spiritual heresy is especially harrowing. The Christian world was full of ardent souls who were struggling after perfection through ways very similar to those which the orthodox Church itself had, over and over again, made use of. Their crime was, that they believed they could do better outside the Catholic fold than within it. If they succeeded in living holy lives of sacrifice and devotion, so much the worse for the institution which claimed for itself the only true source of all holy living. It must at all hazards prevent the scandal of successful rivalry. The all-sufficient excuse for action was found in the charge of heresy, and the all-powerful weapon was ready in the beautifully organized inquisitorial process. Thus the over-zealous Franciscans, the fanatical Flagellants, the pious Beghards and Beguines were all, upon one ground or another, swept into the common accusation of heresy, and the cruel machinery of inquisition set in motion.

Mr. Lea's conclusion is, that trial for heresy was invariably a mere formality. If vigorously managed, it left absolutely no loophole for escape. The only chance for the alleged criminal was in some defect in the trial. If Mr. Lea is right, the essential element in the process was, after all, the use of torture, with its inevitable effect upon the mind of the victim. No matter what resistance the inquisitor might meet in the early stages, there seems to have been scarcely ever a case in which the desired result was not reached by the use, or even by the threat, of physical torment. Thus the whole volume of evidence preserved from the inquisitorial trials loses every particle of value as an accurate record of fact.

Horrible as this view of the trial is, its awfulness becomes almost insignificant by comparison with that larger madness of the community which suffered such perversions of justice, and accepted their results as decisive of the truth in the case. This aspect of the matter becomes especially clear in the account of trial for heresy as a political weapon. Under this head we have detailed sketches of the trials of the Templars, of Joan of Arc, and of Jean Petit, as cases in which the State authority profited by the use of the Inquisition, and of Savonarola, Rienzi, and various other political offenders, as cases in which the profit came to the Church.

In all these trials the Inquisition as such does not play the leading part. It acts merely as the tool of powers anxious for their own safety, and unscrupulous as to the means of maintaining it. A hundred pages are given to "the great crime of the Middle Ages," the destruction of the Temple order, a tale often

told, but never with a more careful attention to the legal points involved and a more cautious verdict. Not with any wavering, however. Mr. Lea leaves it quite clear that in his judgment the affair was a gigantic conspiracy against a body of men who, no matter how far they might have fallen from their early purity, were by no possibility guilty of the disgusting and foolish practices alleged against them. They would probably have escaped if Philip of France had not enlisted the papal interest on his side, and thus procured the use of the inquisitorial machinery. There remains but one real mystery in this case: if the papacy was really "bulldozed" into its action by the greed of the King of France, why should it have insisted upon the annihilation of the order in other lands? Again, one has to fall back upon that universal madness, begotten of ignorance and superstition, which made even the preferring of such charges possible.

We can only refer to that chapter of the book which treats of the part taken by the Inquisition in trials for sorcery and other occult arts. If the Holy Office had ever a shadow of justification, it was here. All that hideous swarm of delusions which appear under the names of magic, witchcraft, and dealings with the devil, was at least diminished in extent and violence by the action of the Church. Not that the Church took any really higher ground in these matters than any other part of the community. It believed as much as any one in the delusions which underlay the legal charges. But it was worth something that the Church insisted upon a monopoly of relations with the unknown. There should be no magic but its magic, no dealing with Satan but such as might properly be undertaken under its direction. Thus, for a time, the Church seemed to be almost on the side of reason and light. That it was not really so we know from its attitude towards every searcher after truth who ventured out of its prescribed ways.

We close our notice of this most valuable and imposing contribution to our literature with one criticism as to method. That Mr. Lea has read enormously and in the right books, no reader in his senses can for a moment doubt, but it is to be regretted that he has chosen to give us no systematic account of his sources. We have at the close of every paragraph a fatally abbreviated reference to the books upon which its statements are based, but it is seldom that we can find a full statement even of a title. Still less is there anything like criticism of the sources. In dealing with a subject so open to violent controversy as this, the author is bound to give account of himself. We do not imply that Mr. Lea has not satisfied himself as to the authenticity and value of the mass of very slippery evidence upon which such a story, for instance, as that of Joan of Arc is based. We should, however, have felt in reading his narrative a far greater sense of solidity if we could have been told, however briefly, just the process by which his conclusions were reached. If the question were wholly one of space, we could have better spared a great deal of detailed narration of matters easily found in other books, for the sake of a sounder judgment of the institution which is the nominal subject of this one.

BOOKS ABOUT THE STAGE.

Charles Dickens and the Stage; a Record of his connection with the Drama as Playwright, Actor, and Critic. By T. Edgar Pemberton. London: George Redway; New York: Scribner & Welford.