

Italian radical Republican, self-exiled and naturalized in France from hatred of the monarchy and the Piedmontese, sent 100,000 francs for the support of the Radical candidates and to break up the Triple Alliance. When one knows the intense jealousy that the Italian feels of any foreign interference and even criticism of the affairs of his country, he can easily imagine the rage that burst out on the publication of Cernuschi's letter. The Radicals were defeated even in Milan, which no one dreamed of being possible, and Cavallotti, their chief, who was at the head of the poll last election, came next the foot of it this time, and three Government candidates were elected. Venice went almost solid for the Government. Rome elected its candidates, and the minority candidate alone was carried by the Opposition, consisting of all the discontented, with the addition of the Jews, he being a Jew. Naples gave a majority of official deputies; and out of nearly 150 Radical candidates, only about 40 have been sent to Montecitorio, about a dozen of the most prominent having been defeated, with Napolitano, an ultra-Conservative late deputy. Bonghi of the *Perseveranza* came in at the foot of his list. In fact, it has been the minority representation which has been the saving of many of the Radicals and some of the Conservatives who are elected, the elections being by the *scrutin de liste*, and no one being allowed to vote for the full number of deputies for the circumscription. Thus in Rome, in the first district there are five deputies, and if five names are contained on any ticket, the last is struck out when the votes are counted, the minority getting the fifth. In this way Barzilai came in for the minority in Rome, while but for this provision he would have had no chance of election. At Palermo, which is the district of Crispi, he ran ahead of his ticket three thousand votes, and he was elected in three or four other localities in Sicily. At Forlì, which is one of the foci of radicalism, Fortis, one of the late deputies and a warm personal friend of Crispi, and lately his Under Secretary for the Interior, was excommunicated by his party, and came in at the head of the list by a large advance; and, generally, the men who had made themselves prominent by their attacks on Crispi in the Chamber lost heavily on their vote, even if returned. This trims the plumage of many elected deputies.

If any hope was entertained of seeing the Triple Alliance dissolved in 1892 by any interested party, it may now be dismissed, and we may anticipate a steady pressure, probably increased by new adhesions to the Alliance, in favor of peace in Europe, or, what is always the possible alternative, the sudden precipitation of hostilities to anticipate the further strengthening of it. The Vatican, too, must now be convinced of the futility of making war on a minister who has the immense majority of Italians in his favor, and on whom its hostility has not had the least effect. If Crispi were a younger man, and not so hardened as he is to the vicissitudes of political life, there might be some apprehension that his majority would run away with him and carry him into measures which would cause a revolt; but he has been toughened by years of exile and opposition, with attacks on his personal character such as few Italians have had to endure. He does not hide his republican convictions, though he regards the House of Savoy as the strongest bond of Italian unity in the present stage of the national development; and he has been in the Radical ranks long enough to see that a Radical ascendancy would mean the introduction of chaos in the

Government, and that to govern with a Radical majority would be impossible, not merely on account of the country being in general of conservative inclinations, but because the Radicals could not unite in office. His evolution from the extreme Left, where I saw him for the first time in the Chamber on the wild day of the Dogali discussion, the only calm and self-possessed member in that sector of the Chamber, to his present position among the moderates and supported in his measures by most of the sound intellect of Italy, is due to the fact that his experience had taught him that it was a hopeless undertaking to attempt to organize the Radicals. There is a certain tendency in a portion of the Italian population, and especially in that part of it which has been so effective in the revolutionary stage of the making of Italy, to revolt against discipline and exalt individuality and refractoriness as virtues of the highest quality; and this temper, bred in the period of arbitrary government, breaking out into constant revolt and conspiracy, has been prolonged in its existence into a time when it has ceased to be a civic virtue, and is now in the service of the Radical party—a force grown into a disease. Crispi, till the unity of Italy was attained, one of these revolvers, and the habits and associations of forty years (for he began in 1848) do not easily release a man. Nothing better shows his force of character than this evolution in politics, accomplished in the face of hostility of every kind, and the feat of winning the enthusiastic confidence of the entire nation, in spite, too, of sectional animosities which it was supposed would always prevent a Sicilian and a Piedmontese working in harmony in the Cabinet. Bismarck's success was far easier, for Crispi had not only the country to win over, but the King, who looked on this Sicilian firebrand with a certain apprehension, due to his former political associations; and I remember that a diplomatic friend said to me when there was first question of his coming into the Ministry, four or five years ago, that, speaking to the King on the subject and intimating that Crispi might be an unwelcome Minister, the King replied, "We had better have him with us than against us." I believe it is a matter of common knowledge that Crispi now enjoys the confidence of the sovereign completely. The elections have shown that he has won that of the country in all sections. Bismarck governed a king, and Crispi governs a country. X.

Correspondence.

SO MUCH THE BETTER FOR THE ART.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Will you kindly correct the statement, on page 464 of the *Nation*, made by your reviewer, that I used photos for the drawings in 'From Charing Cross to St. Paul's'? The drawings were made, every line of them, as Mr. McCarthy says, "on the spot," in the midst of a London crowd, without any photographic aids whatever.

Your respectfully, JOSEPH PENNELL.

THE ART CLUB OF PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 16, 1890.

[We hasten to apologize for what proves to have been a rash judgment. It seemed incredible to us that drawings so elaborate could have been done under the conditions indicated by Mr. McCarthy. That they were so done proves that Mr. Pennell is even

more clever as an artist than we thought him.—ED. NATION.]

THE WASHINGTON WILLS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I must point out an error in my introduction to the old Washington Wills (*Nation*, December 18). The power of attorney is obviously not "signed by the widow of Col. John Washington," but of "Capt." John Washington. This was probably the son of the immigrant John; for though both of the immigrants had sons named John, it will be seen by Lawrence's will that his cousin John was living in Stafford County. I have seen no account of Col. John's second son, of whom we now learn that his wife was named Ann; also that he died about the close of 1697, his children being remembered (as will be observed) in the will of Lawrence, who was probably his half-brother. The title given him, "Captain," suggests that he may be referred to in the following, sent by Mr. I. J. Greenwood to the *N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register*, Jan., 1890: "1686, Aug. 2. John Washington, master of the sloop *Two Sisters*, having imported some brandy which had not been landed in England, had information lodged against him in Co. of Adm. for viola" of navigation laws."—Col. Doc. of N. Y. xxxiv. p. 40.

MONCURE D. CONWAY.

NEW YORK, December 18, 1890.

GRACE AT WASHINGTON'S TABLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: It gives me pleasure to be able to throw some light upon the subject of Washington's custom in the matter of saying grace at table, about which Mr. Moncure D. Conway and "S. C. C." are at odds. The former, in a letter to the *Nation* (December 12, 1890), expresses doubt as to the story told by the Rev. E. C. McGuire in his 'Religious Opinions and Character of Washington' (1836), that Washington once asked a blessing at table when a clergyman was present. That story is true. The clergyman was the Rev. William McWhir, who at one time had the charge of a school at Alexandria of which Washington was a trustee. Dr. McWhir had, as pupils at his school, two nephews of Washington, about whom he carried on a correspondence with the General. One of the letters of the General to the Doctor is printed in full in Sparks's 'Writings of Washington,' vol. x., p. 37. Dr. McWhir was my great step-grandfather, having married my grandmother, Mary Baker, the widow of Col. John Baker, a Revolutionary soldier, of Liberty County, in this State. He visited Washington at Mount Vernon frequently, and wrote an account of the incidents mentioned by McGuire. Here is an extract from it:

"A few days after Gen. Washington's return to Mt. Vernon, I visited him in company with a countryman of mine, Col. Fitzgerald, one of Washington's aids. At the table, Mrs. Washington sat at the head, and Maj. Washington at the foot; the General sat next Mrs. Washington on her left. He called upon me to ask a blessing before meat. When the cloth was about to be removed, he returned thanks himself. Mrs. Washington, with a smile, said: 'My dear, you forgot that you had a clergyman dining with you to-day.' With equal pleasantness he replied: 'My dear, I wish clergymen, and all men, to know that I am not a graceless man.'"

Respectfully, WM. HARDEN,
Librarian Ga. Hist. Society.

SAVANNAH, GA., December 13, 1890.

JOHN BROWN'S FAMILY COMPACT. TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I observe in your issue of December 4 a reference to an article in the December number of the *Andover Review*, entitled "John Brown, Practical Shepherd," as tending to disprove the early origin of John Brown's plan to attack slavery by force of arms as set forth in my "Life and Letters of John Brown." Having sent a copy of this article to John Brown, jr., I received a reply from which I will thank you to insert the following extracts:

"It is, of course, impossible for me to say when such idea and plan first entered his [John Brown's] mind and became a purpose; but I can say with certainty that he first informed his family that he entertained such purpose while we were yet living in Franklin, O. (now called Kent), and before he went to Virginia, in 1840, to survey the lands which had been donated by Arthur Tappan to Oberlin College; and this was certainly as early as 1839. The place and the circumstances where he first informed us of that purpose are as perfectly in my memory as any other event in my life. Father, mother, Jason, Owen, and I were, late in the evening, seated around the fire in the open fire-place of the kitchen, in the old Haymaker house where we then lived; and there he first informed us of his determination to make war on slavery—not such war as Mr. Garrison informs us 'was equally the purpose of the non-resistant abolitionists,' but war by force and arms. He said that he had long entertained such a purpose—that he believed it his duty to devote his life, if need be, to this object, which he made us fully to understand. After spending considerable time in setting forth in most impressive language the hopeless condition of the slave, he asked who of us were willing to make common cause with him in doing all in our power to 'break the jaws of the wicked and pluck the spoil out of his teeth'? Naming each of us in succession, 'Are you, Marv, John, Jason, and Owen'? Receiving an affirmative answer from each, he knelt in prayer, and all did the same. This posture in prayer impressed me greatly as it was the first time I had ever known him to assume it. After prayer he asked us to raise our right hands, and he then administered to us an oath, the exact terms of which I cannot recall, but in substance it bound us to secrecy and devotion to the purpose of fighting slavery by force and arms to the extent of our ability. According to Jason's recollections, Mr. Fayette, a colored theological student at Western Reserve College (Hudson, Ohio), was with us at the time; but of this I am not certain. He was often at our house. As to the others, I know they were present, and if my affidavit could add any strength to my statement I am ready to make it any time. At that time Jason was about sixteen years old, Owen, between fourteen and fifteen; and I was between eighteen and nineteen years of age.

"If there had not afterwards been an opening for slavery in Kansas, it is possible his attack upon it in the States would have been longer delayed; but he was not the man to abandon the most deeply cherished purpose of his life. He would have played his hand even if he played it alone."

I may add that these statements were made to me, some years before the publication of my book, by John Brown, jr., and similar ones by Mrs. Mary Brown, Jason Brown, and Owen Brown.

F. B. SANBORN.

CONCORD, MASS., December 20, 1890.

MCKINLEY VS. WOMAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The revolution of November 4 has been ascribed to the influence of women who have misunderstood the blessings of a high tariff, but whose opposition to the McKinley Act will cease when they come to know it better. Unfortunately for this hope, the act is so full of surprises, of new and startling invasions of the familiar order of things, that by the time indignation over one feature has subsided, it flashes out again at some other unexpected

freak of the taxing power, and one may doubt if women are at all likely to be reconciled to it in a hurry.

Take, for instance, the wearing-apparel clause in the free list. Under the old law, as construed in *Astor v. Merritt*, 111 U. S. 202, Americans returning from abroad could bring in for their own use free of duty all the clothes they were likely to need for some time to come; but this very sensible recognition of the importance of dress in feminine eyes was, to the austere and frivolity-hating McKinley, to connive at a taking of the accursed thing, and in future the exemption "shall not be held to include articles not actually in use and necessary and appropriate for the use of such persons for the purposes of their journey and present comfort and convenience." Certainly a majority of the many thousand Americans who cross the Atlantic from time to time are women, and most of the men (such is the domestic character of our people) are accompanied by their women-folk. Nine-tenths of all the tourists, probably, are interested directly or indirectly in bringing over the productions of the dress-makers and milliners of Paris and London. Imagine the heart-rending scenes at the wharves next autumn, when the returning tide of travel is at its height—the lamentations, the lacerated feelings, the rage, the horrors of the women, and the "curses not loud but deep" of the men, when these treasures from the Bon Marché and the Louvre, from Louise, and Redfern, and Marshal and Snelgrove, are unpacked, tumbled about, and taxed by the odurate and McKinley-hearted inspector. Imagine what it will be the following autumn, when the women come back who have been trying to make up, by shopping abroad, for two years of McKinley prices at home; and just before election, too!

It will not do for the fashion-scorning McKinley to say that these are the rich and pampered, who ought of right to be taxed for the benefit of our starving monopolists and necessitous but deserving Trusts. The habit of foreign travel is national, and people in modest circumstances form the majority of those who go abroad as well as of those who stay at home. Whatever the length of the purse, the love of foreign fashions is the same, and the school-teacher who is mulcted on her few new dresses will hate McKinley even more than the millionairess.

Then there is another thing that appeals most strongly to women—embroidery and other decorations for churches; articles which the Old World can as yet supply much better than the New. Under the liberal construction of the old law, the church "regalia" of the free list included almost everything for the adornment of a church or for use in the services, but now, filled evidently with contempt for everything bordering on ritualism, the masculine and high-priced McKinley has strictly limited "regalia" to "such insignia of rank or office or emblems as may be worn upon the person or borne in the hand during public exercises of the society or institution." Armed with new powers, the Custom-house will henceforth lay its profane hand on the altar-cloths, the dosels, the frontals, the antependia, the stained glass, and all that gratifies the religious and artistic senses. Imagine the feelings of the parish guild when the English altar-cloth, bought with the fruits of so much pious toil and consecrated to the highest uses, is made to pay tribute to Cæsar! Imagine the guild's male relatives voting to continue this iconoclasm!

"Whether the fair one sinner it or saint it,"

McKinley is equally her foe; but, to judge by last month's work at least, the contest would seem to be one in which the women would not come off second best.

CHARLES C. BINNEY.

PHILADELPHIA, December 18, 1890.

CENSUS-TAKING IN GERMANY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: It may not be uninteresting to some of your readers to learn the manner in which the German Government has so systematically and simultaneously conducted its census during the last twelve hours. And it may also afford some amusement to observers of the late American census, to make comparisons between the two. That the truth, whole and intact, can be ascertained concerning some forty-odd millions in this short space of time may seem an impossibility. Yet such is the task which these lovers of statistics are understood to have accomplished between 12 P. M. November 30, and 12 A. M. December 1.

The Government asked persons willingly and without hope of compensation to collect the facts necessary for the compilation of the census. Each single house was expected to furnish its volunteer for the task, and it was his duty to see that every question was carefully answered. Two days before the close of November the census questions were handed to every member of the household. Between midnight of November 30 and noon of December 1, these questions were to be answered in writing, and soon after twelve A. M. of December 1 they were to be collected and confided to the several appointed officials in the different districts. Such was the programme for ascertaining the exact number of persons, irrespective of nationality, living in Germany in the twelve hours already named.

The following questions were asked:

Document A had especial reference to the resident inhabitant, and an attachment dealt particularly with the infants, concerning whom the inquisitiveness was exceedingly pointed. The parent was expected to tell whether the child had been nourished by its mother's milk or by a nurse or by the milk of animals, and since when the child had received other nourishment than milk.

Next came a form of questions headed B, with reference to the house, the number of rooms, the number of stories, what windows faced the street, what rooms were heated in winter or not, and other questions of a like order. Attached to this paper were queries as to the movements of the family from house to house during its residence in Berlin.

The religious views of the people were considered especially essential to perfect the record. The citizen was carefully instructed not to answer the question, "What is your religion?" by the simple answer, "Evangelical, Catholic," etc., but to state precisely his religious principles. The Government desires to know whether one belongs to the old or the separated Lutherans, to the Baptists, the Presbyterians, the Methodists, as well as the Jewish Church; but there was left no alternative for the atheist—at least, none but religious answers were called for. Some comment is made upon this rigid questioning concerning religious convictions as an attempt on the part of the Government to learn about the anti-Semitic tendencies in Germany.

The answers called for concerning those members of the family occupied with military service were not remarkably stringent. Yet if a member of a household should be in the marine or military service, it was necessary to

state under which regimental commander or naval officer he was placed; and the physician who was responsible for attendance on the man in case of sickness was also to be named in answering.

The transient residents also underwent a strict in-gathering, and for this reason: Berlin's population, it is thought, will be somewhat exaggerated on account of visiting medical men studying Dr. Koch's cure of tuberculosis. Men on the road also did not escape. Railway officials, railway workmen, postal clerks and passengers, who were compelled to be in motion after twelve P. M. of November 30 were registered as inhabitants of their first stopping-place next morning. Any child that was born after twelve P. M. November 30 was not to be reckoned in the census; and any person who was alive one hour before midnight of November 30 was to be considered as an able-bodied resident of Germany, although he may have died one minute after twelve P. M.

The languages of the different inhabitants are to be fully known. One was expected to state whether he speaks the Polish, Dutch, or Danish, or a dialect of the same, or whether he speaks simply the German language. The avowed object of these questions is to ascertain who are and who are not *echt Deutsch*.

The Berliners assert that the present census has been heretofore unexcelled as far as conciseness is concerned. The census of five years ago was considered unsatisfactory in many of its details, and the faulty points are supposed to have been corrected in the one of to-day. By the latter, statistics will be furnished showing the number of persons living upon their incomes, the number of those pensioned by the Government or by private corporations, the exact laboring population, including women and children who work for wages; the student enrolment, the criminal, insane, and pauper population, as well as many minor social details concerning trades, professions, health-conditions, imperfect physical existence, etc. It has been done inexpensively, by voluntary labor partially, and with certainty, security, and celerity.

J. F. WILLARD.

BERLIN, December 1, 1890.

H DISPLACED AND MISPLACED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In the Epilogue to Terence's *Phormio*, as played at Westminster School in 1814, our Senators and Chief Justice are bespattered in the following terms:

"Nempe senatores pistrinum et ganea mittunt;
Optimus et Judex maximus est nebulo."

That depictees of us belonging to the generation which indulged in such heroic flights of fancy, or applauded them, would represent our pronunciation, like everything else of ours, as of the basest, was almost a matter of course. And such a representation was not wanting; inasmuch as one of them, to illustrate the depth of our vulgarity, goes so far as to speak of "the ideous Hamerican abit of habusing *haitch*." But this should occasion us no surprise. Even at the present day, it seems as if, in the opinion of many persons on this side of the Atlantic, the birth of bad English both synchronized and synchorized with the Declaration of Independence.

A recent speculator, whose abundant self-confidence is a poor compensation for his meagreness of research, would have the world believe that he can adjudicate conclusively, as a chronologist, on the subject of this communication. I refer to Mr. T. L. Kingdon Oliphant, author of *The New English*, published in 1886. In vol. ii., p. 202, of that production, criticis-

ing the language of a novel by Miss Hawkins, which came out in 1811, he says: "We now find tricks played with the letter *h*; the evil habit was just coming in, which has now overspread the whole land south of Yorkshire." After specifying, from Miss Hawkins's pages, *himpeeral* and *of*, attributed to ignorant speakers, for *imperial* and *hot*, he adds: "These are early instances of the vilest of all our corruptions in speech."

Without in the least supposing that I have discovered when the depraved style of enunciation above exemplified had its origin, I can show that Mr. Oliphant, in order to ascertain when it "was just coming in," should have turned over books dating some considerable time prior to 1811. At least twenty-five years before, it was common enough. In 1786, Mrs. A. M. Bennett brought out her *Juvenile Indiscretions*, in which occur:

Ardened, anged, hill (ill). Vol. i., pp. 69, 70, 170. *Arpsichore* (harpsichord), *hopprers* (operas), *asn't* (hasn't). Vol. iii., pp. 79, 80, 114. *Hingaged* (engaged), *hindeed, hin* (in). Vol. v., pp. 212, 213, 214.

Elsewhere, in the same volumes, are *ham, han, har, has, hefidence* (evidence), *hi* (I), *his, hispees* (expects), *hold, for am, and, are*, etc.

Again, in her *Beggar Girl*, the same prolific Mrs. Bennett, one of the chief purveyors to the long-popular Minerva Press, credits her more illiterate characters with *andsome, appened, appy, ardly, im, ope* (hope), *ouse, hal* (all), *hark* (ark), *Heden, hobjecks* (objects), *had* (odd), and so on. John Williams, in his *Life of the late Earl of Barrymore* (1793), p. 64, gives "*helegant amusements*" as a specimen of the pronunciation of a 'greengrocer in St. Giles's.

From what has here been set forth it is made clear that, among the uneducated, the peculiarity under discussion was thoroughly established fourteen years, if not longer, before the beginning of this century. By no means, then, was it, in 1811, "just coming in," as Mr. Oliphant asserts. In passing, happy would it be, for most of us, if we could be as sure of anything as that absolute gentleman appears to be of well-nigh everything.

As regards his statement that this "evil habit . . . has now overspread the whole land south of Yorkshire," I have only to say that, here in Suffolk, the veriest rustics are quite free from its contamination, though, as near me as Norwich, the case is otherwise.

Your obedient servant,

F. H.

MARLESFORD, ENG., November 7, 1890.

P. S. In my last letter I might have strengthened my argument by adducing *indifferentist* and *obscurantist*, based on *indifferentia* and the factitious *obscurantia*.

Notes.

EXTRA-illustrated editions of Mrs. Oliphant's well-known books, 'The Makers of Florence' and 'The Makers of Venice,' have been in preparation for some time past by Macmillan & Co., but it has been found impossible to get the books ready for the holiday trade this year. The first of the series will be issued at an early date.

Harper & Bros. are about to publish Lamb's 'Tales from Shakspeare's Comedies,' copiously annotated by Dr. W. J. Rolfe, with a view, in part, to its serving as an introduction to Shakspeare.

Houghton, Mifflin & Co. will shortly bring out a one-volume edition of Lowell's 'Biglow Papers'; 'A Psalm of Death, and Other Poems,'

by Dr. S. Weir Mitchell; and 'Francis Wayland,' in the series of "American Religious Leaders," by Prof. James O. Murray of Princeton.

'Mechanism and Personality,' by Prof. Francis A. Shoup of the University of the South, and the first two extant books of Quintus Curtius, edited for sight-reading by Dr. Harold N. Fowler, are in the press of Ginn & Co., Boston.

John Wiley & Sons have in preparation 'The Engine-Runner's Catechism,' by Robert Grimsbaw.

Dr. William H. Milburn, Chaplain of the House of Representatives, and Mr. Charles Burr Todd in collaboration have nearly ready for the press a work entitled 'The Mississippi Valley: Chapters on its Explorers, Pioneers, Preachers, and People,' in which anecdote and reminiscence will have a large part.

The final publication of the results of the German excavations at Olympia has at last been announced. The work, which will be monumental in more senses than one, is to be published through Asher & Co. of Berlin, and will consist of five volumes of text, in quarto size, four folio volumes of plates, and a portfolio of maps and plans. The subjects will be divided as follows: History, one volume, text, by Curtius and Adler, 35 marks; Architecture, one volume of text and two volumes of plates, by Adler, Dörpfeld, Graeber, Graef, and Borrmann, 500 marks; Sculpture in stone, one volume each of text and plates, by Treu, 300 marks; Bronzes and small objects, one volume each of text and plates, by Furtwängler, 300 marks; Inscriptions, with numerous facsimiles, one volume of text, 50 marks; maps, plans, etc., in portfolio, 35 marks. The total cost of the work will, therefore, amount to 1,200 marks, or about \$800; and there is no doubt that every resource of art and science will be called upon to make it the greatest archaeological publication that has yet been attempted. The volumes on the bronzes will be the first to appear.

'Greek Pictures, in Pen and Pencil' (New York: Fleming H. Revell) belongs to the class suggestively designated as gift-books, with the idea of which gaudy covers seem to be inevitably associated. In the present case we have a golden Parthenon against a red sky, with a modern composition of equally marvelous splendor in the foreground. The text is by Prof. Mahaffy, which insures its being entertaining and instructive. Much of it has appeared in his 'Rambles and Studies in Greece.' The illustrations, which are numerous, vary from the pretty bad to the very bad—with the exception of a few capital figures sketched by F. D. Millet.

J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia, are the American publishers of 'The Threshold of Science,' by C. R. Alder Wright. It contains a great number of attractive experiments, clearly described and systematically arranged, "illustrating some of the chief physical and chemical properties of surrounding objects, and the effect upon them of light and heat." It will certainly be welcomed by teachers of elementary science, to whom the simple apparatus employed and the abundant examples available for instruction will be specially acceptable. It will find favor also with the large class of persons to whom such experiments are merely matters of amusement and fleeting interest, and who may be disposed to say to the professed man of science, "Because thou art great, shall there be no cakes and ale." It is possible, too, that some minds may receive from the book an incentive to earnest scientific study. Making, however, all allowances, we