

impair very slightly the value of the book, which is singularly free, on the whole, from the kind of errors that mislead students and check the progress of knowledge. Mr. Bardsley had no pet theories to which he tried to make his evidence conform. He showed no predilection for Norman derivations, like the author of 'The Norman People' (London, 1874), or for traces of Scandinavian influence, like Barber in a more recent treatise on 'British Family Names' (London, 1894). He collected his proofs impartially, and then spread them liberally before the reader, who is thus able to control him at every step. The more we have examined the book and sought to sift his evidence, the more we have been impressed both with the candid spirit of the investigator and with the really vast amount of special learning which he accumulated in his lifetime of labor on his favorite subject.

*The Blessing of the Waters on the Eve of the Epiphany:* The Greek, Latin, Syriac, Coptic, and Russian Versions, edited or translated by John, Marquess of Bute, and E. A. Wallis Budge. Henry Frowde. 1901. Pp. viii+158.

This little book, which has become a memorial to the late Marquess of Bute, may fairly be regarded as an appendix to his translation of the Roman Breviary. It connects with the note there in volume I., page 264, on the Feast of the Epiphany. Throughout, apparently, the universal Oriental Church there is celebrated, between the service of the Eve of the Epiphany and the day itself, a very singular and beautiful ritual which commemorates the Adoration of the Magi, the Baptism in Jordan, and the turning of water into wine at Cana. These are regarded as three different manifestations of Christ, and are brought together on this day. But the two latter manifestations are connected with water, and the Oriental Church has known how to weave them into a general blessing of the waters—in the first instance, apparently, of the waters of the world, as represented in a single river—the Nile in Egypt and the Neva at St. Petersburg; and, in the second, of water to be used for lustration. Whether we have here a survival of some fragment of nature-worship woven into the Christian service, or merely a development, through instinctive poetry, from that service, it might be hard to say. Of the beauty of the ritual there can be no question.

In the Roman Church until recently the same ceremony survived, and in equally striking, if hardly so naively poetical, form. But it was performed in certain churches only, and made no part of the regular ritual of the Church. Now, all that has been cut away, and in 1890 a form was approved by the Congregation of Sacred Rites, which abandons entirely the usage of the Church, Eastern and Western, and turns this rich and many-colored office into a most ordinary form for the consecration of holy water to be used against evil spirits. The historical allusions are swept away with the feeling for Nature and her travails, and we have instead some most crude magical formulæ. There is a mournful and not too dutiful tone in the note of the Marquess of Bute where he—loyal son of the Church as he was—draws

attention to its "entire variance from the ancient form."

This book can be heartily commended, not only to students of liturgics, but also to all who care to trace the movements of faith. Our only regret is that the forms of the Abyssinian and Armenian Churches have not been added; as things are, these are inaccessible enough. That of the Gregorian Church of Armenia, with its pre-Monophysite attitude, and its celebration of the Birth at Epiphany, would be of especial interest.

*The Great Deserts and Forests of North America.* By Paul Fountain. Longmans, Green & Co. 1901. 8vo, pp. x, 295.

This is certainly an unusual kind of book. It appears to contain the reminiscences of an English travelling peddler and collector of natural-history specimens through various parts of the West and Southwest regions of the United States, at a period some twenty-five years ago. The author, by his own account, was, if not a cripple; at least somewhat infirm about the legs, and could ride only on a specially made saddle. While not illiterate (for his narrative, if unpretentious, is easy and pleasantly written), he was a man of no training in science, and his observations contain more and more varied misinformation than we have ever come across in any single volume in many years. Almost the whole book is devoted to observations on natural history. It is surprising how any man of such experience in outdoor life, love of nature, and obvious intelligence could have been so ignorant and so credulous as this narrative indicates. And yet he was no fool, and was possessed by the love of the open field and forest, never killed wild animals wantonly, and, we are convinced, must have been a delightful chum for a wagon journey out into the wilderness.

The book is a most interesting psychological study. The errors of observation with which it literally teems, and the absurd explanations of geological and biological facts are, of course, obvious chiefly to readers of some technical training. But if one can overcome his natural reluctance to spend time reading absurdities retailed in perfect good faith and modest complacency, the glimpse into the workings of a mind entirely uninformed in science, untrained to accurate observation, subjected to the impressions of the almost untravelled wilderness, and taking a hearty enjoyment therein, has a charm and a novelty rare in these sophisticated days. The book is, in many things, absurd; it is multitudinously erroneous; it is comical; yet it is pathetically interesting. When we are done with it, we feel an affection for the author, for we are aware that, in communicating his observations to the public without a trace of vanity or dogmatism, he has succeeded in giving us, all unconsciously, glimpses of a truly lovable soul.

*Great Epochs in Art History.* By James M. Hoppin, lately Professor of Yale University. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1901. Pp. 247.

Professor Hoppin's book is a collection of essays divisible into four distinct epochs of art history. Half the volume is devoted to Italian religious painting; the

essays or chapters being arranged partly with reference to geographical subdivision, and partly by artistic subject. Thus, the chapter on the Franciscan Cycle is followed rather closely by one devoted to S. Gimignano, and one on Prato, Pistoia, and Arezzo. A very short division is devoted to the sculptor Scopas; another, hardly longer, to French Gothic architecture; and a discussion of English Pre-Raphaelites completes the volume.

The papers are of the nature of contemplative reëxamination of one's own experiences. During his twenty years' incumbency of the professorship of art history at New Haven, Professor Hoppin has seen much fine art, and has meditated upon its significance; and it may not be incorrect to characterize this book as a collection of those thoughts which seemed to him the most valuable, either separately or in their combination. The essay-like character of the book is explained in this way, and its lack of systematic treatment largely justified. It is, of course, better reading for the majority of readers—that is to say, for all those who have no immediate purpose in their consideration of art problems—than if the work were more scientifically constructed; and the thought evolved with more complete and more visible precision. The reader has, then, only this to complain of, that the very numerous quotations from modern authors with which the text is interspersed, are not credited to their authors. It is really a vexation when one finds a sentence of value printed as a quotation, to have its ascription limited to "a contemporary," or simply "a writer."

#### BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

- Abbatt, William. *Memoirs of Major-General Heath*. William Abbott.  
 Almanach de Gotha. 1902. Gotha: Perthes; New York: Lemcke & Buechner.  
 American Annual of Photography and Photographic Times Almanac for 1902. The Scoville & Adams Co. 75 cents.  
 Bachelor Bigotries. By an Old Maid. San Francisco: Commercial Publishing Co.  
 Bassett, J. S. *The Writings of "Colonel William Byrd of Westover in Virginia, Esq."* Doubleday, Page & Co. \$10.  
 Blok, P. J. *Geschiedenis van het Nederlandsche Volk*. Part V. Groningen: G. B. Wolters.  
 Bridges, Robert. *Milton's Prosody*. Henry Frowde. \$1.75.  
 Brotauek, Rudolf. *Die Englischen Maskenspiele*. Leipzig: Wilhelm Braumüller.  
 Cameron, J. H. *The Elements of French Composition*. J. H. Holt & Co. 75 cents.  
 Dante Alighieri. *The Purgatorio*. (The Temple Classics.) London: J. M. Dent & Co.; New York: Macmillan. 50 cents.  
 Dressler, Florence. *Feminology*. Chicago: C. L. Dressler.  
 Gilliat, E. *God Save King Alfred*. Macmillan. \$2.  
 Housman, Laurence. *The Field Clover*. John Lane. \$1.25.  
 Journal of Social Science, Containing the Proceedings of the American Association, No. XXXIX. G. P. Putnam's Sons.  
 Kerley, C. G. *Short Talks with Young Mothers*. G. P. Putnam's Sons.  
 Lumby, J. R., and McKnight, G. H. *King Horn, Floriz and Blanchefleur, The Assumption of Our Lady*. London: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co.  
 Mannix, Mary E. *A Life Labyrinth. Notre Dame (Ind.): The Ave Maria*. \$1.25.  
 Martin, Jules. *Nos Artistes: Annuaire des Théâtres et Concerts, 1901-1902*. Paris: Paul Ollendorff. 3 fr. 5c.  
 Milton, John. *Poems*. London: George Newnes; New York: Scribners. \$1.20.  
 O'Brien, R. B. *The Life of Lord Russell of Kilowen*. Longmans, Green & Co. \$3.50.  
 Olmsted, E. W. *A Selection from the Comedies of Marivaux*. Macmillan.  
 Rawnsley, H. D. *Ruskin and the English Lakes*. Glasgow: James Maclehose & Sons; New York: Macmillan. 5s.  
 Rhees, W. J. *The Smithsonian Institution: Its Origin and History*. Vol. II. Washington: Government Printing-Office.  
 Snaith, J. C. *Love's Itinerary*. D. Appleton & Co.  
 Stringer, G. A., and Eliza C. *The King and the Cross*. Boston: Eastern Pub. Co.  
 Sturgis, Russell. *A Dictionary of Architecture and Building*. O-Z. Macmillan.  
 Wormeley, Katharine P. *Letters of Mlle. de Lespinasse*. (Versailles Edition.) Boston: Hardy, Pratt & Co.  
 Wormeley, Katharine P. *Memoirs and Letters of Cardinal de Bernis*. (Versailles Edition.) 2 vols. Boston: Hardy, Pratt & Co.