

shortcoming as great as that of the absence of an index. Perhaps but for the death of Mr. Monkhouse these inconveniences would have been removed. The best advice that the reviewer can give to him who would study this book is, to read it through carefully, and to cover the fly-leaves with pencilled notes of the passages which he wants to find again. Such private indexing may be carried even beyond the limits of the fly-leaves and cover linings. Even if you do for yourself the work which certainly author and editor should have done for you, you have the consolation that it will be not less but much more useful to you in that it has been work of your own. There is no "artificial memory" like that!

To have done with the shortcomings of the book, let it be noted that most undue praise is given in Dr. Bushell's preface to the colored plates. They are "three-color" prints, and as yet this process gives a not wholly satisfactory result—flat and thin, imperfectly defined, feeble in color. They are not bad as explaining the look of the piece, and the very fact that they are wholly photographic goes far to convince the student of their authenticity; but for beauty they can no more be compared with the splendid colored prints in the Walters book, to which, however, they are compared in the preface, than can the cheap colored work in our Sunday newspapers with the chromolithographs of Kellerhoven.

We have to say, finally, that nothing can be better than the critical tone of the book. It is insisted on throughout how completely the value of the ancient pieces is to be determined by their beauty—by their merit as pieces of "potting" and by the significance and value of their decoration—rather than by marks or supposed authentic dates, or by evidences of what is thought to be extreme rarity. The distinction between the finer ware with finer painting and the cheaper porcelains of which great quantities were and are made and exported to Europe, is well established and insisted on, as on pages 85, 86; and in connection with this there is the distinction, well made out, between that of the more dainty and decorative ware which is evidently intended for exportation to Europe, and that which the Chinese themselves care for. As we are continually brought up by the difficulty that the illustrations do not come where they are wanted, while yet so freely allotted to the book in general, so it is to be said here again that three or four pictures given on, or in face of, the pages named in the last sentence, or referred to from those pages, would make them useful indeed. Some of us know what is meant when there is mention of the pieces painted with European flower sprigs and known by the name of Lowestoft china; more numerous are they who can make out the veiled reference to what is called in our shops "Canton" and "Nankin" wares; but how good it would be to have this matter stated clearly and illustrated by well-chosen and plainly described pictures.

Napoleon: A Sketch of his Life, Character, Struggles and Achievements. By Thomas E. Watson. The Macmillan Co. 1902.

The quality of Mr. Watson's book on Napoleon will be most quickly apprehended by

those who have read his 'Story of France.' Both works are written in the same style, are instinct with the same sentiments, and are based upon the same treatment of historical material. The style is dithyrambic, the sentiment is populist, and the treatment of materials is eclectic. Napoleon, in Mr. Watson's eyes, was a man of the people, who rose high, and was not ashamed of his origin.

"When he, the Emperor, chosen by the people, stood up in his carriage on the streets of Paris, and pointed out to his Austrian bride the window of the room in which he had lodged when he came up from Brienne—a poor boy with his career to make—his pride in pointing to that milestone on the toilsome route of his promotion was that of all self-made men, was that of the man who scorns to win where he has not fought, was that of the robust conqueror who wants nothing for which he has not paid the price of manly effort."

Here, so far as we can make out, is the main reason of Mr. Watson's fondness for Napoleon. The Emperor was the product of the Revolution, and, by his beneficent legislation, he helped forward the cause of the masses. Thus, with all his despotism, he was a truly democratic leader, and great sins should be pardoned him. Much, of course, may be fitly said about Napoleon as the author of the Code, but Mr. Watson is wedded to this one conception, and his eclecticism consists in a choice of just such facts as will support a particular theory. Now to support a particular theory through thick and thin is to write, not history, but a polemical tract; and this is what Mr. Watson has done.

Vehement affections beget vehement dislikes. Mr. Watson cannot speak with patience of royalists, aristocrats, or English Tories. Whether from irrepressible zeal or from a love of composing rhetorical passages, he must burst forth at short intervals into denunciation or bitter sarcasm. Where a misdemeanor of Napoleon needs to be registered, the fact is quietly stated, and the narrative moves on. Where aristocrats or sovereigns are the offenders, Mr. Watson stops to castigate them well. "You go to France to-day, and you see around you, everywhere, Napoleon. You hear, on all sides, Napoleon. . . . Who does not know that the very soul of French memory for the past centres at the Invalides, where the dead warrior lies in state?" All this may be true, but Baron Coubertin is a good Frenchman, and a supporter of the Third Republic. In speaking of the Napoleonic sentimentalism which was affected by the Left under Louis XVIII, he says: "Unfortunately, the Opposition preached the benefits of liberty, and Napoleon had been a despot; the Opposition tended to fraternity among the nations, and Napoleon had been their oppressor." The idea that Napoleon was in any sense an oppressor of the nations seems to carry little weight with Mr. Watson. The sovereigns of this period are, indeed, fair subjects for facetious allusion, but that they had any just ground for opposing the extension of Napoleonic power is not admitted with sufficient candor. "And how had the wars commenced which Napoleon had inherited, and which he had never been able to end [1814]? By the determination of kings and aristocracies to check the spread of French principles, to crush democracy in its birth, and to restore to its old place organized superstition, class-privilege, and the divine right of kings." The

assumption, it will be observed, is that Napoleon was anxious to give Europe peace. In close correspondence with this implication are words which occur in another place: "Never in Napoleon's career had the prayer of a vanquished foe fallen upon ears which heard not. The battle ended, he was ready for peace. He bore no malice, took no revenge. Splendid acts of generosity lit his progress from first to last." Even if we were willing to accept this extraordinary affirmation, something might yet be said for the Germans who fought against Napoleon in 1813. *Parcere subjectis et debellare superbis* is not a proclamation which readily commends itself to nations of the modern world.

Some time ago we followed Mr. Watson through one volume of his 'Story of France,' and found much fault with him in points of detail. His present book is also open to hostile criticism on the same ground, though it has been prepared with greater care. We do not wish to go through a similar analysis, for it would serve no good purpose; but we would point out that a writer must be pretty sure of his ground before he can afford to shaft his witticisms against "these recent biographers who dig and delve, and turn things over, and find out more about them a century after the occurrences than the men who took part in them ever knew."

Without being in any sense an investigator, Mr. Watson has read a good many books about Napoleon, and he always writes with animation. His liveliness is in many ways admirable, and we must confess that there is a stimulating note in many of his outbursts about freedom and social equality. On the other hand, his portraiture of Napoleon is marred by exaggeration, by the introduction of much that is irrelevant, and by the display of an almost personal resentment towards persons and causes that might have much to say for themselves. Such declamation serves to hide the truth and to create rooted prejudice in the minds of those who read one book on a subject, and one book only. Worst of all, in our opinion, is Mr. Watson's friendliness of attitude towards a union of Caesarism and democracy. There is little danger just now to be feared from a recrudescence of the old régime, but there is always a lurking danger in the spread of the military spirit which, while cajoling with democracy, points straight to despotism. The French began in this way at Brumaire, and presently they were at Waterloo. After a while they began again at the *Coup d'Etat*, and this time the end was at Sedan.

An American at Oxford. By John Corbin. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1902.

The day after the publication of the Rhodes will, a London journal published a telegram from its New York correspondent announcing that the American papers were "preparing to discover Oxford." Mr. Corbin's offer of his services as the Columbus of this twentieth-century exploration is therefore exceptionally timely. His experience as a journalist, trained both to observe and to write, has greatly assisted him in producing this excellent record of personal impressions. Its graphic descriptions and general briskness are a consid-

erable compensation for whatever is lacking on the side of scientific thoroughness. The author's skill in the art of putting things is evident in many delightful touches; for instance, in his account of the college scout as standing to the undergraduate "in somewhat more than the place of a servant and less than that of a parent."

In these days of athletic enthusiasm, perhaps the most generally interesting section of this volume will be that entitled "Oxford Out of Doors." It includes a rapturous paper on the delights of punting, and a detailed comparison of English and American football, as well as track and field athletics. Mr. Corbin was much surprised at first by the easy-going methods of English training, and, although he has since come to see that there is an advantage in treating a sport as a sport, and not as a task, he still criticises unfavorably the distaste "for the careful preparation that alone enables a man to fight out a finish to the best advantage." He believes that whatever excesses are found in American sport would be mitigated by the division of our universities into residential units, corresponding roughly to the English colleges.

But it is the chapters dealing with the social life of Oxford that give this book its chief value. It would be difficult to find anywhere a more admirable account of the manners and customs of the English undergraduate. Mr. Corbin is especially emphatic in his commendation of the arrangements which give every freshman an opportunity of showing his qualities, in contrast with the "mob and cliques" system of Harvard. For the American defect in this case also he anticipates a remedy in the further development of halls and fraternities.

The section concerned with education proper will, perhaps, be of greater service in enlightening the English reader about the weak points of the American elective system than in giving the American an insight into the actual character of Oxford teaching. The more obvious features of the routine of lectures and tuition are satisfactorily described, but Mr. Corbin does not succeed in giving an adequate impression of the nature of the university examinations. He is, perhaps, handicapped by the fact that his own interests are mainly in English literature, a subject which, at Oxford, has been regarded, until quite recently, as a paragon. As a typical example of a final honor school he quotes the regulations affecting the honors examination in English literature. This school illustrates, it is true, the Oxford practice of grouping electives into a well-ordered and connected course, but it is as yet in the experimental stage, and the number of candidates in it is extremely small. The course of study which more than any other is characteristic of Oxford—classical honor moderations followed by the final school of *litteræ humaniores*—receives very imperfect treatment. The description of the latter school as having for its subject-matter "the mediæval trivium and quadrivium, plus modern philosophy," is scarcely short of ludicrous. Mr. Corbin is equally wide of the mark when he says that, "in England, a tutor may be a scholar, and usually is not." In fact, one of the chief weaknesses of the average English tutor, whether at Oxford or at Cambridge, has been and still

is a tendency to attach extravagant importance to niceties of scholarship. It is by tutors, or ex-tutors—such men as Bywater, Jebb, Robinson Ellis, Liddell, and the Nettleships—that the best work in English scholarship has been done, and it is from college tutors almost invariably that professors are chosen, for chairs requiring scholarship, in the Scotch and Colonial, as well as the English, universities. Mr. Corbin's divergence from the general judgment is probably to be explained, partly by the fact that he uses the word "scholarship" to denote qualifications very different from those which it traditionally expresses, and partly by his failure to make allowance for that extreme self-criticism which makes many of the ablest dons reluctant to publish, and accordingly prevents them from gaining an outside reputation. While, however, Mr. Corbin has by no means supplied the American reader with a complete account of the educational methods of Oxford, he cannot fairly be accused of any lack of appreciation of the Oxford educational ideals. Indeed, he goes so far as to sum up his whole account in the verdict that, for the present, the elements of which American higher education has most need may best be assimilated from England, and that the adoption of these elements, superadded to those already imported from Germany, would make American universities superior to any in Europe.

A few minor errata deserve notice. It is not a little confusing to employ "fellow" sometimes in the English sense of "don," and sometimes in the American sense of "undergraduate." It is not the case, as implied on page 161, that only a few colleges have an entrance test independent of responses. The particulars given on page 184 of the time allowed in preparation for various examinations are erroneous. For examination purposes the academical year consists of four terms, not three, so that in each case the latest date of candidature is much earlier than that stated by Mr. Corbin. The name "Broderick" (p. 204) should be "Brodrick." The "gentleman commoner" was not identical with the "commoner" (p. 238).

The twelve illustrations are excellent. There is no index.

Formal Gardens in England and Scotland.

By H. Inigo Triggs. London: B. T. Batsford; New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1902. 118 plates.

Of all the publications that have accompanied the revival of the formal garden, none furnishes such a fund of accurate information about the planning of good old examples as does *Formal Gardens in England and Scotland*. The reason for this superiority is not far to seek. Other books, as Sedding's *Garden Craft*, have been concerned with the sentiment of the thing; others, as Blomfield's *Formal Gardens*, with history of garden design; others, as Miss Amherst's excellent history, with the whole story of the garden and its contents; others, as Sieveking's, with the garden in literature; others, as *Gardens Old and New*, with the photographic presentation of well-known examples; but it has remained for Mr. H. Inigo Triggs to show us, by careful measurement and clear delineation in plans drawn to scale, the actual facts of the extent and arrangement of many fa-

mous gardens. Photographs, indeed, accompany the plans, but the plans give the distinction to the book, and force us to think of it as doing for the gardens of England and Scotland (in a less complete, though one trusts more reliable, fashion) what the work of Percier and Fontaine long ago did for the gardens of Rome.

After seeing the many photographs of English gardens that have of late years reached us, and after having puzzled our heads about their plans and wondered greatly about their slopes and levels, it is a satisfaction to have at last the real facts presented in a plain and unpretending fashion, quite free from vagueness intentional or unintentional. Who among garden lovers has not tried to understand the lay-out of St. Catharine's Court near Bath, and who, from photographs, has been able to make it out even inexactly? Yet here, in our newest book, we have a plan no bigger than one's hand and a section but half as large, making clear at a glance all the seeming intricacies of the place. So it is with some of the hillside gardens of Scotland, Balcaskie or Barncluth, charming in their irregular formality, but scarcely to be known, to one at a distance, without a plan and section.

Perhaps it may be said that to know the exact facts as to a garden's arrangement is to lose an indefinable mystery, the secret of its half-discovered charm, and this is doubtless true if we think only of the enjoyment to be had from looking upon the finished work. But it is well to remember that here in America gardens are being multiplied on every hand, and that what we lack is not an easy admiration of old things, but an exact knowledge of how best to solve our problems. This we can get, or rather our garden-designers can get it for us, most satisfactorily by studying the ways in which the best gardens have been planned; and it is just because Mr. Triggs's book enables us to do this, as far as concerns English and Scottish gardens, better than any other book, that it should and will meet with a hearty welcome from all serious students of garden design. We must add that while it contains pictures of many delightfully quaint and interesting old gardens, such as those at Levens Hall, with its hornbeam hedges twelve feet thick, it is a pity that it should have included so many examples of stiff and inartistic formality as it does. The painful neatness and the unpleasant forms of the beds at Drumlanrig Castle, or in the so-called "Italian" garden at Wilton House, show how a garden may be utterly dry and devoid of all charm in spite of the utmost pains in making or keeping it.

A fair proportion of the space is given up to the accessories of gardens, such as gateways, vases in lead or stone, sundials, stairways, garden-houses, and the like—a notable collection, full of useful suggestions. The introductory essay, while it contributes nothing new to our knowledge of the history of gardening, is a clear and systematic, though brief, record of the progress of the art of gardens in England and Scotland from the earliest to the present time.

Letters to an Enthusiast. By Mary Cowden Clarke. Being a series of letters addressed to Robert Balmanno, Esq., of