

particular psychic elements in us, as these are related to the whole pulse of our own conscious life" ("Instinct and Reason," p. 189).

As remarked above, the cardinal error does not infect the substance of the analysis which follows. This analysis is wholly admirable. It is as though Lincoln, with his range of insight and experience, had superadded the culture of the schools, and were calmly pointing out in his exposé of public opinion the moral legitimacy of democracy. Illustrative of the originality of the author is his calm reargument and rebuttal of the hasty conclusion that group opinion is commonly below the average of intelligence in the group (p. 123 sq.). Typical of his ripeness and sanity in matters of practical concern is his adverse verdict upon the general efficacy of "the referendum and similar devices for increased participation of the people at large in the details of legislation" (p. 129). Rare discrimination is shown, for example, in the subtle inquiry whether democracy is hostile to distinction in production, in art or literature (p. 157 sq.). The conclusion reached distinguishes between the forces of a transitional era and the influence of democracy proper. The former are adjudged hostile to distinction, but not the latter. But chiefly of value is the sustained tone of calm, reasoned, but exacting morality which breathes in every page. Not for nothing has Professor Cooley perused his Emerson. The Emersonian reach and wit and aphorism are very much in evidence. Like Emerson, too, he has garnered his fruit, leaving no pickings for the would-be follower. They will find no forgotten apples to appropriate as their own under Professor Cooley's well-beaten tree of knowledge.

We Two in West Africa. By Decima Moore and Major F. G. Guggisberg, C.M.G., R.E. With numerous illustrations and maps. New York: Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons. \$3.50 net.

This is the clever story, told by his wife, of the "going on tour" of the Director of Surveys of the Gold Coast, as the journeys are called which the head of every department makes periodically to see how his staff, scattered through the colony, are carrying on their work, and to keep himself in touch with local conditions and requirements in the various districts. The book is thus not simply an account of experiences in the West African "bush," but describes the methods by which the native is ruled, and the natural wealth of his land is developed through railways, mines, botanical gardens, and agricultural stations established to teach especially the intelligent cultivation of cocoa and rubber.

The first part of the journey was by

rail to the gold district, and much space is devoted to the mining industry, whose ultimate success, it appears, depends mainly on the cheapening of transport by the creation of motor roads and railways. Then followed a trip by hammock into Ashanti, in order to determine the boundary between that country and the Gold Coast. Here they were carried into regions never before visited by a white woman. Some of the refinements of civilization, however, had preceded them. In a remote wild corner of the forest they came suddenly upon the chief of a town with his state umbrellas surrounded by a swarm of natives in gay-colored cloths and a half-naked band, consisting of a large drum, two kettledrums, and several fifes. This "struck up 'God Save the King' as we appeared," and at its close the chief and his retinue "started for the town, followed by the band, playing 'Way Down upon de Swanee Ribber,' the drummer beating the big drum for all he was worth, and the conductor wildly waving his wee bit of stick." The news of the coming of a white man and a white "mammie," we may add, had been drummed by bush telegraph the day they set out from Kumasi to every village along the road a hundred miles before them. Occasionally they stopped at the stations of the district officers, and the life of these often "solitary pale-faced, fever-stricken" Englishmen, and the patient discharge of their duties as shown in the long-winded "palavers" on tribal boundaries, give one a high impression of these men whose single aim is to improve the condition of the native.

The larger part of the book is naturally devoted to an account of various experiences while travelling, and many trivial details, especially of camp-life, are recorded, which make it at times somewhat wearisome reading. For the information which it gives, however, it is a valuable contribution to the literature of the Gold Coast. The illustrations, 148 in number, are reproductions of photographs of nearly every noteworthy scene and incident of the journey.

Haremlik. By Demetra Vaka (Mrs. Kenneth Brown). Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co. \$1.25 net.

People who see in the position of Turkish women a subject for amazement or regret will find "Haremlik" disappointing or pleasing, as the case may be. The life of the women of the harem as portrayed by Demetra Vaka is neither an unhappy nor a subservient one. Our writer is of Greek descent, born and educated at Constantinople, and married to an American. She should be qualified to interpret the East to the West. To her, then, life in the harem passes in an atmosphere of sunshine and felicity. It is true that Turkish women suf-

fer at times, but that would seem to be only when they are affected by our perverse Western ideas on monogamy. Such instances are, however, rare. As a rule Turkish women scoff at the idea that one wife is quite enough for a man. Sometimes they even take it upon themselves to find an additional wife or two for their husbands. On such occasions, as may be imagined, they display foresight as well as zeal. The new wife, as a rule, brings with her some missing element of happiness. Her presence also serves to intensify the spirit of idealism and self-sacrifice in her predecessors.

In spite, therefore, of her long acquaintance with American civilization, Demetra Vaka maintains that the premature adoption of Western ideas by the people of Turkey in general, and the women in particular, would bring about their destruction. From this standpoint our writer passes in review a number of incidents in Turkish domestic life which carry a certain Eastern tone, but are skilfully colored to suit the taste of romantic American readers. She cannot sufficiently praise the beauty, devotion, and integrity of the true Turkish woman, and she has little sympathy for the revolutionists among them, who find in Schopenhauer, Kant, and suffragette ideals merely unhappiness. A secret meeting of these radicals of the harem is described with something of the abandon of the American reporter. In spite of assurances at the beginning of the book that everything in it is practically true, we find it somewhat difficult to believe that the chairman's address at the meeting in question "ended up with the proposition that six members of the club should be chosen to kill themselves as a protest against the existing order of things." When the president is made to suggest that she, by virtue of her office, should be excluded from participation in the lot-drawing, we are pretty near to burlesque. The women of the harem who, as we know now, played an important rôle in the overthrow of the Hamidian régime, must surely have had more sense than that.

Science.

"The Balance of Nature and Modern Conditions of Cultivation," by George Abbey (E. P. Dutton & Co.), despite the reticence of its title, deals with Great Britain alone. The bulk of the book is thus of value chiefly to Englishmen; but the introduction is of more general interest, being a history of the rise of sporting, fishing, forestry, gardening, and farming in England from the earliest recorded period to the present. The sub-title, "A Practical Manual of Animal Foes and Friends for the Country Gentleman, the Farmer, the Forester, the Gardener, and the Sportsman," defines the specific purpose of the work, which is to

discuss the wild and semi-wild vertebrates—mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians—found in the British Islands, in regard to their beneficial, neutral, or harmful relation to the cultivation of crops. Mr. Abbey treats fully of "aids" and "hindrances"; or, respectively, methods of protecting beneficial species, and of trapping or otherwise exterminating harmful creatures. One is rather skeptical of the science of an author who boasts of obligation only to "Wood's Natural History" and to two contemporaneous treatises of equal value. But Mr. Abbey shows himself a close observer, and in food habits at least makes a real contribution to our knowledge of the British fauna. The illustrations are numerous, but are mostly amateurish pen-and-ink attempts, which are almost unrecognizable and might well have graced some volume of a century ago. In a well-bound and well-printed book of 1909 they are merely laughable. The same artist has depicted numerous traps and methods of trapping, and these, considered diagrammatically, convey valuable hints, which may be adopted to advantage by farmers in this country. The author is moderate in his statements, but a book such as this should be used with discretion, as a bird or animal may be harmful in one country and beneficial in another; while again its destructive or beneficial qualities may vary with the seasons.

As "Epoch-Making Contributions to Medicine, Surgery, and the Allied Sciences" (W. B. Saunders Co.), Dr. C. N. B. Camac has brought together fundamental articles, now become medical classics, by seven noted authors: Lister, Harvey, Auenbrugger, Laënnec, Jenner, Morton, and Holmes. The object of the book is to give to students "the article which communicated such observations as first placed the subject upon a sound scientific basis." For each author there is a portrait and a list of his writings, and for each, with the exception of Lister, a short biography. To the articles on ether Simpson's pamphlet on chloroform is added. The controversy between Morton, Wells, and Jackson, concerning the discovery of anæsthesia is treated rather briefly, and Dr. Camac unhesitatingly awards the honor to Morton. The existence of other claims is not mentioned. The book is handsomely and, barring a few slight typographical errors in the bibliography, excellently printed, and should keenly interest those medical students—*rare avcs*—who can be induced to read anything outside the required textbooks.

Under the title "Bacterial Food Poisoning" (E. B. Treat & Co.), Dr. C. F. Bolduan gives the reader an annotated version of a little book which Dieudonné of Munich published something more than a year ago. In a hundred pages of text are given the essentials of our present knowledge of poisoning by meat, fish, milk in its various preparations, potatoes, and a few other foodstuffs. It is interesting to see how completely the point of view regarding this question has changed. Not many years ago it seemed as though the ptomaines of Brieger and the tyrotoxin of Vaughan furnished the solution of these poison problems, and that most, if not all, of the disturbances attributable to foods would be found to be caused by specific substances of this kind. Later researches, often of great dif-

ficulty, seem to show, however, that such substances are far less important than certain bacteria, developed in foods that for some reason have gone "wrong," or than the toxic substances they produce, quite different from the ptomaines. Although often too technical and brief for a full understanding of the question, the book is profitable reading for any intelligent layman. The translation is smooth, but there is a slight confusion in the nomenclature of the organisms and the linguistic difficulty, now common to bacteriologists, balloonists, and aviators, concerning the derivatives of *aër* presents itself on many pages.

"Die natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien nebst ihren Gattungen und wichtigeren Arten, insbesondere den Nutzpflanzen," edited by Prof. Adolf Engler of Berlin (Leipzig: H. Engelmann), deserves mention as the most complete botanical work ever published. The first volume appeared in 1887, and the nineteenth and concluding volume has just been issued. More than sixty botanists have contributed to it, and the results of their exact and exhaustive researches cannot fail to be gratifying and stimulating to all specialists in this department of natural science.

The Kosmos, Stuttgart, continues to add to its list of valuable monographs in natural science. The latest volume is by Prof. K. Sajó, "Unsere Honigbiene," and deals with the culture of bees in Germany and Switzerland.

Dr. Sarah Hackett Stevenson died in Chicago, August 14, after a three years' illness. Dr. Stevenson was interested in many charitable institutions and was the founder of the Illinois Training School for Nurses, and one of the promoters of the Home for Incurables. She was the first woman appointed instructor in the Northwestern Medical College, and also was the first woman admitted to membership in the American Medical Association. She was born in Ogle County, Illinois, in 1843, and graduated from the Woman's Medical College in 1873. She was the author of a work on biology and various medical papers.

Drama.

Plays. By John Galsworthy. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.35.

Those who have felt the irritation of Mr. Galsworthy's subtly interrogative novels will know what to expect from the three plays included in this volume, "The Silver Box," "Joy," and "Strife." The remorseless preying of vital egotism upon dress-parade principles, or, to state it more broadly, the seemingly hopeless conflict of ideal justice with natural instincts—this is the underlying theme. In the "Silver Box" a member of Parliament sacrifices a poor man to save the reputation of his son—justice against the paternal instinct; in "Joy" a mother sacrifices to some extent her uncle and even her own daughter to save her lover—justice against the amatory instinct; in "Strife" the two non-compromising and principled representa-

tives of capital and labor are sacrificed to save their women and children—justice against the instinct of self-preservation. In the end we are all left darkling, troubled, as by twinkling lights extinguished in a great mist. Roberts the labor-leader in the last-named play—by far the most effective of the three—thinks he knows the way out. When his famine-stricken fellows cry, "Give in to Nature," he retorts with rude eloquence, "I tell you, strike your blow in Nature's face—an' let it do its worst!" But Nature strikes back, and Roberts falls. To Mr. Galsworthy there is a bitter reality in the trite phrase, the "problems of life." As yet he has been able to do little but indicate them; indicate them he does with painful pungency and iteration. His plays, consequently, have, like his novels, the interest of difficulties seriously confronted, vividly experienced.

It has been said that the drama of the future will concern itself with the clash, not of characters, but of classes, and Mr. Galsworthy is emphatically a writer of the future, cautiously feeling his way into that vaguely defined and still more vaguely understood socialistic movement which may conceivably characterize the twentieth century as the democratic movement characterized the nineteenth. If such be the case, the future of the drama as a living literary form is dark. But the antithesis of class conflict and character conflict has been too sharply put; there is no necessary incompatibility between them. In fact, Shakespeare's "Coriolanus"—a tragedy, by the way, much underread and underestimated—already demonstrates the possibility of representing the most bitter class conflict in the most tremendous character conflict. Now, the effect of Mr. Galsworthy's plays, in spite of their undeniable vitality, is very far from tremendous. His deficiencies are partly corrigible. He ought not, for example, to waste his energies in imitating the vivacities of Mr. G. B. Shaw, as he has done in the rather futile comedy called "Joy," of which, furthermore, the exposition is very awkward. He ought not to confuse a situation with a plot, which he seems almost to have done in "Strife." He ought to avail himself very gingerly of Ibsenese symbolism. But, above all, he ought to recognize that great drama requires great characters. The modern dramatist, in spite of modern experiments, may still be urged prayerfully to meditate Aristotle's observations upon the character of the tragic hero, and to remember the practice of the Elizabethans. Mr. Galsworthy's leading *dramatis personæ* are not so much feeble in characterization as in character—which is to be deplored because he is possessed of the seriousness, the idealism, and the irony which go to the creation of tragedy.