

in which the fittest who survived were those who were the strongest physically and mentally, and who were either unmoral or immoral, at least so far as the combatants were concerned. Even so great an authority as Huxley lent the weight of his influence, in his Romanes Lecture, to the above interpretation. Two of the most important chapters in Darwin's "Descent of Man," the third and fifth, on the moral and intellectual development of man, seem to have been overlooked or forgotten. In these chapters, Mr. Darwin distinctly states that the social instincts, being the more enduring and persistent, conquer the less persistent, and that these social instincts depend for their growth upon the development of the moral sense; that this moral sense is itself the product of social contact, which is increased by the growth of society, and which must go on increasing as societies enlarge and pass from clans to tribes and finally into nations; and, furthermore, that this moral sense is preserved and increased by the action of natural selection:

At all times throughout the world tribes have supplanted other tribes, and as morality is one element of their success, the standard of morality and the number of well-endowed men will thus everywhere tend to rise and increase (Chap. v, p. 160).

It may be further affirmed that with the growth of civilized society, morality becomes of more and more importance in determining the survival of the fittest, for by that term we mean the survival of the individual or race that is best adapted to the essential conditions of the environment. Human nature is what it is because of centuries of antagonism as well as of association. It is probable that in the earliest times when men were nomads, and society had not consolidated, the predatory instincts were the strongest and that conflict was predominant. While even then certain moral traits, such as courage and fidelity to leaders, were very useful, yet intellectual qualities were of more importance, and hence we should expect to find, what is generally admitted, that a high intelligence was developed earlier than a high morality. But as society was brought into closer and closer contact through inventions and discoveries which are the outcome of the scientific method, until now the whole civilized world is in touch, by means of telegraphs, railroads, steamships, the post office, and the newspaper, the sense of solidarity has been so intensified that moral relations have become the most important, because on them will depend that "peace on earth and good will to men," towards which we all look, but which is yet so distant. We can comfort ourselves, however, with the thought that the processes of natural selection are yet going on, preserving and increasing the growth of those qualities in mankind which best fit him to live harmoniously with his fellows.

ROBERT MATHEWS.

Rochester, N. Y., January 12.

THE HIGHER CRITICISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: If the gospel "according to Matthew Arnold" be taught by zealous disciples for the next eighteen centuries, may not much more that is desirable be accom-

plished, even for the "rank and file." After all, must not the educated "inward judge" be the practical court? Does not the "inward judge" lead to individual responsibility to a much greater degree than either fear on the one hand, or the supernatural upon the other? May not obedience to the "inward judge" rightly and naturally follow any doubts that may arise about the supernatural? Are not most of the deplorable conditions which confront us more the result of disregard of the "inward judge" than any lost faith in the doctrine according to Matthew? It seems to me that instruction in "the gospel according to Matthew Arnold" is demanded by present conditions. EDWARD M. HYZER.

Milwaukee, Wis., January 8.

INDIAN STATISTICS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: By way of comment on the letter "Indian Statistics," from your English correspondent, T. Morison, in your issue of January 7, it may be said that as to a useful comparison of such data Lord Curzon declared in his address to the Vice-regal Council, March 29, 1901:

I do not say that these data are incontrovertible. There is an element of conjecture in them [the estimates of 1898], but so was there in the figures of 1880. If one set of figures is to be used in argument, equally may the other.

Permit me further, without going into the causes of poverty and discontent in India, to express the firm conviction that no unprejudiced reader ever saw in the late William Digby's writings merely "the conjectures" or the work of "an industrious statistician poring over blue books." Further, that no one, worthy of his steel, ever couched a lance with Mr. Digby, and retired without a high sense of his courage, honor, and address; or ever, thereafter, spoke of him with condescension—and finally, that whoever was favored with knowledge of Mr. Digby's labors and character must have felt the inspiration that supported him in voluntary sacrifice of office, friendships, health, and means, and which won for him after death, a public and enduring monument to his devotion and his unrequited services.

CHAS. B. SOUTTER.

Aiken, S. C., January 11.

Notes.

Houghton Mifflin Co. is bringing out a new edition of Woodberry's "Life of Poe" in connection with the celebration of the poet's centenary. The book has been largely rewritten since it first appeared more than twenty years ago, and much new matter is added. It now appears in two volumes, with many illustrations.

Houghton Mifflin Co. announces for publication this year "The German Element in the United States," in two volumes, by Prof. Albert Bernhardt Faust of Cornell University. The first draft of the manuscript won the prize of \$3,000 offered by Conrad Seipp of Chicago for the best essay on the subject. The book will be lavishly illustrated and will probably appear in the early autumn.

In five volumes of the Cambridge English Classics (G. P. Putnam's Sons) we are to have a reprint of the King James Bible from a copy of the folio of 1611 in the possession of Aldis Wright.

G. P. Putnam's Sons announce that the fourth, and concluding, volume of Hano-taux's "History of Contemporary France," in the English version, is now in press.

Prof. W. D. Lyman of Whitman College, Walla Walla, Wash., is engaged in the preparation of a book on the Columbia River for a series published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, known as Historic Rivers of America. It is the intention of the author to give some special prominence to Nelson and the magnificent lake district by which it is surrounded.

A new book by the Rev. G. Campbell Morgan of London, "Mountains and Valleys in the Ministry of Jesus," will soon be published by the Fleming H. Revell Co.

A life of Abraham Lincoln, by Brand Whitlock, Mayor of Toledo and author of several novels dealing with sociological problems, is announced by Small, Maynard & Co., publishers of the Beacon Series of Biographies.

The proprietors of the *Morning Chronicle* of Halifax, N. S., of which paper Joseph Howe was for many years the editor, will soon issue a new and complete edition of the speeches and public letters of Mr. Howe. This edition will include the material contained in that published by the Hon. Mr. Annand in 1858, and also all the important speeches and letters delivered and written by Joseph Howe between 1858 and the time of his death in 1873. The editor of the new edition is Joseph A. Chisholm.

In honor of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of John Stuart Blackie, his nephew, Stodart Walker, is preparing a volume of correspondence, and requests that letters bearing on the subject be sent to him at No. 30 Walker Street, Edinburgh.

Another example of the curious and rather factitious revival of interest in the Stuart family is shown by the announcement of W. G. Blaikie Murdoch's new book, "The Royal Stuarts in Their Connection with Art and Letters," to be issued by J. & J. Gray & Co. of Edinburgh. Mr. Murdoch, who begins his record with James I of Scotland, is apparently a thoroughgoing partisan.

The third and fourth volumes of the Works of James Buchanan (J. B. Lippincott Co.) bring the series to the middle of 1841, and thus cover his career into the Administration of Harrison. The range of subjects on which he spoke was wide, and he does not appear to have left unexpressed his opinion upon any of the leading measures coming before Congress, whether of internal or foreign policy. Stiff and formal as are his speeches, they show the attitude of the Jackson party, and the way in which that attitude was adapted to the needs of Pennsylvania and to the political aims of Buchanan. For he represented his State rather than the nation, and resented whatever seemed to belittle him in the eyes of the Democratic voters of Pennsylvania. The continuance of the agitation of the bank question, of the disposition of public deposits and surplus national revenue, and

of specie payments were the leading measures on which his influence in State politics rested. It cannot be said that his treatment of them ever rises above the level of a good stump speech, addressed more to the feelings than to the intelligence of his audience. His speech at the Pennsylvania convention of 1840 marks his limitations as a politician as well as a statesman. It was competent, but that is all. He was not an admirer of Van Buren, of whose ability to succeed Jackson he had strong doubts. These doubts were deepened when, after offering Buchanan the place of attorney-general and receiving a declination, Van Buren formed a Cabinet in which Pennsylvania was not represented. The personal relations between the two men were altered, though Buchanan does not yet figure among the Presidential possibilities. When Van Buren was defeated in 1840, the chances of Buchanan brightened, and he became the candidate of his State. It is needless to say that in the matters of office-seeking and the partisan use of office Buchanan was not at all squeamish, demanding many appointments and openly avowing his want of sympathy in any restrictions on the activities of Federal officeholders in elections. To him the Senate was more of a political arena than a place for legislating, and his rambling speeches, crowded with personalities, were better fitted to catch the popular favor than to accomplish much in the making of laws. Since he was without a particle of humor, his efforts to lighten his address are heavy reading; and nowhere does he give the impression of superficiality more strongly than in dealing with a question where a high moral issue is involved, as in slavery in the District. There is much on the rising problems over Texas, and the North-eastern boundaries, and he made two speeches on the McLeod case. On foreign questions he should have been an authority. The volumes are still sparing in his correspondence, the greater part of which was accidentally destroyed; but the few letters that are given do not alter the impression gained from the speeches. Buchanan was evidently writing with the possibility of publication before him. The editing of the volumes, by John Bassett Moore, leaves nothing to be desired.

The Bibliographical Society of America has sent to its members the second volume of its *Proceedings and Papers*, covering the two meetings in Asheville, N. C., in May, 1907, and in Chicago on January 1, 1908. The book contains A. G. Salley's paper, "The First Presses of South Carolina," accompanied by a detailed bibliographical description of 73 imprints between the years 1736 and 1771, and mention of a few more. G. S. Godard discusses the "History and Progress of Collecting Material for a Bibliography of Connecticut," a work carried on by the Connecticut Library Association. There are reports by the committees on Incunabula and on Colonial Laws. The fourth number of the Society's Bulletin continues the record of bibliographies issued and in course of preparation. Among the latter we find "a general evaluated bibliography of social science," edited by W. D. P. Bliss, and to be published by the Social Science Library Bureau of Bibliographical Information. Miss Ethel D. Roberts, a student in the New York State

Library School, has prepared an American Dante Bibliography for 1896-1908, in continuation of that of T. W. Koch.

When a book is dedicated "To the Great American Voter . . . before whose dread opinion the mighty of the earth stand in awe," one is prepared for the worst. It is not the worst that follows, in the two volumes of "American Supremacy," by George W. Crichfield (Brentano's), but it is pretty bad. The author has accumulated a good deal of material about laws, customs, and concessions in certain South American states, but his tone is embittered and violent, his conclusions wild. His one thesis is that South Americans are a set of liars and cut-throats, and his sole inference is that "the United States should establish civilized governments in those countries, which would make pillage by revolutionary bands impossible." Such an extreme of passion and unreason defeats itself.

Arthur Preuss of the *Catholic Fortnightly Review* is the author of a severe polemic against Freemasonry, entitled "A Study in American Freemasonry" (St. Louis: B. Herder). Deriving his information concerning the order from the authoritative works of Mackey and Pike, he seeks to show that Freemasonry is, by no means the harmless social and benevolent organization it appears to be, but rather an insidious and dangerous enemy of true faith and upright morals. Mr. Preuss takes his antagonist somewhat too seriously. There is unquestionably a large element of deistic philosophy in the teachings of the Masonic ritual, derived from the speculations current when it attained its most rapid development toward its present form, but, as the order now exists in America, it is a fraternal order, pure and simple, of more or less benevolence and influence, and to try to prove it something more is to stimulate the curiosity by which it flourishes.

"The Jungle Folk of Africa" (F. H. Revell Co.), by Robert H. Milligan, is a remarkable series of pictures, as it were, of the life, customs, folk-lore, and religion of the West Coast native, based on the incidents of a seven years' experience in the German Kamerun and French Congo as a missionary of our Presbyterian Church. It awakens, as no other book within our knowledge has done, an interest in and sympathy for the people of this region. There is no attempt at concealment of the dark side of their character, their immorality, their untrustworthiness, their murderous proclivities, illustrated by the fact that in a year in one town where he was stationed, he did "not remember that there was one natural death," though he "never ceased to hear their mourning for the dead." But there is a bright side, of which perhaps the best illustration is the statement that "his love for his mother . . . is the strongest sentiment and the deepest emotion in the mind and heart of the African." Especially interesting are the accounts of the witchcraft practised and the fetishes, the power of which is gradually diminishing as civilization increases. In a chapter entitled "White and Black" Mr. Milligan confirms with his testimony that of the other American missionaries as to the brutality with which the natives are treated by the Belgian and Portuguese officials, and to a certain ex-

tent, we regret to add, by the French. He has much entertaining matter about the amusements of the natives, especially their dancing and singing. Very little comparatively is told about his missionary work, only one chapter being wholly devoted to it; the aim of the book is simply to "exhibit the human nature of the African." There are seventeen illustrations, the most interesting of which are portraits of native friends. We regret the lack of an index, which would have added much to the value of the work.

"A rag-tag journal" is the apt description given by W. G. Burn Murdoch of his latest work "From Edinburgh to India and Burmah" (E. P. Dutton & Co.). It is, in fact, the daily record of impressions of scenery and native life during a journey in 1905-06, taken simply in the interest of his profession as artist, and it reads as if it were written for a circle of intimate friends, rather than for the general public. The closing sentences of a description of women at a tank will give an idea of the style and humor of the book:

The color from the red soil reflects under their raised arms and under their cheeks, and into the classic folds of their draperies, strong blue, and deep red, in their shadows, and throws up rich reflections to the undersides of the wet earthenware bowls; the water laps over their brims, and the sky reflects like sapphire on their upper surfaces. Who will say that color is not the most beautiful thing in the world—the very flower of love and light and fire; the sign of preponderant katabolism or anabolism as the naturalist might possibly put it, to be perfectly explicit!

Still, if the reader can overcome the feeling of weariness at the constant repetition of color effects, he will find much entertainment, though not much useful information. There are, for instance, vividly picturesque accounts of the reception of the Prince and Princess of Wales at Bombay and Rangoon. Burmah impressed the author not only as a far more fascinating country than India from its beauty, but as in a far better condition, as regards the state of its people. There is nothing in Burmah, for example, to compare with "the most nauseating place in the world," the Ghats at Benares. Commercial progress is indicated by the fact that the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company, which began business in 1863, with four steamers, has now a fleet of 360 vessels. Mr. Murdoch's account of his voyage up the river to Bhamo in one of these steamers, an excursion which he characterizes as many times more interesting than a trip up the Nile, should attract travellers to this region. It should be added that Mr. Murdoch's pastime was hunting, and occasionally he varies his narrative as artist in search of subjects for his canvas by accounts of hunting trips in the jungle. The book is attractively made, but its excellence is marred by numerous typographical errors. There are twenty-four full-page illustrations in color—one of a fakir at Benares is very striking—and numerous reproductions of sketches taken on the spot of interesting scenes and incidents.

The most recent issue in the South American Series, edited by Martin Hume, is "Peru," by C. Reginald Enock (imported by Charles Scribner's Sons). Written in a less vivacious style than the "Chile," in the same series, by G. F. Scott Elliot, it betrays a wider knowledge of present

conditions, and is especially full on Peruvian mineral resources and agricultural development. Both volumes deal with the early history in an uncritical manner, but serve the purpose of a handbook reasonably well. Both are freely illustrated.

In "The Other Americans," by Arthur Ruhl (Charles Scribner's Sons), we get as neat and favorable an application of journalistic methods to travel as one could wish. The writer always had a "story" in mind, and fell upon the picturesque and eccentric in Caracas, Bogotá, Lima, Santiago, Buenos Ayres, and Rio de Janeiro, with a sure and overmastering instinct. Rapid and superficial, he yet has a faculty for seizing characteristic traits; and the net result is a very readable book, though one that by no stretch/could be called thoroughly informed.

Vols. XXI and XXII in the Publications of the Hakluyt Society, Series 2, are translations of Alonso de Espinosa's "Del Origen y Milagros de la Santa Imagen de nuestra Señora de Candelaria que apareció en la Isla de Tenerife, con la Descripción de esta Isla," and the much more precious "History of the Incas," by Pedro Sarmiento de Gamboa, together with Ocampo's account of "The Execution of the Inca Tupac Amaru." The recent publication of the text of the Sarmiento manuscript, in the library of Göttingen, was the immediate occasion of this edition, to which Sir Clements Markham furnishes the introduction. He does not fail to point out the inevitable bias in a narrative designed to prove that the Incas were usurpers and tyrants, and thus justly robbed and put to death by the unselfish Spaniards. Still, Sarmiento remains the chief authority on the Inca civilization.

"The Nun Ensign" (London: T. Fisher Unwin) is James Fitzmaurice-Kelly's latest demonstration of his Spanish scholarship. It is a translation into English of "La Monja Alferez," with a learned introduction and copious notes. At the end is printed, in Spanish, the play, by Juan Pérez de Montalbán, also entitled "La Monja Alferez." The editor makes it probable that one scene from this play turned up as a spurious chapter in the book. Mr. Fitzmaurice-Kelly's tracing of the actual history of the actual nun ensign, Catalina de Erauso, and of the origin and fate of the account which she was supposed to have written of her extraordinary adventures, disguised as a man, shows an exhaustive sifting of all the material. Incidentally, it convicts De Quincey, in his essay on this work, of either ignorance or imposition, or both. An attractive feature of this edition is the inclusion of twenty-seven illustrations by Viérge. They are on glazed paper, pasted over blue-tinted pages, as a kind of framing. In his well-known style, they lose something here by their uniformly small scale.

The Comte de Rambuteau is not a hero of romance. To the Parisian of to-day he is remembered merely by a street that bears his name and by certain modest but useful improvements which he introduced in Paris during the fifteen years of his administration as Prefect of the Seine. He died in 1869. His Memoirs, written during his retirement, under the Second Empire, were released by his grandson in 1904 and edited by a professor of a French lycée. They

are now translated into English (G. P. Putnam's Sons). The reader, who is looking for spicy anecdotes or malicious portraits need not open this volume, which contains only the recital of a busy life spent in the service of the state. This aristocrat was, in fact, a bourgeois with qualities more solid than brilliant. Instead of wasting his youth in sterile opposition to the new order of things, he entered the court of Napoleon as Chamberlain and afterwards served the Emperor as Prefect. Having retired to private life during the Restoration, he reappeared just in time to reap the benefit of the Revolution of 1830, which gave him the important function of Prefect of the Seine that he kept until 1848. His last years he spent on his family estate of Rambuteau, in Burgundy, quietly awaiting death, which he had eluded through five or six coups d'état, riots, and revolutions. These long and somewhat ponderous Memoirs will give the historians some firsthand information on at least three different subjects; first, the provincial administration during the last months of the declining empire, when sedition and conspiracies were rife on every side; second, the revolutions of 1830 and 1848 as seen by a man who was in the thick of the fight; last and most important of all, the municipal administration of Paris by one of its most efficient and hardworking Prefects, who started out to give the Parisians "water, air, and shade," and won by his far-reaching reforms the gratitude of all classes and by his public works paved the way for Haussmann and Alphand. If this volume of figures and facts contains few portraits, it is not devoid, however, of interesting sidelights on some of the makers of history whom Rambuteau had occasion to approach. He confirms what we knew of Napoleon's temper which more than once was displayed at the sittings of the Council of State; he gives some interesting instances of the blind optimism of Louis Philippe a few days before the outbreak of the revolution; finally, the reception he received from the Duchesse d'Angoulême confirms M. Lenôtre's statement about her character, showing that everybody is agreed in lamenting in the daughter of Louis XVI the absence of all that is "tender and womanly." The translation is edited with the usual care of American and English publishers and has a sufficient index. Few mistakes can be charged to the translator, who, however, ought to know that the so-called "reformers" of Montauban are the Calvinists, known in French as "réformés."

"The Character of Jesus," by the Rev. Dr. Charles Edward Jefferson, contains twenty-six Sunday evening discourses delivered by their author in the Broadway Tabernacle of this city during the last two winters (Thomas Y. Crowell & Co.). The volume is popular in character. While Dr. Jefferson professes to have studied the New Testament criticism of the last thirty years, he shows no evidence of serious wrestling with its problems. The narratives of the Fourth Gospel are employed indiscriminately with those of the Synoptics. Nevertheless Dr. Jefferson has a vigorous facility in expressing useful truths. His chapters on "The Strength of Jesus," "His Poise," "His Firmness," "His Candor," and other like topics, may be read by men

of all casts of mind with profit, and gratitude. A volume composed in this manner is necessarily somewhat discursive and repetitious.

The Catholic priest, Heinrich Hansjakob, who as a story-teller has long been popular among Protestants and his own church people, has lately added to his long list of publications "Verlassene Wege: Tagebuchblätter" (Stuttgart: A. Bonz & Co.). The collection consists of narratives of his journeys in recent years, particularly in South Germany.

The Studien zur Geschichte des neueren Protestantismus, edited by Dr. Heinrich Hoffmann and Leopold Zscharnack (Giesesen: Alfred Töpelmann), will publish new or rare sources of information for the study of early Protestantism. The first Quellenheft contains Spalding's "Bestimmung des Menschen" (1748) and "Wert der Andacht" (1755), with an introduction by Horst Stephan; and Heft iii gives a translation of John Toland's "Christianity Not Myste-rious" (1696), rendered by W. Lunde, to which are added Leibnitz's "Annotatiunculae" of 1701.

One of the most striking figures among the Danish men of letters to-day is Johannes V. Jensen, who has made his reputation within two years. The curious mixture of grotesque fancy and acute observation in his early fiction set him apart from the rest of his countrymen, and, indeed, his contemporaries, and drew upon him the attention of German publishers, who at once secured him for their market. He is now a frequent contributor to *März. Morgen*, and other magazines, and his books appear almost simultaneously in Danish and German. Close upon his interesting novel, "Das Rad," the scene of which was laid in Chicago, comes a volume of essays, "Die neue Welt" (Berlin: S. Fischer & Co.), discussing the new aspects of life embodied in America and appearing also in certain personalities of the old world. He finds in the "peasant culture," of which Björnson is such a splendid specimen, in the modern humanism of Darwin and Grundtvig, in the work of Schillings and others, symptoms of that return to nature and that rejuvenation which is the true renaissance. The book is full of suggestive ideas, and is conceived in a spirit of optimism which is quite different from the tone of most European "moderns." Unlike so many visitors to this country, Jensen does not condemn the essentially American features and manifestations of life that he became familiar with during his sojourn in the United States, but attempts an interpretation of them in connection with phenomena which he has observed elsewhere, and which he traces to a common source. In the introductory chapter on machines, he says that iron construction, the modern Gothic, is the natural style of the present time.

The houses in America are truly heathenish; their purpose, their utility, was considered before architecture was thought of; it will be seen in some later time that there is beauty in this style. For beauty follows truth as it does strength. The present time is pagan, and pagan is the renaissance which triumphantly comes to all nations.

In Jensen's opinion nothing could have been more fit to celebrate the anniversary of the arrival of the first colonists from

Europe than the naval reunion in New York. For "the wanderer's heart of Columbus has made of the mortal man an immortal myth, which still unites all migratory natures on both sides of the ocean in the one truth, that all reality begins with a dream." The originality of Jensen's point of view and the freshness of his style make the book unusually enjoyable reading.

A new selection from the works of E. T. A. Hoffmann, who, owing to his spiritual kinship with Edgar Allan Poe, is frequently mentioned at this time, is being published by Max Hesse, Leipzig. There are to be eight volumes, with an introduction by Richard Schaukal.

The Germans have a new, compact, and scholarly Latin dictionary in the "Lateinisches Wörterbuch," prepared by Prof. E. Kraetsch and Prof. A. Mittag (Berlin: Neufeld & Henius). In a volume of one thousand pages the authors have endeavored to cover the ground completely, regarding the style of Cæsar and Cicero as classical, and designating that of others as non-classical, old-Latin, vulgar Latin, later Latin, and modern Latin. A list of proper names covering 89 pages completes the book, which shows much independent scholarship and is well adapted to the use of students.

Charles Enschedé, of the firm of Joh. Enschedé en Zonen, printers and typefounders in Haarlem, Holland, has prepared a work on the typefounders of the Netherlands from the fifteenth to the eighteenth century, which will be published soon by De Erven F. Bohn in Haarlem, with Otto Harrassowitz in Leipzig as agent for the international trade. The illustrations, with one exception, will be from types made with the original matrices in the possession of the firm, representing 6 forms from the fifteenth century, 9 from the sixteenth, 52 from the seventeenth, and 305 from the eighteenth. Among the contents of the volume we notice a study of the various Elzevir presses.

Among this year's issues of the Society for Publishing Old Northern Literature (Samfund til Udgivelse af Gammel Nordisk Litteratur), Copenhagen, is to be noted an edition of the old Icelandic vellum manuscript of encyclopædic nature, listed as No. 194 in the Arnarnagæan Collection of Manuscripts, published under the title of "Alfroedi Islensk," by Dr. Kr. Kaalund, the librarian of the collection. This is the first edition of the manuscript in question, which is very interesting as showing the range of the knowledge possessed by Icelandic ecclesiastic and monastic scholars at the beginning of the fourteenth century.

That indefatigable Icelandic scholar and interpreter of Icelandic Scaldic poetry, Prof. Finnur Jónsson of Copenhagen University, has recently issued two works of importance to the student of Germanic philology. One is a "History of the Icelandic and Old Norwegian Literature" (Copenhagen: G. E. C. Gad), a one-volume abbreviation, for the use of students, of the same author's great three-volume work on the same subject (previously noticed in these columns). The other is a text edition with interpretation, of the "Old Norwegian and Icelandic Scaldic Poetry," published by the Commission for the Arnarnagæan Fund, through the Gyldendal Publishing House, Copenhagen and Chicago. In

the field of Scandinavian philology an authoritative and critical and at the same time conservative edition of the existing monuments of Scaldic poetry is a matter of prime importance; and it is well therefore that the work has been undertaken by a master hand.

A young Scandinavian author who has lately obtained considerable European renown, as attested by the fact that his latest book is simultaneously published in Christiania, Paris, Milan, and Utrecht, is the Norwegian, Johan Bojer, whose novel "Vort Rige" (Our Kingdom) has just been brought out by the Gyldendal Publishing House (Copenhagen and Chicago). The book, which has for hero a rather sympathetic young man who seems to be undeservedly persecuted by an unsympathetic fate, deserves to be read by those who would follow literary developments in Scandinavia.

The year-end at Paris has been fruitful of what was once called polite literature. Pierre Brun issues a limited edition (twelve francs) of "Savinien de Cyrano Bergerac" (Daragon), unravelling the history and legend of this *gentilhomme parisien* from Lebreton to Edmond Rostand. "Études de la littérature française" (sixth series, Perrin), by the proximately *académisable* René Doumic, extends from St. Francis de Sales to Jules Lemaitre's "Racine." While not startling or revolutionary, such criticism is full of cultivated amenity. We tread a more combative field with the veteran Edmond Lepelletier in "Émile Zola," his life and work (Mercure de France). M. Lepelletier was one of the earliest fanatics of the Naturalist school, and, though he later differed with its founder in politics, he still sees by the day that is dead. It is, perhaps, the most complete book yet published on the man who for a few years overshadowed grimly all the other writers of France.

Polite literature would be little without polished language; and recent disquieting agitations have drawn out a number of useful books on French itself. Albert Dauzat's "La Langue française d'aujourd'hui" (Armand Colin) treats of the evolution and present problems of the speech of France. Even as radical a Deputy as Charles Maurice Couyba (the school poet Maurice Boukay) stood up in Parliament in the debate on the university budget, to say that the glory of France, its language, was deteriorating under the modern system of education. André Beaunier begins at the beginning, "Contre la Réforme de l'orthographe" (Plon-Nourrit), a spirited piece of writing *pour la défense française*. Gustave Lanson of the Sorbonne, in a sort of university extension series, publishes "L'Art de la prose" (Annales politiques et littéraires); and even Emerson, though he did not care for it nearly so much as for Montaigne, would have agreed with Matthew Arnold that no modern language has prose like that of the French classics.

Perhaps not so important, and certainly not at all of the university, but equally and superlatively French, is the Comtesse de Gencé's "Le Code mondain de la jeune fille," a handbook of proper doing and acting for the entire life of the young person, from her entrance into the *monde* until safely arrived at her *jeanettes*, within sight of her goal—marriage (Bibliothèque d'ouvrages pratiques). Dr. Cabanès, who

is constantly peering into the most intimate corners of other days, publishes a contrasting "Mœurs intimes du passé" (A. Michel), which is not always for the young person's reading, although he expounds things as innocent as how our grandmothers blew their noses.

Antonio Fogazzaro's novels, especially "The Saint," which called out a Papal bull and a syllabus, have almost obscured his poems. Yet it was as a poet that he first won recognition, and now he has collected in a single volume "Le Poesie," which comprises what he desires to have stand as his poetic product. The book has for frontispiece a recent portrait of Senator Fogazzaro (Milan: Baldini, Castoldi & Co.).

The sixth general convention of the Religious Education Association will be held at Chicago, February 10-12. The special programme of the Department of Universities and Colleges, just issued, announces a symposium on "The Problem of Religious Instruction and Religious Influence in State Universities." The following are the contributions to it: "Statement of the Problem," President Henry S. Pritchett of the Carnegie Foundation; "The State University and the Religious Denominations," the Rev. Joseph W. Cochran, secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Education, Philadelphia; "The State University and the School of Theology," Dean Shaller Mathews, University of Chicago; "Religious Instruction in State Universities from the Legal Standpoint," Chancellor Frank Strong, University of Kansas; "What Can Be Done and What Cannot Be Done," President Cyrus Northrop, University of Minnesota; "The State University of Iowa Plan for Religious Education," Chancellor George E. MacLean, University of Iowa. To a symposium on "Moral and Religious Influences as Related to Environment of Student Life" there will be the following contributions: "Dormitory Life for College Men," President Charles F. Thwing, Western Reserve; "Dormitory Life for College Women," Dean Marion Talbot, University of Chicago; "Factors in the Dormitory Problem," President Richard Cecil Hughes, Ripon College; "The Private Dormitory," President Charles W. Eliot, Harvard; "The Private Boarding-house for College Women," Mrs. Mary Bidwell Breed, adviser of women, University of Missouri; "The College Sorority as a Substitute for the Woman's Dormitory," Mrs. Cora Stranahan Woodward, adviser of women, University of Wisconsin; general discussion, introduced by Prof. Charles F. Kent, Yale. "The College Fraternity as a Factor in the Religious and Moral Life of Students" will be treated as follows: "History and Early Ideals of the Greek Letter Societies," Albert P. Jacobs, Detroit; "The Fraternity of To-day," Clarence F. Birdseye, New York; "The College Fraternity in the State University," President Edmund J. James and Dean Thomas A. Clark, University of Illinois; "The College Fraternity as an Ally in Maintaining Institutional Standards," President Guy Potter Benton, Miami University; discussion, Prof. Ernest H. Lindley, Indiana University, Prof. William A. Scott, University of Wisconsin, and Prof. Henry M. Bates, University of Michigan. "The Higher Education as a Preparation for Life on the Moral and Religious Side" will be discussed as follows: "Preparation of the College Student for Social Service,"

Prof. John M. Gillette, University of North Dakota; "Agencies for Deepening the Spiritual Life of the College," Prof. Edwin F. Starbuck, University of Iowa.

The Baltimore Association for the Promotion of the University Education of Women offers a fellowship of \$500 for the year 1909-1910 available for study at an American or European University. As a rule this fellowship is awarded to candidates who have done one or two years of graduate work, preference being given to women from Maryland and the South. All applications must be sent before March 20, 1909, to the chairman of the Committee on Award, Dr. Mary Sherwood, The Arundel, Baltimore.

Arthur William A'Beckett, novelist and dramatist, for many years one of the chief writers for *Punch*, died in London, January 14. He was born in Fulham in 1844, son of the Gilbert Abbott A'Beckett, who wrote the "Comic History of England." At an early age the young A'Beckett entered journalism as editor of the *Glowworm*. Later he was connected with the *Britannia Magazine*, was a special correspondent in the Franco-German war, and was editor of the *Sunday Times*, of the *Naval and Military Magazine*, and of *John Bull*. Some of these undertakings were an outlet for the energy which was not consumed by his labors on the staff of *Punch*, from 1874 to 1902. He was also the author of several three-act comedies, and was active in the Society of Authors. His publications are: "Comic Guide to the Royal Academy" (with his brother Gilbert, 1863-64), "Fallen Among Thieves" (1869), "Our Holiday in the Highlands" (1874), "The Shadow Witness," and "The Doom of St. Quirec" (with Sir F. C. Burnand, 1875-76), "The Ghost of Grimstone Grange" (1877), "The Mystery of Mostyn Manor" (1878), "Tracked Out," "Hard Luck," "Stone Broke" (1879-81), "Papers from Pumphandle Court" (1884), "Modern Arabian Nights" (1885), "The Member for Wrottenborough" (1895), "Greenroom Recollections" (1896), "The Modern Adam" (1899), "The A'Becketts of *Punch*" (1903), "The Tunnel Mystery" (1905), "Recollections of a Humorist" (1907).

Fernand Bournon, a member of the staff of the *Journal des Débats*, has died in his fifty-second year. Besides his newspaper work, he wrote many books on the antiquities of Paris, and published seventy-seven volumes of a collection of "Monographies des communes du département de la Seine."

Hermann Jahnke, teacher, novelist, and playwright, has died, at the age of sixty-three. Much of his writing is in Niederdeutsch, his best-known book being "Nahwer Bismarck," published in 1875.

CARL SCHURZ'S REMINISCENCES.

The Reminiscences of Carl Schurz. Vol. III, 1863-1869; with a Sketch of His Life and Public Services from 1869 to 1896, by Frederic Bancroft and William A. Dunning, Pp. x+486. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co.

There is but one serious disappointment in this third and last volume of Schurz's "Reminiscences": the Reminiscences proper break off almost at the

beginning of Grant's Administration and of Schurz's own service in the Senate. This is a period which the careful, formal historians have now invaded, and it is a pity they cannot have the benefit of Schurz's intimate knowledge of its men and causes. His judgments, made always from a point of view peculiarly elevated and detached, yet strengthened always by a human and sympathetic intuition and by a rich experience, would probably have been more valuable than those of any one of his contemporaries. The loss to the general reader is hardly less; for the autobiography keeps its engaging quality to the end.

Schurz's children have done well to entrust Mr. Bancroft and Professor Dunning with the task of continuing the story; better, in fact, than they could well have expected. For ordinarily, when two writers collaborate, the result is disappointing in point of form; yet this sketch strikes us as rather better written than either Mr. Bancroft's "Seward" or Professor Dunning's "Reconstruction." The main facts of Schurz's later career are set forth carefully, with good judgment, with sympathy. The only general criticism which suggests itself is that we do not find in this biographic part what the autobiographic part, of course, could not give—a Boswellian account of the man himself, with ample anecdotal illustration. Schurz had a most interesting and engaging personality. He was extremely good company. We wish that we might be oftener introduced into his home, and the circle of his friends. But perhaps, with the modesty that characterizes the sketch, its authors have meant to leave this opportunity to whoever, notwithstanding the "Reminiscences," shall attempt a complete life.

Schurz's own story of the years 1863-1869 takes up considerably more than half the volume. Gettysburg comes first, and the chapter will no doubt rank as one of the best of the many accounts of the great fight by eye-witnesses. Gettysburg and Chattanooga, however, close the list of important battles in which Schurz had a part. In 1864, he found the call to service on the hustings, in defence of Lincoln's administration, more compelling than the rather tame military duties assigned to him for the time being; and when he went back to the front the end was close at hand. But he had proved himself no mere holiday soldier, and his experience of American warfare had been stern enough to make him combat vigorously, a few years later, in his native country, and in no less a presence than Bismarck's, the assumption of superiority for the more elaborately disciplined soldiers of Europe over those he had led and faced on this side of the Atlantic.

It was but a single step from the fighting to the still more prominent rôle

he played in Reconstruction. This last is no doubt the part of his public service which present-day historians are most disposed to criticise. His motives they will hardly assail. But his well-known report on conditions in the South immediately after the war, in which he advocated giving the ballot to the blacks at once, supplied arguments for the Congressional leaders who overthrew the Presidential plan of reconstruction and substituted a plan of their own which is now, by many students of the period, condemned as partisan, if not vindictive, in motive, and which all know to have produced, in actual operation, detestable results. Not much is here added to the mass of fact and observation in the "Report," but we learn a good deal about the circumstances under which it was written, and also—for the first time—the precise character of Schurz's break with Andrew Johnson. To that unlucky President Schurz shows little leniency; but Johnson, exasperating as he remains for his tactlessness, for the matchless untimeliness of his alternate displays of stubbornness and weakness, nevertheless emerges from this particular arraignment, as from others, with some measure of the reader's sympathy. That is a feeling which finds its way into the histories, along with a more and more unfavorable feeling towards Sumner and Stevens. Schurz firmly denies that the grant of suffrage to the freedmen was meant as a punishment for their former masters; yet he admits that Stevens was not without hatred for the slave-owners. He himself continues to justify the act by the only reasoning which appeals to the hindsight of a later generation—that it was necessary, in order to keep the whites from reducing the blacks to some form of slavery or semi-slavery. Against this view one is now bound to set the contrary view of J. F. Rhodes and Professor Dunning. We are persuaded also that Schurz makes too little of the purely partisan motive of the Republican majority in Congress. Perhaps, in this, he was misled by his own freedom from such a spirit.

We turn with pleasure from this most painful chapter in American history back to the earliest scenes of Schurz's life. His account of his visit to Germany in 1867 is entirely fascinating. For an American reader, there is a curious pride in the reception he got, and particularly in the extraordinary interview with Bismarck. Probably no other passage in the entire three volumes will be read so often. Doubtless Schurz himself was by this time a good enough American to relish such recognition more keenly than if he had remained a merely European republican.

But he had lost no whit of devotion to his old ideals when he came back and threw himself once more into American politics. Of that devotion there