

His description of the rations was quite enough to explain illness, but he had no complaint to make, as he said they knew they received the best the authorities could furnish.

I submit that evidence of this sort, given by a man whose speech showed that he was a Southerner, and without the least idea that it would ever be printed, should have great weight. If prisoners and guards received exactly the same rations, there can at least be no truth in the contention that the prisoners were starved. Any soldier in any of the Southern armies could explain why medicine was not to be had for the prisoners. W. D. HOOPER.

University of Georgia, Athens Ga., May 26.

SOCIALISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Your amusing dissertation (see *Nation*, May 27) on the parlor Socialist recalls a hectic warning against Socialism, entitled "The Coming Peril," which came to my notice a few days ago.

Socialism has truly lost much of its ancient barnyard ferocity, and tamed down to a suitable playfulness for the parlor. Its fangs have been drawn, its sting removed, and what was once honest, if forceful, protest, has degenerated into a species of windy discontent with oppression, monopoly, confiscation, etc., as maltreated by-words.

Though not disposed to apologize for the injustices of the economic system, I yet fail to see how the good of the cause is served by calling things out of their names. Monopoly and confiscation are relative terms, and applied indiscriminately promise no solution.

Specific gravity counts in the economic as in the physical world. Conditions cannot be overcome by theories, nor is virtue attained through vociferous condemnation of successful brigandage. W. S.

Philadelphia, June 2.

THE HANGING OF PLANTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: It may not be too late to submit the following quotation apropos of the recent discussion in your correspondence column in regard to the hanging of animals. The passage is found in the work attributed to one Meister Stolle (thirteenth or fourteenth century), reprinted in Von der Hagen's "Minnesinger," vol. III, p. 5:

A king rode before the house of a good man who dwelt by the forest, and who suffered many sorrows without desert. A garden lay by the house, in which he had erected a gallows. The king said: "Good man, tell me, why have you erected this?" He said: "Full many a day the tall weeds have destroyed my good crops; these I pull out with my hands and hang them upon the gallows, that they may wither there."

B. Q. MORGAN.

University of Wisconsin, May 26.

Notes.

After a silence of six years, James Lane Allen has written a new novel, "The Bride of the Mistletoe," which will be issued by the Macmillan Company at an early date.

Little, Brown & Co. have ready for immediate publication a new work by Admiral A. T. Mahan, entitled "The Harvest Within: Being Thoughts on the Life of a Christian." This is a striking departure from the topics usually considered by our naval writer.

Nathan Haskell Dole has made a translation of Baroness von Suttner's "Memoiren," which will be brought out by Ginn & Co. The book, in its German form, was noticed in the *Nation* of February 18.

Calmann-Lévy announce a new work by Anatole France, to be called "Les Sept Femmes de la Barbe-Bleue, et autres contes merveilleux."

The Sturgis & Walton Co. announce what they describe as an important book of travel to be published in the autumn. It is an account of "The Great Wall of China," by Dr. William Edgar Geil.

Buxton Forman is editing a volume of letters of Edward John Trelawny. He would be glad to have any letters of Trelawny sent to him for inspection, at No. 46 Marlborough Hill, St. John's Wood, London.

"Burdett's Hospitals and Charities" (the Scientific Press) comes to us for the year 1909, with its full statistics regarding English and Colonial charitable institutions, with a chapter on American hospitals. The expenditure tables have all been remodelled in order to bring them into line with the Revised Uniform System of Accounts. In its own field the book is indispensable.

One may fairly ask whether Alexander J. Philip did not fall between two stools when he refrained from making a Dickens encyclopædia or a Dickens concordance out of his "Dickens Dictionary" (E. P. Dutton & Co.). The compiler himself laments the difficulty of separating the characters and places dealt with by the novelist from merely casual allusions. This will probably be felt still more keenly by the reader, who may be counted upon to consult the volume for just those less familiar scenes and persons which Mr. Philip omits. Barring this defect, the dictionary is admirably wrought. Under the leading titles appear the chapter reference, followed by a brief description which, in the case of more important characters, is amplified by a note about the plot and setting. When possible, conjectures are added as to the historical personages who may have served as models. Dickens's own descriptions are closely followed throughout. The synopses of his works, in the introduction, are not uniformly good, though doubtless serving well enough what little purpose they have. It is to be hoped that the work will soon grow into a Dickens encyclopædia, as Mr. Philip plans.

Prof. Eugen Kuehnemann of the University of Breslau, who was exchange professor at Harvard from 1906 to 1908, has written for the *Deutsche Rundschau* a study of ex-President Eliot, which has been translated by Dr. A. W. Boesche of Harvard University, and published by Houghton Mifflin Company in a thin volume of eighty-five pages. The writer has tempered his admiration for Harvard's great president with a sufficient measure of judgment. He is interpretative rather than critical, but will undoubtedly give his German public a

very adequate idea of what Mr. Eliot stood for and accomplished. To us, naturally, the little essay brings little that is new. If Prof. Eugen Kuehnemann errs anywhere it is in laying somewhat exaggerated emphasis on President Eliot's devotion to the cause of American democracy. Mr. Eliot's influence on public life has undoubtedly been notable, but, after all, it is something of a commonplace that the speeches of university presidents shall insist upon the close connection between college and country. The German reader is a bit in danger of drawing wrong conclusions concerning the aristocratic tone of the average American university other than Harvard.

"Civics and Health" (Ginn & Co.), by William H. Allen, secretary of the Bureau of Municipal Research, is not the systematic treatise which the title might lead some readers to expect. It is, however, most interesting reading, well calculated to draw attention to the exceedingly varied efforts now making to bring about a general social betterment by beginning at the bottom. The central theme of the book may be said to be that health is a right which every member of the community may properly claim, and that the most important element in the health of the community in the broadest sense is the child. The preface, by Prof. W. T. Sedgwick, intimates that the author is a prophet, but of a very practical type, albeit crying in a social wilderness. Much of his message seems to us rather vague, as, perhaps, befits prophecy, and some of his views and suggestions, mostly little suited for quotation, will not bear rigid inspection at short range; but the book as a whole can hardly fail to awaken the sympathies of even an apathetic reader. Now and then he may feel that he hears too many of the pet phrases of the settlement worker, or he may find the trend of method altogether too socialistic, the system too paternal to be quite acceptable; but the more he reads the better he will recognize that the preacher sincerely desires to reduce these evils to the lowest possible limit. It is an unexpected pleasure to come upon a thoroughly rational attitude towards alcohol and tobacco, and the mere expression of such views will create confidence in the writer's position regarding other very debatable questions. The book is well printed, and has a number of excellent pictures, whose precise relation to the text is not always obvious.

Dodd, Mead & Co. have just issued the "New International Year Book" for 1908, the second in their new series of annual volumes edited by Frank Moore Colby. In 1902 both the "International Year Book" and its senior, "Appleton's Annual," suspended publication. Their simultaneous disappearance was presumptive evidence that there was no demand for works of that character. Yet it is hard to see why the journalist, the student of contemporary politics, and the large number of college teachers whose interests lie in the yearly progress of the social and natural sciences should fail to recognize the large utility of an annual cyclopædia, provided it shows tolerable fullness and a high standard of accuracy. If history, for instance, is to go on being written in large part from newspapers, as it has been done by Mr. Schouler and Mr. Rhodes, a reliable annual compendium is both a valuable guide and sub-

stitute. The latest "International Year Book" is a handsomely printed volume of 776 large pages. It appears exceptionally strong in gazetteer matter and politics. Perhaps as valuable a feature as any is the summary of events accompanying the separate articles on the States and Territories. Local politics and legislation are badly neglected in nearly all books of reference, in spite of the fact that Alexander Johnston in "Lalor's Cyclopædia" showed what admirable work can be done in that field. In the present volume the State summaries have been intelligently prepared. Here, if anywhere, error by writer or proofreader should be rigidly guarded against. Those we have noticed are of the second kind. Under Louisiana, the difference between 63,000 votes and 12,000 votes should give a majority of about 50,000 and not 40,000 as stated. Under New York, Shearn's vote for Governor is given as 33,994. This was approximately Shearn's vote in New York city; in the State it was over 43,000. Foreign statistics and politics receive very satisfactory treatment. The biography strikes us as comprehensive, but overcondensed. About 1,400 words for Grover Cleveland is not enough; or if that is enough, 800 words for Senator Allison is too much. Campbell-Bannerman and Charles W. Eliot are treated very summarily. But as a whole, the book easily demonstrates its value as a work of reference.

"Woman Through the Ages," by Emil Reich (E. P. Dutton & Co.), may interest those who are in search of facts about women dissociated from the political, social, and literary movements of their times. The "gallons" of information, poured (to use the author's own figure) into the "pint measures" of two handsomely printed and illustrated volumes, include all types of "western" women from the mothers of Egypt and the matrons and commendable *hetæra* of Greece to the "Amazons" of America, in whom is all guile, and who have not yet found their Theseus in the "American male Cinderella." The clearest thread in the maze of biographical and descriptive material is the author's theory, already advanced in a previous work, that imperialism affects disadvantageously the position and character of woman. Upon this thread are strung specimens as diverse as the women of Athens, Sparta, Rome, and England. Although first-hand sources have been drawn upon, readers familiar with other compendia of the history and literature of classical antiquity, the middle ages, and the renaissance, and of France and England in the following centuries, will find little that is new in this book. Dr. Reich's opinions, however, are often sufficiently unprecedented, as when he asserts (inconsistently with some of his other conclusions) that it was the failure of the Greeks to develop their women which proved their ruin, or that "in the renaissance the personality of women was as yet nebulous." His knowledge of sculptured beauty is less exact than his observation of the beauties of living women, if we may judge from his failure to distinguish from Pentelic the Parian marble of the Venus of Melos. His literary preferences may be seen from his attributing to Mrs. Browning a "beauteous power of song" and to George Eliot "feeble didacticism and verbosity." His moral preferences are not al-

ways so well defined, but in general they tend to exalt the mother of the Gracchi above George Sand. The feminism of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries is always an abomination to him. Since Dr. Reich disclaims having written a "history of woman," we cannot perhaps complain of his special pleading and fitful arguments. But even those who agree with him will find his entire treatment vitiated by a style at once feverish and bloodless. It is not in this way that the "few Englishmen" at whom his preface is aimed will be disabused of a *chinoiserie d'idées* about "the rôle of woman in social and historical life."

Prof. Otto Ritschl has undertaken an exceptionally difficult task in a large history of Protestant theological thought, "Dogmengeschichte des Protestantismus: Grundlagen und Grundzüge der theologischen Gedanken- und Lehrbildung in den protestantischen Kirchen." Vol. I has the special title, "Prolegomena: Biblizismus und Traditionalismus in der altprotestantischen Theologie" (Leipzig: J. C. Hinrichs). The author correctly feels that he is supplying a desideratum, as the theology of the early Protestant fathers has been grossly neglected in favor of the theology of the middle ages and earlier periods; or, even worse, has been judged from a wrong point of view. Ritschl has undertaken to furnish a purely objective investigation.

A new book of unusual interest to students of German literature is volume xiv of Suphan's edition of Herder, recently published. This scholarly edition has been for years almost complete. The lack of this particular volume, however, has been felt as a serious gap in the series, as it was to contain the second half of the "Ideen," with the introduction and critical apparatus to the whole work. The first half of the "Ideen," volume xiii, appeared in 1887, and scholars were beginning to give up hope of seeing the work completed in Suphan's lifetime. His duties as director of the Goethe and Schiller Archives in Weimar and supervising editor of the Weimar edition of Goethe have occupied him to such an extent that it seemed as if he would be unable to complete the Herder. But the editing of Goethe's scientific writings has put him in possession of a rich fund of material bearing on Herder's relation to Goethe. The matter of chief importance is the manuscript material which Herder left, and which throws new light on the history of the composition of the work. Volume I of the edition, we may add, was published in 1877, and reviewed in the *Nation* of May 30, 1878. The concluding volume will probably appear in 1910.

That modern English literature interests the Germans more and more, keeping pace with their study of the current English language, may be shown by a new and voluminous work, "Die englische Literatur im Zeitalter der Königin Victoria," by Dr. Leon Kellner, professor in the University of Czernowitz (Leipzig: Tauchnitz). In the characteristic style of the *Forscher* who is determined to sweep the forest and thus overlook no tree, bush, fern, or even moss, Kellner begins with a general view of literature at the dawn of the Victorian era, seeks to outline the chief characteristics of English poetry, fiction, history, and drama,

as they gradually developed, and treats the leading writers, one by one, beginning with Dickens, Bulwer, and Mill, and passing through Carlyle and Thackeray to Kipling, Yeats, and Bernard Shaw. About these he groups various persons of greater or less fame, in England and America, whose lives and work were influenced by the authors especially considered. Thus Emerson and Longfellow, in their relations to Carlyle and Tennyson, are noted. German criticism, as well as English, is presented in compendious footnotes, though the work, as a whole, is historical rather than critical. Bernard Shaw comes in for a disproportionate discussion, a bias that may be explained by the frequent presentation in Germany of Shaw's plays, and several translations into German of his leading works.

The latest addition to the series *Der alte Orient*, published for the Vorderasiatische Gesellschaft, by J. C. Hinrichs of Leipzig, is an instructive brochure by Dr. Arthur Ungnad, entitled "Die Deutung der Zukunft bei den Babyloniern und Assyriern." It is exceptionally rich in new material from cuneiform sources.

A valuable work on the same general subject, although of an entirely different character, is V. Unruh's "Leben mit den Tieren" (Stuttgart: Francksche Verlagshandlung). It is a thorough psychological study of the lower animals, with excellent suggestions as to man's relations to them, and his proper treatment of them in order to develop their most useful qualities through domestication.

One of the best studies of America published in Germany is Dr. Paul Darmstaedter's "Die Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika: Ihre politische, wirtschaftliche und soziale Entwicklung" (Leipzig: Quelle & Meyer). In less than 250 pages the author gives a clear and comprehensive survey of the subject, showing thorough knowledge and just appreciation.

Students of philology and of history, especially readers of *Livy*, will be interested in the new work of Wilhelm Soltau, entitled "Die Anfänge der römischen Geschichtsschreibung" (Leipzig: H. Haeseler). The special purpose of this book is to show that all vital and individual features in the oldest Roman history are based on literary invention, and not like myth and folklore, on a foundation of facts. The author asserts that no credence can be given to reports except those written contemporaneously with the events themselves. The details of this rather radical claim are developed on the basis of the oldest records, such as the Roman dramas, Ennius's "Annals," etc. The same house has also published an interesting biographical work by Dr. O. Th. Schulz of the University of Leipzig, entitled "Der römische Kaiser Caracalla: Genie, Wahnsinn, oder Verbrechen?" The writer, who is already known as the author of several larger works dealing with the Empire, has here given the latest results of psychological and historical study. In general the outcome of his research is more favorable to the Emperor than had hitherto been his lot at the hands of modern historians. In this respect he follows largely the lines of research already pointed out by Leopold von Ranke. The work is written *sine ira et studio*.

The "Weltgeschichte seit der Völkerwanderung," by Dr. Theodor Lindner of the University of Leipzig, which is to be completed in nine volumes, has now reached the sixth. This volume treats of the Modern European System of States, of Absolutism and Mercantilism, of Emancipation and Independent Thought, and of Asia and Africa. The work is largely a history of civilization. Published by J. G. Cotta, Nachfolger, in Stuttgart und Berlin.

Notwithstanding the attitude of Germans toward the French, Napoleon continues to interest them, as is shown by the regular appearance of German publications. "Napoleons Schriften und Gespräche," gathered from French, German, and also English sources, and edited by Hans Landsberg (Berlin: Pan Verlag) is the latest volume in the Napoleon Bibliothek. The editor claims for the Emperor no considerable literary ability, but believes that many of his forgotten compositions and interviews are worth reprinting. This is at least true with the account of Napoleon's meeting with Goethe, described by Goethe himself briefly and unsatisfactorily.

Some years ago Eduard von Hartmann set himself to the task of writing a "System der Philosophie im Grundriss," and now he has finished the volume containing the "Grundriss der Religionsphilosophie" (Bad Sachsa im Harz: Hermann Haacke). The clear style and direct address of the author should commend themselves to the reader weary of wandering in the underbrush of German philosophical discussion.

The special value of the fifty-seventh annual report of the trustees of the Boston Public Library lies in the fact that it shows down to the minutest details the nature and extent of the work of the library force. For instance, to deliver a book to a reader in the central library requires the "service of six different persons." The intelligence needed in some positions is shown by a list of the inquiries for information by school-children, 158 of whom came into the rooms of a single branch one afternoon in December. There are kept on file about 375 newspapers in 20 different languages and "nearly 1,700 different periodicals are in daily use." The depreciation of the value of books is such that of the million volumes in the library about 150,000 "are not worth commercially more than ten cents apiece." One cannot read the report without being impressed with the great educational value of the library, not to the city alone, but to all the scholars living within fifty miles of Boston.

According to recently published statistics of higher education in Europe, the universities there number 135, with 224,740 students. Of these institutions, Germany has 22, with 50,432 students; France 16, with 32,211 students; Austria and Hungary 13, with 28,918; Great Britain 17, with 21,614; Switzerland 7, with 6,780; Russia 9, with 20,192; Belgium 5, with 6,207; Italy 20 (not counting the one just destroyed at Messina), with 22,794; Spain 9, with 12,180; Sweden 3, with 4,972; Holland 5, with 3,918; Rumania 3, with 5,007; Greece, the University of Athens, with 2,600; Denmark, the University of Copenhagen, with 1,607; Portugal; the University of Coimbra, with 1,840; Norway, the University of Christiania, with 1,700; Servia, the Uni-

versity of Belgrade, with 700; and Bulgaria, the University of Sofia, with 1,014. The ten universities with the largest bodies of students are: Berlin 14,203, Paris 13,420, Budapest 6,610, Vienna 6,308, Munich 6,109, Moscow 5,790, Naples 4,930, Petersburg 4,651, Leipzig 4,630, and Madrid 4,204.

The French Académie des Inscriptions has announced a number of prizes. The Grand Prix Gobert, 10,000 frs., is divided between M. Delachenal for his "Histoire de Charles V," and M. Caillet for his "Histoire de la Commune de Lyon au quinzième siècle." The Prix Saintour, 3,000 frs., is divided among four, the chief portion going to the Abbé Roussel for his translation of the Rāmāyana. The Prix Bordin, 3,000 frs., is also divided, one part going to Edmond Dautté for his "Magie et religion dans l'Afrique du nord."

Dr. Theodor Barth, the eminent German publicist, died at Baden Baden unexpectedly June 2. He was born in Duderstadt, Hanover, July 16, 1849. From his thirteenth to his nineteenth year he studied at the Gymnasium Andrianum, in Hildesheim, and spent the next three years studying law at the universities of Heidelberg, Leipzig, and Berlin, passing his examination as "Doctor juris utriusque," at Leipzig, in 1870. In 1871 and 1872 he was practising law in Bremen, for the next four years was Amts-assessor at Bremerhaven, and from 1876 to 1883 syndic of the Chamber of Commerce in Bremen, bank commissioner of the German Reichsbank, and general secretary of the Deutsche Gesellschaft zur Rettung Schiffbrüchiger. He represented the three Hanseatic cities, Hamburg, Bremen, and Lübeck, in the committee of the Bundesrat which prepared the protective tariff of 1879. Dr. Barth was a free trader, and all through his career he energetically opposed Bismarck's protective policy. He entered the Reichstag in 1881 as member for the constituency of Gotha, and the rest of his life was devoted to the cause of Liberalism. In 1883 he took up his residence in Berlin, where he founded *Die Nation*, a weekly paper, which existed under his editorship until 1907, when the publication was stopped. *Die Nation* was devoted to politics, political economy, literature, and art, and was the organ of the best writers of the Liberal party. Dr. Barth visited the United States in 1886, 1893, 1896, and 1907. In June, 1907, he received the honorary degree of Litt.D. from Harvard University. He wrote freely and temperately of American affairs, and issued a study of "Amerikanisches Wirtschaftsleben" in 1887, and a book named "Amerikanische Eindrücke" in 1896. His other writings were mostly contributions to *Die Nation* and to German, French, and English reviews.

Col. Alexander Kelly McClure, an intimate friend of Abraham Lincoln, and a well-known figure in journalism, died suddenly June 6, at his home in Wallingford, Pa. He was born of Scotch-Irish stock in Sherman's Valley, Pa., January 9, 1828. His early life was spent on his father's farm. When fifteen years old, he was apprenticed to a tanner, but was dissatisfied, and in 1846 he left. He then drifted into journalism at Mifflin, Pa., and from there went to Chambersburg. From journalism it was an easy step to politics, and as a member of the Republican convention which nominated Lincoln in 1860, he suggested

that the Pennsylvania delegates should break away from Simon Cameron of Pennsylvania, and vote for Lincoln. This was done, and Lincoln's name stamped the convention. In 1868 he went to Philadelphia to live, and took up the practice of law, having been admitted to the bar in 1853. He was chairman of the State delegation to the national convention that in 1872 nominated Horace Greeley for President. In 1873, with Frank McLaughlin, he established the *Philadelphia Times*, with a capital of \$50,000. In less than ten years the property was worth more than \$1,000,000. In 1900 he retired from the editorship of the *Times*, and, except for articles on politics, from active journalistic work.

From Leyden comes the report of the death of Professor de Goeje, the great Orientalist. He was seventy-three years old.

A GREAT STATE.

Historic Indiana. By Julia Henderson Levering. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$3 net.

The historian of Indiana has a pleasant field. Mrs. Levering exploits it to excellent advantage, presenting in a handsomely printed and beautifully illustrated book of five hundred pages a series of well-written chapters relating the development of the State through all its stages. As to its natural aspect, few American commonwealths are so attractive as a home for men. Scarcely an acre of its area is unavailable for human uses. There are no deserts, no sterile mountain tracts, no irreclaimable swamps. Its sand and gravel are of value, if in no other way, for the making of roads: its water-soaked lowlands abound in peat and fertilizing muck; its stone can be turned into masonry for cities; coal, iron, and petroleum abound beneath its surface, while above thousands of square miles of the most fruitful soil respond to the "tickling of the hoe" with such "laughing harvests" as the farmer rarely sees elsewhere. With such an endowment, Indiana is well compensated for her lack of picturesqueness; if she has no cataracts or snow-capped ranges, she has something better.

The Algonquins of the primeval period appreciated the advantages of the region, clustering numerous both north and south; and the earliest white explorers found it directly in their path as they pushed from the valley of the St. Lawrence into that of the Mississippi. Short portages at the headwaters of the Wabash and the Kankakee, opened an easy way for them to the Great River, and the trading posts were among the earliest established. The French knew it well, and their English successors saw here no less a land of promise. No episode of the Revolution is more memorable than the winning upon Indiana soil, by George Rogers Clark, for Virginia and so for the United States, of the great Northwest. Then