

and Near East. The tremendous awakening in Japan and in India alone has made the chancelleries of Europe shiver. The open door, with its guarantee of a fair start for the business of China, may be an open door to other things than trade. The East is nearing the West; its natives have always known how to die and they are learning now how to die with the white man's rifle in their hands. This fact alone counsels such a congress as is to meet in London in the name of peace and good will. The phrase, "mastery of the Pacific," conceals a struggle, some tell us, that will yet convulse half the globe. Were this true, it would only prove this to be eminently the time for all the peoples of the Pacific to get better acquainted before they are inflamed by irresponsible journalists and needless war scares beyond the hope of friendly appreciation of one another's aims and aspirations.

Essentially, the congress is to be non-political. Questions of a pressing, rasping nature are to be avoided as a matter of course. Critics will doubtless be found to assert that only the outskirts of the problem will be touched. Yet it is by passing through the outskirts first that one comes to the centre of things; and later congresses—we trust there will be a permanent organization and regularly recurring world-conferences—will define their own scope. The all-essential thing is that representatives of the races shall get together, not as inferiors and superiors, but as human souls, to find the best means of dwelling together in peace and harmony and of preventing a split along the color line—something that was unknown in the days of antiquity, before the dawn of Christianity, when what we are pleased to term barbarism, and not civilization, ruled the world. That Americans have a peculiar interest in such a congress is obvious. Nowhere else is the problem of black and white so serious or so pressing; nowhere else is there so much need for sanity and detachment in its discussion. We trust that the executive secretary, Dr. Gustave Spiller of London, who is here to organize American interest in this undertaking, will meet with the hearty support to which the magnificent possibilities of the undertaking so obviously entitle him.

SCHOLARSHIP AND ATHLETICS.

"The student who studies is an anomaly." "Usually our undergraduates live two lives—distinct; one utterly non-academic. The non-academic is for them the real; the scholarly an encroachment." Two such statements as these, the first made recently by the president of Smith College and the second in a book by Professor Gayley of the University of California, might, it should seem, start a scandal. It is as though two prominent clergymen should fling out the charge that church members look down upon any who go to church to worship God. That the trouble with the colleges does amount to mistaken worship is manifestly what Professor Gayley, at least, believes, for his book is called "Idols." If President Burton and Professor Gayley had exploded their bombs a few years back, they might have caused an upheaval. But the college has been under fire so much of late that anything more than the usual din is a matter of indifference; even President Lowell's admission a week ago that scholarship was never held in lower repute by the undergraduate excited no great comment. We are glad to hear, however, that faculties have begun to shoulder the responsibility for the present evils, instead of shifting them with the plea that students of to-day have not the quality or the capacity that was possessed by men of their own day. By a professor at Yale the reverse has just been asserted with some impatience and vehemence. And Professor Gayley says frankly: "The long and short of it is that we educators don't educate. We are fuddled with educational fads; and we fuddle the schools in turn."

To make the situation more embarrassing the institution with which teachers have had most to compete—athletics—is being conducted with business-like efficiency. A Harvard professor makes no secret of his opinion that not a course in the college can show the organization which undergraduates regularly demand of athletic coaches. This is not an overstatement. Any one who has followed college athletics must have been impressed by the hard work, the drudgery, to which boys submit, their devotion never flagging meanwhile. To go out and run a mile, rain or shine, or grind away at the oar day by day, even the youngest of professors would find extremely irksome. Nor is it

quite true that the hero-worship coming to members of "the team" is all that boys have in mind who go through their ordeals. Reward nevertheless comes to him who "serves" his college. He is almost sure to make a desirable club.

Recognition of this sort would not be forthcoming, however, unless the undergraduate body regarded athletics as the chief common bond among students to-day. As such, athletics have to be reckoned with. To see rich boys and poor boys fast friends because they are on the same team, or because they lose themselves in their enthusiasm in the cheering sections, is to watch a great force making for democracy. And the college "loyalty" created is no trivial thing. This we may admit without blinding our eyes to the immense follies and dangers of the athletic obsession.

And we may also say that it is only fair to admit that, with conditions such as they are, opportunities for a common bond other than athletics hardly exist. What the distracting elements are and how long they have been operative, educators are trying hard to ascertain. They consult their own memories or such a book as Professor Beers's "The Ways of Yale in the Consulship of Plancus," and observe that not more than forty or fifty years ago robust and attractive boys were glad to talk of Plato or to swap a Latin phrase, and to pay homage to one who could turn a verse or write a thoughtful essay. Since then the elective system has been introduced pretty generally, and it has been blamed indiscriminately for the change; especially on the ground that it broke up the traditions of general courses where students met together in large numbers. Harvard has apparently felt convinced of this, and is calling a halt.

Yet we believe that another result of the elective system is quite as much to blame—we mean the high specialization of instruction, by which the curriculum is split up into dozens of courses of tiny range. So circumscribed are these courses that a man of no imagination and no reading, provided only he be the product of the Ph.D. system, can often give them with apparent satisfaction; that the information so imparted has any place in education, we very much doubt. This condition, coupled with the small salaries,

has resulted in a type of instructor for which the student has little respect—certainly, not nearly so much, as a rule, as he has for the mental equipment of his athletic coach. The lack of respect, itself, is no secret. It was stated as one of the reasons for raising the large sum of money a few years ago at Cambridge; the salary of the instructor, and even of the assistant, was to be increased so as to attract more desirable men to the staff. We believe, however, with Professor Gayley and others, that by far too many subjects are offered—foreigners have often ridiculed the multiplicity—and that the mere elimination of a multitude of minor topics from the curriculum would do much toward bringing back into our faculties men who by their intellect and personality command admiration and a following. That would be a long step toward restoring intellect itself to the eminent place of honor now occupied by muscle.

PARIS BOOK NOTES.

PARIS, October 25.

"Une Cause célèbre au XVII^e siècle" (H. Champion), by Dr. Philippe Maréchal, with a preface by Arthur Chuquet of the Institut de France, and 40 inset plates of ancient châteaux and ruins, portraits and escutcheons, forms a bulky volume in which the author has laudably used family papers of an ancestor who figured largely in the case. Beatrix de Cusance, to set a crown upon her head, began by attributing to Charles IV of Lorraine a child who was really the son of her first husband, the Prince of Cantecroy-Granville. She had been but a few days a widow when she thus drew Charles into marrying her secretly—though he was already married. It took popes, kings, emperors, parliaments, and courts of justice interminable to put an end to the ensuing entanglement of bigamy, abduction, child-substitution (the *posthume* when he grew up persistently claiming his real father's heritage), and all the rest. The book is quite prolix, with letters and other copious *pièces justificatives*. Incidentally, it throws light on a minor period of history. Perhaps its chief interest is in its showing how real life worked out an historical romance.

"Episodes et Portraits" (second and third series: H. Champion), by Arthur Chuquet, make up two new volumes of historical miscellanies. The author, besides his position at the Collège de France, is known for his many books, chiefly on Revolutionary and Napoleonic history. A summary of the memoirs of Primi Visconti (published a year ago by Jean Lemoine: Calmann-Lévy) telling

how that Italian adventurer found the Court of Louis XVI, *la plus belle comédie du monde*; Berthier's letters to Joséphine, keeping her maritally informed of Bonaparte's doings during the Italian campaign; Metternich as one more *liaison* for Madame de Lieven, Guizot's friend, who appears in so many recently published memoirs; Madame Hamelin, the Creole from San Domingo, who was one of Napoleon's best spies; and lived faithful to his memory to see the dawn of the Second Empire; curious pages from the German memoirs of an Alsatian archivist, who knew Mérimée at Strasburg and Stendhal at Rome—are a few specimen subjects with which the general reader is made acquainted, while they are indexed for the historical student.

"Versailles royal" (H. Champion), by Juste Fennebresque, treats its subject from quite a novel point of view. To the futilities of court life it opposes the multiple utilities of the royal parks and institutions, "combating a prejudice of too long standing against our kings' creations at Versailles. It is necessary to acknowledge that, while some of them have not been respected, others, let what will be done, remain indestructible." A first part gives the history and particular description of this "Petite Venise" with its Grand Canal; the vast engineering works for bringing water, and the landscape artists' work; the corporation in charge, with its flotilla, and their history from Louis XIV to the Second Empire; and the present state of things. The second part describes the Potager, with its medicinal garden for the poor, and the famous Orangerie; Madame de Pompadour's Ermitage; the replanting of parks and gardens by Louis XVI, and the itinerary of the royal walks just before the Revolution, with pathetic details of Madame Elisabeth's domain so ruthlessly annihilated; Versailles as an experiment station of war and botany, agriculture and ballooning, under Louis XIV, XV, and XVI; and, among other things, the Petit Séminaire of Madame, founded by the daughter of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette in memory of them, and here made the occasion of a note of sharp criticism of Turquan, the latest biographer of the unfortunate princess. There are seven pages of an index of sources, documentary and printed.

"L'Effondrement du Royaume de Naples—1860" (Lausanne: Payot), by H. Remsen Whitehouse, is a French work on an historical subject which the author treated in English some years ago. It describes in chronological detail a series of events belonging to the history of our own times, from which contemporary passions and exaggeration have not yet disappeared; and it is written with unusual intelligence and moderation for such history. The minute index of proper names and the sum-

mary analysis of the various chapters published as a table of contents give peculiar value to the book for purposes of reference.

"Le Romantisme et les mœurs" (H. Champion), by Louis Maigron, professor at the University of Clermont-Ferrand, is an historical and social study from unpublished documents on a question of more than literary interest. Half an historic age, at least, was bred upon romanticism. After preliminary observations on the romantic æsthetics and ethics, their individualism, hypertrophy of imagination, and sensibility at the expense of reason and will, and the dangers of the system, our author, in a first book, treats formally of Romanticism and the Individual, its exotic and romantic tastes, and its influence on men of letters. He does not proceed by dissertation, but by flesh-and-blood examples and living words from real men and women, like Théophile Gautier, Victor Hugo, Alfred de Musset, Flaubert, and his scarcely less real Emma Bovary, Berlioz, George Sand, Baudelaire, *e tutti quanti*. Among the latter are not the least profitable witnesses, such as Philothée O'Neddy and Frédéric Soulié, in their disclosures of "misunderstood souls." The hypertrophy and its consequences, in which love, of course, demands a chapter, its neurasthenia, Satanism, *sadisme*, and suicide, are taken up successively and pitilessly in real utterances and examples. A second book, on Romanticism and Society, goes into *Antonisme*, for which Alexandre Dumas, playing with the centuries, was responsible in a disdain for all authority, and which became chattering hatred among smaller people; and into George Sand's equal disdain for conventional marriage. The third book of the volume deals with the disavowal made by the romantics themselves of romantic morality. The value of the book to all interested in literary criticism and the influence of literature on history may be estimated from the eight pages of bibliographical index. On the whole, the volume gives the high-water mark of the present reaction against the romantics, their works and words, and may be curiously compared with the sweeping religious condemnation which assailed their advent.

"La Question sociale en Espagne" (Alcan), by Angel Marvaud, is far and away the most quintessential work to be consulted by those who care to follow right reason in the present passionate and prejudiced controversies about Spain. There, as in other Continental countries of Europe, the study of revolution, socialism, anarchy, Church and State, and all the rest cannot safely be separated from that of the economic and social conditions of the people. The author has investigated at first hand, in connection with the Musée Social of Paris, the present labor movement in