

with Mathews, who in one of his essays says that in every house of education, there should be an intelligent librarian, who would know how to find books suitable to a student's tastes and needs.

The *Portfolio* one of the best of ladies' college journals, has several pretty little articles; one on the Alhambra and another on the philosophy of Confucius—the latter we suppose to prove an assertion made in the editorial column that the mind of woman is not inferior to man. Of this question we shall say nothing, but leave our contemporaries in blissful assurance of their vast mental power; we hope however that the sweet creatures will not imitate some of their sex across the line who think it more aesthetic to talk and profess Confucianism and Buddhism than Christianity.

BOOK NOTICES.

HALIBURTON: THE MAN AND THE WRITER. By F. Blake Crofton. Windsor, King's College, 1889.

The Maritime Provinces have played a very considerable part in the history of Canada, for from "down by sea" have come some of the wisest and ablest lawgivers of the Dominion. Brainy as well as brawny men are numerous in the extreme east of the Dominion which has contributed more than its share to the intellectual and moral advancement of our country. At present we have a school of poets not living in the "lake country" but in the "sea country." Roberts, Carman and Hunter Duvar, are names well known to Canadian readers. But in English prose, the writer who has been most highly appreciated, both within and without the Dominion, is certainly Judge Thomas Chandler Haliburton. "Sam Slick" rather than Washington Irving, should be placed beside Browne, Clemens and Harte in the catalogue of great American humorists. A man of wonderful discernment and shrewd insight into human nature, he portrayed in the most amusing manner the peculiarities of his countrymen and of the New Englanders as they existed half a century ago. Unfortunately his works derived their interest largely from their local coloring and comments on current events and on this account are less read at the present day. Still no one with any sense

of humor will fail to enjoy the keen sarcasm and sparkling epigram found on every page of "The Clockmaker" "The Attaché," "Wise Saws," "Nature and Human Nature," and "The Season Ticket." Just now Judge Haliburton's old *Alma Mater*, King's College, is endeavoring to create a new interest in the work of the great humorist. A society whose object is the collection of works having relation to Canadian history and literature, has been established. This society bears the name of Haliburton, and it is under its auspices that Mr. F. Blake Crofton, the Provincial Librarian of Nova Scotia has published the little work we are just reviewing. Mr. Crofton brings to the performance of his task a not inconsiderable ability; he is already known as a frequent contributor to Canadian and English periodicals. In his present attempt to renew the fame of Judge Haliburton, he promises to be most successful, for his book is sure to stimulate a desire to follow the famous "Clockmaker" through his peregrinations. Haliburton the writer is estimated at his proper value as having been possessed of remarkable talent which his circumstances did not always induce him to use to the best advantage. As to Haliburton the man, Mr. Crofton well sums up his character in the following words: "Judge Haliburton was an Epicurean philosopher, modified a little for the better by Christianity, and for the worse by practical politics." It is to be hoped that no one who peruses Mr. Crofton's sketch will neglect any longer to make himself acquainted with "the most important figure in Canadian letters." To Professor Roberts, the President of the Haliburton Society, we extend our thanks for having sent us a copy of Mr. Crofton's book.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MISSION OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY FOR THE PROTECTION OF IMMIGRANTS.
Rev. Hugh J. Kelley, Director; Castle Garden, New York City 1887-88.

In a city to which the streams of immigration flow as they do to New York, there will always be a low class of sharpers whose business it is to pounce upon unwary—and they are almost all unwary—foreigners. Sturdy men lose all their money by becoming victims to the numerous swindlers, while women are ex-