

seems to arise from sheer perverseness. Much of his power arises from the dramatic vigour with which he projects himself into the character he represents—whether it be a Caliban upon Setebos, a Spanish monk, an Arab physician, a dying bishop, or a Sludge the Medium. Browning's greatest work—the Ring and the Book—is probably, on account of its length, the least read. It was published in four volumes, and tells the same story twelve times over, from as many different points of view. Yet the interest never for a moment flags. Though it is nearly twenty years since we read it, we vividly remember its absorbing and cumulative interest to the very end. It is here epitomised and expounded in a very lucid manner. We feel that we are conferring a benefit on our readers by directing their attention to this admirable help to the study of Browning. A complete bibliography of Browning's works is added.

*New Historical Atlas and General History.* By ROBERT H. LABERTON. 4to, pp. xvi—284. New York: Townsend MacCoun. Price \$2.40.

Comparatively few persons are aware of the advantage to be derived from the study of a good atlas in reading history. It will often make luminous what was obscure, and impress so vividly upon the mind the relation between location and event that neither can be ever forgotten. In the study of the Bible and of Bible lands, we maintain that no one can grasp the subject who does not make a diligent use of maps. It will add a new interest to history or biography, or even to the daily newspaper, to trace events on the map. We especially commend the practice to young people.

We do not know any apparatus which will so facilitate this practice as the volume before us. It contains no less than 72 full-page plates, printed in colours, containing over 200 distinct maps. These illustrate almost every political change which has taken place in historical countries within historical times. The

accompanying letter-press, of which there are 213 pages, succinctly describe these changes, so that the book is at once a history and a geography of the world. The tables of chronology and genealogy, syllabus of contents, and historical bibliography, and copious index, greatly enhance the value of the book. The political changes on the map of Europe, since the beginning of this century—the shrinking of the Ottoman Empire, the growth of Russia, the unification of Italy and Germany, and the many concurrent changes—are clearly set forth. The labour involved in the preparation of these maps must have been enormous.

*The Church and the Commonwealth: Discussions and Orations on Questions of the Day.* By the Rev. WILLIAM COCHRANE, D.D. 8vo, pp. 560. Brantford: Bradley, Garretson & Co.

Dr. Cochrane is too well known as an able Presbyterian divine to need any introduction to the people of Canada. We have had the pleasure of reviewing in these pages his previous volume—an able discussion of the problem of future punishment—which had a phenomenal sale. The present volume discusses, with similar ability, some of the great questions of the day. The first of these papers—that on Christian Citizenship, its duties and obligations—is especially appropriate at the present important political juncture. Among the other topics treated are Capital and Labour, Popular Amusements, Skeptical Objections to Prayer, The Church of To-Day, etc. Then follow a series of biographical studies of Luther, Carlyle, George Brown, Lincoln, Garfield, and Grant; also able papers on Character and Culture, Religion and the State, Christ's Kingdom, its glory and perpetuity, and similar lofty themes. We are glad to see a volume of Canadian authorship of such sterling merit, and of such handsome mechanical manufacture. The illustrations, however, are not equal to the other features of the book.