

LITERATURE

THE CORRECT THING. By Florence Howe Hall.

NOT infrequently what is called "etiquette" is the essence of untruthfulness, but not so with this book, because its pithy, pointed rules are based on a genuine wish to be thoughtful for others.

"The young person" should have a copy of "The Correct Thing," because it teaches the happy way of doing things, and because courtesy is the "open sesame" everywhere. There is scarcely a moment in our lives when our value may not be materially increased by good manners. In the commerce of life, the small coins of civility will of a surety prove more valuable than minted gold.

This work is the best and most comprehensive one that has been published on the subject, and the price is not prohibitive. It deserves to have a large sale.

Dana Estes & Co., Boston.

POEMS OF PHILIP FRENEAU. Poet of the American Revolution. Edited for the Princeton Historical Association. By Fred Lewis Pattee.

THIS is one of the most noteworthy issues of the year, and no American library can afford to be without it.

Of a truth, Philip Freneau is rightly styled "the Father of American Poetry," for he was the first man born on American soil who possessed the true spark of poetic fire.

Although Freneau is dead seventy-one years, this is the first complete edition of his poems. We cannot well understand why they have so long been hidden away in dark corners.

The poems are nearly all concerned with the affairs of his time, and to follow their lead is to live for the nonce in the intense days of the revolution. The poet was the bitter opponent of slavery, and of every form of oppression. He was one of the first to demand equal rights for men and women. This is why he has been called "the lyricist of a righteous revolution, and above all, the people's poet."

Because of his Celtic temperament, Freneau was impetuous, sensitive, sanguine, proud, and a passionate lover of beauty. His muse is in turns satirical, caustic, and mournful. Now he sings a tender lyric, thrills in a pæan of victory, or again shrieks a song of vengeance. Sir Walter Scott said that his mournful wail for the dead in "Eutaw Springs" is as fine a thing as there is of the kind in the language.

Fred Lewis Pattee has edited the poems in a remarkably sympathetic and able manner. May each of us deserve and have so kind a biographer!

The edition is a thing of beauty and a joy forever.

The University Library, Princeton, N.J.

HOW PARIS AMUSES ITSELF. By F. Berkley Smith.

ONCE see this book and you will never be happy till you own it, not only because of its tasteful dress, but because it has all the interest of a peep into mischievous matters which you feel you have no business to know about.

The book is an accumulation of vivid impressions, interesting facts, and striking pictures, so combined that we learn while we only seem to be entertained.

The author, who has a fine genius for color, takes us to the risqué plays of the Palais Royal, to the Opera Comique, and the Bouffes Parisiennes; to the Theatre Libre, the cafes, circuses, bars, boulevards, and we finish up with him on a fishing bout along the Seine. Ah! he is like the obliging Parisian "cabby" of whom he writes—"Just raise your finger. *He will take you anywhere.*"

The author says Paris is the easiest place in the world to spend a dollar, and the hardest place to earn an honest one. It would seem that the schoolboy was right after all. When asked what the people in Paris were called, he replied, "parasites."

Funk and Wagnalls, New York and London.