

The department of Geographical Discovery is treated under the titles, Africa, Stanley, Afghanistan, Soudan, Alaska, Samoa, Palestine, etc.

But the mere enumeration of titles means very little unless the treatment be high-class. Of course, the treatment is highly condensed to suit the needs of busy people. The *Encyclopedia Britannica* gives an elaborate treatise where this gives in concise form condensed information. The editorial staff and corps of one hundred special contributors are a guarantee of the fidelity and ability with which the articles have been prepared. In this corps occur such well-known names as Professor Packard, of Brown University, Dr. Daniel Dorchester, Dudley Buck, Dr. Ridpath, Dr. Cuyler, Captain Eads, U.S.N., Bishop Fowler, Dr. Haygood, Bishop Hurst, the late President Nelles, the late Professor Summers, Professor William Wells, the late Professor Winchell, and many others. Special topics have been assigned to experts in these different departments.

Many subjects cannot be intelligibly described without pictorial illustration. The publishers have incurred great cost in this respect. The eight hundred engravings are of superior merit. More costly still are the numerous coloured maps.

The subject of Electricity and its applications, for instance, is treated in a thirteen-column article, with twenty-four illustrations. The article on Canada is supplied with three excellent double-page coloured maps, besides coloured maps of Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and Quebec, with descriptive articles.

The well-known Canadian *litterateur*, Mr. J. Macdonald Oxley, of the Marine Department, Ottawa, treats these subjects.

There are also a valuable series of appendices containing a glossary of foreign words and musical terms and the like; and a valuable miscellany of facts and hints entitled, "What to do and how to do it," concerning home and health, manners and morals, farm and garden, and the like. From this partial enumeration, the scope and character of this book may be understood.

We congratulate the Methodist Publishing House, of New York, on its costly enterprise, and the well-deserved success which has attended it. This is not like many American books, a narrow and jingoistic production, but one of broad and comprehensive character, designed for the English-speaking race on both halves of the continent, and in both sides of the sea.

The Business of Travel: A Fifty Years' Record of Progress. By W. FRASER RAE. Pp. 318. London: Thos. Cook & Son. Price \$2.00.

A few months since a grand banquet was given by the house of Thos. Cook and Son, tourist agents, in the hotel Metropole, London. The Duke of Cambridge and other titled and noble guests honoured the occasion with their presence. Mr. Gladstone and General Wolseley, unable to be present, sent their hearty greetings. The story of progress thus celebrated and recorded in detail in this book is unparalleled. In 1841 the first excursion of Thos. Cook, sen., was eleven and a half miles, at a shilling a head. In 1891, their routes girdled the globe, with over 30,000 series of tickets, giving facilities for 1,823,359 miles of railway, ocean and rivers. During 1890, they issued over 3,000,000 tickets, and had in stock at the close of the year nearly 5,000,000 tickets; 169 offices and agencies, 1,714 salaried members, 978 other employees, with a staff of 2,692. In 1890, they returned to purchasers over \$200,000 for tickets for various causes unused, being the full value of those tickets, without retaining a farthing of the commission to which they were entitled by the conditions of their sale.

The story of the growth of this great house reads like a romance. During the British occupation of Egypt, on the revolt of Arabi Pasha, the Cooks patriotically undertook to transport men, munitions and stores on the Nile for the bare cost of so doing, and fulfilled the conditions to the utmost satisfaction of the British Government. They had at one time over fifty steamers carrying coal from Newcastle to Alexandria. In