

this process, as it is applicable to the scented or odoriferous woods, cedar, teak, cypress, rosewood, &c. —which repel worms.

SOMETHING ABOUT PENS.—Reeds continued to be used till the eighth century, though quills were known in the middle of the seventh. The earliest author who uses the word *penna* for a writing pen is Isidorus, who lived in that century, and towards the end of it.

BOOKWORMS.—Mr. J. W. Zaehnsdorf, the eminent Bookbinder, of 36, Catherine-street, Strand, writes to the *English Mechanic*, that wishing to learn more about the bookworm, he has had some micro. slides made of some worms which he found in a large and heavy Koran, that was entrusted to him for repair, and will be very pleased to forward a slide to any of "ours" on the following conditions:—(1) To forward him the necessary stamp for postage; (2) To return the slide when finished; (3) To forward him any notes that may be of service. Mr. Zaehnsdorf mentions that the worms were in the boards, and had eaten away nearly the whole of the paper of which the boards were composed, but had not touched the book. He also thinks he has found the beetle of the worm, but of this is not quite sure.—*Exchange*.

GUTENBERG DEPOSED.—At the recent meeting of the British Library Association, Henry Bradshaw, Librarian of the University of Cambridge, read a remarkable paper on "Early Printed Bibles," in which he detailed the labours of J. H. Hessels in investigating the early history of printing. One of the most startling discoveries made is that the "42-line Bible" was actually NOT printed by Gutenberg. This is the celebrated "Mazarin" Bible—so-called because a copy of it was discovered in the library of Cardinal Mazarin. It has recently been more generally known as the "Gutenberg Bible," a copy owned by Earl Spencer, forming one of the chief attractions at the Caxton Celebration Exhibition in 1877. Mr. Hessels has shorn Gutenberg of the honour of having printed this splendid book, and shows that it is attributable to his successor, Peter Schoeffer. Mr. Hessels ascribes, on the evidence of the types themselves, the 30-line Indulgence of 1454 and 1455, to Schoeffer, as he found one of the initials used in this Indulgence in a later indulgence of 1489, which was certainly printed in Schoeffer's types. The 42-line Bible is printed in the type used for some headings in the 30-line Indulgence, so that it became necessary, on their evidence, to ascribe the Bible also to the same printer—a discovery which alters both the name of the printer and the chronology of its publication, placing it after the celebrated law-suit which dissolved the original partnership.

STATISTICS OF WRITING MATERIALS.—At a recent meeting of the Académie des Sciences, M. de Boutarel read a very interesting essay upon "Paper and the Industries connected with it," in the course of which he quoted some remarkable statistics as to the rapid increase in the quantity of pens, paper, pencils, etc., which are manufactured in Europe and the United States alone. M. de Boutarel says that the manufacture of paper alone, which, at the beginning of the century, was practi-

cally nil in the United States, now amounts to, 500,000 tons per annum, and that it is just double this figure in Europe, the value of the straw, rags, and other materials used in the manufacture of the paper being about £20,000,000. M. de Boutarel estimates the value of these 1,500,000 tons of paper when manufactured at £40,000,000; the note paper being calculated at 120,000 tons, worth £6,400,000. M. de Boutarel estimates the value of steel pens manufactured annually at £800,000, while the number of heliotype plates may be safely estimated at 3,000,000—thirty Paris houses alone turning out 900,000. M. de Boutarel gives the number of lead pencils made every year, and though some of his figures can only be conjectural, they no doubt represent very fairly the enormous capital employed in these industries.

Pompeian paper, mottled as if with the dampness of eighteen centuries, is the newest thing in Paris stationery. The Mahdi paper is out of fashion in the gay capital.

Book Notices

"ABUNDANT GRACE," selected addresses by Rev. W. P. Mackay, M.A., author of "Grace and Truth." Toronto: S. R. Briggs, Toronto Willard Tract Society. These addresses have been carefully selected from the reports of Christian Conferences, held in Canada, the United States, and Great Britain. Many of them were personally revised by the author on his visit to Canada, which took place shortly before his death.

THE publisher of "The Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant," says that the edition will be 328,000, and the net profit to the family of the deceased General will be \$508,000. A tall story, but well vouched for.

ROBERT BURNS. Anniversary Poem, by Duncan MacGregor Crerar. London, Belfast and New York, Marcus Ward & Co; Toronto, Hart & Company. This is a beautiful little book for the holiday season, very tastefully gotten up, printed on hand-made proof paper, two edges rough, and the top and back edges gilt, finely printed covers. The poem was read by the author before the Burns Society of New York, at the celebration of the 126th anniversary of the birthday of the Scottish national bard. Andrew Carnegie, the President of the Society, was so pleased with the poem that he purchased it from the author and presented it to the Society, and it is now published for the first time. It cannot fail to have a large sale at Xmas. Mr. Crerar is not unknown in Canada, having been connected with several journals here some years ago.

AMONG the notable English books reviewed in *The Bookseller* for November are: Part 2 of "A new English dictionary on Historical Principles," edited by J. A. H. Murray, LL.D., and issued by the Clarendon press. Numerous points of interest heretofore not given in dictionaries are noticeable. For instance: Under the word *Banian* we read that the tree is known to us by a name quite unintelligible to any of the natives of India, having been given by Europeans to a tree