

beard streamed, noun, subject of streamed.
like a meteor, an adverb modifying a meteor.

breathe *revenge*, objective after breathe.
 murmurs *vocal*, an adjective modifying murmurs.

vocal no more, an adverb modifying *vocal*.

III.

"The swarm that in thy noon-tide beam were born"

Comparing the courtiers of Edward III's reign to the midsummer ephemera.

"Gone to salute the rising morn."

This is the answer to the preceding question—they (the swarm) have gone to court favour from the coming king.

"Azure realm" evidently means the sea, at every period in England's history so closely connected with her prosperity.

"Gilded vessel," the vessel of State; gilded implies the seeming prosperity of the early part of Richard's reign.

"He yet may share the feast," this refers to the fact that Richard was starved to death; the line seems to mean that even though he is bereft of his crown he may still enjoy the feast, but even this was denied him, and Thirst and Famine smile upon their baffled Guest.

"Descending slow their glittering skirts unroll." This refers to the description of kings and queens in the 8th stanza.

"They breathe a soul to animate thy clay." The poets of the time of Queen Elizabeth might rouse from death the kindred soul of Welsh bard Taliessin.

"eye of Heaven." In the sight of Heaven or rising above the earth.

IV.

The 8th stanza opens with the accession of the Tudor Kings. Gray considers Owen Tudor, a Welsh gentleman, the founder of the House of Tudor, and thus the whole line of British kings is restored.

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE.

Table-Talk is a valuable and sensible magazine to have in the house. The numbers are always fresh and suitable to the season.

OUR esteemed contemporary, *The Academy* (Syracuse, N.Y.), offers a prize of fifty dollars for the best essay on "English in Secondary Schools." Further information may be obtained from the editor.

THE closing number of the *Overland's* annual volume is in nothing behind any of the other issues. It is full of stories, both short and serial, and contains besides, verse, travel papers on Pacific coast subjects, and an article on "The Decline of Our Merchant Marine."

THE February *Quiver*, already to hand, maintains the excellent reputation which this magazine has for household and Sunday reading. Prof. Blaikie writes about the "Presbyterians in Council," and there are other articles of interest, as well as verse and stories, and essays on Bible subjects, such as

"A Sermon on Salt," by Rev. Michael Eastwood.

THE January *St. Nicholas* will well bear comparison with any of the other magazines. Beautiful pictures illustrate its verse and stories, among the latter being "Little Saint Elizabeth," by Mrs. Burnett. "Jack's Sermon from his Pulpit" is as sound and funny as ever, while articles on "The Distances in Space" and the "Routine of the Republic" furnish more solid reading.

VOLUME X. (New Series) of the *Critic*, recently closed, the index of which is furnished in a recent number, contains reviews of more than a thousand books, and when its readers remember the many delightful articles and notes which have appeared in addition to book reviews it will be seen how wide is the field covered by it. The *Critic* is always reliable as well as readable and fresh. Messrs. Cassell & Co. are to republish the "Authors at Home" series from this year's *Critic*.