

ways painting the scenes beautifully, and generally exciting sympathy rightly, cannot fail to be interesting and profitable to all readers. We can assure our lady-friends that they will enjoy it quite as much as the latest novel, and also find it a much more healthy species of literature.

FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON, Direct in Ninety-seven Hours, and a Trip Round it. By Jules Verne, Author of "A Journey to the Centre of the Earth."

American exaggeration would seem difficult to caricature, but this Frenchman has found it easy to turn the smile of complacent satisfaction at achievements supposed to outdo all the rest of the world into a broad grin. He effects the transformation so easily as to conceal the wit by which it is done. The story of a Gun Club, formed at Baltimore to invent and experiment with monster ordnance when the civil war was in progress, brings on the carpet

Parrots, Dahlgrens, Rodmans, and, for comparison, many others. Everything is on a prodigious scale; the number of the members of the Club reaching 30,565 in a month, shells weighing 20,000 lbs., cannon two miles long and projectiles costing \$173,050 are discussed. Barbicore, the President of the Club, who had made a large fortune as a timber merchant, and been appointed, to show the natural fitness of things, Director of Artillery, proposed to make the members of the Club the Columbuses of the Moon, and to add it as a State to the Union. The communication was to be made by sending a projectile to the Queen of Night; and the casting of monster cannon followed as a means to this end. The book is profusely illustrated in a good style of art, the plates used in the translation being apparently the French originals. The work evinces much cleverness, and may probably set some readers to making serious enquiries into some of the scientific questions on which it touches.

LITERARY NOTES

Professor George Rawlinson has in press "The Seventh Great Oriental Monarchy," in continuation of his important work.

Messrs. Hachette, of Paris, announce a magnificent work on Spain, by M. Davilliers, illustrated by 300 engravings from M. Doré's recent designs.

"A Princess of Thule," Mr. William Black's new novel, which has been appearing in *Marmalan's Magazine*, is now issued in separate form.

A Series of Lectures, by the late Rev. F. D. Maurice, has just been issued, with a preface by Thomas Hughes, M.P., under the title of "The Friendship of Books."

"My Diary in the Last Great War," is the title of Dr. W. H. Russell's letters to the *Times* on the Franco-German war, now published by Messrs. Routledge and Sons.

A captivating prose story, by the author of "Mrs. Jermingham's Journal," entitled "A Very Young Couple," is re-issued by Messrs. Scribner, of New York.

A new volume from Mr. Spurgeon's pen, entitled "Types and Emblems," has just appeared. It consists of readings from his Sunday and Thursday Evening Sermons.

Mr. Samuel Smiles' important and new work on "The Huguenots of France after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes" has been reprinted by Messrs. Harper.

Messrs. Harper reprint Farjeon's charming Christmas story, "Golden Grain," from *Times's Magazine*, and Jefferson's new novel "Lottie Darling," of which a second edition has been instantly called for in England by the Libraries.

A Member of the Society of Biblical Archaeology, Mr. W. Simpson, has preparing for press the narrative of a Journey all Round the World, through Egypt, China, Japan and California. It will bear the title of "Meeting the Sun."

Professor Clinton, Director of Candidates for Public Examinations, has just issued from Messrs. Chapman and Hall's press, "A Compendium of English History, with Copious Quotations on the leading Events and the Constitutional History."

Messrs. Sampson, Low and Son have just issued a sumptuous book, from the French of M. Jacquemart, descriptive of the Potteries of all times and of all nations. The work is entitled a "History of the Ceramic Art."

An interesting work, throwing additional light on the relations between Sir Walter Scott and his Publishers, appears in a memorial of "Archibald Constable and his Literary Correspondents," just published by Messrs. Edmonston and Douglas, of Edinburgh.

The first of a series of papers on "Evolution," antagonistic to the Darwinian materialism, appears in the January issue of *The Atlantic Monthly*. It is from the pen of Professor Louis Agassiz, whose recent death the scientific world is now deploring.

Messrs. Rivington have just issued, in their series of "Historical Handbooks," an excellent manual on the "History of the English Institutions." The work is classified under three main divisions, viz., Social and Local Development of the Constitution, Constituents of the Central authority, and Central Government, and will be found a compact and serviceable reference book.