

literature to compete with the cheap reprints of foreign productions, and has made the American brain-labourer the poorest paid toiler of the kind. The remedy is an international copyright treaty, especially with England, and a treaty under which every author's rights will be secured in this country, provided his book is printed here—with protected type on protected paper, and at protected wages. Even with this point gained, the American producer of literature, whether publisher or author, will have a hard stand against foreign competition. For the protection of booksellers there is no better help than the adoption of the German system, which reduces the bookseller to a commission merchant, who sells only at prices dictated to him by the publisher, and returns what he cannot sell. The sooner we have the treaty, as recommended by the Messrs. Harper and Brothers, and the sooner our booksellers adopt the German system, the better it will be for everybody, including the bookbuyer, who is now quite often guilty of depriving an author of his dues.—*Boston Beacon*.

FOREIGNERS, like schoolboys, are apt at catching the slang of a language which is new to them. "Goddam," it used to be said, was all the English which the old St. Gothard driver caught from his English customers. A German writer, Herr Francis Bromel, has just published a capital essay on the English police. It is studiously exact on the whole, and does more justice to a much-trying order of men than they always obtain from English pens. But he has made a most amusing blunder by attempting, after a truly German method, to discover the real meaning of the slang title "bobby," by exploring the depths of his own consciousness. He has discovered that a "bob" is a slang word for a shilling; whereupon he gravely tells his readers that the English mob calls a policeman "a bobby because a policeman can always be had for a shilling." He seems to fancy that young men are enlisted into the force by taking the traditional "Queen's shilling" from a public recruiter. As this ingenious explanation does not wholly satisfy him, he adds another. "The labours and hardships of the English bobby," says he, "are not paid with sovereigns, but with shillings; his wages are eighteen shillings a week." If Herr Bromel had further attempted to provide an *à priori* derivation of the English policeman's other slang title, "a peeler," the result would probably have been equally delightful. A "peeler" must plainly be one who "peels" off the skin of the criminal with his truncheon. Yet Herr Bromel is historian and economist enough to know all about Sir Robert Peel's work as an English statesman.

MR. GALTON has contributed to the *Journal* of the Anthropological Institute the data upon which the remarks on the law of regression were founded that he made in his presidential address to Section H at Aberdeen. These data consisted of the heights of 930 adults and of their respective parents, 205 of each sex in number, or, altogether, of 1,340 observations. Stature was chosen as the subject of inquiry because the peculiarities and points to be attended to manifest themselves best in it, and because it is the sum of a number of variable elements. Thus it was shown that difference between the heights of the two parents might be disregarded, having on the whole an inconsiderable effect on the height of the offspring. It was also shown that marriage selection takes little or no account of shortness or tallness, the number of marriages in the 205 of short with tall being $12 + 14 = 26$ (stated as thirty-two in the paper, apparently by a clerical error), and those of short with short and tall with tall being $9 + 18 = 27$, or almost exactly the same. In all cases the female height was multiplied by 1.08, to produce a male equivalent. The general result was that where the mean height of the two parents (thus corrected) was greater than mediocrity, their children tend to be shorter than they, and the converse where it was less, and from these materials mechanism may be constructed for forecasting the most probable heights of children from the data of the heights of each of their parents.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

TEMPERANCE VERSUS PROHIBITION: An Address on the Scott Act by Goldwin Smith. With an appendix on Alcohol by C. Gordon Richardson. Toronto: C. Blackett Robinson.

The title of this pamphlet indicates its purpose—the upholding of the principle of Temperance against the principle of Prohibition. Although the latter is frequently put forward by well-meaning persons as a means of promoting the former, the two are in fact essentially opposed, and the adoption of Prohibition leads, as may be seen in any Scott Act county, to a result the very reverse of what is desired. This Address gives the substance of speeches delivered by Professor Goldwin Smith on several occasions in support of the policy of the Liberal Temperance Union, and against Prohibitive legislation. In the opening sentences the writer says:

"It will appear, I trust, before the end of this address that its object is to promote temperance, and that it is in that interest that I oppose Prohibition. To us, not to the Prohibitionists, the name Temperance belongs. Temperance means moderate use; Prohibition means total and enforced abstinence. Temperance, as I believe, is rational, practicable, and commended by the gospel, while enforced abstinence is not.

"With the liquor trade I have nothing to do. In England, where it is political and overweeningly strong, I fought against it as a Liberal for many years, though I always declined to commit myself in any way to Prohibition. I would ask for it nothing but justice, respect for which is the soul of the commonwealth, and which it is especially necessary to

uphold in the case of those who are discredited and run down. I do not fear to stand by the side of any man who is wronged, not even if he has come out of gaol this morning; but I fear to stand by the side of the most religious and respectable wrongdoer."

JONATHAN'S HOME. By Alan Dale. Boston: Doyle and Whittle. Toronto: Williamson and Company.

A lively, well-written little book, full of anecdote, giving a description of New York life and American peculiarities, from the point of view of a British visitor.

WE have received also the following publications:—

CENTURY MAGAZINE. January. New York: The Century Company.

LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE. January. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company.

OUTING. January. Boston: The Wheelmen Company.

CONTEMPORARY REVIEW. December. Philadelphia: Leonard Scott Publication Company.

FORTNIGHTLY REVIEW. December. Philadelphia: Leonard Scott Publication Company.

NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW. January. New York: 30 Lafayette Place.

ENGLISH ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE. January. New York: Macmillan and Company.

ANDOVER REVIEW. January. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin and Company.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

MR. H. H. FURNESS has nearly completed his long-looked-for edition of "Othello," which will form the sixth volume of his "Variorum Shakespeare," and will be issued shortly by Messrs. J. B. Lippincott and Company.

MR. GLADSTONE will contribute to the January number of the *Nineteenth Century* a rejoinder to Professor Huxley's reply (in the current number) to the "Dawn of Creation." It is entitled "Proem to Genesis—a Plea for a Fair Trial."

MACMILLAN AND COMPANY announce a new edition, in eight monthly volumes, of the Writings of John Morley, uniform with the pretty Eversley edition of Kingsley, issued a year or two since. The first volume, containing Voltaire, will appear in January.

UNDER the title of "BookChat," Messrs. Brentano Brothers, New York, commence this month a monthly paper devoted to the chatty review of current books, informal talks on and about authors, their writings, peculiarities, habits and so forth, in a social as well as a literary light. Their plan, as published, is very comprehensive and attractive.

MESSRS. JANSSEN, MCCLURG, AND COMPANY will publish in a few days a volume with the title "Letters to a Daughter." The Letters are brief, and marked by good sense, sympathy, and a thorough understanding of the subject. The author, Mrs. Helen E. Starrett, has had large experience in the training of girls, and this, joined with her facility as a writer, has rendered her peculiarly fitted for her task.

THE one hundred and sixty-eighth volume of *Littell's Living Age* opens with the issue for the week ending January 2. Foreign periodical literature continues to grow not only in bulk but also in the variety, interest, and importance of the topics treated; and it absorbs to a greater extent every year the work of the most prominent authors of the day. Presenting with freshness and satisfactory completeness what is most valuable of this literature, the *Living Age* becomes each year more and more a necessity to American readers.

ST. NICHOLAS for January is both in point of time and contents another Christmas number. W. D. Howells leads off with his long-promised story; Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett follows with another instalment of her charming serial "Little Lord Fauntleroy"; Horace E. Scudder, the author of the favourite "Bodley" books, contributes the opening chapters of his story of the life of George Washington; Sophie May has a bright and timely story; and there is another "Ready for Business" paper—this time "An Architect," and the chances for young men in the profession of architecture are practically discussed.

THE January number of the *Atlantic* opens with an unusually interesting table of contents. It begins with the first two chapters of Charles Egbert Craddock's new serial, "In the Clouds." This is followed by a paper on "The Free Negroes of North Carolina," by Mr. David Dodge. The editor of the *Atlantic*, Mr. Aldrich, has a very bright short story called "Two Bites at a Cherry." Dr. Holmes has a paper in the new Portfolio Series, "A Cry from the Study," full of pleasant reminiscences and pungent humour. "The Political Consequences in England of Cornwallis's Surrender" forms the subject of a thoughtful article by Mr. John Fiske. The number closes with the usual *resumé* of books of the month.

CONSPICUOUS among the varied features of the January *Century* are the short stories. A portrait of Verdi, the composer, is the frontispiece, which is accompanied by an entertaining anecdotal paper by Frederick A. Schwab. In his concluding paper on "The Lesson of Greek Art," Dr. Charles Waldstein—the young American who is Lecturer on Greek Archaeology at the English University of Cambridge—treats of the education of the American artist, and advocates general literary and scientific culture, as well as technical art study. And in an article on "A French Painter and his Pupils" a glimpse is given of the company of American and foreign artists who receive instruction from Carolus Duran, the master's ideas of art as imparted in studio talks being the larger part of the article.

"THE Society of American Wood-engravers," we learn from the *New York Times*, has in preparation a volume, which is to be published by Harper and Brothers, in 1886, to be entitled the "Portfolio of American Wood-engraving." This is to be one of the finest specimens of this branch of art ever produced in this country, and is to be prepared entirely by members of the society. Each of the eighteen members is to furnish one engraving, to contain not less than forty nor more than ninety-six square inches, the size of the mount to be fourteen by eighteen inches. Each member is to supply the full number of proofs that will be required for the whole edition, so that he may personally superintend the printing, and reject any impressions that are not to his liking. Appropriate text, not exceeding one page, is to accompany each engraving. There are to be three editions of this work, an *édition de luxe*, an artists' edition, and a popular edition, and it is probable that it will not be ready before the middle or latter part of 1886.