LETTERS ABOUT SHELLEY

early age he was also writing regularly for the "Spectator " as its art critic. Coming of a family of poets and artists, his own love of poetry and art was the guiding spirit of his career, and perhaps no name of his day has been more constantly before the public as a critic and man of letters. He is no doubt best known as recorder and biographer of his illustrious brother and sister ; but had Christina Rossetti never published a poem, or the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood never stirred the waters of English art, the list of his works would still have been a full one. When Moxon, towards 1869, projected a new edition of Shelley, he could think of no one fitter than Rossetti to edit it and write the prefatory memoir, Rossetti having proved himself a competent authority by the publication in "Notes and Queries" of various notes and emendations to Shelley's works. Later on Rossetti became chairman of the Shelley Society. He married, in 1874, Miss Lucy Madox-Brown, elder daughter of the artist, who died in 1804; and retired from Government service in the same year.

Richard Garnett was born in 1835 at Lichfield, where his father, born 1789, was then Priest Vicar in the Cathedral. This father, also a Richard Garnett, who had held a preferment in Lancashire previously, was an eminent philologist. Attention being called to his learning by Robert Southey, he was offered an appointment as Assistant Keeper of Printed Books in the British Museum. Consequent on this the family settled in London. The elder Garnett died in 1850, but his friend, Sir Anthony Panizzi, then Principal Librarian of the British Museum, kept his eldest son in view. and, when only sixteen, procured him an appointment in the national library, where the work of his life had its setting. Richard Garnett, junior, though not such a profound scholar as his father, far surpassed him in the breadth of his general information. His aptitude for languages was very great; there were few in Europe with which he