

The possession of the literature of the subject is of course the first prerequisite in order to the undertaking of the work of recording constitutional history. But a great deal has been done also in the scientific working up of the masses of material recently brought to light. Mr. Taylor points out that "to Kemble belongs the imperishable honour of being the first to bring to light the most valuable of the early records, and to apply to their interpretation the rich results of German research into the childhood of the whole Teutonic race." It must not be forgotten that Kemble, in his time, was indebted for guidance to the illustrious philologists W. and J. Grimm, under whom he studied at Göttingen; and he was "the first to reject every suggestion of Roman influence, and to clearly perceive the all-important fact, now generally admitted, that the national life of the English people, both natural and political, began with the coming of the Teutonic invaders who, during the fifth and sixth centuries, transferred from the Continent into Britain their entire scheme of barbaric life."

It is hardly necessary to say that this point of view is no longer a matter of question or opinion. It is an established principle which other workers in the same field have followed. Sir Francis Palgrave has perhaps been credited with less than he deserves; but it is to Dr. Freeman and Bishop Stubbs that the students of early English history are under the greatest obligations. Perhaps the most considerable recent work on the whole subject is that of Dr. Rudolph Gneist, which has already been translated into English, and to which Mr. Taylor acknowledges his obligations, although his own work had been undertaken before this work or even some of its predecessors had appeared.

"The history of the growth of the English Constitution," the author remarks, "may be broken into two broad and well-defined periods. The first, which extends from the Teutonic Conquest to the end of the Middle Ages, may be termed the formative period, the period of the 'making of the Constitution' . . . To the second period, which will be called the 'after-growth of the Constitution' . . . the author will devote his second part or volume, which is now well under way."

The vast compass of this work and its great variety of detail render it impossible, except in the most general way, to give an account of its contents. The introduction gives what we may call the key-note of the work by treating of the English origin of the Federal Republic of the United States, and showing that the typical English State is the political unit in the American Federal system, and tracing the growth of the English colonies in America up to the Federal Convention of 1787. This is introductory, and the history proper consists of three books, the first treating of the Old English Commonwealth; the second, of the the Norman Conquest down to the final confirmation of the Charter in the reign of Edward I.; the third, of the Growth and Decline of Parliament, down to the Battle of Bosworth. The volume is concluded by a Summary and Prospective View coming as far down as 1867.

It is hardly possible that a work like this should be without occasional slips. All that we can say is, that we have discovered none, and we imagine that few critics will be able to detect them. The author unquestionably possesses large knowledge, has made diligent use of the work of his predecessors, and has an admirable command of lucid and vigorous English.

"GRETDIR THE OUTLAW:" A Story of Iceland, by S. Baring-Gould, is an excellent story, founded on the old Icelandic "Saga of Grettir the Strong," in which we have not only an entertaining narrative of adventure but also a faithful picture of Icelandic life eight hundred and fifty years ago.

"HIGHWAYS AND HIGH SEAS:" Cyril Harley's adventures on Both, by F. Frankfort Moore, is a story of the eighteenth century, as related by Cyril Harley himself, in which the reader is introduced to many strange characters and made to witness many stirring incidents both on sea and land.

We have received from Messrs. Blackie and Son, London, through Messrs. John E. Bryant and Co., a number of stories for boys which we cannot more than very briefly characterize. We may, however, say of them all that they are illustrated, well printed and bound, and, in style and matter, very much superior to the books commonly provided for boy readers.

"WITH LEE IN VIRGINIA:" A Story of the American War, tells how a young planter, the son of an English officer, who had married a Virginian heiress, although he sympathized thoroughly with the slaves and had even assisted a runaway negro to escape to England, espoused the Southern cause and fought gallantly under Jackson and Lee until the unequal contest was ended.

"BY PIKE AND DYKE:" A Tale of the Rise of the Dutch Republic, by G. A. Henty, tells the adventures of Edward Martin, a young English sailor, who entered the service of William the Silent as a volunteer and acquitted himself so bravely that his exploits reached the ears of Queen Elizabeth who employed him as her confidential agent in Holland, and conferred the honour of Knighthood for his services. This book should tempt its readers to take up Motley on whom the author has exclusively relied for his historical incidents.

"ONE OF THE 28TH:" A Tale of Waterloo, by the same author, although a book in which a boy plays the

principal part, has a real heroine in Mabel Withers who is a powerful rival with Ralph Conway for the reader's interest.

"THE LOSS OF JOHN HUMBLE," by G. Norway, tells how John Humble, a Swedish orphan boy, goes to sea with his uncle Rolf, captain of the *Erl-King*, is captured by a press-gang at Portsmouth, rescued by the captain of a Norwegian vessel, and carried away to the northern seas where the ship is wrecked and the survivors are compelled to sojourn for many months on a desolate coast, within the Arctic Circle, suffering severely from cold and insufficient food, until at length, with the assistance of a family of Lapps, they make their way to a reindeer station, and ultimately reach home.

LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

DR. DOLLINGER had three intimate friends and disciples in England—Mr. Gladstone, Lord Acton and Canon MacColl.

AN interesting article by Lucy C. Little, entitled "Literary England," will be found in the March number of *Belford's Magazine*.

"THE Snake and the Dove," by Annetta J. Halliday, the complete novel in the March *Belford's* will be a genuine treat to all novel readers.

THE *Chicago Railway Age* of February 8th contains a sketch of the life work of the late Samuel Keefer, C.E., from the pen of J. J. Bell, M.A., of Brockville, where Mr. Keefer lived.

ONE of the most promising new books from the Riverside Press is Mr. W. W. Story's "Conversations in a Studio," which is said to discuss in a delightful way many questions of literature and art.

IN this issue of THE WEEK will be found the concluding letter of Mr. S. E. Dawson's interesting series. These letters have attracted wide attention, dealing, as they do, with one important aspect of Franco-Canadian life.

MAJOR POWELL, Director of the Geographical Survey, will begin in the March *Century* a series of three papers, illustrated with maps, on the subject of Irrigation. His first paper will be entitled "The Irrigable Lands of the Arid Region."

ONE of the few men remaining who could give personal recollections of Goethe, Ch. Schuchardt, the printer, died at Geneva on January 8. He was a native of Weimar, where he served as printer's apprentice, and used as a boy to carry proofs to the poet.

W. H. H. MURRAY begins a beautiful Canadian idyll, or Indian legend, of the northern tribes in the March *Arena*, entitled "Ungava." It is a prose poem of a high order, much resembling "Mamelons," which appeared in the January and February *Arenas*.

THE Wilkie Collins Memorial Fund amounts to three hundred guineas. Permission has been asked from the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's Cathedral to erect in the crypt a memorial tablet and bust, side by side with the commemoration given to Charles Reade.

THE Cassell Publishing Company, New York, announce a new story by Judge Tourgee under the characteristically attractive title, "Pactolus Prime." That it is attractive and means something is a matter of course. "Pactolus Prime" is unique both in scope and method.

LADIES in Russia, on entering the Government service, are only admitted on the condition that they will marry only such men as are employed in the same work as themselves. The ladies have struck; this might have been calculated for by so intelligent and cultivated a Government.

IT may interest Browning students to learn that Mr. Benjamin Sagar, of Willow Bank, Heaton Moor, Stockport, an old member of the Browning Society, has undertaken to compile a lexicon of words and subjects to Mr. Browning's works on the model of Schmidt's Shakespeare Lexicon.

MRS. LYNN LINTON's little book about Ireland attracts much attention in London. It is based upon articles written for *The New Review*. Mrs. Linton was called in to curse the Unionists, it is said, but before doing so decided to visit Ireland, and now blesses them. Her book contains some "surprising revelations."

CLEMENT SCOTT, the dramatic critic, and Walter Scott, the publisher, have begun the publication of *The Art Review*, an "Illustrated Magazine of Art, Music and Letters," the first number of which has contributions by Walter Pater, Vernon Lee, Mrs. Lynn Linton, William Morris, Walter Crane, Stepniak, and others.

ANNE THACKERAY RITCHIE will contribute to the March number of *Harper's Magazine* "John Ruskin: an Essay." This article forms the necessary complement to Dr. Waldstein's paper in the February number of the magazine last year. Dr. Waldstein gave a critical estimate of Ruskin's work; Mrs. Ritchie gives a friend's estimate of Ruskin the man.

ENGLISH is coming increasingly into use in the far East; and the fact that it was chosen as the tongue in which to record treaty engagements of the highest importance between Russia and China is remarkable, not only as testifying to the spread of the language, but because of the disuse of French, which was long regarded as the only language of diplomacy.

THE name of the generous lady who gave her own pension from the Literary Fund to the late Dr. Westland Marston is known to but few persons owing to the delicate silence which was observed on the matter by the kind-hearted donor. It was the late Miss Dinah Mulock (Mrs. Craik), authoress of "John Halifax, Gentleman," whose goodness deserves commemoration.

THE article in the February *Atlantic*, by President Walker, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, on "Mr. Bellamy and the New Nationalist Movement," has created a great stir. It is undoubtedly the severest criticism that Mr. Bellamy's scheme has received. It is interesting to note the fact just here that the three hundredth thousand of "Looking Backward" is announced.

MR. JAMES PAYN is almost the last of the present race of novelists who does all his work in London. Mr. Black writes at Brighton, Mr. Blackmore at his business retreat on the Thames, Mr. Hardy and Mr. Haggard in their country homes, Miss Rhoda Broughton at Oxford, "Ouida" at Florence. Mr. Christie Murray has written several stories in Brussels; but Mr. Pryn, year in and year out, plods steadily on at his office in Waterloo Place, where he has done excellent work.

THE late Lord Napier of Magdala was twice married, in 1840 and 1861. By the two marriages he had fifteen children, thirteen of whom survive. The eldest is Robert William, the present Lord Napier, who is forty-five years of age, and a retired colonel of the Bengal Staff Corps; while next to him is a twin brother, George Napier, a major-general of the late Bengal Army. The youngest is a child of eight. Like the late Sir Julius Benedict, the hero of Magdala became a father after reaching the span of life allotted by the Psalmist.

THE *New York Critic* for February 15th contains the following note:—"News comes from England of the death of Emily Pfeiffer, a Welshwoman by birth, she married Mr. Pfeiffer, a German settled in London. Her first volume of verse, 'Gerard's Monument, and Other Poems,' appeared in 1873. This was the beginning of a literary career in which she showed enthusiasm, high aspiration and many accomplishments. Mrs. Pfeiffer exercised a large hospitality at her house near Putney. The death of her husband, to whom she was devotedly attached, was a great blow to her, and since it occurred her health had been steadily declining." Mrs. Pfeiffer's best work was a long poem, interspersed with narrative, entitled, "The Rime of the Lady of the Rock." A book of travel, "Flying Years from East to West," contains some allusions to Canada where she had a few friends and many admirers.

THE following is a list of real and borrowed names of noted American humorists, according to the *Philadelphia Press*:—"Josh Billings," Henry W. Shaw; "Andrew Jack Downing," Seba R. Smith; "Artemus Ward," Charles Farrar Browne; "Bill Arp," Charles H. Smith; "Gath," George Alfred Townsend; "Fat Contributor," A. Miner Griswold; "Hawkeye Man," Robert J. Burdette; "Howadji," George William Curtis; "Ik Marvel," Donald Grant Mitchell; "James Yellowplush," Wm. H. Thackeray; "John Paul," Charles H. Webb; "John Phoenix," Captain George H. Derby; "Mark Twain," Samuel L. Clemens; "Max Adeler," Charles H. Clark; "Eli Perkins," Melville D. Landon; "Petroleum V. Nasby," David Locke; "Bill Nye," William E. Nye; "Nym Crynkle," Andrew C. Wheeler; "Old Si," Samuel W. Small; "Orpheus C. Kerr," Robert H. Newell; "Pelig Wales," William A. Croflut; "Peter Plymley," Sydney Smith; "William O'Reilly," Charles G. Halpin; "Peter Parley," H. C. Goodrich; "Ned Buntline," Colonel Judson; "Brick Pomeroy," M. M. Pomeroy; "Josiah Allen's Wife," Marietta Holley; "O. K. Philander Doesticks," Mortimer Thompson; "Mrs. Partington," Benjamin P. Shellabar; "Spoonendyke," Stanley Huntley; "Uncle Remus," Joel Chandler Harris; "Hosea Bigelow," James Russell Lowell; "Fanny Fern," Sarah Payson Willis; "Grandfather Lickshingle," Robert W. Criswell; "M. Quad," Charles B. Lewis.

SCIENTIFIC AND SANITARY.

LONG FASTINGS AND STARVATION.

THE sensation of hunger is a painful feeling of uneasiness and weakness. It is a general feeling, but is localized apparently in the stomach. Many ancient authors regarded it as a local sensation. Some said that the gastric fluid became more acid and produced a burning feeling in the stomach; others, that a contraction of the stomach took place. But, although the sensation of hunger is related to the stomach, it is really general. While it is sometimes alleviated by swallowing earth and stones, such inert substances may deceive it, but do not appease it. It has, moreover, been experimentally determined that the feeling of hunger is not abolished after cutting the pneumogastric or sensitive nerve of the stomach. So, in thirst we feel a dryness in the back part of the throat. The local sensation is deceptive, for thirst does not depend upon any condition of the mucus of the pharynx. It is caused by the exhaustion of the watery elements of the blood. It is therefore removable by injections of water, and by bathing, when water is absorbed by the pores. If hunger is not satisfied, it disappears after a certain length of time. The most intense suffering is endured during the first twenty-four hours, after which the pain diminishes. The characteristic phenomenon exhibited by an animal sub-