

"the red-hair'd race of Mars," whom Wordsworth disdained to visit a hundred years ago when on his famous voyage among the stars; but, at such a very poor opposition as this year's is, there seems to be little hope of anything of this sort.

The editor would have had these notes sooner if I had not been waiting night after night, for a week, in hopes that the weather-fiend would pull up his dirty cloud-curtain, and let me have a look at that New Star. But he wouldn't; and I know nothing about the celestial novelty except what I have seen in some newspapers. If all that these say about it be true, it must be a very extraordinary object: but what an *if*!

A. CAMERON.

For the REVIEW.]

Misquotations and other Things.

An educational monthly published in Boston and calling itself "the oldest high-class magazine in America," has recently been making "a very special offer" to some Canadian teachers. I have the honor of being included among these favored teachers and have had a sample copy of the magazine sent me. I happened to open it on an article entitled "The Art of Evangeline superior to that of Hermann and Dorothea." It did not seem to me that any very high-class kind of United States periodical was indicated by that title. As Evangeline is the work of a United States poet and the other is not, it must needs follow that the art of the former is superior to that of the latter. So I was about turning the leaves to find "metal more attractive," when I noticed some passages enclosed within quotation marks. Here is one which professes to be "Longfellow's brief but comprehensive delineation of Basil"—"whose face shone as the morning, and who ripened thought into action." It would be safe for this high-class magazine to offer a prize of a thousand dollars to the reader who could find that quotation in Evangeline. And it is not the only misquoted passage from the very poem which forms the subject of the article. Such being the case, it is not surprising that the gifted critic of Goethe and Longfellow should make a muddle of the passages from other poems which appear in quotation marks. On one page we are told that the German cares not if woman be "Not learned except in gracious household ways." On the opposite page we read "Milton has told us,

"He also serves who only stands and waits."

To any ear familiar with Milton's grand line, this hissing abomination is insufferably harsh. Making free with a line from another of the sonnets we may say that this is the sort of thing

"That would have made John Milton gasp and stare."

The outrage committed on the line from Tennyson's Princess is not quite so bad, but it is bad enough, and is certainly most unworthy of "a high-class magazine."

This critic would seem to be one of the ready-made kind who, according to Byron, are equipped

"With just enough of learning to misquote."

I wrote to the publishers declining their "special offer."

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Misquotations are bad. So are some other things.

A correspondent says he saw in a paper lately half-a-dozen more or less witty and pithy sayings under the heading 'Arrow Points' and credited to 'Pastor —, M. A.,' one of which was "Some are wise and some are otherwise." He thinks this is not original with the worthy pastor, but he can't find it in his dictionary of quotations, and passes it on for my consideration.

If the rest of the half-dozen are like the one given, it would be better to change the heading from 'Arrow Points' to 'Chestnuts.' How old the saying is I have no idea; perhaps it dates back to the flood. One can imagine Noah muttering something like it as he looked from the ark out on the poor drowning wretches who used to jeer and jibe at him while he was building his vessel. It is one of the many ancient maxims which Swift puts into the mouths of the speakers in his dialogues on Polite Conversation. One of these polite conversers is called Lady Smart, and one of her smart sayings is "Some are wise and some are otherwise."

MORAL—Don't misquote, and don't try to palm off old saws as the fruit of your own wit and wisdom.

A. CAMERON.

For the EDUCATIONAL REVIEW.]

The King's Birthday.

Schoolboys of more than one generation have shouted the words:

"The twenty-fourth of May is the Queen's birthday;
If you don't give us holiday, we'll all run away."

And those of the present day will not be willing to wait this year until the ninth of November, King Edward's birthday, for the celebration of a holiday which they have always most loyally, and more or less dutifully, hailed in the month of May. The suggestion of making May 24th a general holiday under the name of Victoria Day will, therefore, please the boys; and they will not object to another holiday within six months in honor of the King.

Queen Victoria, whose glorious reign was some four years longer than that of her grandfather, George III, and whose lifetime was just four days longer than his, was born on the 24th of May, 1819. King George III