

lighting will be made much cheaper. Unfortunately "at present the metallic filament lamp is in its experimental stage."

A discussion on aeronautics—which problem appears solved by the successful aeroplane of the Wight brothers—of automobiles and motor boats and of merchant marine, closes this very interesting review of the achievements of science in 1906.

The Key to English Post-Reformation Literature.



THE statement, in a previous article, concerning the debt which English literature owes to the English Bible, may have seemed to those whose privilege it is that they were born of Catholic parents, so strange as to be almost paradoxical. It may be well, therefore, to recur to the subject, and to see whether the statement may not, after all, be in some measure borne out by the facts of the case.

The life-Catholic should, in the first place, remember that pious Protestants have, for three centuries, been as intimately familiar with the English Bible as the priest is with his Breviary. A better comparison, however, presents itself in these terms, namely, that the English Bible has been, to devout English-speaking Protestants, what the Vulgate was to the Fathers, Doctors, and theologians of the Early, and of the Mediæval Church. Just as, therefore, a familiar acquaintance with the phraseology of the Vulgate is indispensable to a right understanding of all Christian Latin literature, so a familiar acquaintance with the phraseology of the English Bible is equally indispensable to the realization of its influence on English Post-reformation literature. Each has, so to say, created an atmosphere, the full effects of which are only to be measured by those who have known and felt them.

The English Bible, then, is, in a very real sense, the mould of English Literature. Englishmen are, above all men, governed by tradition and by precedent, and, though Shakespeare stands, apparently outside the sphere of the English Bible, he is a child of the Golden Age in which it appeared, of which it is the crowning