

NOTES AND NEWS

FRANCIS PARKMAN

An interesting bit of praise for Parkman's great history comes from George R. Parkin, LL.D., C.M.G., principal of Upper Canada College. "Lord Roberts once said to me," writes Dr. Parkin, "that he considered Parkman's volumes on Montcalm and Wolfe as among the most perfect, and, to a soldier the most instructive bits of military description that had ever been written."

FOUR CENTURIES OLD

An English catalogue furnishes a description of a Parisian printed book unknown to Brunet, bearing the date 1500, when it was printed by Baligault for Durand Gerlier, bookseller to the University. It has hand-colored initial letters in red, and no pagination. It is a Compendium or Abstract of the most notable things in Pliny's Natural History, and an Alphabetical Glossary of terms used by Pliny. The author is Du Val (Robert, of Rouen). The full titles of the two parts of this work are as follows: *Compendium Memorandum in Plinii Naturalis Historiæ*, and *Explanatio difficilium in Plinii Libris Naturalis Historiæ*.

FAMOUS POETS OF SCOTLAND

The three most famous poets of Scotland are Allan Ramsay, Robert Burns and Hogg, the "Ettrick Shepherd." The personal appearance of Allan Ramsay, in his thirty-fourth year, is described by himself. He says he is

five feet five inches high,
A black-a-viced snod dapper fellow,
Not lean nor overlaid with tallow.

As he advanced in years he grew stout, and is written of by those who knew him as a squat man who looked as if he were fond of good feeding. He had a smiling countenance, and wore a fair, round wig, which was rather short.

BURNS' AMERICAN EDITIONS

General James Grant Wilson, in a recent number of the *Publishers' Weekly*, publishes an interesting list of the American editions of Robert Burns' poems. The bibliographical list contains one hundred and thirty-eight editions, the first being printed at Philadelphia, by Stewart & Hyde, in 1788. One copy of this edition, which was issued at seventy-five cents, has been sold at auction in 1896 for one hundred and fifty dollars. The English