

in Madagascar is of Malay origin. The prevailing cast of features may be judged of from the numerous photographs of individuals of various ranks and of both sexes. It would be easy to extract largely from this interesting volume in relation to scenery, manners, arts, the court and royal family, and more especially the interesting prince who is heir to the throne, as well as the particulars given respecting the state of the Christian converts, and the dreadful persecution they have endured. Our author's visit to South Africa in the interval of two of his Madagascar trips would also furnish matter deserving of notice, but we refer our readers to the volume itself, which will well reward perusal, and will be found as pleasing as it is instructive, so that few who open it will leave it without a complete perusal.

W. H.

Holbein's Dance of Death, exhibited in elegant Engravings on Wood, with a dissertation on the several representations of that subject.
By Francis Douce, Esq., F.A.S.

Holbein's Bible Cuts, consisting of ninety illustrations on Wood, with introduction. By Thomas Frognall Dibdin. London: Henry G. Bohn, 1858.

The lists of donations to the Library of the Canadian Institute have repeatedly recorded the liberal gifts of Mr. Henry G. Bohn, of London; and from the last of these contributions we select the above volume as a curious and interesting revival of ancient art, which forms one of the series of his Illustrated Library.

Holbein's Bible cuts restore to our eyes the Bible lessons of an elder and greatly simpler age of larger and less critical faith. To such these illustrations of the sacred Scriptures were full of earnest truthfulness, while to us they frequently verge on caricature. The anachronisms in architecture, costume, furniture, &c., are often amusing enough; while the fearlessness with which the old artists grapple with the most unmanageable and recondite themes, furnishes singular illustration of the mental culture and the moral faith of the age, in which, and for which, such works of art were produced. We find such subjects as the following, handled with boldness, and wrought out in every minute detail:

"God appeareth to Moses in a burning bush."