

our quoting an eloquent sentence about American vs. English forms of government (and of wickedness), and yet another about the "windy artillery" which assails the Church of God. We can only hope that many of our readers will see them for themselves.

WORDS AND THEIR USES: A Study of the English Language. By Richard Grant White. School edition. Cambridge: The Riverside Press. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Toronto: Williamson & Co. pp. 467. \$1.

This work was first issued fifteen years ago and has gained an important place for itself, having been of service to teachers, and indeed to all who are interested in the study of our mother-tongue. The author's intimate acquaintance with English classics and his cultivated taste are displayed on every page, and not infrequently opposition is disarmed by some witty thrust or happy illustration. "Newspaper English," "British English and 'American' English," "Words that are not words," "Big words for small thoughts," "Shall and will," "Style," so run some of the chapter headings.

SCOTT'S MARMION. With Notes. By F. S. Arnold, M.A., of Bedford Grammar School and King's College, Cambridge. Rivingtons, Waterloo Place, London, 1886. 374 pp.

We pity any one who does not read with enthusiasm the best poem of Sir Walter Scott, "the buoyant, virtuous and happy genius exulting in its own energies, yet possessed and mastered by a clear, calm, modest mind, and happy only in diffusing happiness round it." We need offer no extended remarks on the present edition. We hope our readers will not think us unduly dogmatic in expressing the opinion that it is the very best school edition yet issued.

GRAMMAR AND COMPOSITION FOR COMMON SCHOOLS. By Prof. Lyte, of the State Normal School, Pa. New York: D. Appleton & Company, 1886. 270 pp.

This book is carefully written and arranged, special attention being given to definitions and the more obscure grammatical forms. The part devoted to composition is good, as

also an appendix on "Rules of Construction." It is almost amusing to see the Potential Mood (!) still recognized.

I. INDEXING AND PRECIS-WRITING. pp. 224. 3s.

II. DIGEST OF RETURNS. pp. 74. 2s.
By William Russell, War Office, Civil Service Tutor. London: W. Stewart & Co.

The above-mentioned work on this subject is clear, logical and complete, dealing with the ground in an able and thorough manner. In a word, intending candidates will find that they are shown exactly how to do what is required.

The "Digest of Returns" is well arranged, and the exercises and specimens worked out are quite as valuable as in the "indexing." Those who are preparing for Civil Service examinations, or intend devoting themselves to commercial pursuits, will find these books of great service.

ELECTRICITY. By Linnæus Cumming, of Trinity College, Cambridge and Rugby School. London: Rivingtons, Waterloo Place, 1886. pp. 389.

In this work, which is the substance of lectures given to the senior boys in Rugby School, but which certainly goes far beyond a mere popular knowledge of the subject, electricity is treated experimentally rather than theoretically. The sixteen chapters are divided into four books, entitled respectively, "Magnetism," "Frictional Electricity," "Voltaic Electricity," "Thermo-Electricity," and the work is worthy of a place in every school library, not only on account of the importance of the subject, but also for its own merit.

FOREIGN SCHOOL CLASSICS. Charles XII.—par Voltaire. G. Eugene Fasnacht.

The series of Foreign School Classics would have been incomplete without Voltaire's brilliant biography. The present edition is specially valuable for the notes which contain corrections of historical inaccuracies as well as explanations of grammatical and other points.