

mentioned, as they mark the freshness and attractiveness of the style of treatment of the theme, which cannot fail to win popularity for the volume. These are (1) The Group round the Infant, and the Silent Years at Nazareth; (2) The Nation and the Time, treating of the theatre of His life and the two final stages of His preparation; (3) The Divisions of His Public Ministry, embracing the Year of Obscurity, the Year of Public Favour, and the Year of Opposition; and (4) The End, dealing with the Final Breach with the Nation, Jesus in presence of Death, The Trial, The Crucifixion, and finally, The Resurrection and Ascension. Appended to the work are some suggestive hints as to teachers' apparatus, and the sources from which a more extended knowledge of critical matters bearing on the Life of Christ can be gathered. These, and the accompanying questions for pupils, will be found exceedingly valuable. We confidently and heartily commend this little work to our readers.

JOHN DRYDEN, by G. Saintsbury; English Men. of Letters Series, edited by John Morley. New York: Harper & Bros.; Toronto: James Campbell & Son.

MR. SAINTSBURY brings to the study of Dryden an intelligence rendered keen by the critical knowledge of more than one national literature. With the French as well as with the English ancestors of Dryden's Muse he is familiar, and can compare the later poets' *risfaccimento* of Palamon and Arcite not only with Chaucer's noble work but with the sources from which the day-star of English poetry drew his inspiration. With these advantages, and a love for accuracy which enables him to correct former biographers on matters of fact even relating to so well-worn a theme as Dryden's life, there is no wonder that Mr. Saintsbury has succeeded in producing a very valuable work and one which will probably do more than hold its own in the present interesting series. Occasionally he is a little obscure, as at p. 14 where, in speaking of the English hatred of illegal bloodshed for political purposes, he refers to it

as having "in our own days brought about a political movement to which there is no need to refer more particularly." It seems to us that if the illustration was worth mentioning at all it was worth mentioning more definitely; as it is we are left to choose between the indignation caused by the massacres of Napoleon III.'s *coup d'état*, the condemnation of Governor Eyre's Jamaican brutalities and several other movements which have, more or less directly, owed their beginning to the righteous feeling in question.

OVID'S HEROIDES—Epistles V., XIII., with Introduction, and Notes. Toronto: Willing & Williamson.

WE have pleasure in recommending this handy edition of the Heroides to the teachers of the Province. It is admirably annotated. The editor, who is evidently a practical teacher, has hit the proper mean: he gives just so much assistance as a judicious master would supply, and he gives it in such a way as to provoke thought on the part of the pupil. The text and notes also are remarkably accurate, and we feel fully justified in recommending this unpretentious volume to the consideration and study of the present generation of editors.

HOW TO TELL THE PARTS OF SPEECH, by E. A. Abbott, D.D. Boston: Roberts Brothers; Toronto: Willing & Williamson.

THIS volume is more than a mere reprint of the English edition. The American editor has made some alterations and additions, which to our mind increase materially the value of the book. It is a pity that our authorized English Grammars are not characterized by the simplicity, combined with good scholarship, which render Dr. Abbott's works so valuable. We anticipate in Canadian educational circles a reaction from the analytical craze to a more practical and useful style of English teaching. The study of works like the subject of this notice will do much to imbue with simplicity the present modes of Grammar Teaching.