Book Notices.

Across America and Asia. Notes of a Five Years' Journey Round the World. By Raphael Pumpelly. New York: *Leypoldt & Holt.* 1870.

Professor Pumpelly has given to the world a thoroughly interesting and enjoyable book of travel and observation. Favoured by his official position as Mining Engineer to the Chinese and Japanese Governments, he has had facilities above most outside barbarians in pursuing his geological researches and studies of the Asiatic character, which he here narrates in a very scholarly, though somewhat discursive manner. The period covered by his narrative extends from 1860 to 1865, during which time he traverses California, Japan, China, the plateau of Central Asia, Siberia, and Europe, and the book abounds with many characteristic descriptions of the Celestials and valuable criticism on their institutions, as well as much important matter of a high scientific value in connection with his profession.

The Polar World. By Dr. S. Hartwig. New York: *Harper Brothers.*

This work is designed after the fashion of the author's former work on *The Tropical World*, to which it forms a companion. It comprehends the whole sphere of Arctic and Antarctic exploration, as presented in the fascinating pages of such writers as Kane, McClintock, Ross, Dr. Hayes, and others, upon whose works it is based, and not, as might be inferred, upon the result of personal observation. As a *resumé* of the valuable and interesting researches of these writers, wholly original in its treatment, learned in its deductions, and picturesque in its descriptions, the work cannot fail to enlist many readers and be favorably received.

The History of Rome. By Theodor Mommsen. Translated from the German by W. P. Dickson, D. D. New York: *Chas. Scribner & Co.* Vols. 1 and 2.

These two volumes are an instalment of the reprint of four volumes of an English translation of Professor Mommsen's highly prized history, which has taken as high a position as a history of Rome as Mr. Grote's work has of the history of Greece. After the character of Niebuhr's work, with equal scholarship and patient and critical research, so characteristic of the German mind, this important work narrates the history of Rome, through its first age down to the fall of the Republic and the rise of the Empire of the Cæsars. Taking advantage of the results of modern examination, pursued by many scholars since Niebuhr's day, the old legends and traditions of the history bear a somewhat new face. Much that formerly was mythical and hypothetical is made clear, and many an ingenious hypothesis of earlier scholars is now proved to have a solid foundation of fact. Much remains, of course, of mere conjecture in regard to the story of Rome; but it will be admitted by all who read the charming volumes of this author that again to German scholarship are we indebted for by far the most learned and readable history of the Roman Commonwealth.

Sacred Allegories. By the Rev. W. Adams, M. A. New edition, with engravings from original designs. London: *Messrs. Rivington.*

This elegant edition of these beautiful allegories—"The Shadow of the Cross," "The Distant Hills," and the "King's Messengers"—which have been so enthusiastically received by the British public, is here presented in a handsome form, with designs by Cope, Birket Foster, and others. We highly commend the work to readers in Canada, where, unfortunately, it is but little known.

A Search for Winter Sunbeams in the Riviera, Corsica, Algiers, and Spain. By the Hon. S. S. Cox. New York: *D. Appleton & Co.*

This is a lively and fascinating book of travel, under a quaint title, descriptive of scenes on the shores of the Mediterranean, in Spain, and in Northern Africa, revealing the merits of many sunny localities and bright spots, where the author has enjoyed himself, and makes the reader desire to have been with him.