

Book Notices.

JOHNSON'S LIFE OF MILTON, with Introduction and Notes, by F. Ryland, M.A. London: George Bell & Sons. Pp. 135. Price 2s. 6d.

Mr. Ryland has done a real service to the readers of Johnson in the careful edition he has made of the *Milton*. The notes to the life are full and accurate, revealing the greatest industry on the editor's part in showing all difficulties of allusions, references, and quotations. A life of Johnson and some excellent comments on the character of literary criticism of the eighteenth century form the introduction.

SUPPLEMENTARY EXERCISES TO MACMILLAN'S PROGRESSIVE FRENCH COURSE. First year. By G. E. Fasnacht. London: Macmillan & Co. Toronto: Copp, Clark Co. Pp. 80. Price, 1s.

This book of exercises, while arranged to supplement Fasnacht's well-known First Year French Course, by giving a most thorough drill in the grammar, can be used by teachers who use other grammars. It is well compiled, the sentences varied and not devoid of interest, and carefully graded—thus giving distinct help in teaching French in elementary classes.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF ENGLISH FICTION, by W. E. Simonds. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. Pp. 240. Price, \$1.

The last few months have seen the publication of various treatises on English fiction. One of the less pretentious of these, and not the least valuable, is the book before us. The author has the right historical perspective—sketching first the story-telling of Anglo-Saxons, of the Normans, of the Elizabethans, before coming to the rise of the novel proper, the plain story of the common life of every day in the eighteenth century. The characteristics of succeeding novelists, the questions of romanticism and realism, are likewise briefly touched on. The second part of the volume is made up of selections from Beonnet to Tristram Shandy, complete a useful volume, which will contribute to set people thinking of the true value of fiction, and especially of the novel in public culture.

A DANISH AND DANO-NORWEGIAN GRAMMAR, by P. Groth, A.M. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. Pp. 143. Price, \$1.

The appearance of this scholarly and convenient grammar of Danish—which is also, with slight variations, the language of Norwegian culture—will be welcomed by all friends of the northern languages. Nearly half the book is taken up with the pronunciation, in which the labors of Sweet and Jeopersen are pressed into popular service; the etymology (accidence) gives an easy oversight of the chief characteristics of the grammatical form; and some exercises, only too few, seek to impress the chief rules. The absence of any extracts for reading is to be regretted in an elementary book, in spite of the author's references to such by other editors. The student of English will find many points of interest in running over this grammar of a kindred language, points of agreement and difference, while to any one wanting an introduction to the language of Ibsen and Bjornson, here is a convenient and reliable work.

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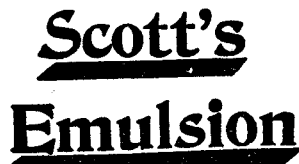
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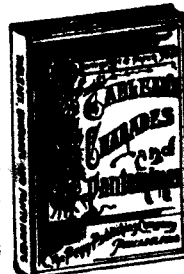
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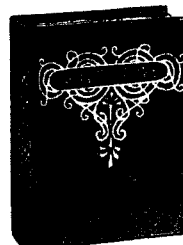
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