

"To summarize briefly some of the prominent features of the Dictionary as now presented: And first, of the new matter:—The body of the work appears essentially unchanged; *i. e.*, the former plates, with some corrections, are still used; but there is a Supplement of between four and five thousand new words, or important meanings of old ones. These are largely, of course, scientific, medical, technical, etc., the propriety of their introduction in a popular work growing out of the popularization of science generally, and the higher culture of the whole community. Evolution, Pangenesis, Panspermatist, Monad, Abiogenesis, and the like, are now household words, instead of being heard only in the schools of philosophy. But these by no means constitute the whole, or the chief, of this additional list in Webster. Invention, discovery, research,—all are active in this stirring age, introducing new terms and fresh ideas, requiring new words to express them. Such words, with their proper definitions, constitute an element which no intelligent dictionary consulter can afford to be without. The total number of words now in the vocabulary exceeds 118,000.

"Another striking feature of the new edition of Webster is a condensed, but still quite extended, Biographical Dictionary. This contains nearly ten thousand names of important personages, ancient and modern (including many now living), giving the name, pronunciation, nationality, profession, date of birth, and (where deceased,) death, of each. By throwing it into a sort of tabular form, those facts are given very satisfactorily, yet briefly, and, in a great majority of cases, are pretty much all the consulter cares particularly to know. There is nothing that we are aware of this kind before the public so condensed, full, and late, as this table.

"We are reminded in this Table that there are in this dictionary, aside from the main body of the work, several important subjects, and each valuable for frequent reference, so fully treated as would form, each for itself, a volume of considerable size. The Biographical Table is one; Professor Hadley's History of the English Language; Wheeler's Table of Noted Names of Fiction, (giving the names and characteristics of the personages named in Scott, Dickens, Cooper, and other popular authors, such as are often referred to in literature or conversation); The Classified Grouping of the 3,000 Pictorial Illustrations; Table of Modern Geographical Names, etc., are others.

"The four pages of Colored Illustrations, Flags of All Nations, Coats of Arms of All Nations, Coats of Arms of the Several United States and Territories, and Naval Flags and Pilot Signals, form another useful and attractive feature.

"On the whole, probably no other single volume before the English-speaking public embodies so much information on the subjects treated, and is so valuable for frequent consultation, and so indispensable in the household, and to the scholar, professional man, and self-educator, as this; and when a dictionary is wanted, get the best."