

Thus has it ever been. Shall it thus be?
A race of slaves by coward despots ruled,
Shall ye possess the land from sea to sea?
A childish race by mere gewgaws be fooled,
By sad experience, aye, untaught, unschooled,
The victims of some cunning trickster's schemes,
While ye are lost to earth in wild day-dreams.

Or is thy time to come? Or is it now?
Thou did'st not strike the blow that made thee free,
But thou may'st make some other despot bow,
And free a brother race from tyranny,
And a united Italy yet see
Dictating to her warlike neighbours peace,
And reaping of her fields the large increase.

Hail, Garibaldi! freedom's truest son,
The liberator of thy native land,
Thus far thy course successful hast thou run,
Run on, run on, and be at thy command
Full many a watchful eye and faithful hand.
Hail, Garibaldi! sounds from many a shore;
Let tyrant despots quake that shout before.

2. RIVAL ENGLISH DICTIONARIES.

Dr. Johnson published his great work first in 1755—a work which did more to settle the external form of our language than any other—and in it he truly says: “No Dictionary of a living language ever can be perfect, since, while it is hastening to publication, some words are *budding*, and some are *falling away*.” It is needless to say how rapidly the “budding” process has been going on since his day, and what advantages each lexicographer possesses over his predecessor. Similar language applies with almost equal force to orthoepy, or the pronunciation of the language. John Walker published his celebrated critical pronouncing Dictionary in 1791. He had been a teacher of elocution among the higher classes of London, and had enjoyed peculiar advantages for studying the best usage. These opportunities he carefully improved, and in his new work made pronunciation his chief study, his design being, as he expresses it, “principally to give a kind of history of pronunciation and to register its present state.” In fact he holds the same rank as an orthoepist that Johnson does as a lexicographer, and almost all subsequent compilers have largely taken advantage of the labours of these two distinguished men. During the present century many English Dictionaries have appeared both in Britain* and in the United States; but the two which divide public favour in America at present, are those of Dr. Webster, of New Haven, and Dr. Worcester, of Cambridge. The former of these appeared first in 1828, in two quarto volumes, and a new edition followed in 1840. An edition revised and enlarged by the late Rev. Chauncey A. Goodrich, D.D., of Yale College, appeared in 1847, in a large quarto volume. And a still later *pictorial* edition has been issued by the Messrs. Merriam of Springfield, Mass. Unquestionably greater pains have been taken with the *definitions* in this work, and if in this respect, Worcester excel, it may fairly be asked whether the improvements are not in some measure attributable to the fact that Worcester succeeded Webster. Important changes were made by Webster in the orthography, changes which are of two kinds, and which rest on different grounds. He rejected the *u* from such words as *favour*, *labour*, &c., and changed the terminations of certain words in *re* into *er*, as *centre*, *metre*, &c. Further, in adding to a word the formatives *ing*, *ed*, *er*, a single consonant if one precedes, is doubled when the accent falls on the last syllable, as in *forgetting*, *beginning*, &c., but it is not doubled when the accent falls on any of the preceding syllables as in *benefiting*, *gardening*, &c. Dr. Worcester published his “Comprehensive pronouncing and explanatory Dictionary of the English language” in 1830, and his Quarto Dictionary was published just 30 years after, on the 3rd January of present year. This splendid work, containing about 104,000 words was issued from the publishing house of Swan, Brewer & Tileston, of Boston, and had all the advantages of the personal oversight of the author, beautiful typography and pictorial illustration. Its claim to superiority over that of Webster, chiefly rests on its having adopted the English standard of orthography and orthoepy—in this respect meeting the views of Everett, Webster, Irving, and a majority of the literary men of the United States—in the better discrimination of the slighter and more obscure sounds of the vowels, giving in the “key” to the system of notation seven different sounds of *a* (three

more than Webster,) five sounds of *e* (three more than Webster,) five of *i* (two more than Webster,) six of *o* (one more than Webster,) six of *u* (three more than Webster,) and four of *y*; in the copiousness of technical terms in the Arts and Sciences, and in these being illustrated by numerous diagrams and pictorial representations. We understand that an edition of Webster has also been published with pictorial illustrations, so that this can no longer be regarded as in the catalogue of improvements.—*Abridged from the Globe.*

IX. Short Critical Notices of Books.

— WORCESTER'S PICTORIAL DICTIONARY. Boston: Swan, Brewer, and Tileston. 4to. pp. 1,854.—This is the great rival dictionary of Dr. Webster's, and it is in every way worthy of such a competitor. The two Dictionaries are American publications; but, taken as a whole, we regard Worcester's as much superior to Webster's. Worcester's is not only based upon the British standard of orthography (which is yet the only acknowledged authority in the British Empire), but, in the classifications and arrangement of its materials, Worcester's is much more convenient and satisfactory to students and scholars than is Webster's. Thus in Webster's, the Illustrations, Table of Synonyms, and the Appendix of New Words, are separated from the body of the work; while in Worcester's they are all combined in the work itself. The incorporation of the Synonyms in their appropriate places in the body of the work, is a peculiar and admirable feature in Worcester's Dictionary. The largeness and clearness of the type, the size of the pages, and the quality of the paper, as well as the number of pages in the book, are altogether in favour of Worcester's. The whole number of pages in Webster is 1,750; in Worcester, 1,854: while each page of Worcester is nearly one-fourth larger than that of Webster's, which amply compensates for the compression of matter by means of the smaller type in Webster's. In one or two features, however, we regard Webster's as better than Worcester's. For instance, the engravings in Webster's, although chiefly copied from *Blackie's Imperial Dictionary*, are larger and finer than those in Worcester's. Into the matter of comparative definition we will not enter; although, after a careful examination, we find the definition of some words in Worcester's neither so critically accurate nor full as the corresponding definition in Webster's: but this is fully counterbalanced by a like superiority in some of Worcester's definitions. It may be proper to state, that both dictionaries are supplied to public libraries, schools, and teachers, at the Educational Depository.

— STUDIES IN ANIMAL LIFE.—By G. H. Lewes. New York: Harper and Brothers.—This is quite an interesting book, on a most agreeable subject. The studies of animal life are not only too often neglected but are considered as unattractive and useless. The perusal of this book, illustrated as it is with excellent wood-cuts, cannot fail to awaken an interest in the study itself, as well as in the habits, instinct, and character of the animal world around us, and lead the eye “to look from Nature up to Nature's God.”

— THE QUEENS OF SOCIETY.—By G. and P. Wharton. New York: Harper and Brothers.—This is a very handsome one volume edition of the work to which we referred on page 143, of last month's *Journal*.

X. Educational Intelligence.

CANADA.

— UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CONVOCATION.—The annual Convocation of this Institution took place on the 24th inst., Rev. Dr. McCaul presided. The proceedings commenced with the admission of undergraduates, who were called forward by the Registrar. Dr. McCaul addressed a few words to the gentlemen before him, urging upon them the importance of improving to the utmost the educational facilities which University College afforded to them. Mr. J. M. Buchan, who had carried the prize for English verse, was then called to the dais, and recited, with much animation and grace, the poem which had obtained for him the prize. At the close of the recitation, he was very warmly applauded. The subject of the poem was “Naples.” The various Professors then presented the successful competitors in their several departments with the prizes they had gained. The following is the list of those who obtained prizes and certificates of honour:—*Greek and Latin*.—4th Year—J. T. Fraser, prizeman. 3rd Year—W. A. Reeve, prizeman; J. B. Ross. 2nd Year—S. Woods, prizeman; W. G. Crawford, W. Tytler, G. Cooper. 1st Year—A. M. Lafferty, prizeman; G. Kilpatrick. *Logic*.—J. M. Buchan, prizeman. *Metaphysics and Ethics*.

* The most important English publications of the kind, are *Blackie's Imperial Dictionary* in two volumes, and the celebrated *Critical Dictionary* of Dr. Charles Richardson, in two volumes. The philological and scientific copiousness and accuracy of this latter work is as yet unapproached by any of its competitors.—*Ed. Journal of Education.*