

THE example of acting a Greek play in the original, we notice, is about to be followed by the students of University College, Toronto, who intend shortly to give a representation of the "Antigone" of Sophocles. The success elsewhere of the "Agamemnon" of the same author, and of the "Alcestis" of Euripides, has been great, and must have been helpful in vivifying the period of Greek art and literature to the minds of present-day collegians.

MESSRS. APPLETON & CO., of New York, have just issued M. Alfred Sardou's "Manual of French Idiomatic Phrasology," containing one hundred and eighteen progressively arranged conversations, embracing and elucidating the whole mechanism of the language. The book will be found a capital aid to students of the French language, to whom its idioms are a stumbling-block, and who feel shaky in the use of adverbs, prepositions, and conjunctions.

THE fascinating *raconteur*, Jules Verne, is out with a new work, the title of the English translation of which is "The Giant Raft, or, Eight Hundred Leagues on the River Amazon." The work is embellished with numerous characteristic illustrations, and no doubt it will furnish another *gobemouche* for

the unappeased appetite for the adventurous and the marvellous in the youth of both hemispheres.

THE new volume of the "English Men of Letters" series, edited by Professor Morley, is DeQuincey, whose memoir has been written by Professor David Masson, of Edinburgh University. The issues of this admirable series should be in the hands of every teacher, and their cheap price makes them easily attainable.

MR. JOHN MURRAY, the London publisher, announces a collection of the speeches and addresses, political and literary, delivered in the House of Lords, Canada, and elsewhere, by the Earl of Dufferin, our late Governor-General.

A VOLUME of selections from the writings of the novelist, W. M. Thackeray, chiefly philosophical and reflective, has just been published, and presents a delightful *pot pourri* of the moralist's social philosophy.

THE *Athenæum* announces that a collection of the mathematical papers of the late Professor Clifford, which has been for some time expected, may now shortly be looked for.

SIGNS OF RAIN.

Audi ! nunc celeres subito dant flamina venti,
Nunc nimbi tenebris astra polumque tegunt ;
Fuligo delapsa jacet, dormitque catellus,
Linguit aranea opus, pendula tecta, suum :
Pallidus Hisperias Phœbus descendit in un-
Lunæ cingebat clara corona caput ; [das,
Tristia sollicitus ducit suspiria pastor,
Arcus nam cœlo lucida signa videt.
Versicolor pavo conclamat, anasque tetrinnit,
Adstare apparent nunc juga celsa mihi.
Vix miseros porcos retinent obstantia claus-
tra,
Vacca levi muscâ puncta per arva ruit :
Remigio alarum campos perstringit hirundo,
Incipit et gryllus sæpe crepare foco ;
Villosis pedibus considit felis ibidem,
Hispidâ flexilibus dum terit ora comis.

Grimsby.

OLD RUGBEIAN.

The hollow winds begin to blow,
The clouds look black, (the glass is low,)
The soot falls down, the spaniels sleep,
The spiders from their cobwebs peep :
Last night the sun went pale to bed,
The moon in halos hid her head ;
The boding shepherd heaves a sigh,
For, see, a rainbow spans the sky.
Loud quack the ducks, the peacocks cry,
The distant hills are seeming nigh.
How restless are the snorting swine !
The busy flies disturb the kine :
Low o'er the grass the swallow wings,
The cricket too, how sharp she sings !
Puss on the hearth, with velvet paws,
Sits wiping o'er her whiskered jaws.