

to the country and period in which he lived; revive the characters and events among which he wrote, and fully comprehend the surroundings which coloured his mental life." This has often been recognized as true and the difficulty of its accomplishment deplored, but it need be no longer so, for this work is intended as an aid in the process of transportation, and is so arranged in parallel columns that at a glance the reader can ascertain: (1) The chief events which gave to any age its (2) general characteristics, (3) their best writers, and (4) their writings. These are arranged chronologically and divided into periods from the Anglo-Saxon to the Victorian.

Thus, to take an example, should the reader wish to see in a few lines the spirit of the age in which Ben Jonson lived and wrote, he has only to turn to the Puritan period, and on page 86 he will find under (1) Events—Galileo's system of the world published at Florence, 1632; (2) characteristics—prevalence of belief in witchcraft; (3) writers—Ben Jonson, with a short and concise criticism of his intellectual power and writings; (4) a review of his principal writings. The book is very well bound and produced, and, in addition to good arrangement and clear type, spaces have been left for the reader to enter additional authors at his own discretion.—A. B.

European Days and Ways. By ALFRED E. LEE, late Consul-General, U.S.A. Illustrated, 8vo. Pp. 376. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Publishing Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$2.25.

This is not a conventional book of travel—the hasty notes of a rapid tourist. It is the result of a prolonged residence abroad of a man enjoying, from his official position, the *entrée* to the best society of Europe. He gives us an inside view of social and domestic life and many charming pictures of travel during his journeyings and sojourns in different parts of the continent. Consul-General Lee is a shrewd observer of men and things, and had

better opportunities of seeing and learning what was best worth while to see and learn than most travellers, however well introduced. He gives us some very interesting "personalities" of such prominent characters as Kaiser Wilhelm, Prince Bismarck, and other European notabilities. Graphic sketches of German social and domestic life, glimpses of Holland, accounts of his wanderings in the Austrian Alps, of a tramp through Tyrol, of *Beiwagen* rides over the Furka and Splügen Passes, of prolonged travel through Southern Italy and Sicily, in Spain, and the like, make up a volume of singular interest. An important chapter full of valuable suggestion is entitled, "How the Germans Educate." The author is an accomplished art critic, and devoted much attention to the European galleries, and more especially to the art treasures of Spain. The book is admirably illustrated: The reproductions of Dannecker's "Ariadne," of the bas-reliefs from the Niederwald monument, a portrait bust of Seneca, the Palm Garden at Frankfort, grim Prince Bismarck, and a charming Moorish maiden, and of many other fine subjects, are of very conspicuous merit.

The Social Law of God: Sermons on the Ten Commandments. By E. A. WASHBURN, D.D. Pp. xiv-212. New York: Thomas Whittaker. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$1.00.

The Rev. Dr. Washburn, rector of Calvary Church, New York, was a man of strongly-marked character, of high literary culture, and of intrepid moral courage. These important discourses on the fundamental principles of social morality made a profound impression, as is evidenced by the fact that they have reached a seventh edition. The author uses great plainness of speech, and rebukes sin even in high places in the spirit of one of the old prophets; but is, nevertheless, tenderly sympathetic with the erring and the fallen. He is a thorough man of the nineteenth century, and preaches the application of the eter-