

have been more fully and sympathetically treated, a few more pages being added. The only statement we feel bound to demur to in the "Life" is where we are told, at page 7, that "the summary punishment of certain of the conspirators, without trial, eventually proved the ruin of Cicero." Now, we hold that Cicero did indeed commit a grievous political mistake in making himself the tool of the Senate on the occasion referred to. It gave Clodius a good cry against Cicero with the mob of the forum. They and the popular party no doubt regarded the slaughter of the comrades of Catiline as one more instance of those high-handed methods of suppressing political opponents, of which the execution of Saturnius and his partizans, and of Caius Gracchus and his supporters, had set the precedent. Cicero's action in the matter caused his exile, but by no means his ruin. The Catilinians were never a popular faction. The Roman liberals, the populace as well as their leaders, knew perfectly well that the movement was simply Catiline out of office plotting against Catiline in office. The Catilinian leaders all belonged to aristocratic houses. Juvenal alludes to this in his Satires:—

Cethegus ! Catiline ! what ranked more high
Than your proud titles of nobility ?

The execution of these men was an unconstitutional thing, done by a body who were always trenching on the constitution, and it was thus far unpopular, no doubt. But it was by no means so thoroughly unpopular, with the whole Roman people, as the execution, under similar circumstances, of Mr. Parnell would be unpopular with the whole Irish people. Cicero got over that unpopularity and was never farther from "ruin" than on the day of his triumphal return, the day to which allusion is made in the noble lines which we believe ought to be read by all young people who study Cicero's career :

Roma "Parentem,"
Roma "Patrem Patriæ" Ciceronem, libera,
dixit !

Parent and Father of his Fatherland,
Rome hailed him, Rome when free !

The real cause of Cicero's ruin dates surely from the time when he became an accomplice after the fact in the murder of Cæsar, and when he so misread the signs of the times as to side with the senatorial oligarchy.

We especially commend in Mr. McHenry's book the short Miscellaneous Tables given for the benefit of students. These are clear, brief, and likely to be most useful. The analysis of the argument in English at the heading of the notes in each chapter is also to be commended. In such a manual as this we regret the absence of some slight sketch of Cicero's literary form, the flow and structure of his long rolling sentences, the frequent use of antithesis and alliteration. This, however, can be still more effectively done orally, by an appreciative teacher.

We could have wished that the publishers work had been as well done as the editor's. The type of the Latin text is in a very battered condition,—a defect which must seriously add to the risks of myopia and other forms of eye diseases, of which bad type, indistinct print, and delapidated stereotype plates, are but too certainly, in main part, the cause.

CÆSAR'S BELLUM BRITANNICUM (Lib. IV., c. 20-36 ; V., c. 8-23), and the nine intervening chapters, with Explanatory Notes, a copious Vocabulary, and numerous Grammatical References, by J. Murison Dunn, B.A., LL.B. (University of Toronto), Head Master Welland High School. Toronto : Canada Publishing Co., 1881.

THIS volume consists of a very readable sketch of Cæsar's life—one calculated to induce thoughtful students to take enough interest in that extraordinary career to read those most interesting biographies of the greatest Cæsar recently produced by Trollope and Froude. Mr. Dunn's sketch occupies five pages, and is a good summary of the facts in the life of Cæsar. The text is well and legibly printed, and the proof reading has been carefully attended to. The binding and general get up of the book is creditable to the publishers. The Notes