

womanhood. This our critic attributes to the rare association he enjoyed with the grandest woman poet who ever lived. Never, we think, were twin souls of such poetic insight united in such ideal wedlock. This portraiture of noble womanhood finds its noblest embodiment in "Pompilia." The painting of such a pure, strong, saintly soul is Browning's greatest gift to literature.

"The Annual Report of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution for the Year ending June 30th, 1901." Washington: Government Printing Office. Svo. Pp. 782.

The Smithsonian Institute is a remarkable example of the international character of science. It was founded by James Smithson, a distinguished English physicist who bequeathed \$600,000 for the establishment of an institution for "the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men." This it does by promoting original research, and its co-ordination, and by its publications and annual reports. It has become a sort of scientific clearing house for the world. The Smithsonian and National Museums at Washington are among the most magnificent apparatus for the study of science in existence. This report is of special value, as it summarizes some of the most important recent discoveries and contributions to science. Many of these are by British or other foreign authorities, as Lord Kelvin on the Ether, Sir Harry H. Johnston, Professor Dewar on solid hydrogen, Marconi on wireless telegraphy, Sir William Herschel on colour photography, and others. The American contributions by Professor Langley, Rear-Admiral Melville, F. H. Newell, and many others, are of great importance.

A few days which we recently spent in Washington were a demonstration of the remarkable advantages of these institutions and of the facilities they offer for scientific studies. A fascinating chapter in this book is the account of the promotion of nature-study by children. A special room is set apart in which are collected specimens of some of the most curious and interesting phenomena of plant and animal life—exquisite groups of butterflies, humming-birds, and preparations illustrating the protective colouring and structure of many insects and birds. This report is beauti-

fully illustrated with numerous black and white and coloured plates. The book is a distinct and important contribution to the literature of science.

"Songs of an English Esau." By Clive Phillipps-Wolley. Author of "One of the Broken Brigade," etc., etc. Toronto: Geo. N. Morang & Co. Pp. 123.

This book contains the most vital and virile Canadian verse that we have yet read. The writer describes himself as a "Colonial Esau" who would not exchange his mess of pottage in Canada for Jacob's palace in Britain. Yet his poems breathe the passionate love of the exile for the land of his fathers. Like the Jews in Babylon, it is not without tears that he sings his songs of patriotism in a strange land. These poems pulse and throb with the new spirit of unity and solidarity that is vibrant throughout the far-flung Empire. Though English by birth, yet is this author passionately Canadian by adoption. In the poem "Is Canada Loyal?" he exclaims:

"Strong with the strength of sires who
have never been aught but free. . .
British in Britain's van, have we no right
to be proud? . . .
Bone of your bone are we, and in death
would be dust of your dust."

The noblethrenody on the death of Queen Victoria concludes:

"Weld us in one, with Thee, O Lord, for
Head;
Call in Her children from all seas, all
lands,
And in Her memory round their Mother's
bed
For ever join their hands."

Not even Kipling sounds more strongly the imperialistic note than our Canadian singer. In his "Chain of Empire," written in the cemetery farthest west on this continent, he sings:

"O seed of Empire, Stones on which we set
That Greater Britain, which is yet to be;
Here, where the furthest West and East
are met,
Sleep, whilst your old nurse croons for
lullaby,
Thanks of a Realm, that owes you
Unity."

The stirring poem entitled "The Sea Queen Wakes," describes the mobilizing of the Flying Squadron, January, 1896:

"In the world there be many nations, and
there gathers round every throne