

Berlin and Rome. In 1834 he published his well-known metrical translation of Goethe's "Faust," of which a new edition has been recently issued, and was admitted to the Edinburgh bar. The law was not his province, however, and he began to contribute articles on German literature to *Blackwood's* and *The Foreign Quarterly Review*, the first of an almost innumerable quantity of papers where-with he enriched periodical literature during his long and brilliant life. In 1841 he accepted the call to the newly established Chair of the Humanities in Marischal College, Aberdeen, occupying that position until 1852, when he was elected to the professorship of Greek at the Edinburgh University, which he resigned in 1882. He was a powerful factor in the promotion of educational reform, and gave his aid to the agitation that culminated in the remodelling to the Scotch universities in 1859. A typical representative of his race in face and mind, in dry humor and shrewdness, he was appropriately the champion of Scotch nationality. Modern Greek and the study

of Gaelic, also, were objects of his unwearying solitudes, and he succeeded during 1874-76 in raising 12,000*l.* for the endowment of a Celtic Chair in Edinburgh University, a performance of which he was rightly proud. As a popular lecturer, also, he was highly successful.

Besides the translation of "Faust," already mentioned, the long list of his works includes a translation of "The Lyrical Dramas of Æschylus" (1850); "Lays and Legends of Ancient Greece with Other Poems" (1856); "Lays of the Highlands and Islands" (1872); "The Language and Literature of the Scottish Highlands" (1876); "The Wise Men of Greece" and "The Natural History of Atheism" (1877); "Lay Sermons" (1881).—*The Critic*.

STATE EDUCATION.—Popular ignorance with popular suffrage would be fatal to the community. This puts State education not on Socialistic grounds but on that of political necessity, and necessity, whether political, military or sanitary, must be supreme.—*Goldwin Smith*.

GEOGRAPHY.

Italy yields the finest coral.

Platinum wires made white-hot by electric currents are now used as saws for felling trees.

Thorghatten, the famous Norwegian mountain, has a hole extending entirely through it from one side to the other.

There are 700 species of birds in South America, of which nearly 300 are peculiar. The turkey and the mocking-bird belong to the latter class.

Greenland, more than 1,400 miles long, is probably the largest island in the world; some geographers think it is a cluster of islands frozen together.

At Grass Lake, near Chicago, and in the Tolleston marsh in Indiana, grows the genuine Egyptian lotus, not found elsewhere in America. The leaf is as large as a hat, and supported at some distance above the water by a round stem. This leaf, when wet resembles liquid quicksilver. The great lily-shaped flower is bright yellow, and in masses is a beautiful sight.

ROCKING STONES IN CONNECTICUT.—A number of Yale students have found several rocking stones near the Stonington, Conn. These stones, which in many cases are as large as small