

word was worthless and his courage doubtful, are facts which cannot be denied." And yet the English monarchy survived. The editor has an admirable article on Gibbon, the historian, and reminds us of the manner in which royalty recognized the value of his work. "The Duke of Gloucester on accepting a volume said affably, 'Another damned thick book! Always, scribble, scribble, scribble! eh, Mr. Gibbon.'"

We should like to say something of the numerous Gibbons, among whom are bishops and painters and other professional men and artists, of the Giffards and Giffords, among whom are many eminent names, of the Gilberts also not without distinction in various ways, but we must not. We are glad to see a kindly article on George Gilfillan, who has not always been treated quite fairly by literary men. The article on Girolodus Cambrensis is full of accurate learning. But we have said enough to satisfy our readers that they will receive instruction and amusement from every page of this volume.

THREE MEN IN A BOAT (TO SAY NOTHING OF THE DOG). By Jerome K. Jerome. Illustrations by A. Fredericks. New York: Henry Holt and Company.

The author of this book intended it to be convulsingly funny from the title to the tail-piece at the end. The preface is laboriously and painfully funny. The whole book is loaded with explosive mirthfulness. There is condensed merriment in every sentence, inextinguishable laughter in every page. The author has not been nearly so considerate as

"The chap who told one day,
The tale of the wonderful one-hoss shay."

He has evidently been just as funny as he could be, and we cry, "Hold, enough." We understand he has another book in press. We say at once we won't venture to read it. We fear the effects of another volume such as the one we have just laid down would be disastrous.

JACQUES CARTIER: HIS LIFE AND VOYAGES. By Joseph Pope. Ottawa: Press of A. S. Woodburn.

Some time last year the Lieut.-Governor of Quebec offered a silver and a bronze medal for the first and second best essays on "Jacques Cartier, his Life and Voyages." The essays were to be written in either French or English, and the competition to be open to home and foreign writers. Mr. Pope's essay was awarded the first prize in the English section, and he now submits it to the wider criticism of the public. Mr. Pope has carefully studied the original records, and from this material, much of it no doubt obscure and difficult to unravel, he has woven an interesting and trustworthy narrative of the life and voyages of the bold Pilot of St. Malo. The numerous notes and appendices give further evidence of the laborious and conscientious research he undertook to make his work as perfect as possible. We trust this little volume will be received with the favour it deserves, and that it may encourage other students to undertake similar works, and thus help to remove, in some degree, that ignorance about the early history of our own country with which we are deservedly reproached.

SPENCE'S "ANECDOTES, OBSERVATIONS AND CHARACTER OF BOOKS AND MEN." A selection edited, with an Introduction and Notes, by John Underhill. "The Camelot Series." London: Walter Scott; Toronto: W. J. Gage and Company.

In 1726 Joseph Spence, a young clergyman and Fellow of New College, Oxford, published a critical essay on Pope's "Odyssey." This led to an acquaintance with the poet which ripened into a life-long friendship. Spence was one of the few friends with whom Pope did not quarrel, and this intimacy brought the gentle scholar into familiar intercourse with the distinguished men and women who sought the poet's company. Mingling with the brilliant leaders of a brilliant age, he was enabled to collect the anecdotes, table-talk and scraps of literary gossip contained in this volume. Spence died in 1768. His life was uneventful but happy. It was a life of "learned leisure," undisturbed by financial cares, and spent in agreeable occupations and in the society of congenial friends. Although he wrote several works that had considerable success, he is now principally remembered by his "Anecdotes," which were first published in 1820, though the MS. had been used by Warburton and Warton in the author's lifetime, and subsequently by Johnson and Malone. This is the fourth edition that has been published since that of 1820. In addition to the introduction, which deals chiefly with Spence and Pope, there are brief biographical notices of the literary personages of whom the anecdotes are related.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN. By John F. Morse, Jr. "American Statesman." New York and Boston: Houghton, Mifflin and Company; Toronto: Williamson and Company.

Of the many biographies of Franklin that have been written Parton's is so completely satisfactory that Mr. Morse feels called upon to "give something between a reason and an apology for the existence of this volume." The series of "American Statesmen" would not be complete without a life of Franklin, and since Mr. Parton's work would not fit the space this book had to be written. Mr. Morse passes lightly and rapidly over Franklin's early life, giving only two chapters to the whole of his career up

to 1757, when he was appointed by the Pennsylvania Assembly a representative of that province in England. Franklin was then fifty-one years of age, but he had already acquired a reputation that extended far beyond the colonies. "In respect of influence and prestige among his fellow-colonists none other came near to him. He had flown his famous kite; had entrapped the lightning of the clouds; had written treatises, which, having been collected into a volume, were much taken notice of in England; made no small stir in France, and were translated into the Italian, German and Latin languages. . . . Kant called him the Prometheus of modern times. Thus, in one way and another, his name had probably already come to be more widely known than that of any other living man who had been born on this side of the Atlantic." The bulk of the book is devoted to his political and diplomatic missions in England and France. He was an old man of seventy when he signed the Declaration of Independence in 1776, yet in the same year he was elected envoy to France, and continued for nine years in that laborious and exacting office. After his return, though nearly four-score, further public services were demanded of him, and cheerfully given. Yet he was never able to get his accounts with the Government audited and settled, and when he died in 1790, "the United States appeared his debtor, and never extricated itself from that painful position." Mr. Morse's estimate of the mental and moral qualities of the Sage of Philadelphia is very high, but perhaps it is not too high. "By the instruction which he gave, by his discoveries, by his inventions, and by his achievements in public life, he earns the distinction of having rendered to men varied and useful services excelled by no other one man; and thus he has established a claim upon the gratitude of mankind so broad that history holds few who can be his rivals."

DR. MUHLENBERG. By William Wilberforce Newton, D.D. "American Religious Leaders." Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin and Company; Toronto: Williamson and Company.

This is not a biography of Dr. Muhlenberg, but a study of his life and character, and the influence he exercised on Christian work and religious thought during his long ministry of nearly sixty years. We have found the work one of much greater interest than we anticipated. It touches upon movements and tendencies of great importance to Protestant Christians of all denominations, and will be found suggestive and helpful to Protestants outside of the communion to which Dr. Muhlenberg belonged. Born at Philadelphia in 1796, of Lutheran parents, William Augustus Muhlenberg was educated as an Episcopalian, and ordained in 1820. Early in his ministry he developed two great qualities that distinguished him throughout his life,—the faculty for leadership and the genius for organization. He was an early advocate of Protestant union, and suggested the first step towards its consummation. As long ago as 1835, in a little work entitled "Hints on Catholic Union," he urged the expediency of an inter-ecclesiastical congress as a means of arriving at a due understanding of differences and a practical adjustment of difficulties; and eighteen years later he was the leader of the "Memorial Movement," to the history of which a chapter in this volume is devoted. In the "Memorial" which he and other like-minded clergymen presented to the House of Bishops in New York in 1853, he pointed out the divisions in American Protestant Christianity, the consolidated forces of Romanism skilfully and actively directed against it, and the inadequacy of the Episcopal Church, "with her fixed and invariable modes of public worship and her traditional customs and usages," for the evangelical work lying before her to do; suggested the opening of a wider door for admission to the ministry; and prayed for the appointment of a Commission with a view of bringing about a greater concert of action among Protestant Christians than then existed. The immediate results of the movement were few and disappointing. Three years later a Commission on Church Unity was appointed, but as it could find nothing practical to do it was soon discharged. But all the liturgical freedom asked for in the memorial is now virtually allowed; and the unification of Protestant Christendom is now engaging the attention of Protestant churches throughout the world. According to Dr. Newton, Dr. Muhlenberg was the unquestioned reviver of the genuine Catholic temper in the American Church; and whatever advances have been made in the direction of Catholic freedom, tolerance and charity in the last fifty years have been due to him more than to any other person or influence.

LIFE OF GEORGE ELIOT. By Oscar Browning. "Great Writers." London: Walter Scott; Toronto: W. J. Gage and Company.

In this, as in the other volumes of this series, criticism is combined with biography. The author enjoyed an intimate friendship of fifteen years with George Eliot, but he has made no attempt to relate new facts in her life. "The life written by her husband must remain for a long time the received and invariable account. To relate new facts, imperfectly verified, and unconnected with the whole story of her life, might gratify an unhealthy curiosity, but would conduce to misconception. Some day, perhaps, George Eliot will undergo the fate of Goethe. We shall know how she spent every week of her existence, and how far the scenes of her novels, even the most sensational, are accounts of her own trials and experiences. But Mr. Cross has attempted very little of literary criticism, and

the field is still open for a work which, while respecting his reticence and good taste aims at describing at once the woman and the author." The information about the localities described by George Eliot has been drawn chiefly from Parkinson's "George Eliot's Country," and partly from the author's personal knowledge. In the last chapter, which originally appeared in the *Fortnightly Review*, nearly in its present form, the author sums up "the principal characteristics of George Eliot's art, the lines of development she followed, and the aims she set herself in working it out." "Adam Bede," as the publishers' account books show, has been her most popular work; men of letters give the palm to "Silas Warner" on account of "the exquisite workmanship of the story;" Mr. Browning pronounces "Daniel Deronda" to be "the sum and glory" of her art and "one of the great masterpieces of our literature."

We have space only for a short extract illustrating George Eliot's attitude towards religion and religious belief. It shows the tenderness of her nature, and is a rebuke to the aggressiveness, the eagerness to proselytize, so characteristic of those who fancy themselves emancipated, and who thrust their opinions on all who will listen or read. "Her nature was intensely religious; she had been brought up in surroundings of the most earnest piety, even if accompanied by a narrow dogmatism. The tenderness and delicacy of her nature would have forbidden her to write a word that could have weakened the faith of a single believing soul. I once heard George Lewes urging her to declare herself, to take a side in religious thought, to bear a part in the conflict against current belief, for which many were enduring unpopularity and ostracism. It was, if I remember, between the publication of 'Middlemarch' and 'Deronda.' Why should she hurt the number who loved and trusted her through her writings? Why, if she deeply sympathized with their faith, even if she had ceased to hold it, should she carry the weapons of scorn and refutation against the host of ideas which were had of purity and virtue? The first thing to teach, she had written to me, is reverence, reverence for the hard-won belief of many struggling ages. The answer to her husband's appeal was given in 'Deronda,' a book in which there is not a word of reproach against the most childlike faith, but where the great mysteries of revelation, from which Christianity derives its origin, are held up to admiration, preserved throughout the centuries by the joint guardianship of obedience and race."

THE *Nineteenth Century* for March opens with a review of "The Report of the Parnell Commission," by Michael Davitt. Mr. Gladstone writes "On Books and the Housing of them." Arthur V. Palmer, "late Sergeant 79th Highlanders," gives in "A Battle described from the Ranks," an interesting account of Tel-el-Kebir. The Bishop of Carlisle contributes an article on "Wallace on Darwinism." In "A Seventeenth Century Prelate," Rev. J. Jessopp Teague gives a sketch of Bishop Ken, whose moral character, Macaulay says, "seems to approach, as near as human infirmity permits, to the ideal perfection of Christian virtue." Herbert Spencer contributes an article on "Justice," and Lord Bramwell one on "Property." Prince Krapotkin writes on "Brain Work and Manual Work," and Lord Brassey on "Our Merchant Service." Mr. J. D. Christie, "a pastry cook," gives "A Working Man's Reply" to a former article of Prof. Huxley, and the Professor in "Capital, the Mother of Labour," renews his attack on the teachings of Henry George.

LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

JEAN INGELow is writing her reminiscences for *Longman's Magazine*.

M. M. BALLOU, of Boston, who has already written an instructive book on Alaska, is now bound for Mexico with a similar purpose.

THE way to make money in literature is not to be a literary man. First make yourself notorious, no matter how, and then write your book.

ANDREW CARNEGIE recently said that the most fearful apparition of modern times is the man who, not coming to a meeting with a finished speech, does not know when to stop.

WILLIAM SHARP has finished his "Life of Browning," in writing which he has received assistance from the poet's family, and which is to be published as the April volume of the "Great Writers" series.

Trinity College Review comes to us well edited and decidedly bright and interesting. Mr. Carter Troop deserves great commendation for his energy in conducting so ably this representative little periodical.

W. A. LINN's notable article on "Co-operative Home-Winning," through Building Associations, will appear in the May *Scribner's*, with illustrations gathered from New York to San Francisco, showing actual houses built by this method.

A "DEADLY PARALLEL."—*Question*: If you were to descend into the lowest depths of Hades, whom would you expect to find in the very hottest pit? *Post*: Editors who have no appreciation of true poetry. *Editor*: Poets who have no appreciation of true poetry.

FIVE heads of families, residing in Dorchester, have sent in their claims for one hundred acres promised by the Quebec Local government to families having twelve child-