

and which with equal truth Lord Macaulay pronounced 'the best of his works,' 'as entertaining as any novel,' 'well deserve to be studied,' and much more to the same effect. Mr. Arnold has selected from the original source the six chief lives, viz., Milton, Dryden, Swift, Addison, Pope and Gray—the representatives of a century and a half of English culture and literature—from 1608, the date of Milton's birth, to 1771, the date of the death of Gray. To this admirable volume, Mr. Arnold has written a masterly preface, illustrative of his object, and pointing out to the student the works he should read in connection with the sketches of the lives which are contained in the book proper. Read in this way, the student will get, as Mr. Arnold says, 'a sense of what the real men were, and with this sense fresh in his mind, he will find the occasion propitious for acquiring also, in the way pointed out, a sense of the power of their works.'

But a greater treat awaits the reader. Lord Macaulay's powerful essay on Samuel Johnson—a piece of writing which exhibits the eminent author at his best—is prefixed to the lives, forming a volume of great compass, scope, beauty and character. This 'Life' by Macaulay is the famous one which he wrote for the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, permission to use which was generously accorded by the Messrs. Black and Mr. Trevelyan, the biographer of the historian, especially for this work, which is handsomely published by the Messrs. Macmillan, of London and New York. Mr. Arnold has not burdened his text by unnecessary notes, explanatory of trivialities, which only confuse the reader and overtax the mind of the scholar. But one note of any material length appears, and this explains away an error into which Johnson fell in his account of Addison and The Old Whig. 'Little Dicky,' Johnson thought, was an allusion to Richard Steele, but Macaulay, whose astute-

ness was as wonderful in little things as it was in greater ones, with some confidence declared that Johnson was wrong, and that 'Little Dicky' was the nickname of some comic actor. It afterwards transpired that Macaulay was right, and that the actor's real name was Henry Norris, a favourite comedian, who was nicknamed 'Dicky' because he first obtained celebrity by acting the part of Dicky in the 'Trip to the Jubilee.' Macaulay was quite proud of his discovery.

Mr. R. Hamilton Lang, late British Consul at Cyprus, has just given the public the benefit of his nine years' experience of life in the somewhat misknown island.\* Mr. Lang writes without any affectation and a good deal of skill. He filled various positions in Cyprus, and his means of gaining information were quite large and of the best character. As manager of the Imperial Ottoman Bank at Larnaca, he was frequently brought into intimate relations with the people, and he had fine opportunities for studying the questions of taxation and administration, as well as acquiring an intimacy with the mode in which business was transacted, and the general spirit which obtained regarding commercial operations and mercantile affairs. Mr. Lang's tastes led him to prosecute farming and antiquarian researches, and in the pursuit of these he came often in contact with the Cyprian peasants. His materials have been all gained from his residence in the Island, and he has certainly contrived to write a very agreeable and pleasant account of his experiences there. He exhibits a faithful picture of the character of the people, the resources of the country, its mineral wealth, and general characteristics. There are four carefully engraved maps and two engravings in the book,

\* *Cyprus: its History, its Present Resources, and Future Prospects.* By R. HAMILTON LANG, London and New York: Macmillan & Co. Toronto: Willing & Williamson.