

Editor's Table.

FELTON. Familiar Letters from Europe. By Cornelius Conway Felton, late President of Harvard University. Boston: Ticknor & Fields. 16mo. pp. 392.

The friends of the gifted and lamented Greek Professor, afterwards President of Harvard—one of the brightest ornaments of American scholarship—will receive with melancholy pleasure these familiar letters, in which so much of the writer's heart and personality is revealed. They are, doubtless, very like the conversation of the man, in the midst of his intimate friends, who would be interested in the most trifling incidents of his tour. With much that is light, sketchy and perhaps trivial, there are many evidences of the keen observer and the highly cultured, discriminating judge. A vein of geniality pervades the whole, and the impression is made that the writer had no small capacity for enjoyment. Especial interest attaches to those letters in which his travels over classic grounds are depicted. The identification of localities with important scenes and events in classic literature is scholarly, graceful and charming. A sentence or two from one of his letters from Boeotia explains the peculiar force of Prof. Felton's observations in this sphere: "It is curious," he says, "how the studies of one's life-time take form and substance as he travels over the consecrated ground of history and poetry. My wanderings in Europe have been constantly haunted by the great features my mind has grown acquainted with in literature."

For sale by J. B. Lippincott & Co. HAWTHORNE. Twice-told Tales. By Nathaniel Hawthorne. A new edition in two volumes. Boston: Ticknor & Fields. Blue and Gold. pp. 392, 498. Philadelphia: For sale by J. B. Lippincott & Co.

An elegant and complete edition of some of the earlier effusions of Hawthorne's pen, all of which have a certain grace and quiet beauty of style, with now and then a dash of romance, of mystery or almost of magic;—elements which the author has since given abundant proof of his power to wield in a most effectual manner. The volumes form a welcome addition to the enterprising publishers' miniature edition of American authors in belles lettres.

MURDOCH. Patriotism in Poetry and Prose: Being selected passages from Lectures and Patriotic Readings by James E. Murdoch. Also, Poems by Thomas Buchanan Read, George H. Boker, Francis De Haes, Janvier, and other American Authors, commemorative of the gallant deeds of our noble defenders on land and sea. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co. 12mo. pp. 172.

The public, or we should say the nation, owes no common debt to Mr. Murdoch for the services which he, in this volume, is recorded to have done for our cause. In the midst of the first excitement of the war, he laid aside his profession upon the stage, and devoted himself to the work of stimulating the zeal and energies of his countrymen by those patriotic lectures and recitations, which have delighted and thrilled so many immense audiences, with the determination not to reappear on the stage until the cause of the country should triumph. He has adhered to his resolution most manfully, though tempted on all sides with offers of the most lucrative engagements; and all through the darkest hours, the music of his brave voice has been heard, cheering on the faint and fearful, and reproving with honest scorn the unbelieving, the half-hearted, and the traitors at home. Mr. Murdoch has also frankly and emphatically ranged himself on the side of emancipation in this conflict, and by his readings has helped to set Mr. Lincoln right before the people on that great issue, as well as to animate them with his own love of human liberty.

Mr. Murdoch believes in the power of music and verse to incite a soldier or a people to valor; and this he has endeavored to realize in his patriotic readings, we believe, with a highly encouraging degree of success. School-boys will find admirable specimens for declamation both in prose and verse in this volume. The proceeds of the sale will be devoted, like those of the lectures, to charities connected with the relief of the soldiers.

MAGAZINES, REVIEWS, &c. THE EVANGELICAL QUARTERLY REVIEW.—Edited by M. L. Stoeber, Professor in Pennsylvania College. Vol. XV, No. 1X, October, 1864. Gettysburg. This ably conducted organ of the Lutheran Church contains for the present quarter: The Wisdom of the World and of the Church compared; Dr. Kurtz's Instruction in Evangelical-Lutheran Doctrine; Study of the Ancient Classics; German Language; Deceased Lutheran Ministers; Precious Stones; Lord's Supper; Catechisation; Mystical Union; Responsibility of the American Citizen; New Publications.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY, for November. Contents: Leaves from an Officer's Journal; I, Riches; The Vengeance of DeGourges; Lina; Uncollected Writings of Lamb; IV; To William Cullen Bryant; House and Home Papers; New School of Biography; Last Rally; Finances of the Revolution; Through Tickets to San Francisco; Sea Hours

with a Dyspeptic; Twentieth Presidential Election; Reviews and Literary Notices.

"The New School of Biography" is a deserved satire of the "Boy" series of books, in which the great man of the nation are being served up to our youth, too often at the sacrifice of truth and delicacy. While we would not join in an indiscriminate censure of this class of books, multiplying at such a prodigious rate, we feel that they always need, and sometimes deserve, severe criticism, such as is given in the article. "Through Tickets," &c., carries us in imagination over the great Pacific Railway from New York to San Francisco; yet to be built. "The Twentieth Presidential Election" is a strong, vigorous, argumentative appeal for the re-election of Mr. Lincoln. The revolutionary policy of the Democratic leaders is portrayed in alarming colors. The Book Notices contain a criticism of Browning's *Dramatis Personae*, written by one of the haters of evangelical truth that hang around the *Atlantic Monthly*. The critic can see nothing but "a touch of the genuine British denseness," in Browning's utterances of orthodox doctrine! Of course, the negations of Boston Unitarianism are more clear, more sensible, and more profound than the orthodox conclusions of the most acute and thoughtful of modern poets.

THE ECLECTIC MAGAZINE of Foreign Literature. W. H. Bidwell, editor and proprietor. Nov. 1864. New York: 5 Beekman street. Contains a fine engraved portrait of Maria, Queen of Bavaria, with the usual miscellany of selected articles.

THE LIVING AGE, 1065, for Oct. 29, contains: Mountaineering from the Westminster; Cleave Woman of the Family; Walter S. Landor; Husbands; American Aesthetics, &c.

REV. JOHN CROWELL'S Article in the last American Presbyterian and Theological Review on "The Religious Influence of Colleges" has been issued as a pamphlet.

LITERARY ITEMS.

AMERICAN. YOUNG FOLKS' LITERATURE.—The publishers of the *Atlantic Monthly*, Ticknor & Fields, will issue in a few weeks the first number of a new magazine for boys and girls, which will be a work of sterling worth. The editors are two of America's most popular authors, a gentleman and lady whose names will be a guarantee of excellence. Among the contributors who have been secured for the early numbers, and who will continue to write regularly, are Captain Mayne Reid, who leads off with a new story of adventure; J. T. Rowbridge, who will write in every issue; Mrs. H. B. Stowe; Gail Hamilton; Dio Lewis; Lucy Larcom; "Carleton"; John G. Whittier; the author of "Dream Children"; the author of "Faith Gartney's Girlhood"; the author of the "Lamp-lighter"; Miss Alcott; "Edmund Kirk"; Aunt Fanny; the author of "Ten Acres Enough"; and Mrs. L. M. Child. The department of Natural History will be ably represented by Mr. and Mrs. Agassiz, who will supply for every number during the year a paper with illustrations. Many of the most prominent contributors to the *Atlantic Monthly*, in prose and verse, will write regularly for the new juvenile monthly, the name of which, we understand, is to be "Our Young Folks; an Illustrated Magazine for Boys and Girls." Under such auspices the work announced cannot fail to have a welcome reception and a permanent success throughout the country. The enterprise could not be in better hands.—*Boston Transcript*.

WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY.—THE LAST REVISED AND ILLUSTRATED EDITION.—A circular from the Messrs. Merriam, publishers, states that the present revision is intended fully to represent the progress which has been made in philology and in the study of the English language, within the thirty years since Dr. Webster first gave his work to the public. Dr. C. A. F. Mahn, of Berlin, spent five years in revising the original etymologies. Prof. Hadley, of Yale College, has furnished a brief history of the English language, which is an admirable introduction to the Anglo-Saxon, Old English and Middle English. The number of words in this edition is upwards of 114,000, which is upwards of 30,000 more than were contained in the earlier editions, and some 15,000 more than in the last previous ones. It is also about 10,000 more than are found in any other existing dictionary of the language. Fullness has also been given to the definition of words in the various sciences, corresponding to the progress made in them, and in each department the revision was committed to some person distinguished in that branch of study. More than thirty different scholars have been employed upon it, most of them for very considerable periods of time.

PHILADELPHIA RETAIL TRADE.—Mr. F. Leyboldt, after several ineffectual remonstrances to the members of the book trade against the practice of underselling by respectable parties, comes out with this announcement:—"I will lose no more time in repeating arguments familiar to every honest business man, but will simply state that finding myself not only unsupported by those members of the Trade, in whose power it is to bring a faithless member back to his duty, by cutting off all connection with him; but having been ridiculed for my vain efforts, and what is still worse, having been placed in a false position with my old customers, who have in more than one instance indignantly left me to purchase my own publications, at a second-hand price, from that oldest and 'most honorable' firm—I have now, most reluctantly, determined to resort to the only means of self-defense that are left me, and to act on the homoeopathic principle *similia similibus curantur*. I, therefore, hereby notify

the members of the Trade in Philadelphia that hereafter I shall conduct my city trade entirely on the wholesale basis (foreign publications excepted.)"

NEW BOOKS.—Among the latest publications we notice another book from the author of the *Suhobreg Cotta Family*—"The Martyrs of Spain and the Liberators of Holland," and a Commentary on the Book of Genesis, by Dr. Jacobus, of the Allegheny Seminary; both from the house of Carter & Brothers. J. W. Bouton, New York, announces a Biographical History of the Fine Arts; or Members of the Lives and Works of Eminent Painters, Engravers, Sculptors and Architects, from the Earliest Ages to the Present Time. By S. Spooner, M. D. 2 vols. imp. 8vo. The Presbyterian Publication Committee announce—"History of the Presbyterian Church in the United States." By the Rev. E. H. Gillett, D. D. 2 vols. Life of John Brainerd, Brother of David Brainerd and his Successor in the Mission to the Indians. By Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D. Zulu-Land; or, Life among the Zulu Kafirs of Natal and Zulu-Land, South Africa. By Rev. Lewis Grout.

ENGLISH.

PLATO.—The Students of Greek literature and philosophy, who have long been waiting for the "Republic of Plato," by Professor Jewitt, will be glad to learn, says an English paper, that the cause of delay is the preparation of two long introductory volumes, which will be of great interest to students of Greek, philosophy and Plato. This great work, which is expected to appear early next summer, will consist of three large volumes, the first containing a history of the early Greek philosophy down to the time of Plato; the second containing a copious analysis or condensed translation of all Plato's Dialogues, with introductions, and a third containing the text of the "Republic," a translation, and full textual and explanatory notes.

A LABOR OF LOVE.—A Scottish gentleman, Mr. James Dykes Campbell, purchased from a London dealer, an old calf-bound 8vo. volume of manuscript, ascertained to be the note book containing the original drafts of some of Addison's Essays in the *Spectator*. Three hand-writings were distinguishable in the volume—first, a very neat, round, print-like handwriting (but whether believed to be Addison's own or that of an amanuensis or copyist is not stated,) giving the first draft of the Essays, as if for press; secondly, another handwriting (undoubtedly Addison's own ordinary hand,) making interlinear corrections in the aforesaid draft; and also additions to the blank pages opposite; and, thirdly, an unascertained handwriting (certainly not Addison's) appearing only here and there. A portion of this manuscript Mr. Campbell has published in a quarto of fifty-six pages, in such manner as to make clear to the eye the nature and extent of these alterations of the first text. The volume is not gotten up as a business enterprise—only 250 copies having been printed, and these in the most luxurious style of the art. One effect of the publication is to show with what labor Addison literally built up his smooth "Spectator" essays, which are such easy reading. In this, he resembled Milton, Shelley, Dr. Buckland, Thomas Moore, Thomas Campbell, Irving, and indeed, very many of the best English writers. What is worth doing at all is worth doing well.

NEW WORKS.—We see nothing of special interest in the recent issues of Great Britain. Among the last London announcements is a New History of England for Boys, by Prof. Kingsley, of Cambridge University.

CONTINENTAL.

THE LOST CORVINIAN LIBRARY.—Matthias Corvinus, King of Hungary, was the possessor of a library once famous throughout the realm of letters. For more than two hundred years, all trace of it had been lost. Of late the opinion has prevailed that some portions of it might be found in the library of the old Seraglio at Constantinople, which was known to contain literary spoils from the West. After much solicitation, an occasional visitor has obtained permission of the Moslem authorities to examine the MSS. of the Seraglio library, but the jealous scrutiny of the officers in charge has so embarrassed and shortened these researches that they have resulted in no discovery. Recently, however, Dr. Dethier, an Austrian scholar, a gentleman favorably known by many interesting publications on Byzantine antiquities, during a residence at Constantinople, has been allowed twelve months of leisure examination. He has found only sixteen Greek and Latin MSS., which can be well authenticated as Corvinian. No special value except for critical purposes, comes of the discovery, inasmuch as the authors, with their works included in the collection, are already well known, and every line is edited. Dr. Dethier, during the examination, discovered eighty other ancient MSS., a few of which, including some ancient scholiasts of Aristotle, appear to be, in part at least, unpublished. One work of more modern interest is certainly unpublished, and would form a most welcome complement of the series of Byzantine writers, being an account of an eye-witness of the events of the reign of Mahomet the Great, of the capture of Constantinople, and, in a word, of all the exciting scenes of the last seventeen years of that long and eventful history. The MS. is a beautiful one.

PRIZES.—The Duke of Valmy (who is passionately fond of architecture) has founded an annual prize of 1500*fr.* for the best essay on some general question of architecture; the Academy of Fine Arts are the trustees of the foundation. A prize of 200*fr.* has been founded by the French Emperor for the best work of painting or sculpture which may be produced within periods of five years.

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