

Editor's Table.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S JOURNALS.

LEAVES from the Journal of our Life in the Highlands, from 1848 to 1861. To which are prefixed and added extracts from the same journal, giving an account of earlier visits to Scotland, and Tours in England and Ireland, and Yachting Excursions. Edited by Arthur Helps. 12mo., pp. 287. \$1.75. New York: Harper & Brothers, Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co.

It is a rare, perhaps unprecedented, thing for royalty to lift the veil and give to the contemporaneous public, the insight into the minor affairs of its daily life, which is afforded by these "Leaves." The excellent Queen, who was and ever will be more distinguished as a faithful wife and noble Christian woman than as a royal personage, first thought of the publication as a tribute to the memory of her husband, with whom these happy hours of recreation were spent, and designed to restrict its circulation to a few friends; but her adviser, Mr. Helps, plead for a more liberal policy and was successful in throwing the "leaves" open to general perusal. If the particulars here given often seem trifling, they at least show how innocent, healthful and manly were the entertainments of the English court; what pure domestic happiness was enjoyed by this royal couple, and how, even with somewhat lax notions upon the Sabbath and with a worldly turn for amusements, a good sermon by McLeod or by Caird could be heartily appreciated and applauded by both the distinguished parties. It will be seen that their amusements were carried on with no small degree of vigor, when they would travel as much as 40, 42, 60, and 69 miles a day, over Scotch Highland roads, in search of enjoyment. The Queen's descriptions are graphic and have a sort of Pre-Raphaelite literalness, frequently rising to decided interest. The engravings from her pencil sketches are in the same quaint literal vein. These extracts refer to earlier visits to Scotland; Life in the Highlands and to Tours in England and Ireland and Yachting Excursions. The book is got out in very handsome style.

REMINISCENCES of the Life and Character of Col. Phineas Stanton, A.M. November, 1867. Rochester: E. Darrows & Kempshall. 8vo., pp. 94. This carefully prepared memorial is due to the two excellent persons in whose memory it is published. The one, Mrs. Marietta Ingham, the founder of the University at Le Roy which bears her name; the other, her brother-in-law, Col. Phineas Stanton, who cordially entered into his relative's plans and actually fell a victim to his zeal for the enlarged success of the Institution. Of the latter person, some notices have already appeared in these columns. To the artist and the man of science, he added the Christian, the patriot and the friend of education. In the service of his country, his life was nearly taken at the battle of Fair Oaks, by a spent ball, which struck him on the forehead. In the service of Ingham University, on an exploring expedition to enrich his labors at Quito. His paintings have been highly commended by good judges, especially those on religious subjects: his *Lot's Escape* from Sodom, *The Walk to Emmaus*, and *The Ascension*. His two portraits of Henry Clay, to whom he was personally attached, are considered the best of that statesman. One of them is in the Mayor's Office, Brooklyn. His body was the first one interred in the Protestant Burial Ground near Quito, which had been very recently secured by our Government—the first Protestant burial in that community. The volume includes sermons, addresses, letters, poetry, &c., bearing upon the history and character of the deceased which will prove of great service as materials for future history. The embellishment is a photograph of the drapery of the church at Le Roy in which the funeral services of Col. Stanton were held. It would have been a great pleasure could we have had a copy of one of the deceased artist's pictures.

THE CURATE OF ELLERTON. From the Sunday at Home, London. Boston: Henry Hoyt. 16mo., pp. 107.

A simply constructed, quiet story, of success in the pastoral office through faithful steady and fearless discharge of its duties. Without any great power or impressiveness; rather flat in some passages, yet as a whole calculated to encourage perseverance in efforts for the most unpromising.

PIKE. Swedenborgianism depicted in its True Colors, or, A Contrast between the Holy Scriptures and the Writings of Baron Swedenborg. By J. G. Pike, author of "Guide to Young Disciples," &c. Second American Edition. L. H. White, Cincinnati. 16mo., paper, pp. 71. The exceeding folly, unscripturalness and loathsomeness of the teachings of Swedenborg are exhibited in this brief pamphlet by copious quotations from the works of the arch-heretic himself. That respectable and moral persons can be entrapped into acceptance of this system, would seem explicable only on the ground of ignorance of what it really includes of intense moral poison. We commend the pamphlet as a suitable antidote, wherever Swedenborgianism in the smooth garb of refined philanthropy and mysticism has threatened to creep in.

LITTLE'S LIVING AGE. Conducted by E. Littell. Fourth Series. Vol. VI. From the beginning, Vol. XXIV. July, August, September, 1867. Boston: Littell & Gay. 8vo., pp. 324. Philadelphia: Howard Challen.

Our readers are familiar with the high character, the *Living Age*, the weekly issues of which are at the expiration of each quarter, reissued in a bound volume. All the best periodical literature of Great Britain is brought under contribution to enrich these pages, and there are no finer specimens of English writing to be found, scarcely in the works of the great masters of the tongue, exceeding the best productions of the magazine writers of our day.

PAMPHLETS AND PERIODICALS. BLACKWOOD'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE for January, 1868, contains: Address to Working Men, by Felix Holt, Radical—a good, earnest address, in view of the acquisition of the franchise; IV; Sketches in Polynesia; Brownlow's *King of the Night Wanderer*; What I did at Belgrade; and of the People in an Afghan Fort; The Education of the People in

England and America. This is an unusually fair article for Blackwood, and that does not hinder its being considerably prejudiced against us either. New York: Leonard Scott Publishing Co. Phila.: W. B. Zieber. Price for Blackwood or any of the Reviews, \$4. Blackwood and one Review, \$7. Four Reviews, \$12. Blackwood and four Reviews, \$15.

A PHILOLOGICAL POEM.

GRIMM'S LAW.—A NEW SONG.—AIR, *Old Homer, but with him what have we to do?*—In a late number of the "Anthropological Review" Grimm's law is explained in what is at least an ingenious manner. After describing an Aryan, or "articulate-speaking man," setting out to teach language to some rude inmates of the "kitchen-middens" of the primeval age, who are supposed to be speechless, a distinguished Anthropologist thus reports the result of the attempt: "But now assume the 200 [kitchen-middens] to be mutes, and follow the leader of the Aryans in his first lesson to the crowd around him. Naturally he would get the crowd to pronounce after him some short syllables, such as *pa, ta, ka*, to illustrate the use of lips, palate, and throat, and very naturally the four or five men (or women more likely) just in front of him would pronounce them rightly, but not one man in fifty can tell the effect of his work on a crowd. On their returning to their wigwams much would be the emotion of risibility and imitiveness displayed that night among the natives; and next morning the chances are that the majority who stood some distance from the speaker would have fixed forever upon the nation the wrong utterance of *pa, ta, ka*. The main point of my whole argument is, that such a result would most naturally follow among mutes, but would never happen among speaking men."—*Extracts from Paper read before the Anthropological Society by the Rev. D. J. Heath M.A., Anthropological Review, April, 1867.*

Etymology once was a wild kind of thing, Which from any one word another could bring. Of the consonants then the effect was thought small; And the vowels—the vowels were nothing at all. Down a down, down, &c.

But that state of matters completely is changed, And the old school of scholars now feels quite estranged. For 'tis clear that whenever we open our jaw, Every sound that we utter comes under some Law.

Now one of these laws has been named after Grimm, For the Germans declare it was found out by him; But their rivals the Dopes take the Germans to task, And proclaim as its funder their friend Rasmus Rask.

Be this as it may, few have sought to explain How it came that this law could its influence gain; Max Müller has tried, as he thinks, pretty well; But I don't understand him, and therefore can't tell.

Anthropologists say, after man had his birth, There were two human races possessing the earth: One gifted and graced with articulate speech, And another that only could gabble and screech.

The Aryans could speak, and could build, and could plough, And knew most of the arts we are practising now. But the Dumbies that dwelt in those vile Kitchen-middens Weren't fit but to do their superiors' biddings.

On the Mutes of the Middens he burst with zeal, And attempted to teach them the syllable PA.

This PA was intended to set things a-going For a lot of Good Words very well worth the knowing: Such as Pater, and Pater, and Paris and Pasco; But the Midden performers made rather a fiasco.

Scarce one of them all would say PA for a wonder, But each blundered away with a different blunder: Some feebly cried A, and some, crow-like, said KA, While the nearest they came to was FA and was BA.

Then the Aryan propounded the syllable TA, Which his pupils corrupted to THA and to DA. Even KA when they tried it, they never came nearer HA or to GA, or to something still queerer.

So slow were their senses to seize what was said, That they never could hit the right nail on the head.

And the game of cross purposes lasted so long, That it soon was a rule: they should always go wrong.

Thus the Dumbies for ever said Father for Pater, And Bearing and Brother for Ferens and Frater; The Aryan cried Pecun, the Midden-man Fee, In which Doctors and Lawyers to this day agree.

Jove's Tonitru sank into Old-Saxon Thunner, Which the High-German dunderheads changed into Donner; From Domo came Tame, and from Tomus came Timmer.

While the hissing Helvetians said Zamen and Zimmer, From Zeps came Door, and from Zuyrps Dochter, Which dwindled away into Tyre and Tochter; From Hortus and Hostis came Garden and Guest, And from Zoly came Gall, which so bothers the best.

Such a roundabout race I can only compare, To the whirling engines we mount at a fair; Where each rides as in fear lest his steed be forsaken, But he ne'er overtakes, and is ne'er overtaken.

A theory seldom is free from a flaw, But the story I've told may account for Grimm's Law; Though some others suggest, if the Bible's no fable, That Grimm's law was what caused the confusion at Babel.

Down a down, down, &c.

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