

tion, and as such has been widely copied into other books. Woodrow Wilson, in volume II. of his 'History of the American People,' gives it to illustrate the text for the year 1777.

I find in Heitman's 'Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army' that Lieutenant-Colonel Aaron Ogden and Major Shute, the two officers of the "11th Regiment of Infantry" referred to in the poster, were appointed January 8, 1799. This poster, therefore, refers to the year 1799, when the United States had trouble with France, and not to the Revolutionary war.

CHARLES K. BOLTON.

LIBRARY OF THE BOSTON ATHLETIC CLUB,
BOSTON, MASS., March 10, 1905.

THE SORROWS OF PHILOSOPHERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

Sir: Now that the subject of healing diseases by mental suggestion is being so much discussed, readers may be interested in a fragment of parallelism connected with the early history of the subject.

James Hinton's philosophy of the Art of Thinking was analogous to the special kind of mathematical philosophy of which a writer in the *Nation* (January 5 of this year) says that "English mathematicians generally" have shown "a marked aversion" to it, and that Babbage, Herschel, and Boole were "much addicted" to it. It consists, as the writer says, in treating mental "operations as if they were things." In the "fifties" of the last century, Hinton carried on a series of experiments suggested by Hahnemann, with a view to testing the truth of the homeopathic system of medicine. Results followed as predicted by Hahnemann. It occurred to Hinton to repeat the same series of experiments with plain sugar-of-milk; fixing his mind, when administering the pills, on the symptoms which, according to Hahnemann, should have followed from the administration of a special drug. The new set of experiments proved as successful as the old. Hinton came to the conclusion that the results were due to the imagination of the patient, acted upon by silent suggestion from the doctor. The story, so far, is told in his biography. The sequel, I believe, has never, till now, been alluded to in print.

If we examine the literature of Christian Science, or any other variety of "mental healing," we find the authors, for the most part, expending their energy on proving the one point, that disease is the product of false thinking, and can be cured by true thinking. They hardly touch on the inquiry, What is the normal order of the process of thinking? It is here that Hinton showed his peculiar genius for treating mental operations "as if they were things." Having come to the conclusion that the action of the doctor's mind on the patient's could affect the health and sensations of the latter as a drug does, he proceeded to deal with the newly discovered remedy, in all simplicity and good faith, on the same principles as an honorable physician deals with a new drug. A physician does not bind himself down beforehand to use one set of remedies exclusively and abjure others; he deals with each case as it arises, according to the best of his present judgment 'enlightened by past experience. James Hinton would never have consented to commit himself to use, in all cases, imagination

and suggestion rather than iodine or sulphur.

He laid great stress on the principle that all remedial agents have reactions as well as direct actions. When a new drug is found capable of allaying unpleasant symptoms, the good physician does not therefore immediately feel himself justified in using it freely to get rid of those symptoms; he uses it with great reserve, in cases of illness, until every effort has been made to find out as much as possible about its nature and properties, and about its effects and after-effects, when taken by persons in ordinary health. Having discovered that the operation of framing mental postulates, hypotheses, opinions, imaginations, etc., can induce or can cure disease, Hinton devoted himself to the study of that operation as an entity in itself, on the same principles as he would have studied any anodyne or alterative drug. The consequences much resembled those

which followed my husband's mathematical analysis of the Laws of Thought. By the mere fact of analyzing the process of forming hypotheses, Hinton shed light on many departments of science of which he had only quite ordinary medical knowledge, such as morphology, embryology, physiology, and sociology; and even on mathematics, of which he knew hardly anything at all till he studied it as a branch of the Art of Thinking; much as George Boole, by his analysis of the Laws of Thought, shed light on obscure questions of mathematics, probabilities, electricity, chemistry, and economics. In each case, some section of the public welcomed enthusiastically such results of the investigation as proved directly useful or attractive (Hinton's little object-lessons on Morphology, published under the title, 'Life in Nature,' are exquisitely graceful and fascinating). But, in each case, the readers missed the true purpose of the writer, which was to present the process of thinking and show its normal course.

As it was my father, Thomas Everest, who had induced Hinton to try Hahnemann's experiments, I was naturally interested in just that part of Hinton's work which to most of his friends seemed uninteresting and unimportant. I sometimes felt that his most fervent disciples hated his philosophy "with the hate of hell," though they "loved passing well" the "beauty" of its results! His fate, in this respect, resembled that of my husband. Both were at times crushed by their failure as regards the main object of their life-work. In my husband's case, the disappointment showed itself in fits of remorse about accepting medals and degrees granted for the external results of his thinking, by authorities who, he said, would shun him if they realized what his books were really about. In Hinton's case, the grief was more profound and continuous. It overshadowed all his later years and hastened his end. It made him, in a certain sense, ashamed of the artistic beauty and intellectual charm of his work, and at times, even of its very moral excellence, because all these things attracted attention away from the study of the Art of Thinking itself, which he, as well as George Boole, believed to be the true key to the physical and moral regeneration of mankind.

MARY EVEREST BOOLE.

LONDON, March 3, 1905.

Notes.

Paul Elder & Co., San Francisco, announce 'Impressions of Ukio-Ye,' the school of Japanese print artists, by Dora Amsden, illustrated with reproductions of typical prints from color tint blocks.

Prof. Otto Heller's 'Studies in Modern German Literature,' to be published shortly by Ginn & Co., will give considerable space to the women writers of the past century.

John Lane's spring list includes an abridged translation of the 'Life of Peter Ilitch Tchaikovsky' (by his brother), by Rosa Newmarch, with numerous illustrations; a Life of Cervantes, by Albert F. Calvert; 'Memoirs of a Royal Chaplain [Edmund Pyle, D.D.], 1729-1763,' edited with notes by Albert Hartshorn; 'Napoleon: The First Phase [1769-1793],' by Oscar Browning; and 'The Duke of Reichstadt,' by Edward von Wertheimer.

McClure, Phillips & Co. are on the point of bringing out Prince Kropotkin's 'Russian Literature,' and 'The Yellow War,' by "O."

Forthcoming publications of the Clarendon Press (H. Frowde) are Canon Biggs' 'The Church's Task under the Roman Empire,' 'The Masai: Their Language and Folklore,' by A. C. Hollis, and 'Author and Printer,' "a guide for authors, editors, printers, correctors of the press, compositors, and typists," by F. Howard Collins. This last title moves us to mention a little brochure, No. 5 of the Publications of the Clark University Library at Worcester, Mass., on "Preparing Manuscript for the Press," whose instructions are clear, succinct, and sensible.

We omitted to mention, in our recent review of Dr. Osler's 'Aequanimitas,' the name of the American publishers, Messrs. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia.

We can also state that Mr. Baillie-Grohmann's edition of 'The Master of the Game,' recently reviewed in these columns, is now to be had of the American agents, Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons.

From Messrs. Scribner we receive the fourteenth edition of Baedeker's 'London and its Environs,' fortified with four maps and twenty-four plans, its list of the principal streets, public buildings, etc. The total bulk has been but slightly increased. It is almost a pity that these successive editions could not graphically record the chief changes in the general aspect of the metropolis, which of late have been as imposing as they are extensive.

The latest issues in George Newnes's companionable Thin Paper Editions, with their flexible covers in orange and gold, and etched frontispieces and title-pages, are Chapman's translation of the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* (two volumes), Ben Jonson's *Plays and Poems*, Coleridge's *Poems*, and the *Autobiography of Benvenuto Cellini* (Scribners). The Coleridge has been edited for this series by Prof. William Knight. It embraces all the poetical and dramatic works published in Coleridge's lifetime, and Professor Knight arranges them in approximately chronological order, reducing the inconsistencies of spelling and punctuation, and adding a few notes to Coleridge's. Most welcome is the prefixed chronology of the poet's literary life. The 792 pages

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