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fuse the innovations proposed by the Puritans, while he declares the sovereign's spirit in dealing with that party "insolent and arbitrary" (p. 101). He admits the hostility of the early New England settlers to forms of faith and worship differing from their own; but he shows that, "in the absence of a commonly accepted principle of religious liberty, each party, in case its opponent should get the power, had nothing to look for but subjugation. For one party to give ecclesiastical freedom to its adversary was to forge an instrument for its own destruction" (p. 107). Yet the really tolerant spirit of the Lords of Baltimore has full appreciation, though Prof. Fisher's judgment is "that the younger Baltimore—and in this respect he closely resembled his father—while he aimed to provide a safe asylum for adherents of his own creed, was mainly concerned to build up a lucrative and flourishing colony, whatever might be the creed of its inhabitants"; and he points out that "when religious discussion at length became sharp [in Maryland], toleration gave way" (pp. 65, 107).

In Prof. Fisher's view, Roger Williams was neither a faultless prophet nor simply a disturber of the State. "He was an enthusiast, lacking that ingredient of hatred which turns the enthusiast into the fanatic." His vagaries, and the dangers which they brought to Massachusetts, led to his banishment; but the doctrine of "soul-liberty," though "not one of the main grounds of his expulsion from the colony," is sufficient to give him "lasting distinction" (pp. 114-116). A similar fairness of judgment marks Prof. Fisher's representation of the feelings of the colonies and the mother country towards each other during the first half of the eighteenth century (pp. 208-211).

Prof. Fisher closes with a brief sketch of colonial literature, so brief that it is little more than a suggestive outline which might well have been extended; but from his judgment there can be little dissent when he affirms: "In truth, in the colonial period prior to the middle of the last century there were only two authors who rise above a merely provincial rank. These were Benjamin Franklin and Jonathan Edwards" (p. 319). A chronological table of considerable fulness, a bibliographical note professedly designed for "younger students," but containing much in the way of comment that is of wider interest, a good index, and three well-executed but rather general maps, complete the book.

The work is remarkably free from errors of statement or typography. The name of the missionary at Norridgewock is printed "Rasle" on pp. 214, 246, and "Rasles" on pp. 229, 230. Probably "Rale," as Mr. Parkman spells it from an autograph, would be better than either. The publishers of the "American History Series" are certainly fortunate in the character of their first volume. Prof. Fisher has given us a compact, suggestive, and readable account of our colonial history—the best brief sketch of the period of which it treats.

History of the Nineteenth Army Corps. By Richard B. Irwin, Lieut. Col. U. S. V., Asst. Adjt. Gen. of the Corps and of the Department of the Gulf. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 8vo, pp. 523, with maps.

COL. IRWIN'S book had hardly come from the press when the news of his death was also published. The task which was his last was that on which his heart was set, and he was happy in completing it, though he did not live to hear the commendations of his comrades and of all

who are interested in the military history of the country.

A more conscientious piece of work was never done. The author spared no pains to be accurate, and there are many proofs of the bestowal of very great labor on minor points which a writer is tempted to neglect. The tone is one of candor, and the writer's spirit is a judicial one, with as little of prejudice as possible, and a freedom from rancor which is every way admirable. All this is the more noticeable and praiseworthy because the campaigns of the corps have been the subject of much bitter controversy. Some of its regiments were among those which accompanied Butler in the first occupation of New Orleans by the national forces, and most of the others went with Banks to Louisiana in December, 1862. The campaign in the Teche country, the siege of Port Hudson, and the Red River campaign were the chief events in the experience of the corps in the Southwest. It was then brought back to the North, and completed its military work in the Shenandoah Valley under Sheridan, where it had an honorable part in the battles of Opequon, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek.

The Louisiana campaigns have been only vaguely known, and their military importance has been greatly underestimated. A clear and soldierly account of them was very much needed, and this is exactly what Col. Irwin has given us. Except in the Red River expedition, there was very little to apologize for; and even there, while the result was unsuccessful, there was much which reflected honor upon the officers and men of the several divisions that made up the army. A candid reader of the book will close it with a better opinion of Gen. Banks than has been the popular one, for, in spite of one or two great errors, his general leadership was good, and he had the merit (no small one in the eyes of soldiers) that he led his troops in person, and was to be found near the front whenever they were engaged.

Col. Irwin has also thrown new light upon the relations of Banks's campaigns to those of Grant, McClelland, and Steele. It has not been generally known that the orders of the War Department looked to the union under Banks of the forces commanded by all these officers, and it was evidence of honesty and unselfishness in Banks that he did not make what seemed to him the public good yield to the ambition to enlarge his own importance by a junction of Grant's army with his own. The author has also dealt out even-handed justice in emphasizing the fact that, in the ill-fated Red River campaign, the orders from Washington were that the expedition must be ended within a month and a half. He reasons fairly in urging that such an inflexible limit made it impossible for the army to resume the offensive after the check at Mansfield, since delays then became inevitable which would extend the time beyond that which was thus peremptorily set.

In his determination to write a strictly military memoir, Col. Irwin has systematically avoided matters of civil administration of the department. He has nothing to say of the political scheme for organizing loyal State governments in Louisiana and Arkansas, and he makes no reference to the cotton-trading scandals which are so intimately connected with the Red River campaign. This, of course, prevents a full discussion of the general plan of action; for these things were so intimately blended with the military reasons for action that the one part cannot be understood without the other. The author's task was un-

doubtedly a pleasanter one as he limited it, and possibly the scandals of the time were so distasteful to him that he would not have written at all if he had been obliged to treat of them. Yet the history of that period will not be completed until the dissection is thoroughly made, however repellent it may be. He has even gone further in his self-imposed limits, and has forborne all discussion of the personal relations of Banks to Grant, T. W. Sherman, A. J. Smith, Stone, Franklin, and to Admiral Porter. Here, also, are burning questions in each case, and Col. Irwin could have thrown great light on them, and so upon the history of the whole campaign, if he had been willing to do so.

But we must take the author's work for what he chose to make it. Within his chosen boundaries, he has done his task so well that it must be a permanent starting-point for those who may wish to push their researches more deeply into the characters and motives of the men who figured prominently in political and military affairs in the critical year of the war.

The Origin of Metallic Currency and Weight Standards. By William Ridgeway, Professor of Greek in Queen's College, Cork. Cambridge (Eng.): University Press; New York: Macmillan. 1892.

COMPOUND arithmetic can certainly make itself very disagreeable. From the urchin writhing in the agonies of a long sum in long measure, up to Belshazzar, watching the hand write upon the wall those distressful words, "Pounds, pounds, ounces, drams," that suggested there was an account to settle with God, mortals have doubtless undergone more misery, first and last, from this branch of mathematics than from any other. On the other hand, to accompany a learned and ingenious essayist in his explorations of ancient metrology, to cut the rope that ties us to the here and now, to mount the heights of speculation, borne up by a beautiful and globular theory, to cleave the thin air of ancient texts, and trust to our guide to get us back to *terra firma*, this is a most delightful and entertaining pastime. Alas! we have blown our last parting kiss to the theorists of our boyhood, Boeckh, Queipo, Hultsch, and the rest. They have sailed away for ever, and we shall never see their like upon earth again, with those two beautiful propositions of theirs, first, that in the ancient systems generally, the units of weight, length, and capacity were connected in much the same scientific way as the gramme, the metre, and the litre are connected; and, second, that in the ancient world pretty much all the weights and measures of all climes and ages were in simple commensurable relations to one another. We know that, before the adoption of the metric system, different towns of Europe used at least 400 different pounds, and probably twice as many. The units of capacity and of length were quite as numerous; and there was no rational connection between them. In short, the language of quantity was as various as the dialects of speech. But the accepted doctrine until lately was that the Babylonian (or, as some said, the Egyptian) system was strictly scientific; and that all the peoples of antiquity followed that, or, at least, used only standards commensurable with those of that system; or, at most, slightly modified from it. These propositions rested upon the testimony of ancient authors, supplemented by divers ingenious arithmetical computations by which certain relations between certain quantities were made to appear. If anybody objected, as

many a man of logical sense did, that such calculations proved nothing but the idle industry of their inventors, and that the documents were almost all of extremely late date, and probably expressed merely convenient approximations, like "A pint's a pound the whole world round," the answer was that we were not at liberty to reject the only evidence in our possession. Yet some enduring work was accomplished by the old metrologists; namely, they weighed and measured, besides coins, perhaps a hundred ancient standards and a smaller number of other monuments.

Within a few years Mr. W. M. Flinders Petrie has determined the values of many hundred additional ancient standards and has measured thousands of monuments. What is far more important, he has contrived methods by which scientific logic can be brought to bear with all its force upon questions of ancient metrology. His conclusions will be found summarized in the article "Weights and Measures" in the 'Encyclopædia Britannica,' last edition. Having determined no less than 516 weight-standards unearthed by him in the Greek-Egyptian town of Naucratis, he has embodied the results in a curve whose abscissas measure the quantities of the weights, while its ordinates are proportional to the numbers of specimens of the different quantitative values. This curve shows certain maxima; and upon these maxima it is precisely that Petrie bases his reasoning. We know from many careful experimental researches that when men try to reproduce many times any quantity, the values they do produce will cluster about the truth, or about the truth affected by a constant error. The curve of these values will show a maximum at that point. Now, the Naucratis makers of weights were undoubtedly trying to reproduce some standards, legal or illegal. Consequently, each well-marked maximum of the curve represents the value of a standard they were trying to reproduce. This logic is irrefragable. Prof. Ridgeway endeavors to break it down by the remark that many of the weights may have been fraudulent, and that as well by being too heavy as by being too light. Granted; but this in no wise weakens Mr. Petrie's reasoning from maxima, which Prof. Ridgeway does not seem fully to apprehend. In order that these falsifications should produce maxima in the curve, it would be requisite that the counterfeiters should aim at quantitatively definite falsifications, and the definitely false standards so produced and put into use would be, *ipso facto*, new units. In short, a clearly marked maximum must represent a distinct unit, a distinct aim, explain its origin as you may. The general upshot of Mr. Petrie's inquiry into the weights of Naucratis is that many more units were in use in that town than could have been found in Nuremberg, or in Venice, or in any great mediæval mart. So the theory that the ancients did not have the same variety of standards that has marked the modern world down to our generation is exploded at one blast; and, that gone, the ridiculous idea that the units of mass, length, and capacity were scientifically adjusted evaporates by its intrinsic volatility. It is only commerce, extensive, pervasive, and voluminous, that can bring about a unification of units, and nobody can maintain that there was as much commerce when Gibraltair was at the end of the world as there was after men had circumnavigated the globe.

Prof. Ridgeway's theory is that before the use of metals there was a universal unit of barter throughout Europe, Asia, and Africa,

to wit, the cow. Of all the metals gold first became known, and the balance was invented in order to weigh gold. Consequently, the earliest unit of weight was the gold unit; and this was fixed at the amount of gold exchangeable for a cow. Strangely enough, the cow had the same gold value in all countries and in all ages, namely, 180 to 185 grains Troy (\$5 is 129 grains, 900 fine). In order to reproduce this unit, there were rules for building it up from the seeds of different kinds of grains. The author does not mention that similar rules were given by Arabian metrologists for forming the dirhem and mithcal. All the leading systems of weights of antiquity are passed in review and explained on these principles. The Roman *as* is made to have been a bar of copper from which fractions were broken off as required.

Though the author finds much fault with the "school of Boeckh," especially for supposing that units of different kinds were originally connected in the French style, yet he himself really belongs to the old school, because he attaches more importance to documents than to monuments. Now, experience has shown that this method cannot lead to any fixed conclusions. Many places in this essay are marked by the arbitrariness and the one-eyedness which belong to the old books. But judging it as a performance of the old school, in which complete truth and finality are not to be expected, but only valuable suggestions mixed with fancies, it must be acknowledged that this is a strong work. It bristles with interesting facts many of which have never before been used by metrologists. The evidences are marshalled with consummate skill, and we cannot doubt that several of the doctrines here put forth will take a permanent place among the principles of ancient metrology.

The Autobiography of an English Game-keeper (John Wilkins of Stanstead, Essex). Edited by Arthur H. Byng and Stephen M. Stephens. Macmillan & Co.

To the lover of nature and of animals, to the votary of sport, but above all to the student of human nature, this book appeals. With all its faults, it fulfils the real mission of an autobiography, in giving a true picture of the man who wrote it, while his likeness, forming the frontispiece, with its keen, weather-beaten face, square shoulders, and angular, wiry figure, answers well to our idea of a true English gamekeeper and of the author. As the editors say, they make no apology in presenting this look to the public, and it needs none. Regarded solely as a book, it is discursive and repetitious, bounding in trivialities, and sometimes ungrammatical; but these defects are characteristic of the man, and as a study the narrative is charming.

We have been taught to look on the poacher in a rather romantic light. From the time of Shakspeare he has been the hero, and the keeper the tyrant, but now we are shown the other side, and it is such a simple, kindly picture as to make us forget our allegiance and desert to the side of the oppressor. Wilkins captures his poachers in such a practical manner, and treats them so fairly and humanely, even after they have almost beaten him to death, as to leave no place for sentiment. Our keeper's pride in his profession is most pronounced. His lenity, he admits, is policy, but we may doubt it. His vanity is patent, but perfectly harmless. "What would unnerve most men," he says, "just brings me up to the scratch. For instance, with a lion or tiger, I should

feel nervous whilst it was some way off, but, when I got close, I should think of nothing but killing him; the possibility of his killing me would not enter into my calculations at all." Needless to say he was never called upon to face either a lion or a tiger, but he had to face dangerous men, and his conduct under those circumstances seems to warrant his boast. The humor which he evidently thinks is necessary in writing a book, is not of a high order. Indeed, it resembles nothing more than the gambols of one of his own setter-pups—the most awkward exhibition in nature, next to the gambols of a lamb. A tremendous joke is perpetrated in the headings of four associated chapters—"Concerning Dogs," "Inasmuch as to Retrievers," "Inasmuch as to Retrievers," "Inasmuch as to Retrievers." And this humor, such as it is, is not relieved by the comments of the editors, fortunately used sparingly, e. g., "(More humor, we presume)" and "(This Christian spirit of forgiveness is truly beautiful.)"

The hints on dogs, especially on their training, are valuable; and the old keeper's system of kindness, although he does not spare the rod when necessary, might be followed more closely by trainers, with advantage to both dog and master. Altogether, John Wilkins is a man with whom one would like to tramp all day through the field, or while away the pleasant idleness of a summer evening.

Etching and Mezzotint Engraving: Lectures delivered at Oxford by Hubert Herkomer, R.A., M.A., etc. Macmillan & Co. 1892.

THIS book is an exquisite production. It is a small folio with heavy hand-made paper, wide margins, and untrimmed edges; a baker's dozen of most charming etchings and mezzotints by the hand of the author; and a cover of cream-white canvas, simply lettered in gold. All the illustrations, which are literally illustrative of the points made in the text, are beautiful and admirably chosen for their purpose, and the type is large and brilliantly clear, making perusal an easy task.

The lectures really form a handbook, and one of the best we have ever met with, for the treatment of the two branches of engraving designated in the title. Nothing could be clearer, simpler, or more direct than Mr. Herkomer's explanation of the technical processes. This is in strong contrast to most essays upon these subjects, which generally leave the student in such a bewildered frame of mind as regards plates, grounds, acids, tools, printing, etc., that he is little likely to attempt an experiment with them, but rather to be utterly discouraged. Here, however, every step is described and explained in the fullest manner possible, and yet so lucidly that one is beguiled into thinking it cannot be, after all, such a very difficult matter to produce a good etching. Moreover, the artist's temperament and feeling inspire every word, and give to the whole a charm which is as rare in books that treat of processes as it is welcome. The individual characteristics of the different processes of etching, dry point, mezzotint, and the author's new patented process, which he calls, tentatively, "spongotype," are most justly discriminated, and the advantages and disadvantages of each for different styles of work emphatically brought out. A strong plea is made for painter-etcher work as one of the most alluring fields for artistic endeavor; and the limits of copyist and interpretative work are well defined.

Herkomer evidently has one quality which