

The Nation

A WEEKLY JOURNAL

DEVOTED TO

POLITICS, LITERATURE, SCIENCE & ART

P 0557

VOLUME LVIII

FROM JANUARY 1, 1894, TO JUNE 30, 1894

NEW YORK

THE EVENING POST PUBLISHING COMPANY

1894

eloping couples. This practitioner on occasions received fees of from \$200 to \$500 for tying the knot. He was, however, an intolerable drunkard, and had no sooner received his pay than he hastened to the grog-shop, where he remained until every penny was expended. Joe Parsley was not a blacksmith, as is commonly supposed, but a tobacconist.

On his visit to France, Col. Hawker was accompanied by Mrs. Hawker. Upon landing at Cherbourg they were met by the hospitable inhabitants with a volley of paving-stones; although they managed to escape the fury of the mob, the captain of the boat was seriously injured. This experience at Cherbourg was duplicated at many other points in France. The journey was a continual battle with sullen foes and wrangles with hotel-keepers, postillions, and officers of justice. The Colonel's narrative is a most vivid picture of the demoralized condition of the French at the time.

The egotism of Col. Hawker is on occasion very much in evidence; but this is lost sight of by the reader in the admiration which his absolute contempt for danger under any conditions inspires. His savage greed for killing game is lamentable, but this was before the days when any protest was made against the wanton slaughter of the wild life of the woods and waters. Apart from this, Col. Hawker was a man of much refinement. He was a musician of no little ability, and published a book of 'Instruction for the Best Position on the Piano-forte.' He was also author of 'The Journal of a Regimental Officer during the Recent Campaign in Portugal and Spain' (1810). Moreover, he was the inventor of several devices of value. His great popularity was owing to his 'Book of Instructions to Young Sportsmen.' It passed through twelve editions, and was for fifty years the recognized manual on guns and shooting, especially in that relating to wild-fowl.

Sunny Manitoba. By Alfred O. Legge. London: T. Fisher Unwin. 1893.

MR. LEGGE states that his justification for writing this book is his desire to remove some of the prevailing misconceptions and convey accurate information about a much-calumniated province of the British Empire. His endeavor to reestablish Manitoba in the affections of English emigrants is based on the following favorable considerations. He believes—and there is good authority for this belief—that the yield of wheat increases as the northern limit is approached within which it can be grown at all; and he claims that Manitoba wheat excels in quality as well as in yield per acre. He praises the system of experimental farms conducted by the Government, which have been eminently successful in testing the merits and adaptability of different seeds and fertilizers, and have thereby greatly assisted the farmers. He quotes various cases which have come under his observation showing the remarkable results of a few years' farming by emigrants starting with little or no capital. And, finally, he says all that it is possible to say in favor of the climate.

Having exhausted his brief on this side of the case, he then proceeds to give some idea of the other side. He admits that the temperature runs to very high figures in the summer and very low ones in the winter, with a mean temperature for the year of about 50°, which seems to harmonize but coldly with the title of his book. He further confesses to a very deficient water supply, which renders a large part of southwestern Manitoba unfit for settle-

ment, and is more or less felt in other sections. His remedy for this is an extensive system of forestry, to be carried on both by the Government and by individuals, with a view to increasing the rainfall—a plan from which, at best, results cannot be expected for many years. His general conclusion is, that those who see their way to a tolerable livelihood in England had better not emigrate to Manitoba, "because of the sacrifices involved." This is rather a lame and impotent conclusion, and will hardly be received with enthusiasm by our "much calumniated" friends across the border. In the present condition of agricultural and other pursuits open to young men in England, it is probably more difficult than ever before to make a tolerable livelihood, and it may be safely assumed that Englishmen will continue to cross the Atlantic, whether they settle permanently in Manitoba, or whether they follow a common Canadian custom—very annoying to Mr. Legge's patriotic feelings—and drift over the border into the Dakotas.

Mr. Legge has something to say about missionaries, and he finds that they meet with the same difficulties among the Canadian Indians as in other parts of the world. The Indian argument against Christianity has a familiar sort of sound: "If your Bible is true, why are the white men worse than the Indians? It is they who have taught us our worst vices."

The book has a number of excellent illustrations and a map of the province on a liberal scale. It is fairly well written, although Mr. Legge is fond of unusual words and peculiar spelling. A startling instance of the latter is the man "whose ambition sores above the log shanty!"

An Unknown Heroine: An Historical Episode of the War Between the States. By L. E. Chittenden. Richmond, Crosscup & Co.

IN comparison with the numerous important biographies, personal recollections, and still weightier historical documents that have grown out of the war, Mr. Chittenden's latest volume has a modest but yet significant part to play. As it deals almost entirely with private history, it is happily removed from the field of party controversy, as it is the admiring and appreciative testimony of a former Union soldier to the bravery and humanity of a Southern woman, it displays a spirit of dispassionate generosity which carries the reader's feelings along with it. Clearer circumstantial evidence, indeed, to the inherent soundness of the "human heart by which we live," under whatever political creed it happens to have been nourished, it would not be easy to find between the covers of a book. Into the details of Mrs. Van Metre's sturdy heroism in her rescue from death of a wounded and abandoned Union officer, near Harper's Ferry, it is needless to go; the account of the Vermont officer's steadfast gratitude, and of his assistance to Mrs. Van Metre in finding her Confederate husband in a Northern prison, may also be left to the reader's curiosity. The letter to Mrs. Van Metre from Gen. Hitchcock, informing her of Secretary Stanton's order of release for her husband, in return for the preserved life of an enemy, offers, as here quoted, one of those pleasant incidents now and then to be met with which seem to prove for the nonce that poetic justice is not a fiction of the imagination, but a homely dweller among the stern realities of life.

The value of a book of this kind is quite independent of questions of literary form or finish.

Its use is to give permanence and notoriety to an episode similar to many that must survive in the memories of persons still living on the borderland of North and South, the knowledge of which is unfortunately passing away with the lives of those who witnessed them. Whenever such a record does appear, it is highly desirable that it should be disseminated in all quarters where sectional feeling is still in vogue, or wherever there are individuals to be found with unreconstructed opinions upon the subject of the war. Carefully read, it may, in a quiet and unobtrusive way, do much towards making felt the oneness of our national life, and can hardly fail in helping to neutralize the efforts of the sham patriotism which seeks to make political capital by dragging forth the issues of a dead and buried strife.

Utility of Quaternions in Physics. By A. McAulay, Lecturer, in Mathematics and Physics in the University of Tasmania. Macmillan & Co. 1893.

WHEN a man has acquired a considerable reputation for intellectual force and attainments, he begins to find people hanging upon his lips and adopting every proposition he may lay down; and, thereupon, being human, he straightway begins to talk about things concerning which he is not qualified to form an opinion. In that way, Maxwell, in his 'Electricity and Magnetism' (§10) said: "I am convinced that the introduction of the ideas, as distinguished from the operations and methods, of Quaternions will be of great use to us in all parts of our subject"; which is as much as to say that he would adopt the addition-process of multiple algebra, without its multiplication-process; and it is amazing what an influence this dictum has had in preventing men from studying quaternions. Yet in truth Maxwell was not enough versed in the subject to know what the ideas of quaternions are. Everybody who has ever exhibited any mastery of quaternions has, we believe without a single exception, pronounced Maxwell's opinion frivolous and superficial. Mr. McAulay writes to demonstrate that it is so, and to convince mathematicians of the high value of quaternions as the *calculus* which it essentially is, and not merely as involving a good idea, and especially of the high value of this calculus in the study of physical problems. We hold this thesis to be sound; but we are sorry to say we fear this book will do little to bring men into the way of truth. There is a sort of an egotistic spirit, an arbitrary self-will, displayed in it that is far from the quality best adapted to the purpose of persuasion. Its innovations in notation are confusing and quite inadmissible. Worse still, the reasoning is in many places decidedly obscure, and often quite needlessly intricate. We can but agree with Prof. Tait, the first of living quaternionists, that some sections of the book are veritable models of "how not to do it." Moreover, Mr. McAulay does not seem to be as familiar with the works of Hamilton as it behooves an apostle of quaternions to be.

Yet, with all these serious faults, the work is not useless, and as it has probably not stood in the way of the publication of any other, we are glad to get it. Though it will not convert the scoffer, it here and there offers suggestions which disciples of Hamilton will receive with satisfaction.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

A Standard Dictionary of the English Language. Vol. I. Funk & Wagnall Co. \$12.
 Alwood, O. E. Complete Graded Arithmetic. Part I. 25 cents. Part II. 50c. Boston: J. C. Good & Co.

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