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P 60700

is not covered, the college should, notwithstanding, accept the graduate after four years of faithful study, and the elements of both Latin and Greek should be taught in the college, so that the student who wishes to pursue ancient languages in the university may not be prevented from so doing.

We sympathize with Mr. Hanus in his desire that our high schools should be practical; and we have read with much interest his sympathetic and persuasive presentation of his views. We agree with him in wishing to make generous provision for physical training, for manual training with drawing, for domestic science, and for a real commercial training. We share, too, his objection to the multiplication of special schools, such as classical high school, English high school, manual-training high school, instead of uniting the different kinds of instruction under one roof. But his theory seems to us to have its impractical side. It will not make a child a man to call him such. "Too soon," Wordsworth warns us, "thy soul shall have its earthly freight." It is not certain that the *spirit* of service will more surely enter a pupil's heart because the word has been often heard in the school-room. It may be undesirable that the pupil should have his thoughts directed too much to the question of the relative values of different studies. If the school undertakes to care for the whole nature of the boy or girl, it may prove unequal to so large a task. Finally, there is not time, in the four years of high school, for the pursuit of all the interesting things which we and Prof. Hanus should like our children to know. A congested course of study, and a series of dabbling efforts to learn many unconnected things, are serious dangers of the high schools of the present time. These dangers are keenly felt when courses are prescribed; would they not be increased were courses elective?

Insects: Their Structure and Life—A Primer of Entomology. By George H. Carpenter, B.Sc. Lond. London: J. M. Dent & Co.; New York: Macmillan, 1899. Pp. 404, fig. 1-183.

This is a really good book, and to call it a primer is scarcely justice, since it is by all odds the most comprehensive work of its kind published in equal bulk in the English language. Not only do we find a concise yet sufficiently complete description of the main structural peculiarities of insects, but also clear statements of their development, of their history in past ages, and of the change that has taken place since they first made their appearance upon the earth. Scarcely a point has been forgotten, from the embryo just forming in the fertilized ovum to the mature form ready to reproduce its kind. The histology of the various organs is sufficiently given, and their functions are always clearly explained; in fact, it is with a feeling of genuine satisfaction and approval that the portion of the book printed in large type can be read from cover to cover.

In his scheme of systematic classification the author is fully up to date, and, while most of our American authorities do not recognize the *Collembola* as ordinarily separable from the *Thysanura*, and do not recognize other orders of the Neuropterous order, yet these are matters of no very serious consequence in a work of this kind. The scientific

technical portion is printed in a smaller type, and the effort has been to mention and briefly describe all the families inhabiting the Holarctic and Sonoran regions. Species are not treated except as illustrating some point discussed in the text, and life histories illustrate groups rather than individuals. This makes the book equally useful in all countries. There is a good index, and a list of 217 references to literature, which will be found very useful, but which might, under some headings, have been better selected.

Of the 183 figures, 102 are from the publications of the United States Department of Agriculture, and these are among the best in the book. It is no mean compliment that the British author has thus paid to the entomological division of that department in using so many of their cuts, all duly acknowledged; and the most gratifying thing is that it is well deserved. Of the others, 35 figures are from Miall and Denney's classic work on the Cockroach, and the rest come from other published books; few if any being original or prepared for this one. The printer has in general done his work well, paper and type being good; but the paper is dull, rough, and unsuitable for printing halftone cuts. These are sometimes blurred and often flat, detracting somewhat from the otherwise satisfactory appearance of the book.

The literary quality of this "primer" is as much above the ordinary as the contents. We select from near the close the following striking passage:

"We walk over the hills, brushing the lee from the flower or the dragonfly from the rushes. The life of each individual insect lasts but for a few days, or months, or years. Yet these creatures are the latest links in a long chain of life which reaches back to a time before the mountain whereon they dwell was brought forth. To unobservant eyes the landscape seems enduring, but study of its features shows that it changes from age to age, changes even more rapidly than the insect-types which adorn it. Yet through the long periods of the earth's history the insects have been changing too, and the form of their bodies, and the history of their growth, teach us how to trace in some degree the wondrous unfolding of their branch of the great tree of life."

Reminiscences of the Santiago Campaign. By John Bigelow, Jr., Captain Tenth U. S. Cavalry. Author of "The Principles of Strategy." Harper & Brothers, 12mo, pp. 188.

Captain Bigelow gives as the scope of his book "a narration of what an officer participating in that campaign saw, felt, and thought, with such explanations and suggestions as his observations and reflections prompted." He is a witness, not a prosecutor or an advocate. His task was a delicate one, for military subordination forbade personal criticism, and he carefully abstains from naming officers who might be responsible, when the facts which he narrates plainly show blundering and neglect somewhere. He begins with the journey to join his regiment when he was, at his own request, relieved of the duty of military instructor in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He shows what difficulty there was in getting the regulation outfit for camp life, the lack of information as to the place where his regiment was, the clashing of orders between different staff departments, the want of equipment and supplies for his company when he joined it, the faults of the camp of rendezvous, the general ignorance

of what was before the army, and the consequent impossibility of intelligent preparation for work.

Similar notes are given of the journey by rail to Florida, its want of system, vagueness of destination, and default of clear instructions; the shipping upon transports, the voyage to Cuba, the landing, and the campaign till the author was disabled by wounds in the battle of San Juan. If the reader shall say that this is a superficial view, telling only what a mere onlooker might see, Captain Bigelow answers that this is strictly the case he is trying to present—the lack of information, of knowledge of plans and purposes, of the topography, and of the enemy, which made the work of a line officer, through it all, like groping in a dark garret.

Of course, there is room for legitimate debate how far a captain in the line could be made acquainted with the objects, purposes, and plans of commanding generals. Similar debate may be had regarding the deficiencies and delays of every sort which may be the necessary accompaniment of a sudden organization of a great army of raw volunteers, in which the few regular troops were lost. The author disclaims any purpose to draw conclusions as to these points. He says, Here is what happened to me and in my sight; does this accord with any competent person's ideas of what the mobilization of an army and the conduct of a campaign should be?

We need just such authoritative evidence of what the actual facts were, seen from the inside of the army by an officer who had given public evidence of his zeal and capacity in the study of his profession. Capt. Bigelow has not only told a most interesting tale, but he has contributed valuable material for the comprehension and solution of the problems involved.

Observational Geometry. By William T. Campbell. New York: Harper & Bros., 1899.

Mathematicians and non-mathematicians have for generations been agreed that Euclid and Legendre do not furnish the proper introduction to geometry, but nobody has yet succeeded in producing any primer of the subject that is really satisfactory. Vast numbers of persons interested in education, but strangers to modern mathematics, consider themselves highly proficient in geometry, and fancy that they are amply equipped for writing an elementary text-book. In one thing they all agree: It is that the first step in geometry should be observational. So far, they are doubtless right, but as to what course geometrical observation should take, how it should be directed to the strengthening of the geometrical imagination, and ultimately to the education of the logical powers, they are mostly not sufficiently well acquainted with geometry to judge. Whether or not Mr. Campbell belongs to this class of teachers, his book shows no trace of his ever having studied topology, or even having reflected much on perspective. It is surely one of the first principles of teaching that ideas ought to be inculcated one at a time. Now geometrical truths, as every mathematician knows, involve the principles of graphics, and it is obvious that graphics, in its turn, involves geometrical topics, or topology, the doctrine of the modes of connection of the parts

of different shapes—which shows us, for example, that if a half-twisted ribbon has its ends joined to form a ring, and is slit down the middle all around the ring, the result is a large ring composed of ribbon having a complete twist. Hence to begin the teaching of geometry with metrics, as Euclid and almost all other teachers do, including Mr. Campbell, is to huddle upon the unfortunate child three different orders of ideas at once. Topics, on the other hand, being undoubtedly the easiest part of geometry, the part in which demonstration has the smallest part to play and observation the greatest, the part in which the pupil is most inevitably, easily, and almost unconsciously led from observation to generalization, and the part in which imagination is most evoked, would seem, on every account, the most suited to the child.

But even if we agree to beginning instruction with metrics, we cannot assent to the extraordinary entanglement of different conceptions belonging to metrics which Mr. Campbell's book, even more than others, offers to the bewilderment of the pupil. It should be remembered, too, that the pupil, however tender his age, has already been a student of geometry, in his way, before he comes to the teacher. He must have been so in order to find his way about the house, for example. Now it seems preferable that his new geometrical observations should be connected at the outset as closely as possible with those he has already made, instead of with such unfamiliar things as cubes and rectilinear figures.

Story of the Princess des Ursins in Spain.

By Constance Hill. With twelve portraits and a frontispiece. New York: R. H. Russell, 1899.

Historical opinion runs a good deal in cycles, and just now we all have a low opinion of Louis XIV., of his political ideals and of his government. With this general condemnation the court life of Versailles is involved. Its splendors we call tawdry, and its ceremonies equally pompous and tedious, although, by the way, Saint-Simon never seems to lack readers. But, however much Louis and Versailles may be denounced or laughed at, there is no denying the presence in the royal *entourage* of some remarkable men and women. Possibly their strength of character was not developed by their place in this *entourage*, but many of their accomplishments may be traced to the kind of life they led and to the demands which it made upon them. Skill in conversation, tact, urbanity, acquaintance with current politics, and diplomatic finesse became the stock in trade of the Versailles courtier, and over these solid attainments was spread a charming insouciance of manner. Women equalled or even surpassed men in their command of court gifts and graces; sometimes they grew to be adepts in the art of practical politics. It is concerning one of these elegant, capable, and political ladies that Miss Hill writes in her memoir of Mme. des Ursins.

The personal element is stronger, on the whole, in the present narrative than the political; otherwise the sketch might be called for its second title "An Episode in the War of the Spanish Succession." Even as it is, a marked historical strain blends with the biographical. This fact is at once apparent

when we regard the chronological limits of the study. Miss Hill begins her sketch only at the moment when Louis XIV. placed the Duke of Anjou on the Spanish throne, and began his quest for the right person to act as Camerara-Major to his queen, Maria Louisa of Savoy. At the time she received her important appointment, Mme. des Ursins was fifty-nine years old, wise as a serpent in the ways of the world, and imbued with the governmental principles of Versailles. She had already lost two noble husbands, the Prince de Chalais and the Prince Orsini, was past the age when she might be swayed from political duty by marital considerations, and yet kept the fullness of her physical vigor. The situation was one of extreme simplicity. Philip V. would beyond a doubt be governed by his wife, and it only remained to provide some confidante who would govern the Queen in the French interest. The decision of such a grave point rested with Mme. de Maintenon, and she nominated her friend Mme. des Ursins.

The situation developed itself according to expectation, except that now and then the Camerara-Major inclined towards the advantage of Spain rather than towards that of France. The main point, however, regarding the lady herself is that she was a true product of the Versailles social system, transplanted to Spain, where, amid much trouble and many hostile plots, she held her own for a long period. Her wit, dignity, and knowledge of the world made Maria Louisa her slave; she lighted the King to bed and handed him his slippers in the morning; she attached a large number of the Castilian nobles to her party, and she even dared grapple with the officials of the Holy Inquisition. The latter never forgave her interference, and, when Alberoni plotted her downfall in 1714, he found a serviceable ally in the Grand Inquisitor, Cardinal Gludde.

We cannot think that Miss Hill adds very much to what François Combes has said of Mme. des Ursins's political gifts and administration. She had a good grasp of statecraft and a large share of intelligence, but true principles of government she hardly practised at all. She was certainly placed in an awkward position by a series of campaigns which, for the time, almost destroyed Spanish agriculture and commerce; still, she gave less proof of high organizing capacity than a born ruler would have done, for the times of emergency in which she acted were also times of personal opportunity. The two most striking features of Miss Hill's book are her description of Mme. des Ursins's triumph at Versailles in 1705, after her temporary disgrace, and her account of the plot by which Alberoni succeeded in ousting her from Madrid altogether. The latter incident deserves a little notice.

On the death of Maria Louisa, Alberoni began scheming for a marriage between Philip and Elizabeth Farnese. As a native of Parma and a friend of Rocca, its Prime Minister, he knew how eagerly such a promotion would be welcomed there. The one thing needful was to persuade Mme. des Ursins, in whose hands the decision eventually lay, and this rather difficult end was accomplished by representing Elizabeth as a meek and waxy personage—Elizabeth Farnese of all others in the eighteenth century!

"The priest and the lady entered one day

into conversation on the subject of the choice of a new Queen. The wily Italian, well knowing the qualities that Mme. des Ursins would look for, observed, 'You must find a lady who is quiet and docile, and not likely to interfere in State affairs.' 'Where shall we discover such a person?' asked his companion. Alberoni ran through the royal families of Europe, and then, as if by accident, carelessly mentioned Elizabeth Farnese, daughter of the late Duke of Parma, adding, with the same tone of simplicity and indifference: 'She is a good girl; plump, healthy, and well-bred; brought up in the petty court of her uncle, Duke Francis, and accustomed to hear of nothing but needle-work and embroidery.'"

Mme. des Ursins, with her splendid knowledge of men, women, and political intrigue, was thus beguiled at a moment when she held the position completely. Elizabeth Farnese secretly stipulated with Philip before marriage for her disgrace, the King tamely agreed, and the new Queen's first act on reaching Spain was to send the veteran Camerara-Major across the border into France under a military escort.

This volume is a graceful piece of biography, not pretending to be over-learned, but interweaving a fair share of historical context with the personal vicissitudes of an accomplished and resourceful woman. We miss from Miss Hill's bibliography of the works upon which she has based her delineation of Mme. des Ursins the special articles of Maldonado Macanaz and E. Bourgeois, to say nothing of Baudrillart's 'Philippe V. et la Cour de France.' We imagine, too, that she glosses over matters somewhat in her brief reference to the relations of Mme. des Ursins and Daubigny. Still, these, like a few misprints which we have noticed, cannot be called grave blemishes upon an agreeable and entertaining essay.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Alger, H. Jr. *Rupert's Ambition*. Philadelphia: H. T. Coates & Co.
Allen, Grant. *A Splendid Sin*. New York: F. M. Buckles & Co.; London: F. A. White & Co. \$1.
Baden-Powell, B. H. *Origin and Growth of Village Communities in India*. London: Swan Sonnenschein & Co.; New York: Scribners. \$1.
Barrett, J. *Admiral George Rodney*. Harpers.
Benson, K. F. *Mammon and Co.* D. Appleton & Co.
Bessant, Sir W. *The Orange Girl*. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.60.
Blondelle-Burton, J. *A Bitter Heritage*. D. Appleton & Co.
Bradford, A. H. *The Holy Family*. Ford, Howard & Hubbert.
Bradford, A. H. *The Art of Living Alone*. Dodd, Mead & Co. 50c.
Brecht, M. P. *Thirty Years of New York Politics*. \$2.50.
Bullock, S. P. *The Barrys*. Doubleday & McClure Co. \$1.25.
Burdett, Sir H. *Hospitality and Charity*. 1899. London: The Scientific Press; New York: Scribners. \$1.25.
Butterworth, H. *The Borderland Story-Tellers*. Boston: A. L. Bradley & Co.
Butterworth, H. *The Story of Magellan and Discovery of the Philippines*. D. Appleton & Co.
Callahan, J. M. *Cuba and International Relations*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press.
Camp, W. and Brooks, Lillian. *Drives and Puts*. Boston: L. C. Page & Co. \$1.25.
Campkneller, Rev. V. de. *Observations Taken at Dunraon, Behar, India, during the Eclipse of January 22, 1898*. Longmans, Green & Co. \$3.50.
Carlyle, Thomas. *Heroes and Hero-Worship*. Cassell, 10c.
Carlyle, Thomas. *Critical and Miscellaneous Essays*. (Centenary Edition.) Scribners. \$1.25.
Carruth, Prof. W. H. *Auswahl aus Luther's Deutschen Schriften*. Boston: Ginn & Co. \$1.10.
Chambers, I. M. *Harold Poyson*. F. Tennyson Nevill.
Clayton, Victoria V. *White and Black under the Old Régime*. London: Sampson Low, Marston & Co.; Milwaukee: Young Churchman Co. \$1.
Cordill, Mrs. H. *Autobiography and Letters of Mrs. M. O. W. Oliphant*. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.50.
Cohn, Prof. H. W. *The Story of the Living Machine*. D. Appleton & Co.
Oreighton, Rev. M. *Queen Elizabeth*. Longmans, Green & Co. \$1.50.
Crockett, S. R. *Rit Kennedy*. Harper & Bros.
Crockett, S. R. *June March*. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.50.
Duglo, Elizabeth H. *Nicolas Poussin*. Scribners. \$2.50.
Devecon, W. C. *In Re Shakespeare's "Legal Acquirements"*. London: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner & Co.; New York: The Shakespeare Press.
Diary of David McClure. Knickerbocker Press.