

The Nation

A WEEKLY JOURNAL

DEVOTED TO

POLITICS, LITERATURE, SCIENCE & ART

P 00979

VOLUME LXXV

FROM JULY 1, 1902, TO DECEMBER 31, 1902

MERCANTILE TRADING CO.
PHILADELPHIA

NEW YORK

NEW YORK EVENING POST COMPANY

1902

in the Library of Brown University. Mr. Shepard was "Lato Teacher of the Church at Charlestown in New England," and his death occurred in 1649. Oakes died fourth president of Harvard College in 1681.

'Why My Photographs Are Bad,' by Charles M. Taylor, jr., a practical guide to the amateur, is to be published by George W. Jacobs & Co., Philadelphia.

Among forthcoming publications of the Oxford University Press we select for mention 'The Part of Rheims in the Making of the English Bible,' by the Rev. J. G. Carleton; and 'Une Lignée de Poètes,' by Charles Bonnier.

Kingsley's 'Westward Ho!' in two volumes, Carlyle's 'Sartor Resartus,' and a special translation of Boethius, 'The Consolation of Philosophy'—the first into English having been King Alfred's about 890—are among the fresher outputs of the Deat-Macmillan Temple Classics. Mr. W. V. Cooper, B.A., King's College, Cambridge, is the author of this latest version. Portraits, a view of the rectory and church at Eversley, and an Elzevir frontispiece representing the wheel of fortune, adorn these captivating little books.

'Jane Eyre' begins the complete edition of Charlotte Brontë's works bearing the imprint of Dodd, Mead & Co. In Dr. Robertson Nicoll's candid and excellent introduction, some scraps of evidence are offered in support of the suggestion "that in Charlotte Brontë's conception of love there are distinct traces of Harriet Martineau's forgotten novel of 'Deerbrook.'" Appended to this volume is a hitherto unpublished fragment, 'The Moores,' written during her married life, and there will be more such to come, we are told. The print is as large as this bulky work permits.

The same publisher's Thackeray proceeds with 'The Newcomes' in three volumes, with Walter Brock's editing and cleverly designed illustrations by Charles E. Brock.

Mr. William Wale's dictionary of quotations, 'What Great Men Have Said about Great Men' (London: Sonnenschein; New York: E. P. Dutton & Co.), has an obvious utility, but we must as little expect proportion as completeness in such a collection. There is, for example, but one "saying" for Lincoln—Walt Whitman's, in prose; yet Lowell had just been drawn upon for Lessing, and heads nine sayings about Longfellow, besides contributing one of three on himself. Under Emerson we might wish to find Matthew Arnold. Arnold himself has apparently not been talked about by his peers. An index of the critics and panegyrists quoted would, we think, have been worth while.

We have met with no better guide-book to the Lake District than that entitled 'The Lake Counties,' by W. G. Collingwood (E. P. Dutton & Co.). It is one of Dent's "County Guides" series, under the general editorship of Mr. G. A. B. Dewar, and meets the most fastidious requirements of type, paper, weight, etc. It is light in the hand, though nearly 400 pages in length, and has eight separate maps, besides a general map of the region in a pocket. The idea of having a set of articles by experts attached to the eight "Itineraries" is a very happy one; there are ten of these, dealing with the natural history and sport of the Lake Counties, three of them written by members of the Severn family, whose close relation to Ruskin and the life of the dales-

men is well known. The illustrations, by Cuthbert Rigby, though not as good as those of Mr. Pennell in a similar work, are pleasing enough. Mr. Collingwood is a resident of the Coniston district, and was an intimate friend of Ruskin. He writes with complete knowledge of the legends and antiquities of the dales and lakes and in an entertaining style. No tourist to the Lakes should neglect this convenient little volume.

'Nature Portraits' (Doubleday, Page & Co.) is a folio collection of pictures of birds, mammals, insects, and fish by various nature photographers, with a short accompanying text by the editor of *Country Life in America*. The illustrations, many of which have been published before, are excellent. They are largely the work of Mr. Dugmore and Mr. Carlin. One photograph, by the way, labelled "Pocket Gopher," does not appear to represent that animal. The text, which has no direct connection with the pictures, will be of some interest to teachers and parents who are considering pedagogical problems of "nature study." It challenges certain points of view which, if early impressed upon a child, affect his future relations with the world of nature. In a series of sections, it discusses the old attitude towards wild animals versus the new, as expressed in the new method of hunting with the camera and the new movement for protection; condemns the attempt to explain as distinctly useful each structure or character in an organism; defends the teacher who tries to make nature interesting to children in ways discredited by the advocates of "science for the sake of science"; urges emphasis on the large and significant values of a subject; and favors the use of the poetic and figurative in interpreting nature to children.

'Wags of the Stage,' by Joseph Whittton (Philadelphia: George H. Rigby), a model of book-making, so far as type, printing, and illustration are concerned, must have been written for personal gratification, as there is no other reasonable excuse for its production. It is mainly a collection of humorous anecdotes concerning stage-folk of greater or less eminence, but the selected stories are either too stale or too silly to be worth repeating. Moreover, the author has no special gift of comic relation, or, apparently, any general acquaintance with his subject. His book, indeed, is chiefly remarkable for the good things which are not to be found in it, although they have been common property for the last hundred years. The most interesting part of it is his account of his adventures in Nicaragua with William Wheatley; but these have nothing whatever to do with waggery, and afford no fresh information.

We have, perhaps, not devoted to Delta's 'Charades' (Cambridge, Mass.: Charles W. Sever & Co.) as assiduous a study as so profound a tome requires. The impression it has left is, that Delta deals with his charade-words as popularizers do with the secrets of natural science, and aims "to make them patent to the meanest capacity." But this may be a mere effect of superficial reviewing; for not half the book has been worked through. So, for aught we know, there may be tests here fit to measure every grade of charade sagacity. A certain neatness is observable in these problems, hardly rising to elegance. No mortal could for one moment mistake them for poetry. Yet experiment has shown that they will beguile an idle hour very well.

The important monograph of Mr. J. E. G. de Montmorency on 'State Intervention in English Education' (Cambridge [Eng.]: University Press; New York: Macmillan Co.), traces the history of that question from the earliest times down to 1833, when Parliament for the first time voted money for the promotion of elementary education. The subject is dealt with mainly from the political and legal point of view, and abounds in valuable references to documentary authorities. The writer expresses his surprise that no satisfactory collection of such material had previously been made, and contends that many of the present educational troubles in England are directly due to the neglect of the historical aspect of the subject. Two notable points are particularly emphasized by the record here presented—the decadence of education under the Stuarts, from which it resulted that it was less flourishing in the beginning of the nineteenth century than at a certain period before the Reformation; and the example of progress set by the colonies to the mother country. Incidentally, Mr. de Montmorency calls attention to the curious fact that the general use of the English tongue dates from the Black Death. The terror of the plague drove out of the country the French and Norman parish priests, who were also the masters in the grammar schools. The clergy who remained were natives, and their influence introduced English into schools as the vehicle of lessons. We have noticed an erratum on p. 153, where Sir Henry "Parke," the Australian politician, should be Sir Henry Parkes. It is to be inferred from his preface that Mr. de Montmorency intends to follow up the present volume by a similar treatment of the period from 1833 to the passing of the Elementary Education Act of 1870. If the second book is of the same quality as the first, it will be heartily welcome.

Mr. A. R. Whiteway, an English barrister, deals in a light and even flippant style with a subject of too much gravity for such handling. His 'Recent Object-Lessons in Penal Science' (E. P. Dutton & Co.) is made up largely of magazine articles, and contains little that is new to penologists, or even to those who have but a cursory acquaintance with the subject. His bibliography is very incomplete, and many of his comments are inept. The book may serve to draw attention to a subject which deeply concerns the public but interests it little. If it can do this, it will justify its existence.

Very different points of view are taken by "Veritas" in his 'German Empire of To-day' (Longmans, Green & Co.) and by Maurice Lair, in 'L'Impérialisme Allemand' (Paris: Armand Colin). The composition of the former book is somewhat peculiar. It begins with a sketch of German history up to 1871, which is necessarily too brief to be of much value, and proceeds to explain the present condition of the Empire largely by means of consular reports. A considerable body of facts and a large number of figures are thus marshalled under various titles; the impression given being that remarkable progress has been made in every direction. "Veritas," however, does not look below the surface, and his book is little more readable than most public documents. M. Lair presents the same facts, but he interprets

THIS PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY