

Company, who will, in the autumn, add to their "Thumb-Nail Series" Pascal's 'Thoughts,' Sheridan's 'The Rivals,' with an introduction by Joseph Jefferson; and Tennyson's 'In Memoriam,' with an introduction by E. C. Stedman.

Little, Brown & Co. have undertaken the first collective edition of Samuel Lover's works in six volumes, with an introduction by James Jeffrey Roche; and a series of volumes from the elder Dumas's travel sketches, beginning with 'The Speronare,' descriptive of a Mediterranean trip, embracing Sicily. The translator is Miss Wormeley.

It is a noteworthy coincidence that the completion of Gregory's 'Text Kritik des Neuen Testaments' is to be followed immediately by an entirely new and independent attempt on a grand scale to restore the oldest forms of the New Testament books. This is the work of Professor von Soden of the University of Berlin. 'Die Schriften des Neuen Testaments' will make two volumes, one of "Untersuchungen," containing all the preliminary researches on manuscripts, history of text, etc.; and the second, "Text mit vollständigem Apparat," containing the actual results. Von Soden's investigations are anything but the continuation of the Tischendorf, Weiss, Tregelles and Westcott-Hort methods, which were substantially the same in principle. He returns rather to old methods, but with new material; and on the basis of the 2,328 codices—454 more than Gregory examined—which he himself in repeated journeys to the Orient has studied, he has, among other things, come to the conclusion that the Vaticanus and the Sinaiticus, together with allied manuscripts, which hitherto have generally been accorded a decisive voice in settling a variant, represent only one type of text recension. Von Soden has traced the connection of all these manuscripts with the two text types current in the Middle Ages. In addition to which he has discovered also other individual text forms. The whole promises to be the most independent work done in this line for decades. Alexander Duncker (H. von Carnop) is the New York publisher.

R. Swain Gifford, N.A., contributes a brief introduction to 'Color Problems,' by Emily Noyes Vanderpoel (Longmans), in which he confesses that "the study of color from the scientific side has very little attraction for the layman, and it is even difficult for a painter to get out of such study much that will help him in his work." He might have gone further, and indicated the fact that the painter of pictures, dealing as he does with much-broken and constantly varied tints, indescribable and unclassifiable, finds it necessary to rely absolutely on instinct and such empirical knowledge as practice gives him, and that the theory of color is not, at present, able to give him any real help whatever. The decorator, who deals more in flat and uniform tones, may, however, learn some things from the scientist. Even to him the reason of things, most interesting to science, is of no value; but the facts may be usefully formulated. To such workmen the many well-executed plates of this volume may afford more assistance than would the relatively brief and bald text. The numerous pieces of quantitative analysis of color schemes from historic examples of ornament are especially interesting.

Mr. Cecil Headlam's 'Peter Vischer,' in the Bell-Macmillan "Great Craftsmen" series, should properly have been entitled 'The Vischers,' for it deals with three generations of that family—Hermann Vischer, the father of Peter; Peter Vischer; and Peter Vischer's five sons, most of whom died before their father. The work of the sons is almost inextricably confused with Peter's but, so far as it can be disentangled, it would seem that Peter the younger was the greatest artist of the family. If he did the Nuremberg "Praying Madonna," which Mr. Headlam is inclined, though cautiously, to attribute to him, he was so great an artist as to deserve a place in the "Great Masters" series rather than in its companion; indeed, some of his undoubted works, such as the plaquette of "Orpheus and Eurydice" in the Berlin Museum, would almost entitle him to that honor. It is, however, such great pieces of craftsmanship as the shrine of St. Sebald that will more surely immortalize this family of bronze-workers than any single work of sculpture, even the much-admired "King Arthur." Their career covered the transition from Gothic to Renaissance art, and the only point in which we are inclined to differ from Mr. Headlam is his assumption that the later development of their style was in all respects an improvement. It seems to us that the Italianate forms of the Rathaus Railing, in so far as that work can be judged from the drawings of it which survive, are, though beautiful, less idiomatic of the material and less marked by the racial characteristics of the workmen than are those of their earlier manner; and we own to a certain sympathy with the Fugger heirs in their disappointment and in their repudiation of the work. The change was inevitable; and the Vischers showed their artistic quality in their eagerness to make it; but it marked the beginning of the end of German art.

There is nothing new to say of the useful little "Riverside Art Series" (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.), save to note the addition of Van Dyck to the artists treated of. The Bohemia Guild of the Industrial Art League (Chicago) publishes a book, by Oscar Lovell Triggs, Ph.D., most misleadingly entitled 'Chapters in the Arts and Crafts Movement.' There is really nothing in it about arts and crafts, but a great deal about Socialism. Those who are interested in the modern revival of craftsmanship as an artistic phenomenon will find nothing in this handsomely printed volume to their purpose; but those who may be interested to know how men like William Morris and Walter Crane came to believe that a social revolution is necessary before art shall again become a living force, may find there what they want.

The third edition of Prof. William P. Mason's 'Water Supply' (John Wiley & Sons) is brought down to date by a re-compilation, including some recent data. The chapters on chemical and bacteriological examination of water have been omitted. As the subject is "considered principally from a sanitary standpoint," this omission seems an important one. A curious error reappears on page 253. The paragraph attributed to Mr. Tweeddale is from Mr. C. C. Vermeule's report on water supply, published by the Geological Survey of New Jersey.

Prof. A. A. Atkinson's 'Electrical and Magnetical Calculations' (D. Van Nostrand Co.) is clear, concise, and thoroughly well thought out. Any young man who is interested in the application of electricity and is fortunate enough to procure this little volume at an early period of his studies, will find he gets more service out of it per page than from almost any other on his shelves.

The John Brown papers deposited by Gov. Wise in the State Library of Virginia in 1860 were long lost sight of, and only accidentally came to light in a search made for another purpose by the present State Librarian in December, 1901. Mr. Scott began publication of them, or rather of his introduction, in the April number of the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, and now in the July issue finishes his preliminary matter (including dismissal of the myth of Frederick the Great's presenting a sword to Washington), and opens with Col. Lee's report of his attack on the engine-house at Harper's Ferry. There is no letter from John Brown in the collection; many written to him, to Gov. Wise, to the Sheriff of Jefferson County, Va., to the clerk of court at Charlestown, to Andrew Hunter, etc., etc. It is doubtless too soon to judge, but we apprehend that Mr. Scott's "conservative estimate" of a market value for the papers of \$5,000 to \$10,000 "in a community where John Brown is held in higher esteem than he is in Virginia," will not be justified in the sequel.

Labrador, judging from the report of the Brown-Harvard expedition in 1900 by its leader, Prof. E. B. DeLabarre, published in the Bulletin of the Geographical Society of Philadelphia, is an inviting field for the explorer, the student of nature, and the lover of wild scenery. In the extreme northeast the highest mountains on the Atlantic Coast rise sheer from land-locked bays, which rival, if they do not surpass, the beauty of the Norwegian fjords. The greater part of the peninsula is practically unknown, while the geologist, Dr. R. A. Daly, asserts that, from the lack of forest and soil-cap, the interpretation of the structure and history of the earth's crust is there possible with a remarkable degree of rapidity and amount of assured detail. The expedition, six in number, sailed northward some seven hundred miles, stopping at twenty-eight places for geological research and the collection of specimens of the flora of the region. Two of the members accomplished the almost unprecedented feat for white men of making the last hundred miles by land. A favorable account is given of the Eskimos, notwithstanding the fact of their increasing demoralization, due to their practical slavery to the traders, "who charge outrageous prices for supplies, and give small returns for fish and furs." Efforts are being made to counteract this evil by the establishment of cooperative stores by the branch of the Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen, which maintains two hospitals on shore and a hospital steamer. Lists of plants and birds collected and observed are appended to the report, whose attractiveness is increased by some fine photographs.

The salient feature of the Consular Reports for June is the illustrated description of the new electric railway at Berlin by our Consul-General, F. H. Mason. In one important respect it is far superior to

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