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the latter has been given by Kinos in his 'Mundarten der Osmanen,' p. 408. O. T. June 16, 1905.

[Our critic's only point of correction—apart from bibliographical expansion, which seemed unnecessary in our Note—appears to be that those tales are not from Anatolia, but Stambul. In this he may quite possibly be correct; Kinos's last volume (Leyden, 1905), to which he refers, has not yet reached us.—Eh. NATION.]

SHAKSPERE, BEN JONSON, AND PLINY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Your excerpts from Professor Sonnenschein's article, in your issue of June 29, with accompanying comment, will have added interest if you permit me to direct attention to a brief anonymous contribution in *Baconiana* for January, 1904, which until now has been quite ignored. Therein it is shown that the brief Epistle Dedication of the First Folio, signed by Heminge and Condell, is a close paraphrase of the preface to Pliny's Natural History! Of the nine parallel passages there adduced, the eighth is as characteristic as any:

From the First Folio.

Country hands reach forth milke, cream, fruites, or what they have: and many Nations (we have heard) that had not gummes & incense, obtained their requests with a leavened cake. It was no fault to approach their Gods by what meanes they could.

It is important to add that while there was an English translation of Pliny extant as early as 1601, absolutely no resemblance can be detected between this and the Heminge and Condell Dedication. It remained for the translation in Bohn's Library edition (1855) to disclose the remarkable resemblance. Malone long ago suspected that this dedication was really the work of Ben Jonson, and some few critics have agreed with him.

Baconiana not being easily accessible to American readers, it may be stated that there is a bound file at the Astor Library: shelfmark. 544 C. CHAS. A. HERPICH. New York, July 7, 1905.

Notes.

Harper & Bros. will publish directly 'Love's Cross-Currents,' a novel by Alger non Charles Swinburne.

Thomas Whittaker has nearly ready 'Model of a Motor Car,' with an historical sketch and brief description of the working parts, by Hugo Guldner, with superimposed colored charts.

The first part of a work of great value and equal labor, viz., the 'Corps de Droit Ottoman: Recueil des Codes, Lois, Règlements, Ordonnances et Actes les plus importants du Droit Intérieur, et d'Études sur le Droit Coutumier de l'Empire Ottoman,' by George Young, second secretary of the English Embassy, has appeared from the Clarendon Press (New York: H.

Frowde) in three volumes; Part 2 will appear during the present year in four volumes.

We read in the ninth annual report of the Free Library of Philadelphia, that the late Secretary Hay permitted his eulogy of President McKinley "to be printed in Moon embossed type," in response to many requests from the blind for a Life of McKinley. Mr. Hay, of course, consented, and defrayed half the cost of printing. Some who recall that eulogy may think this a case of the blind leading the blind.

The Englishwoman who writes under the pseudonym "Vernon Lee" has always displayed a peculiar talent for topographical description, that most difficult art. In her latest volume, 'The Enchanted Woods' (John Lane), she has collected some thirty brief essays, or, rather, sketches from her notebook, all of them descriptive of the moods that are inspired by certain surroundings in the soul of the passing wayfarer. She is an insatiable traveller, but her impressions are not such as might occur to any tourist of imagination who should find himself, say, at Arles, "where the Rhone stagnates," or at the shrine of the Black Madonna on the top of Monte Mucrone, or motorfing through the quiet villages of Surrey. Vernon Lee, when she sets out to record her encounters with the divinity of a place, the *genius loci*, puts in every descriptive touch with a light hand, and implies that all this sunshine and romance, or, if you turn the page, all that chill gray dreariness with which she can invest some out-of-the-way corner of Italy or France or Spain, is wholly subjective—a matter of a "dull, bad temper" one day, or on the next of a genial enthusiasm due to fine weather. But a gift of expression and an imagination easily kindled are less uncommon than that other fascination which Vernon Lee can secure for such essays as these. What gives the book a permanent value is her thorough knowledge of the literature, the art, and the architecture of these countries in whose remote corners she has from time to time made her home. The possession of so much solid knowledge would tempt most persons to a display of pedantry, but from this danger Vernon Lee is happily saved by a genuine sense of humor and a capricious turn of mind.

To the increasingly voluminous but not always reliable current literature dealing with immigration, Mr. J. D. Whelpley's 'Problem of the Immigrant' (Dutton) is a distinctly useful contribution. The problem has been studied too much as a national, not to say a "parochial," one. Hence there has been a tendency to forget that other countries besides our own are grappling with the question, and that the problem of immigration has its correlative problem of emigration for those countries which we glibly talk of as anxious to dump their citizens upon us. Mr. Whelpley presents the problem convincingly as essentially international. As he clearly puts it: "The emigration movement from one country is the immigration movement into another, or perhaps a dozen others. . . . Emigration has unquestionably become an international affair, and, until it is so treated, complications and evils resulting therefrom can be only partially and quite ineffectually controlled by each nation acting for itself, independently of all others." No better evi-

dence could be produced of this fact than the legislative provisions and regulations governing the movement of population enacted by various governments in Europe and America. Mr. Whelpley has rendered a great and much-needed service in making accessible those of Continental countries. His summaries seem excellent and correct. The observations and brief discussion with which he accompanies them are illuminating and to the point. The book lacks all that sensational taint which mars much of the work of some of our more or less amateur sociologists. It proceeds from a scholar who has taken pains to collect trustworthy data before attempting to give even a conservative opinion on a difficult and complicated subject.

Miss Gertrude Bacon, herself well known as an aeronaut, has produced 'Balloons, Airships, and Flying Machines' (Dodd, Mead & Co.). The whole story having been already told a thousand times with every imaginable device of sensation, her problem was to make a brief thousand and first recital not wholly uninteresting, without resort to any other means than those that are strictly germane to the history of air-faring. The tiny volume that has resulted is a little triumph, due to a bright, fresh mind drawing from the headwaters of information ideas that sparkle with genuine interest in the subject, which is allowed to run on in its own natural babble. Just as an ordinary observer who stands up with some effort against the pressure of a high wind, and describes far up in the blue a balloon hurled along in a still more tremendous gale, is apt to forget that, to the balloonist himself, he seems to be in a dead calm—the spectator, indeed, finding it hard to think of such a thing—so the plainest narrative of a balloon trip told strictly from the able airman's point of view, in perfect equanimity, never mounting into any purple clouds, never soaring above any reader's head, but sticking to the *terra firma* of plain fact, makes a far stronger impression upon the imagination than in any other style it ever could. That was a discovery exhibited by Miss Bacon's father in his 'By Land and Sky'; and the daughter has caught a little of his charm. The illustrations are particularly well chosen, and several of the most vivid and telling are quite new. We do not know whether the "Crossing the Channel" (p. 46) is so or not; but the frontispiece certainly is.

Another little book of the same 'Practical Science Series,' entitled 'Radium Explained,' by Dr. W. Hampson, is not so fortunate an attempt. It is largely taken up with an attack upon the electronal theory of matter and with preparations for that attack. Now that theory, bright though its prospects certainly are, is very far from being proved, and it is quite a legitimate object of attack. But unless its opponent has a clear understanding of the theory of electricity, his argument will make wearisome wading; and this is the first fault of the present book. Its further fault is that it undertakes to solve this profound problem on a basis of common sense. Now common sense, rightly interpreted, has nothing at all to say about electricity, which ought to be left to specialists; and the attempt to drag common sense into the question can amount only to abandoning the study of experimental