

possesses. They have worked from the same pattern, but one has developed disagreeable traits, while the other has made itself pure and beautiful." Of course, the italics are ours.

Miss A. M. Clerke's "System of the Stars" (London: Adam & Charles Black; New York: The Macmillan Co.) is a second edition; but it has been subjected to such drastic revision, that scarce a page has escaped material modification, and it may be considered as substantially a new production. It first appeared in 1890, when the present system of astronomical observation, which almost revolutionizes the work, had hardly come into use. In 1890 the direct optical observation of the heavens was the rule, and scientific observation of photographs was the exception; while at present, at all the great observatories, it is the photographs that are mainly relied upon in physical astronomy, and direct observation is only resorted to exceptionally. Miss Clerke thoroughly understands the work of observatories, their problems and their methods; but the peculiar merit of her writings lies in the judgment with which she selects the topics which will be the most interesting to the auditory that she addresses. Although the present publication followed soon after her "Problems of Astrophysics" (a book of which a well-worn copy will be found in every observatory), it does not traverse the same ground. The object of the present work is to instruct the general reader, while that of the "Problems" was rather to suggest to astronomers the manner in which the frontier of their advances might best be rectified. Upon one point a note of warning may be sounded. Regarding all those problems toward the solution of which astronomy is advancing by well-settled methods, Miss Clerke's representation of the present state of its siege-operations is in every way admirable; yet on certain questions so much remains doubtful that no definitive answers to them ought now to be attempted. One such question is whether the visible universe occupies but a finite region of infinite space. There are indications which seem to point to such limitation; but sound logic must still counsel a suspension of opinion. Miss Clerke writes as if it were quite certain that we see only to a limited distance. The volume contains beautiful new plates, reproductions of some of the best of the celestial photographs. Of course, they cannot show all that is to be seen upon the originals. The index is excellent.

In "Morgan's Cavalry" (Neale Publishing Company) General Basil W. Duke, who fought under John Morgan, gives some account of various raids in which he took part. His point of view is that of a Kentucky man who went South; and what is of most interest in the volume is the description of the straits to which the Kentucky secession regiments were driven in the last period of the war, especially after the surrender of Lee and Johnston.

A rivulet as it flows to the sea is lost in a great river, so that to follow its course involves a survey of the mighty flood. That exactly illustrates the History of the Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteers, a matchless regiment of the Second Corps in the Army of the Potomac, as prepared

by Col. George A. Bruce (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.). Col. Bruce, who, "although serving in the same army, never even saw" the regiment, justifies his selection by its Officers' Association as its historian, by developing an admirable account of the minor organization into a clear and fascinating exposition of the great operations in Virginia in which it took part. The Seven Days, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, especially Gettysburg, and the long year of attrition that closed at Appomattox, live again. The forceful but unexaggerated accounts of those great conflicts, of why they occurred, and what followed, make a distinctly valuable contribution to military history, useful and interesting to survivors and to non-participating students alike. The experience of the field illuminates where a writer in the closet might fail to see the situation. Thus, after the salient at Spotsylvania was carried, there was no mounted staff to rectify the line disorganized by victory and to lead supports to it, for every officer had necessarily gone in on foot. But the men on horseback were swiftly flying to various parts of the [Army of Northern Virginia] to bring up fresh and organized troops to meet the greatest danger that had ever yet threatened it" (p. 371). Lights like this flash across the whole story. There is no pretence of describing more than was done by the Second Corps, of which the Twentieth Massachusetts was an organic part, but within that limitation the illustrations are vivid. Examples of such sidelights are the forcing of the Rappahannock and the fight on the right at Fredericksburg, Pickett's repulse at Gettysburg, the negative Mine Run campaign, the operations beyond Deep Bottom, the Ream's Station disaster in August, 1864, and the just eulogy of Warren—who saved the day, perhaps the nation, when the key of Little Round Top was held by the heroic soldier whose genius and courage later preserved the Second Corps at Bristoe and upon whom fell so sad and undeserved a fate when victory was in sight in 1865.

In all this turmoil the regiment is not lost sight of; it is a constant figure in the kaleidoscope of war. So many of its original officers were recent graduates of Harvard that locally it was known as the Harvard regiment. That the nobility of letters compelled to daring is seen in its bloody distinction of being fifth on the roll of those that suffered the heaviest losses of the war. Fifty-five officers and seven hundred and ten men were killed or wounded in action, and at one time but one officer and ten men were left with the colors. It is not invidious to say that it developed a superb military showing under the leadership of Palfrey, Revere, and Abbott; that, besides losing heavily of its young officers in the earlier campaigns, eleven attained the grade of brevet-general, nor to remind the reader that the thrice-wounded Justice Holmes of the Supreme Court was mustered in at its formation. This volume deserves large folded maps to replace the meagre ones it offers, and it is too valuable to remain, like a novel or a fairy tale, without an index.

As volume v. of the "Documentary History of the Constitution" (Department of State, Washington) contains an appendix

and a bibliography, it may be assumed to be the final volume. As such it again raises the question of the purpose and performance of the undertaking. Undoubtedly, the "Documents" relating to the framing and adoption of the Constitution and its amendments would make an interesting and valuable compilation, and those documents are, for the most part, in the Department of State. But by seeking to include what mention of the instrument was to be found in the various collections of private correspondence on deposit in the Department, the editor changed the nature of the work, and has failed to give even what was fit and proper. It is not a documentary history, because a large part of it is composed of extracts from private letters, and documents play a secondary part. It is not a complete history, because it is confined to material found in the Department of State, other sources being entirely ignored. It is not even a final use of this material; because the extracts, torn from their context, mislead rather than instruct, and the form of publication is awkward, even if an index is to follow. It is to be regretted that so costly an issue was not better considered at the outset, and some of these defects obviated. With certain useful features, the five volumes must take their place among the long list of Government undertakings that have failed to show the qualities that make for permanent value.

Ole Bang, the Norwegian actor, who has been much praised for his interpretation of Ibsen's characters in the vernacular, is to play here in English next winter. He is not altogether unknown in this city, having appeared in "Peer Gynt" in the Manhattan Theatre. His English repertory includes a one-act comedy, "Love by Compulsion," "Peer Gynt," and "The Lady and the Burglar." In this last piece he is to play the heroine. It is doubtful whether experiments of this kind are ever worthy the attention of a serious actor. In the Ibsen piece Agnes Mapes will be Solveig and Miss Talcott the Troll.

The indisputable dramatic power displayed by Miss Margaret Anglin in the interpretation of certain phases of emotional excitement has excited curiosity as to the range of her ability. Hitherto her most successful achievements have been mainly along one line of character, and have left the extent of her versatility a matter of uncertainty. Manifestly if she can play other parts as well as she does those of repentant, agonized, and passionately protesting sinners, her artistic value, already considerable, will be much increased. Her programme for her approaching season at the Princess Theatre has the merit of variety. She will be seen first in a piece by Prof. William Vaughan Moody of Chicago, called "The Great Divide," but apparently identical with "A Sabine Woman," which has already had a provincial trial. The main interest lies in the conflict between two strongly contrasted natures and the eventual triumph of love. Here is the ancient "Ingomar" theme with modern variations. Next Miss Anglin will produce "The Eternal Feminine," a romance of antiquity, in which she will be seen as an Amazonian queen; and this will be followed by a revival of "Mrs. Dane's Defence," in which she made one of her

P 1136