

"The Labor Movement in America."

Prof. Richard T. Ely, Associate in Political Economy at Johns Hopkins University, exhibits in this, his latest book, the same tendency to consider very kindly many of the claims of American Socialists which appeared in his late volume on French and German Socialism. He says, distinctly, however, that he is not a Socialist, and in this book he makes no argument either way upon the many subquestions on which he is obliged to touch in describing the progress of the labor movement in America and in sketching the ends proposed by the Socialists. Argument is obviously outside the plan of the work and would swell it to undue size. Yet he makes no attempt to conceal his well-known leaning in favor of his well-known principles, and he demands the most patient and forbearing consideration of the reargument upon those principles which sets out by attempting to recast the science of political economy. This is eminently proper. That which is less extreme than the teachings of Plato and much of which has been lately taught by Herbert Spencer and Stuart Mill, is entitled to the respect of reargument. And these principles, adopted in part as they have been by Henry George and the Knights of Labor, have already obtained such numerous following, that they must be shown to be empty under the light of reason or they will secure the dangerous support of the masses in the dark of unreason.

Prof. Ely disavows in behalf of Socialism any attempt at the equal division of property for a new deal or any sympathy whatever with the Anarchists, whether red or black. He states with fair force the main social idea as requiring certain kinds of property, notably land, to be held and managed by government for its usufruct to be equally enjoyed by every social unit. He gives the history of various American labor organizations, the trades-unions, the Knights of Labor, and the two Anarchist sections, and details their platforms in an interesting appendix. For the Knights of Labor he has the most friendly words. Like them, he deprecates strikes, except as a last resort. Indeed, if practice shall correspond to declarations, the Knights certainly may fill a most useful place in the progress of social evolution. And such books as this will have a special value in correcting the judgment of the outer world concerning them, and perhaps in restraining them from the excesses toward which they have manifested a proclivity. Otherwise than as a collection of illuminating facts this volume is not especially noteworthy. What thinking is displayed is not surprisingly strong or original. But the intention and spirit are good. The book will hurt no man; it should help the thoughts of many.

Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., New York, publishers.

"The Round Year."

Edith M. Thomas contributes a volume of out-of-door papers to the lighter literature of the day. Some of these papers have appeared in the monthly magazines. The author has a poetical temperament. But her prose is better than her poetry. She is a lover of nature and makes the most of her observations. What she observes she describes in felicitous phrases. Writing of the song-sparrow she hits him off in this way: "I hear the song-sparrow practicing his first matins for the year. No wonder his song has been composed to the tinkling of bells! A morn vibrating, resonant quality there is not in the whole choir of Nature's bird voices. His ditty consists of three short introductory notes (embodying the theme of motive perhaps), these three notes translating themselves to my ear in the syllables, 'sweet, sweet, sweet,' with a drawing in of the breath each time, followed by a bewildering succession of delicious tinnulations. From the song-sparrow's manner of perching and addressing himself as to the auditorium, I cannot help thinking that he has been training for the lyric stage. Not long since I was present at a musical duet—not between the poet and nightingale, but between two song-sparrows, distinguished professionals. One I could both see and hear to good advantage. When he had sung his part he stopped, and, with his head cunningly askance, listened to his rival's performance: paying the most jealous attention, and meanwhile revolving some new felicity of his own. Each time he slightly varied the cadence, winding up with a piquant little crocheting, as who should say, 'Can you outdo that, I wonder?' The duet grew more animated with every bout, until the performers, forgetting the etiquette of competition, sang the 'rest,' ineffectually trying to put each other out. A third voice could then be distinguished—probably that of the moderator, or judge who held the waver." The secrets and subtleties of nature in their utmost depth and hardly within reach of the author. Yet she discourses so pleasantly of what she sees and hears, and there is such a suggestion of gentleness, of comradeship that one reads chapter after chapter with a quiet satisfaction, as if the music of birds and brooks were not far off.

Houghton Mifflin & Co., publishers, Boston. For sale by Chilton Beach.

"The Andover Review" for September.

This number contains two or three articles of such ability and interest that they are securing an unusually large share of public attention. The first, fourth and fifth, for instance. "The Preacher as an Interpreter," is the title of the first article, by the Rev. George A. Gordon. "Sketch of William Lynchon," by the Rev. Ezra K. Byington, constitutes the second article. The third is by President Salisbury, on "Some Conclusions Concerning the Education of the American Negro." The fourth, on "Vicarious Sacrifice," is by the Rev. S. F. Hebbard. The fifth, on "The Evolution of Truth," is by the Rev. F. H. Johnson. The "Editorials" are on "The Proper Limits of Luxury," and "The Rights of Young Men in the Missionary Service; considered with Reference to Current Events," one of the vexing, if not "burning," questions of the hour. Under "Biblical and Historical Criticism," Professor Woodruff considers "The Genuineness of the Pastoral Epistles." "The Book Reviews and Notices" embrace "McCosh's Psychology"; "Schuyler's American Diplomacy"; "Robinson's Harmony of the Four Gospels," is Greek—also, in English; "Blake's Soundings"; "Goodale's Gray's Botanical Text-book," Vol. II, "Physiological Botany"; and "Habenicht's, Domann's and Sudecke's Spezial—Haite von Afrika."

"The Making of New England."

The beginnings of history in this country are set forth in this compact volume by Samuel Adams Drake. Its scope is stated in a few lines of the preface. "It aims to occupy a place between the larger and the lesser histories—to condense or eliminate from the exhaustive narrative as to give it greater vitality, or so extend or elucidate what the school history too often leaves obscure for want of space, or to supply the deficiency. So when teachers have a particular topic before them it is intended that a chapter on the same subject be read to fill out the bare outlines of the common school text-book." The narrative here given covers a critical period of discovery and exploration in that part of the country now called New England. There are a great many curious fragments of history, some of which appear to result from recent original researches, and there are some facts of importance which it would be hard to find in any of the larger histories. The illustrations are numerous and very good.

Charles Scribner's Sons, publishers. For sale at the bookstores.

"Longfellow's Prose Works."

"Hyperion," "Kavanagh," and "Outre-Mer" have been so long before the public in many editions, costly and cheap, that no extended review is now required. The prose works, which here appear in two volumes, are part of a uniform edition of all Longfellow's prose and poetry, which, from time to time, has been given to the public. The first part of "Outre-Mer" appeared as early as 1838. "Hyperion" was begun in the year 1838. "Kavanagh" was completed ten years later. The matter in these two volumes embraces the earliest of Longfellow's prose writings which appeared in book form. It only remains to be said that the present edition has been carefully edited, the latest revision having been made as a finality. The neat and broad margins suggest a future binding for the library. Volume I contains an engraved portrait of Longfellow as a young man. The letter-press could hardly be improved.

Houghton, Mifflin & Co., publishers, Boston. For sale by C. Beach.

"Jo's Boys."

Louisa M. Alcott's latest production, "Jo's Boys," presents to the reader the maturer experiences of familiar characters in other works from her pen. These experiences of "Aunt Jo's" boys are varied, and will, no doubt, interest the young, for whom the book is especially intended. While the closing chapter seemingly finally disposes of each of the characters figuring in the narrative, the career of the "boys" is abandoned at a point where it may again be taken up and continued indefinitely. It would not be at all surprising if "Dan"—"Aslan's knight"—should appear again as the hero of another story, although his career is closed with a violent death, as

briefly stated. The young folks who have been charmed with Miss Alcott's previous stories will read "Jo's Boys" with avidity.

Published by Roberts Bros., Boston. For sale by Samuel Carson & Co.

"The Filibuster War in Nicaragua."

C. W. Doubleday, an American citizen of English birth, came to San Francisco from the Tuolumne mines in 1854, took the steamer for San Juan del Sur on the impulse of the moment, found a revolution in progress when he arrived there and, being of an adventurous turn, joined the Revolutionary force with as little consideration of consequences as he had taken in boarding the steamer. Soon after, Walker arrived with his filibusters from San Francisco, and the author took service with him. His book is not so much a history of the campaign carried on by Walker in Central America, as an account of the author's personal experiences therein, although the main features of the struggle are brought out, including a graphic description of the battles of Rivas and Virgin Bay, and other episodes of the conflict. Mr. Doubleday, while remaining attached to Walker's interests up to the time of his final defeat and death, says:

"I yet was always opposed to the insatiable ambition and disregard of public and private rights which characterized his actions in the one dominant pursuit of his life—that is, the attainment of absolute political power."

During the temporary inaction which succeeded the battle of Virgin Bay, Walker to his quiet and confidential mood opened his schemes in detail to Mr. Doubleday. He came to Nicaragua and took the side of the Revolutionary party, which was fighting the aristocracy and the Church party, but that was merely with the view of furthering his own ends:

"In his plan, the present popular movement was to obtain a temporary success in order to demonstrate to the hierarchical oligarchy their necessity for his aid by which he would in the end wield the temporal power over Central America and Mexico, in alliance with the policy and influence of the mother church. This faction and church combined would conquer a unity of power over the Central American States, with himself, of course, as the central figure."

Once united, the old boundary question—were any necessary—would furnish pretexts for adding Mexico to the Central American Empire. The United States, under the domination of southern ideas, which were supposed to be favorable to the measure, could be relied on to withdraw the "Monroe Doctrine," by saying "hands off" to any possible European interference with his scheme.

The impediments of constitutional law were, of course, considered, as mere cobwebs, to be brushed aside by the power which, like Louis XIV, could declare, "I am the State." * * * This scheme included the re-establishment of slavery.

The story is told with spirit and apparently with fairness. In a brief appendix Mr. Doubleday adds his testimony in favor of the Nicaragua Canal project. Much of his campaigning was around the borders of the lake and along the line of the river which forms the greater portion of the contemplated route, and he speaks from an intimate knowledge of the physical conditions of the country. He anticipates that French progress at Panama will cause the Nicaraguans to seek a German alliance in the event of the failure of the United States to take up the project, and that the Germans will gladly close with the proposition and the opportunity of controlling the commerce of two oceans. He says:

Let this question be once fairly discussed, and the alternative presented of an American or a foreign Gibraltar to be established near our coast, an American or a foreign police for the marine gateway of this Continent, and the result would no longer be doubtful.

Published by G. P. Putnam's Son, New York. For sale by A. L. Bancroft & Co.

"The Story of the Nations."

The last number of this series gives the "Story of Carthage," by Prof. Alfred J. Church of University College, London. Lack of material is the principal difficulty in writing of Carthage. The leading commercial city of antiquity, at the height of her power within the classic period of Greece and Rome, has left singularly few data for the use of the historian. Although commerce and industry were the leading pursuits of Carthage, and war with her was merely auxiliary to her business development, her annals are almost purely military, and come down to us through her enemies. The most that is known of her history is from Greek and Roman sources, by virtue of her wars with those people. Of her internal affairs we have little except dim side-lights. It is known that her form of government was oligarchical; that her religion was akin to that of the parent country, Phoenicia, a bloody and mysterious heathenism; that her commerce was almost world-embracing, as the world was then known, and that her material civilization was highly developed; but the details with which to fill in these outlines are wanting. Even her language is almost lost, yet it cannot be inferred from these shortcomings that Carthage was without a literature. The Romans found libraries in the city when they captured and desolated it, but unfortunately they took no measures to preserve them, and they were either destroyed or scattered among the African princes, and lost to civilization and posterity. Whether they contained a native Carthaginian literature or the productions of Greek genius is unknown. In this history Prof. Church has mainly depended upon original authorities—the Greek and Roman historians—though he has also availed himself of the result of modern researches. He separates the mythical and legendary annals of the early ages of the city from those which bear the more authentic stamp of history, preserving and contrasting the two. The story of the wars with the Greeks in Sicily and with the Romans is full and trustworthy, except so far as it may be held open to exceptions by being one-sided and anti-Carthaginian in its nature. So much is briefly given of the internal conditions and commercial and colonial policy of the State as can be gleaned from miscellaneous sources, including a translation of the account of Hanno's voyage of discovery along the west coast of Africa, which is one of the few historical documents from Carthaginian sources which have been preserved. The history closes with the siege and destruction of the city by the Romans and the third Punic War, any account of the building and history of the new Roman Carthage on the site of the ancient metropolis being deemed foreign to the plan of the work. The volume is profusely illustrated with maps, plans and remains of art and architecture.

Published by G. P. Putnam's Son, New York. For sale by A. L. Bancroft & Co.

"Joe Warring at Home."

This is a capital boys' book in Harry Castleman's Forest and Stream Series. "Joe Warring" is a bright and quick-muscled boy of fifteen, a leader in athletics, and the head of some half a dozen clubs in his native village. It is an inland place of summer resort, where the young people of both sexes have organized an archery club, the Toxophilites, and the boys have less fastidious clubs for canoeing and shooting. The games and prize-contests are minutely and happily described. Most of the juvenile sport, however, is gotten out of fishing in small parties of two or three friends each. "Joe" and two of his particular chums take a canvas canoe and their fishing-rods to Indian Lake, a hundred miles away, for a month's outing. Besides the fish for which they come, they find there a squatter and his two big boys, who keep up a bushwhacking war with them, stealing their rods and sinking their canoe, but are finally driven off. The incidents rattle at the heels of each other in Harry Castleman's liveliest style. The boys will say, when it comes their turn for criticism, that he has written no better book.

Published by Porter & Coates, Philadelphia. Sold by Samuel Carson & Co.