

A third volume is out in the beautiful edition of *The Complete Works of Franklin*. It includes about one hundred and twenty letters, mostly private, ranging in date from 1758 to 1766. Those on political affairs are numerous, but there are not a few that treat on homelier matters of domestic life, or on those scientific topics in which Franklin took so lively an interest, How this old philosopher, to whom "strata of the earth," "producing cold by evaporation," "saltness of sea water," and "best mediums of conveying sound," were congenial themes, would have revelled in the times we live in! [G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$5.00.]

The re-issue of old novels, from existing plates, in compact and cheap form, and generally in paper covers, is a constant feature of the book trade. We have this week, in this style, Mary J. Holmes's *'Lena Rivers* [Dillingham. 25c.], a descendant from the last generation; Miss Bradton's *The One Thing Needful* [Rand, McNally & Co. 25c.], in type which is sure to try the eyes of most readers; and Mr. Isaac Henderson's *The Prelate* [Ticknor & Co. 50c.], in dress very like the Riverside Paper Series.

Rand, McNally & Co. are rapidly covering the country with their *Pocket Maps and Shippers' Guide*, State by State, in folded form. Maps of Colorado, Florida, Connecticut, Arkansas, Indian Territory, Louisiana, and Utah, have lately come to hand; to which may be added one of British Columbia. These maps show the railroads, are printed in colors, are generally indexed, and contain much commercial and statistical information. They are well planned. Their execution is not uniform. But they serve their purpose well. Their prices range from 25c. up. [Chicago: Rand, McNally & Co.]

From Mr. Nathan Sheppard, of whose previous books, in considerable variety, we have had occasion to speak, now comes a summer "skit" in paper covers with good illustrations, entitled *Saratoga Chips and Carlsbad Wafers*. It is a very lively book indeed, descriptive of life at these two great watering places, American and German. Mr. Sheppard's humor is sometimes forced, and now and then runs into slang, coarseness, and vulgarity, but you cannot help laughing at his odd way of putting things, his queer comparisons and contrasts, and his terse and epigrammatic characterization. Despite what is silly and flat in it, for the amusement of an idle hour one may go farther and fare worse than to read this book. [Funk & Wagnalls.]