

The Quarterly Journal of Economics for January (Published for Harvard University) easily takes the first place in the Journals and Reviews of the quarter. It adheres to the good old method of publishing papers long enough for the rational discussion of a subject and has not surrendered to the modern notion that twenty briefs of dogmatical opinion are better than four essays. We hope that the new combination of the *Princeton* and the *Political Science* will adhere to the same good method. We have pointed out some of our reasons for dissatisfaction with Prof. Theo. Dwight's review of the legal aspect of the Trust question in the last number of *Political Science*. A more effective correction than

ours is supplied in the opening number of the *Journal of Economics* for January in the paper on "Trusts According to Official Investigations," by E. Benj. Andrews, to which we would earnestly call attention. Professor Hadley's article on "Railroad Business under the Interstate Commerce Act" comes in at the right moment after Mr. Adams' address and the remarks of the Interstate Commission. Mr. Hadley shows that the deplorable results of the Interstate Act were foreseen by men who studied the law carefully; that the developments Mr. Adams dwells on were predicted without reserve in the *Railroad Gazette* of January 14th, 1887. He asserts that the resulting depression of railroad stock may be estimated at \$500,000,000, but anticipates that this state of things will not touch the law-makers very seriously until it tells on railway building and affects transportation. Professor Hadley's remarks on the clause in the law prohibiting pools, its disastrous results and possible consequences, deserve serious attention. The *Presbyterian Review* for January is strong, as usual, in its reviews of theological literature for the quarter. Of the seven papers which form the body of the number Dr. J. A. Hodge contributes one on the "Organization of the Synod of Brazil"; Prof. Herick Johnson, in "A Hundred Years Ago and Now," contributes a cheerful piece of optimism; Prof. J. Mark Baldwin writes on the "Idealism of Spinoza," the Rev. Dr. James Orr on "Assyrian and Hebrew Chronology," the Rev. Dr. H. D. Jenkins discusses the question "Are our Schools godless," with a strong leaning to the conclusion that if they are not they will be very soon. The Rev. William M. Paxton writes on "The Call to the Ministry." The Rev. Dr. Alfred Yeoman's paper, on "The Rights of the Poor," is an extraordinary example of hard sense and socialistic sentiment. He tells us, to begin with, that poverty is not an accident, not a social calamity; "It helps the heart-beat of human society;" the question is not how to abolish but how to utilize it; poor-relief by the state agency does not belong in the domain of charity but of police, and has no loving-kindness in it at all. This is as hard as the hard heart of "Skipper Ireson"

"Torr'd an' futher'r'd an' corr'd in a corr'd By the women o' Marblehead." Accordingly our author melts forth with into a new series of very different propositions: All human creatures have a natural right to live; if all men have a natural right to live, they have a natural right to the means of living; if all men have a right to the means of living, they have a right to what may be needed to sustain their life above the level of intolerable suffering. This is a cockatrice nest, as full of fallacy as of sedition; but before it hatches into anarchy our sociologist makes another turn. He does not abandon his theory of the poor man's right to "seize as best he can by physical force what is withheld by a faithless executive," but he takes all the fire and fury out of his maxims by transferring their enforcement to the realm of conscience where the whole question takes this new shape: The poor man has these rights, but it is not for him to enforce them; that would be anarchy; but his rights determine the duty of other men, and are broadly expressed for the citizen in terms of duty. This is a perfectly solid conclusion, but it cannot be applied to any such barum-scurum definition of the poor man's rights as that given above. Our sociologist might learn this in a minute if some ne'er-do-well in his vicinity should present him with a bill of things absolutely necessary to make his life tolerable, and press him to pay on this doctrine, that the poor man's rights translate into other men's duties. The question is not what the poor man wants, but what he can have and how to get the greatest good from what he can have. The right to live, to have the means of living, and to have enough to make life tolerable, is limited by the stern law of reality and of the possible. Where so limited Dr. Yeoman's proposition is not only sound but admirable: Rights then mean duties, and the right of other men is translated into terms of duty for us.—The *Presbyterian Quarterly* (South), after a number of interesting papers in the general line of the Review, publishes a powerful statement, by James D. Armstrong, of the difficulties in the way of settling the property question before organic union can be accomplished between the now divided Northern and Southern branches of the Presbyterian Church. The paper is one of much force and legal ability, whether conclusive or not. We note with interest in this number a brilliant review of the Shakespeare-Bacon controversy

by W. S. Carroll, Ph.D. The *Popular Science Monthly* is numerous, brief and pithy as usual in its contents for January. Without reflection on the excellence and interest of the other numbers we wish to call attention to Edward R. Shaw's paper on "Inventional Geometry" as one which might be overlooked tho it relates to a step in mathematical study the value of which we have had occasion to test and to know.—The *Church Eclectic* for January contains the usual amount and variety of original and selected matter, Miscellany, Correspondence, General Notes and Summaries. We note a curious oversight in the paper on "Apollos" and "The Way," by the Rev. Walker Gwynne. In commenting on the assertion (Acts xviii) that Aquila and Priscilla took Apollos and expounded to him "The Way of God more perfectly," Mr. Gwynne correctly assumes that this expression, the Way, passed out of use before the second century, but he adds that it is not to be found in the doctrinal sense of the body of Christian believers, or rather, of their doctrine, in any early non-canonical writing nor, indeed, in the later books of the New Testament. Has Mr. Gwynne never seen the "Teaching of the Apostles"? In that document "the Way" is used again and again in precisely the same sense as in the Acts and as a term of the common Christian vernacular.

American Weather. Gen. A. W. Greely, Chief Signal Officer, U. S. A. (Dodd, Mead & Co. \$2.50.) Public confidence in the United States Weather Bureau has of late been so much shaken as to require some reassurance that the art of weather prediction rests on a scientific basis, and not on a mere calculation of chances. Some persons have been tempted to see in the Service a Signal Failure Bureau, whose whole theory was a flat contradiction of the Scripture: "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh and whither it goeth." As usual in cases of this kind, the burden of blame must be divided between the Bureau which has not always been up to the mark and the public which has looked to it for more than it had any right to expect. On both of these points General Greely's volume is explicit; it shows how far the science of meteorology has progressed toward definite predictions, and what basis of assured principles and systematic observations it has to rest on. It furnishes criteria by which the Bureau itself may be judged, and an intelligent opinion formed as to the efficiency of the Service. Exactly what General Greely proposed to do is defined in the subtitle of his book, "A popular exposition of the phenomena of the weather, including chapters on Hot and Cold Waves, Blizzards, Hailstorms, Tornadoes, etc., etc., illustrated with thirty-two engravings and twenty-four charts." The most striking feature of the book, tho intimated in the main title, is omitted from the sub-title, that it primarily concerns "American Weather." The tables, charts and illustrations are for this country, and the problem discussed and in a measure solved is stated in terms which apply to the climatic, geographic and physiographic conditions of the North American continent. The opening chapters are elementary and as such require no notice. A very considerable portion of the remainder is the application of familiar meteorological principles to facts and conditions existing in the United States. This is, however, a service of much practical importance and one that requires such a high degree of skill and practiced acquaintance with the complex details of the problem that only a few professed meteorologists are competent to render it in the best manner. Indeed, we may say that this concrete application of the theories and general principles of meteorology to the problem existing in the United States is the special merit of the volume before us. It is quite impossible for us to give our readers any description of these chapters, and we shall leave them to examine them for themselves. There are some points in the volume, however, which should not be passed over. We would call attention as among the best parts of the book to the skillful and highly satisfactory exhibition of the meteorological conditions which lead to the local peculiarities of climate in the different parts of the country, to the summary of weather maxims on which ordinary predictions for the next twenty-four hours may be based, with the reasons for them, and perhaps more than all the closing chapter in which the author discusses the question how far the best-managed bureau can predict coming weather. As to prediction days or weeks in advance, whatever the future may have

in store, that cannot be done now with any confidence. The supposed influence of the sun's spots on our planetary weather is discussed thoroughly and shown to be wholly a fiction. Nothing is said on the vexed question of lunar influence on the weather. The great majority of our storms originate in the Saskatchewan region. They move more rapidly in the United States than anywhere in the world, and increase the velocity of their movement regularly with the increasing cold of winter, attaining the maximum velocity in February. Local weather is an element which greatly disturbs the daily reports of the Bureau. Indications that may be right for Pittsburg might be very much out for Cleveland, and tho the course of storms is generally the same, they sometimes veer off on lines which destroy the calculations. On the whole, General Greely's last word is that the Bureau has to do with phenomena whose causes are not yet fully understood. But that enough is known for an average line of prediction, which proves right in very many cases, nearly right in very many more, and, on the whole, right enough to be an incalculable convenience to everybody and the salvation of some.

Christianity According to Christ. John Monro Gibson, M.A., D.D. (Robert Carter & Brothers, \$1.75.) This is an English book bearing the imprimatur of an excellent American house and the work of a thoughtful English divine who has been heard of in this country before. Viewed from a practical point of view as a contribution to practical religion and the Christian ethics of daily life, the series of papers in this volume is to be wholly commended. Readers whose conception of life and duty rests on an intellectual basis of defined ideas or distinct facts require something more definite than the theory on which this book is unfolded would permit them to hope for. It is all very well when we are dealing with religion in the practical form of a daily ministrations, employing it as food for the hungry, comfort for the distressed, a voice to rouse conscience, or in other such ways, to take a very simple course and to employ very simple terms. But after all, Christianity without a definite theology would be a house on the sand. Dr. Gibson observes very truly that the word Trinity is not named in the New Testament tho its substance is implied in the whole New Testament revelation of God. If this is true why should we stop at the vague form given to us in a general implication? Why should we not advance to a clear definition of all these implications? Nothing is gained even for the simple and the unlearned by vagueness. The volume before us has an example. If the Trinity is above the grasp of ordinary people what shall be said of the doctrines earnestly pressed by Dr. Gibson of the believer's "Union with Christ"? Is this an altogether intelligible matter? A great theologian has said that if he could understand the doctrine of the *unio mystica* he could understand the Atonement. We apprehend that "Christianity according to Christ" like Christian theology, if compelled to deal in definite terms would prove to have heights and depths in it which are not for babes.

A Grammar of the Latin Language for the Use of Schools and Colleges, by E. A. Andrews and S. Stoddard; revised by Henry Preble, Assistant Professor of Greek and Latin at Harvard University. (Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.12.) Students who were brought up on the Latin grammar out of which this volume has grown would find little in it to remind them of the old *vademecum* from which so many of them acquired about all they knew of Latin grammar and English alike. The revision is radical and thorough. The old work is not wholly swept away, but what remains is certainly not enough to support the rule as it used to be upheld in the old grammar with formidable lists of exceptions which seemed to give the lie to every rule directly it was learned. A close inspection shows, however, that many excellent features of the old manual are retained. The English pronunciation of Latin is wholly dropped. Prosody has lost its rules of quantity and shrunk to a scheme of figured meters. The subjunctive is greatly simplified and illuminated. Word formation receives a new treatment, relative clauses, conditional clauses, and the order of words in the Latin sentences are wholly reconstructed. The verb is presented on a different and simpler scheme.

Geological Survey of New Jersey. Final Report of the State Geologist. Geo. H. Cook, Geologist, Vol. I. This opening volume of the final report on the Geological Survey of New Jersey contains the report on "Topography," "Magnetism" and

"Climate," and is illustrated with numerous maps and diagrams.—*Mineral Resources of the United States*. David T. Day, Chief of Division of Mining Statistics and Technology. (Government Printing Office.) This is the United States Report on the mineral resources of the country as they stood at the end of the Calendar Year 1887, and the features of our principal mining industries as they stood at that time. The report up to December 31st, 1888, will be ready for publication soon.—*National Educational Association Journal of Proceedings and Addresses*. (Published by the Association, James H. Canfield, Secretary, Topeka, Kansas.) This report, which makes a thick octavo volume, is mainly devoted to the preservation of papers and addresses on schools and education. They are systematically arranged, and represent all phases and departments of the public school work.

The most comprehensive named of all exercises, employments and amusements for girls we have yet seen is *The Girl's Own Indoor Book*, edited by Charles Peters, and, tho of English origin, issued by the Lippincott Co., Philadelphia, in connection with the Religious Tract Society of London. It is, as claimed on the title-page, a "Practical help to girls on all matters relating to their material comfort and moral well-being." It is published in fourteen chapters on as many special topics, prepared by persons exceptionally qualified for the work. In this way the field is covered with good matter from "Girlhood" to the closing section on "The Higher Life," with "Recreations," "Cookery," "Health," "Needlework," "Accomplishments," "Music," "Art," "Education," "Remunerative Work," coming between. It will be seen from this sketch of the contents that the volume is not wholly a manual of recreation, or the lighter kinds of activity, but a young woman's manual in the broadest sense. (Lippincott Co. \$1.75.)

The Bible and Land. James B. Converse. (Published by the author, Morristown, Tenn. \$1.00.) There is nothing new in this little treatise. It proceeds from an author with plenty of brain but with deficient knowledge. Its remarks on the Mosaic tenure of land are correct enough but have no special application. Henry George has made a careful study of the Mosaic land laws and is believed to have been deeply affected by them. Mr. Converse is abundantly able to work his way through the socialistic fallacy of the "unearned increment" to Mill's very just conclusion that on the whole it must belong to the owner of the property. He, however, imagines that it belongs to him by a priori right and not as Mill affirms on the requirement of sound social policy and convenience. As to the doctrine of values and wages he is all at sea tho in the confusion to which his logic conducts he occasionally gets a glimpse of the fact that it is not labor that creates value but utility, demand, relation to market, etc.

Pen and Ink Papers on Subjects of More or Less Importance. Brander Matthews. (Longmans, Green & Co.) A better example of brilliant and recreative reading cannot be desired than we have in the bundle of varieties bound up in this well-made little volume. The papers have been published before in one periodical and another; but they are far too good to be allowed to wither on their separate stems. Assembled in the one family of a good book we do not wonder that the author was willing to say in his piquant little preface that he liked them, and published them because he liked them. Brief as the booklet is it is not too brief to contain in "Poker-talk" one most amusing piece of ethical effrontery and three brilliant examples of literary criticism in "The Philosophy of the Short Story," "Two Latter-day Lyriks" and "The Songs of the Civil War."

Theological Essays. Richard Holt Hutton. (Macmillan & Co. \$1.50.) This is the third edition of these thoughtful and conservative discussions. Mr. Hutton is a disciple of Maurice and in these essays discusses the questions of the times from the Mauritian point of view. This volume contains the extended essay introductory to the second edition. As a whole these papers are among the most thoughtful and suggestive which modern liberal orthodoxy has produced.—*Sesame and Lilacs*. John Ruskin. (John Wiley & Sons. \$1.00.) This edition bears the date of 1888 and is reprinted from the third English with notes and extracts from Ruskin's other works for the reading especially of girls. It contains "Of King's Treasures," "Of Queen's Gardens," "Of the Mystery of Life,"

On Horseback; a Tour in Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee, with Notes of Travel in Mexico and California. Charles Dudley Warner., (Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.25.) Neither Mr. Warner's humor nor his picturesque style fail him in this volume. It is delightfully interspersed with literary allusion, and shows on every page the keen observation, the hard sense and the imperturbable good nature which the world over are characteristic of the American traveler.