

WAR AND LABOR. *By Michael Aniebkow.* (New York: Longmans, Green & Co. \$5.00.) This book is a distinct disappointment. The inter-relations of war and labor form a subject of vast interest and importance—a theme on which there might well be made, in this day, some permanent contribution to the world's thought. But this author, tho he requires 578 pages to give his message, has furnished little that bears directly on his subject. On each of numberless statements and conclusions advanced the reader will pertinently make comment: "This may be true enough, but what has it got to do with the matter?" We cheerfully concede the author the possession of a tremendous amount of erudition, tho some of it, we must sorrowfully say, is exceedingly bad erudition. He has read widely, and in some cases thoroughly; but when, for instance, he refers to "America's war for independence in 1812" and to our "two wars with Mexico," he gives striking proof of how much more estimable it is to know a few things well than to know many things badly. His spelling of well-known names is inexplicable. Karl Marx appears invariably as "Carl Marks;" Schäffle appears in many guises, but rarely in the right one. Hugo Grotius suffers "a sea-change into something rich and strange," and becomes "Gracius." Perhaps the best of these alterations is that of the name of Ricardo, who shines forth as "Richard." No printer or proofreader can possibly be blamed for the reiteration of such errors. The author's English is also surprising; it constantly suggests the craftsman working in an unfamiliar material. But worse than his construction is his use of a terminology never before employed, we believe, in political science. When, for example, he speaks of "Government economy" he does not mean cheapness of ad-

ministration, but State intervention in industry. One could cover this page with similar instances. A careful reading of the volume from cover to cover reveals the author's general proposition as this: that increased deadliness of armaments does not lessen the chances of war; but that free trade and free migration would do so.

THE BOOK OF SUN-DIALS. *Originally compiled by the late Mrs. Alfred Gatty. Now enlarged and re-edited by H. K. F. Eden and Eleanor Lloyd. Cloth. Decorated cover. Rubricated title page. Gilt top. Small folio. Pages 329.* (New York: The Macmillan Company. Price, \$10.00.) *The Book of Sun-Dials* was originally written by Mrs. Gatty, who died in 1873. It is now re-issued, with the incorporation of a mass of new material from the hands of Mrs. Gatty's daughter and her former associate, Miss Lloyd. There is no human invention more ancient or more interesting than is the one which has so magnificently inspired the present volume. The research upon the subject of Sun Dials revealed in the book has been omniverous and exhaustive, and the text leaves little, of the smallest interest, untold in the field covered by it. Sun Dials of all ages, nations and countries pass illustratively and descriptively before the reader as moving pictures with the turning of the book's pages, and the published achievements of specialism in Sun Dials are of necessity more or less comprehended in reading. Dial mottoes, considered by Charles Lamb to have been even more affecting than epitaphs, have been painstakingly collected and tabulated, and instruction in the very construction of these superannuated time markers is provided, so that the present book absorbed and mastered, one is rightfully entitled to a certificate of proficiency, or, if you please, to a Sun Dial Diploma. To many the Sun Dial is now entirely unknown, and yet once (in 1776) it figured upon the nation's currency together with the very terse motto, "Mind Your Business." The few among us with personal recollections of utilitarian Sun Dials know them only as geometrical instruments, generally sadly lacking as to ornamental garnishment, even as was the case pictorially upon the continental currency. During the art treas-

ure period of the Renaissance, however, the best Sun Dials were not thus lacking in the beautiful. On the contrary, they were objects exceedingly decorative, as some notable survivals very plainly show. The book is handsomely and effectively illustrated, and conspicuously shows what can be accomplished by enthusiasts. It immediately takes its deserved place as standard.

MEMOIRS OF THE COUNTESS POTOCKA. *Edited by Casimir Stryienski. Authorized Translation by Lionel Strachey. Illustrated.* (New York: Doubleday, McClure & Co. \$3.00.) This large volume is attractive reading. It is brimming over with vivacity altogether charming. The author, who belonged to a Polish royal family, gives her reminiscences with a certain *chic* and tact which bear the reader lightly along. Napoleon and a large number of important political personages are chatted about, and the events great and small of a most stirring historical period are mixed up with those delightful trivialities with which a woman, and especially a French woman, is wont to amuse herself even in the midst of revolutions, massacres and reigns of terror. The memoirs were written at Warsaw and in the French capital, and have much to do with social affairs, balls, parties, salons and intrigue. The countess had a long life, the latter part of which was gaily spent in Paris. She seems to have been a good woman, much sought after. She died at the age of ninety-one.

A WOMAN TENDERFOOT. *By Grace Gallatin Seton-Thompson* (New York: Doubleday, Page & Co. \$2.00). The author of *A Woman Tenderfoot* is the wife of Mr. Ernest Seton-Thompson, whose out-of-doors books have been so successful. Mrs. Seton-Thompson may well stand upon her own merits, however, for her work carries with it a generous vivacity and a compelling personal influence. The sketches cover numerous phases of a woman's experience in camp and by field and flood in many of the wildest regions of the West. Mrs. Thompson rode and tramped gun in hand; she shot wild game; she associated with professional woodsmen and hunters; she killed a rattlesnake with a frying-pan; she robbed dead Indians of their rings and other trinkets—indeed, she did

many surprising things. And she describes them all with an enthusiasm that is infectious. The book is profusely and beautifully illustrated.

RUSSIA AND THE RUSSIANS. By *Edmund Noble*. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Company. \$1.50). The interest at present abroad touching all that pertains to Russia and all that her motives and policies may signify attaches at once to a book like this. Mr. Noble does not attempt exhaustive history, but he makes a good, clear, strong sketch in which we see the main outlines of Russian national evolution, and from which we receive a valuable impression of Slavonic life and tendencies. The style of the book is not good. Split infinitives and other marks of carelessness mar the diction. Still the information most useful to the student is forcibly given. A good index renders aid to the hurried reader.

THE MONITOR AND THE NAVY UNDER STEAM. By *Frank M. Bennett*. (Boston. Houghton, Mifflin & Company. \$1.50.) This is a short, clear and measurably complete history of the "Monitor" and the revolution in naval operations and naval architecture which has followed the successful introduction of iron-clad steam war ships. The author, while handling his subject with a view to the popular understanding, gives many drawings which show in a scientific way the progressive steps of invention and construction. We are led along the path of science from the "Monitor" to the "Oregon" and the armored cruiser "New York." Meantime the history of the United States Navy as a great war machine is admirably sketched. Many illustrations accompany the text, and there is a full index.

THE WILD ANIMAL PLAY FOR CHILDREN. *With Alternate Reading for Very Young Children.* By *Ernest Seton-Thompson*. (Philadelphia: The Curtis Publishing Company. 50 cents.) This is a little play in which animals are supposed to be the *dramatis personæ*. Children take the parts and dress themselves to represent the various animals. The drama is a lively one, and will furnish good amusement. Excellent illustrations showing the characters in their wild costumes serve to suggest the make-up necessary to a proper presentation. It is a very attractive book for the holidays.