

in many colleges, when he says (p. 149), "Elementary studies are not maturing studies: they do not make the fibre of a student firm. To studies of a solidifying sort the last years should be devoted. I should like to forbid seniors to take any elementary study whatever, and to forbid juniors all except philosophy, political economy, history, fine arts, Sanscrit, Hebrew, and law. Under such a rule, we should graduate more men who would be first-rate at something; and a man who is first-rate at something is generally pretty good at any thing."

Professor Palmer's forceful thinking is interpreted by a lucid style, which adds greatly to its charm. No one interested in our American colleges can afford to leave the book unread.

N. M. B.

#### NOTES AND NEWS.

THE 'Bibliography of the Eskimo Language,' by James C. Pilling, is the first of a series of bibliographies of American languages which will be published as bulletins of the Bureau of Ethnology. A few years ago Mr. Pilling published a bibliography of North American languages, of which a limited number of copies were printed. The material has so rapidly increased in the hands of the author as to make a revised edition desirable. We consider the new form of the publication a great improvement, as the division of the material according to linguistic stocks makes the volumes handier. The arrangement of the material is alphabetic, both the names of the authors and the titles of the works being given. Thus the finding of any desired material is made very easy. Particularly valuable are the cross-references given under the heading of 'Greenland,' 'Aleut,' and other localities or tribes, and those under the heading of 'grammar' and 'vocabulary,' as they contain all material on these subjects. Mr. Pilling has comprised in his bibliography, books which contain only occasional remarks on Eskimo dialects in the text, though no connected accounts of the language are given. This made the compilation very difficult, as the material of this kind is scattered over an enormous literature. Notwithstanding this difficulty, Mr. Pilling has succeeded in bringing together an enormous amount of material. We do not think that many works of great importance are omitted, though the number of works containing remarks on Eskimo dialects might be considerably enlarged. We miss the important vocabulary of Rev. Gasté from Chesterfield Inlet, which was published by Petitot. Furthermore, the earliest records of the Eskimo language are older than Pilling states. In the description of the second voyage of Martin Frobisher, which was published in 1577, we find the name of a chief, 'Catchoe,' mentioned. In the 'Second Voyage attempted by Master John Davis, with others, for the Discovery of the North-west Passage, in anno 1586,' which was published in Hakluyt's, 'Principall Navigations,' 1589, a brief vocabulary is given. But these are slight defects which are unavoidable in a bibliography. The work will be indispensable for the student of Arctic ethnology and philology.

— The following is a list of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey parties in the field, or assigned to field-duty, for the present season: Prof. George Davidson, primary triangulation in southern California, and in charge of work on Pacific coast; C. O. Boutelle, reconnaissance for triangulation to furnish points for State survey, Minnesota; H. L. Whiting, directing work of State survey, Massachusetts, and survey of Vineyard Sound, etc.; A. F. Rodgers, physical hydrography, San Diego Bay, and topography south coast of California; G. A. Fairfield, transcontinental triangulation in Indiana; J. S. Lawson, primary triangulation in California; C. Rockwell, topographical reconnaissance, coast of Oregon; W. H. Dennis, topographical reconnaissance, Long Island Sound; A. T. Mosman, transcontinental triangulation in Ohio; J. W. Donn, topography, District of Columbia; C. H. Boyd, triangulation, coast of Maine; Charles Hosmer, topography, coast of Maine; C. T. Iardella, topography, Long Island; R. E. Halter, in charge Magnetic Observatory, Los Angeles, Cal.; Gershom Bradford, triangulation in Massachusetts, furnishing points for State survey; H. L. Marindin, physical hydrography, New York Bay; William Einebeck, transcontinental triangulation in Utah; F. W. Perkins, reconnaissance for triangulation in Indiana; J. J. Gilbert, triangulation

and topography, Washington Territory; Stehman Forney, topography, southern California; O. H. Tittmann, triangulation, coast of Maine; F. D. Granger, transcontinental triangulation, Kansas; Edwin Smith, telegraphic longitudes, Western States; Eugene Ellicott, topography, coast of Maine; E. F. Dickens, triangulation and topography, coast of Oregon; W. I. Vinal, survey Vineyard Sound, etc.; J. F. Pratt, triangulation and topography, Washington Territory; J. B. Baylor, magnetic work, Northern States; C. H. Sinclair, telegraphic longitudes, Western States; C. H. Van Orden, triangulation, Massachusetts; W. C. Hodgkins, topography, District of Columbia; R. A. Marr, re-survey Vineyard Sound; J. E. McGrath, levelling New York harbor; E. L. Taney, re-survey Vineyard Sound, etc.; J. H. Gray, topography, coast of Maine. Prof. George Davidson is just completing a new edition of the 'Pacific Coast Pilot' (to include the coasts of California, Oregon, and Washington Territory), about eight hundred pages of which have been received at the Coast Survey office, ready for the printer.

— The cable informs us that a letter from Emin Pacha dated Feb. 10, 1887, has been received. It seems that the attitude of King Mwanga towards Emin is far more friendly than some time ago, for Emin says that he hopes to make his retreat from his province by way of Unyoro. If he shall have succeeded in doing so, Stanley will be too late; but it is more probable that Emin, on hearing of Stanley's expedition in Unyoro or Uganda, will stay on the Mvuta Nsige, and await his arrival, or will try to meet him.

— We learn from *The Athenæum* that the government of India have undertaken a topographical survey of the native states of Travancore, Pudukota, and Cochin. The last survey was made seventy years ago. Some of the mountainous tracts of Travancore and Cochin are still absolutely blank, so that there will be much original work to be done.

— Professor Helmholtz, says *The Athenæum*, has been appointed president of the *Kuratorium* of the Physical and Technical Imperial Institute, which is to be opened at Berlin in 1888. Dr. Werner Siemens, who laid the foundation of the institute by his liberal gift, and Dr. Förster, the director of the Berlin Observatory, will also be curators.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*\*\* The attention of scientific men is called to the advantages of the correspondence columns of SCIENCE for placing promptly on record brief preliminary notices of their investigations. Twenty copies of the number containing his communication will be furnished free to any correspondent on request.*

*The editor will be glad to publish any queries consonant with the character of the journal.*

*Correspondents are requested to be as brief as possible. The writer's name is in all cases required as proof of good faith.*

#### Temperance-Teaching.

MY attention has been called to the article on temperance, in *Science* of July 29. As evidence that I have given the subject some thought, I enclose you a copy of questions used last April in the schools of my county, in which no reference is made to stimulants or narcotics. I am inclined to think that constant reference to these subjects may tempt some of that age to a trial, in order to satisfy themselves if the sensation is as represented. General Grant says, "I know from my own experience, that, when I was at West Point, the fact that tobacco in every form was prohibited, and the mere possession of the weed severely punished, made the majority of the cadets, myself included, try to acquire the habit of using it."

JNO. TERHUNE.

Hackensack, N. J., Aug. 1.

#### Audubon's Grave.

THE Audubon matter stands about thus: the great ornithologist is buried in an old family vault, not in the best order, at the extreme south-west corner of Trinity Cemetery. Only the name 'Audubon' over the door gives any indication.

Some street alterations are to be made ere long, which will cut close to this vault. An offer has been made by the trustees of the cemetery, and accepted by the Audubon family, to remove the remains, and place them in a plot (granted for the purpose) at the head of Audubon Avenue. The movement now proposed is to raise funds among the ornithologists for a worthy monument to mark the spot. The orphan grand-daughters are not able to do