

knowledge which forms the pride of our civilization, and using methods that are in direct antagonism to the teachings of modern educational science. What he asks is, that the *Realschule*, where science is represented and the classics find but a small place, shall be placed on equal footing with the *Gymnasium*; that its certificate be on a par with that of the *Gymnasium* as a credential for entering the university and as a step toward official advancement. When the two systems are allowed to compete on equal terms, a healthy rivalry will give each its proper position in the educational system.

In support of this position, Professor Preyer recounts some interesting facts. In the first place, the present constitution of the *Gymnasium* is complained of. It puts too much strain on book-knowledge, on memory-cram, on non-useful accumulation of dead words, and allows no place to fresh, living facts. A very small portion (only about fifteen per cent) go through the *Gymnasium* and receive the mark of proficiency, and many of these are older than they should be. The school must be arranged so that the majority of the pupils pass the examination with credit. Their physical health suffers, as is shown very conclusively by the number of rejections for the military service. The number suffering from shortsightedness (*myopia*) is startling. Furthermore, the university professors are very rapidly coming to prefer students who have some practical training; and more than half have, in answer to a circular, expressed themselves in favor of placing the two schools on an equal footing. The students of the sciences are increasing, in recent years very rapidly; and yet the whole world of science must accept all such recognitions of its disciplinary and culture value as patronizing concessions from the powerful 'dead-word' scholars. Professor Preyer wants no concessions, but a complete recognition that the 'new education' offers a training at least as valuable, from a practical as well as a humanitarian standpoint, as the traditional schooling of Germany.

As the charge is often brought that the objectors do not state what they want, but only what they object to, the author sketches a plan of school which he regards as in harmony with the needs of modern life and the teachings of a sound physiology. "Much more time must be devoted in the schools to character-building, that is, to moral education and to physical culture, and much less to instruction, that is, memory work." First of all, he asks a thorough systematic course in the mother-tongue, so that every young man can express himself correctly and promptly, can write a satisfactory letter, and arrange what he has to say so that it is readily understood,—an accomplishment very rare among present university students. He wants a sound course in general practical ethics; a good knowledge of French and English; a drill in *Heimatskunde*, so that every German knows his own country; a careful instruction in history; a systematic training of the senses and observing powers, by drawing, by manual skill, by scientific tasks of all kinds,—mathematics, physics, chemistry, and physiology. In addition, the hygienic condition of schools and scholars should be under the official charge of a physician, whose special duty it shall be to prevent the many causes of mental breakdown now so prevalent.

The usual counter-arguments, that our culture is staked upon that of Greece and Rome, that these things are necessary for their culture-power, etc., Professor Preyer admits, as far as they mean that every opportunity should be given to study them, but entirely opposes when it is held that *all* must study them without reference to their future career. Those who believe in the 'new education' must now, like Professor Preyer, send their sons to the *Gymnasium* to spend years in (to them) comparatively useless instruction, spoiling their powers for fresh fact investigation, and then suddenly emerge in the sphere of university freedom where they attempt to forget their previous word-lore, and strive to re-adjust themselves to a new field of activity; must do this in order to secure for their sons the entry into the full privileges of the university and the governmental appointments. The removal of this restraint he regards as a national necessity, and sees the fate of Germany hanging upon its speedy adjustment to the needs of modern living.

One sees from this pamphlet that the Germans have their educational problems still to work out, and must go through bitter controversies before advance is realized, quite as much as we in

America. Our institutions are younger and more plastic: they should accordingly be in the van of the 'new education.'

M. Tulli Ciceronis Cato Major et Lælius. With an Introduction and Commentary by Austin Stickney, A.M. (Harper's Classical Series, under the editorial supervision of HENRY DRISLER, LL.D.) New York, Harper. 12°.

PROFESSOR DRISLER is laying classical instructors under great obligation to him by providing them with a series of text-books whose editors have kept always in view the practical needs of the college class-room. In so many of the editions of Greek and Latin authors lately issued from the press, both in England and this country, there is an attempt on the part of the editors to overwhelm the student with a display of erudition whose only effect is to discourage him from any attempt to search for the notes that he really needs, but which are only to be found *nantes in gurgite vasto*. In the series now publishing, however, in which Professor Stickney's volume is the seventh, the results of careful and scholarly investigation are set forth without any unnecessary and tiresome recapitulation of details, that are of course interesting to the critical linguist, but of no importance to the undergraduate, for whom these volumes are primarily designed.

Professor Stickney has, in the 'Cato Major et Lælius,' given us a companion to his excellent edition of the 'De Officiis,' and one that exhibits the same good judgment and knowledge of the needs of the class-room. The notes are admirably selected, concisely given, and amply illustrated. Of course, after what Mr. Reid has done in his masterly edition of these two treatises, one does not look for much original matter; but a great deal that Mr. Reid discusses and illuminates with the light of his own very elegant scholarship is of interest only to the critical student of Cicero, and presupposes an extensive acquaintance with that author. Professor Stickney's purpose is a different one. Conciseness is his object; and the only criticism that one can reasonably make is, that brevity is sometimes gained at the expense of strict accuracy of statement, as in the note on *quo . . . viæ* (vi. 16), where the true locative force and form are ignored in his explanation; while in the same chapter the interesting form *cedo* is passed over with a mere translation. So, too, Cicero's blundering derivation of *occasio* is allowed to stand, and the famous *viam quam . . . ingrediundum sit* is dismissed with the perfunctory remark that it is "an archaism," though any fifth-form boy of an inquiring turn of mind would feel a genuine interest in a fuller explanation.

The orthography of the book is, in the main, that of C. F. W. Müller's edition, and is consistent and Ciceronian,—a delightful contrast with that of so many school editions published in this country. The few changes which Professor Stickney has introduced are, on the whole, improvements upon the Leipzig text.

H. T. P.

Die Kunst Glücklich zu Sein. Von PAUL MANTEGAZZA. Jena. (Translated from the Italian.)

WE have recently become very much interested in the personal characteristics of eminent men. So many of us feel that the changed conditions of modern life carry with them so entire a re-adjustment of habits and views, that many of the commonly accepted guides for conduct are no longer applicable. We thus look about to see how men wiser than ourselves have solved these old yet ever new problems. A prominent magazine has recently collected short accounts of the education of living scholars. In a similar autobiographical strain they have discussed the 'objects of life,' and from what literary resources they drew most aid. Sir John Lubbock reveals his practical philosophy by discoursing upon the 'pleasures of life.'

In the above little volume the eminent Italian anthropologist, Mantegazza, expounds in a highly entertaining manner his optimistic life-philosophy. The author has no sympathy with the view that this life is a vale of tears: he believes that the good is the promotion of life. Health and morality are both life-favoring, and both lead to happiness. Practically, happiness is rare because it is hunted after too eagerly and too consciously, and not quietly enjoyed by the way; again, because it is regarded as implying the satisfaction of all wishes, while such a condition would really lead

to a state of stagnation. There is an art of being happy, a very essential part of which is the power to enjoy the little every-day comforts of living, and the absence of excessive worry about the morrow. To assure the reader that all this is not simply theory, the author plainly announces that he is happy. This is indeed a healthy optimism, and, if happiness is at all a scientific topic, the anthropologist is entitled to an authoritative voice in the matter. But one cannot escape the conviction, even in the midst of the most glowingly pictured pages, that the balmy air of Italy has allowed the poet to run away with the scientist, and that the problem of living is not so simple as we would like it to be. Be this as it may, these pages contain the very interesting observations of a very interesting man.

Winter: From the Journal of Henry D. Thoreau. Ed. by H. G. O. BLAKE. Boston and New York, Houghton, Mifflin, & Co. 12°.

THIS volume is the third that has been made of selections from its author's journal. This singular man withdrew to a great extent from the interests and the society of his fellow-men, and devoted himself to the contemplation of nature. He was a naturalist; yet there is very little of scientific interest in the volume before us. He blames men of science for giving too exclusive attention to the physical structure of animals, with too little regard for their mental characteristics and their habits of life; yet he has not much to say on these subjects himself. He was evidently more interested in the æsthetic aspect of nature than in the scientific, though he shows but little insight into the deeper poetical significance of natural objects. His remarks run largely on the trivial every-day aspects of things, such as the tracks of animals on the snow, the appearance of buds and catkins in the winter, and the bark of the yellow birch; and he goes into ecstasies over the humming of a telegraph wire, which he declares to be superior to all the poetry of antiquity (p. 106). The journal is full of complaints about the loss of early friendships, several of Thoreau's friends having become estranged from him, which he seems to have been at loss to account for. But surely a man who took so little interest in human affairs as he seems to have done could hardly expect very warm sympathy from others. The journal contains many observations on moral and intellectual matters, which are often of much higher value than the descriptions of natural objects that make up the greater part of the work. The author's delineation of the character of Washington is correct and well expressed, and he has several remarks here and there on the subject of authors and authorship which are quite interesting. Thoreau's style is generally clear and refined, both in descriptive and in reflective passages; and if he had had a higher purpose in life, and more interest in the affairs of men, he might have been an eminent author.

Natural Law in the Business World. By HENRY WOOD. Boston, Lee & Shepard. 16°.

THE author of this work is a practical business-man, and writes throughout from a practical point of view. He disclaims all pretension to scientific profundity, yet he shows a clear grasp of scientific principles and of their relations to the business world. He speaks of his work as "an honest attempt to trace out the working and application of natural law, as it runs through the economic and social fabric, in a plain and simple manner" (p. 5). The attempt, we think, is in the main successful. The author's style is direct and clear, and his method of treatment better fitted to win the attention of practical but unscientific minds than the method of the regular economists.

The main thesis of the book is the supremacy in industry of the law of supply and demand, and the necessity of adherence to this law as a condition of industrial prosperity. Many other subjects, however, are treated in the various chapters, which cover a wide range of topics. Mr. Wood is strongly opposed to labor combinations, partly because of their antagonism to capital, and partly because they are sometimes unjust to non-unionists, and because, as he thinks, they unduly restrict the individual freedom of their own members. In condemning them so strongly as he does, we think he goes too far, for he seems to have judged them almost exclusively by their bad side, without regard to the benefits which may

and often do result from them. He shows, however, a lively interest in the laborers themselves and a strong desire for more harmonious relations between them and their employers. He emphasizes the fact that brain labor is more important than muscular labor, a fact that is too often overlooked by labor agitators; but he honors honest labor of every kind, and declares that labor is a blessing, and not a curse. Socialism, of course, meets with Mr. Wood's unsparing condemnation, and he looks with little favor on any species of State interference. The chapters on the unequal distribution of wealth, on dependence and poverty, on the railroad system, and on the management of corporations, are well considered, and worthy of perusal by both laborers and capitalists. The book is now issued in cheap form, with paper covers, and deserves a wide circulation.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE twentieth annual meeting of the Kansas Academy of Science was held in the Capitol Building, Topeka, Oct. 26, 27, 28, 1887. There was an excellent attendance of members, but the local attendance was not quite equal to that of last year. The capital has too many things in the way of meetings, etc., so the citizens become a little weary. The papers read were unusually valuable. The Academy of Science is growing. The annual meeting next year will be held in Wichita in October. The following is a list of the papers read: address of the retiring president, Rev. John D. Parker, on 'Progress in Astronomy'; Lucien J. Blake, 'Practical Electricity and the Laws of Energy'; H. W. Everest, 'The Utilization of Mental Power'; Robert Hay, 'The Lignite of the Kansas Dakota,' and 'Notes on Salt in Kansas'; W. R. Lighton, 'On the New Coal-Shaft at Leavenworth'; F. H. Snow, 'Fossil Flora of the Kansas Dakota,' and 'A List of the Fauna and Flora of the Kansas Coal-Measures'; D. S. Kelly, 'Notes on Fossil Elephas from Morton County'; Joseph Savage, 'A Fossil Deposit at Garden Park, Colorado'; E. H. S. Bailey, 'On the Recently discovered Ellsworth Salt-Beds'; Robert Hay, 'Notes on Building-Stones in Kansas'; N. S. Goss, 'On the Nesting of the Mississippi Kite and Snowy Plover in Central-Southern Kansas,' 'Notes on the Yellow-Tailed Cassiques,' and 'Feeding-Habits of the White Pelicans'; F. H. Snow, 'Notes on the Purslane-Worm (*Copidryas Gloveri*)'; W. Knaus, 'Notes on *Calopteron reticulatum* Fab.'; Charles R. Carpenter, 'On the Black Rot of the Grape'; Mrs. A. L. Slosson, 'Personal Observations on the Kansas Flora'; F. H. Snow, 'The Desmids of Kansas'; W. A. Kellerman, 'Some New or Little-Known Kansas Plants'; L. E. Sayre, 'Report of Further Observation on the Loco-Weed,' and 'The Resin of *Silphium laciniatum* (Rosin-Weed)'; W. R. Lighton, 'Notes on the Circulation of the Sap'; J. T. Lovewell, 'Alcohol in Temperance-Drinks'; T. H. Dinsmore, 'Should Malt be considered an Intoxicant?' and 'On the Effect of Oxygen on Animal Life'; E. H. S. Bailey, 'On the Relation between Taste and the Acidity of Certain Acids'; L. E. Sayre, 'The Action of Chromate of Lead upon the Gastric Fluid'; T. H. Dinsmore, 'Color-Blindness in the State Normal School'; J. T. Lovewell, 'Further Studies on the Rainfall in Kansas'; F. H. Snow, 'Rain Cycles in Kansas'; George E. Curtis, 'Weather-Predictions in the United States'; T. B. Jennings, 'Needs and Utility of the Kansas State Weather-Service'; George B. Curtis, 'The Exposure of Meteorological Instruments,' and 'Chimney-Hoods'; W. S. Franklin, 'Continuation of Some Studies of Lissajous Figures.'

— The steamship 'Hondo' sailed on Wednesday, Nov. 30, with the Nicaragua Canal Association's survey expedition. The work will be in immediate charge of E. S. Peary. The instructions issued by Chief-Engineer Menocal are very minute. The *Engineering News* says that five parties will be organized. First the survey by all the parties of the north-eastern section of the canal, with special attention to Greytown Harbor, is contemplated, estimated to take three months' time, when most of the parties are to be moved over to the comparatively short western section. The important detail of boring to ascertain the nature of the material is not to be neglected. The present idea is that six to nine months in all will cover the work of preliminary location enough to base tolerably exact estimates on.