

particular point of view is represented, the whole treatment being rather amateurish.

Very different in character is the address of Professor Miescher (7). After a clear history of hypnotism, showing its analogies with previous psychic doctrines, and with especial consideration of the work of Dr. Braid and Dr. Liebault, the author describes the chief well-established phenomena from the standpoint of the Nancy school. To this he adds a consideration of the will in hypnotized subjects. We have a state of automatism, in which every impulse must realize itself, but it is an automatism varying in degrees. Not all self-control is lost, any more than in sleep; the loss, too, is quite similar to what occurs in normal conditions. None the less it illustrates how closely a practical freedom of the will is connected with physical conditions, and how readily a state of irresponsibility may be induced.

The anonymous philologist introduced by Dr. Sallis (8) treats a question upon which the French have written much. They have advocated the introduction of hypnotism into the schoolroom to cure wayward children of bad habits. Laziness, pilfering, physical weaknesses, moral foibles, — all have yielded to this all-powerful agent; and an hypnotic moralization seems to be regarded as the automatic educator of the future. It is against this growing opinion that the author writes. He points out the obvious dangers of such a process, hints at cases in which children have learned to hypnotize one another, and urges that its use should be confined to distinctly abnormal children, requiring an abnormal treatment. Education has developed more natural methods of curing such defects, and so peculiar a cure as hypnotism should not be allowed to usurp their place.

As a final illustration of the ramifications of hypnotism, the last pamphlet on our list (9) will do service. The church enters the arena of hypnotism. A passing analogy between the trance states found among hypnotics and the religious ecstasies of saints is sufficient to arouse in Domprediger Steigénberger a fear lest the accredited church miracles will lose their hold upon the people. He thereupon denounces hypnotism as the work of demons, and proceeds to show how different is the basis of the miracles, and ends by claiming, that, inasmuch as hypnotism is avowedly incapable of explaining *all* the wonders of history, it is idle to consider it at all. With such different methods of reasoning, a sympathy between church and science in this topic could hardly be expected; but the shape this mutual misunderstanding takes is interesting.

From this review, however cursory, it is easy to gather some notion of the vastness of the researches still to be elaborated in this field, of the many-sided interests the problems present, and no less of the complicated pitfalls that beset their solution on all sides. Moreover, it may not be too hazardous to claim that one of the great controversies of hypnotism is about settled, — the issue between the Paris and the Nancy schools, the balance of evidence and opinion being decidedly in favor of the "suggestionists."

The English Restoration and Louis XIV. By OSMUND AIRY. (Epochs of Modern History.) New York, Longmans, Green, & Co. 16°.

THIS work labors under a disadvantage, in that its subject is not really an epoch. In English history, indeed, the age of Charles II. may be considered an epoch, though not a very important one; but in the general history of Europe it was rather the close of one epoch and the beginning of another. The earlier chapters of Mr. Airy's book deal with the wars of the Fronde in France, which resulted in the definite establishment of absolutism; while the rest of the work treats of the early years of Louis' reign, but breaks off in the midst of his career. The author, however, has perhaps done as well as could be expected with such a theme, and he shows a clear grasp both of English and of European politics in the period of which he treats. The principal fault of the work is one common to most short histories, — an excessive amount of detail. This is specially conspicuous in the treatment of military affairs and court intrigues, the details of which are of little interest to the reader, though it must be admitted that court intrigues were more important in those days than they are now. Mr. Airy's style is good, and his judgment of men and events marked by good sense and impartiality. His chapters on the Fronde show how different that

movement was from the English revolution, and how inferior in interest; while, on the other hand, he does not fail to point out the ecclesiastical bitterness of the English Parliament after the restoration of the monarchy. In the general politics of Europe the chief interest centres, of course, in the ambitious schemes of Louis XIV., — in his contest with Spain and the Dutch Republic, on the one hand; and his intrigues with the king of England, on the other. The breaking-off of the narrative, however, in the flush of Louis' career, makes it impossible to give a complete picture; and the reader will have to turn to other volumes of the series for the conclusion of the story.

Master Virgil. By J. S. TUNISON. Cincinnati, Robert Clarke & Co. 8°. \$2.

IT is well known that during the middle ages a number of legends connected themselves with the name of Vergil. As a companion of the Devil, as a magician, and as a learned and competent physician, Vergil was presented at various times and by various writers. These legends and their history are curious in themselves, and interesting as indices of certain obscure phases of mediæval thought. Mr. Tunison has, at great labor, collected a vast amount of information on this subject, and now presents it in these interesting essays. The book is too learned to be popular, but it will have a cordial reception from men of letters.

AMONG THE PUBLISHERS.

THE February number (No. 40) of the Riverside Literature Series (published monthly at 15 cents a number by Houghton, Mifflin, & Co., Boston) contains "Tales of the White Hills" and "Sketches by Nathaniel Hawthorne." The "Tales of the White Hills" are "The Great Stone Face," a story about the Profile or Old Man of the Mountain, which is one of the most powerful and famous imaginative writings in all literature; "The Great Carbuncle," founded on a wild and beautiful Indian tradition about the existence of a wonderful gem called by that name; and "The Ambitious Guest," an imaginative story of the memorable mountain-slide in Crawford Notch in 1826, which destroyed the whole Willey family, but left intact their house, from which they had fled in fright. The sketches comprise, "Sketches from Memory," "My Visit to Niagara," "Old Ticonderoga," and "The Sister Years."

— D. Lothrop Company will publish shortly, in their Story of the States Series, "The Story of Vermont," which will be of interest, as there has been no history of the Green Mountain State published for forty years. John L. Heaton, the author, is a well-known Brooklyn newspaper man, and is one of the many editors born and brought up in Vermont.

— Thomas Whittaker announces that the next volume in the Camelot Series will be "Essays of William Hazlitt;" in the Canterbury Poets, "Poems of Dora Greenwell;" and in the Great Writers, "Life of Schiller."

— William R. Jenkins has just published "A Chinese and English Phrase-Book for the Chinese to learn English," which is perhaps the first book with Chinese characters published in America. Its compilers are Dr. T. L. Stedman and K. P. Lee; and, while it is unpretentious in its character, it is excellently adapted to furnish Chinamen with a large vocabulary of colloquial phrases. The first edition of five hundred copies, though only just published, has been taken up so quickly that a second edition is already in the press.

— Alphonse Picard, of 82 Rue Bonaparte, Paris, is publishing an important historical work that will be of value to collectors of Americana. It is entitled "Histoire de la participation de la France à l'établissement des Etats-Unis de l'Amérique." The author is Henri Doniol, director of l'Imprimerie Nationale. Three volumes are now ready, covering the years 1775-79. These explain the efforts of the ministers of Louis XVI. to influence Spain to enter into the alliance against England, which went into effect after the first victories by the Americans over the English, — an alliance which later indirectly was the cause of the famous League of Nantes. The book is published by the French Government in connection with the Universal Exhibition which is to take place in Paris next