

To return to Mr. Groom's special work. When he was enabled to give his whole time to it, the movement spread rapidly. Six or seven large classes, each consisting of several hundreds of boys, were formed in various parts of the city. Mr. Groom's earnest endeavor throughout was to establish them on a self-governing and self-supporting basis, and to avoid all showy display of the work for the sake of obtaining "patronage" and contributions. The weekly meetings of the classes are held primarily for the sake of mutual entertainment. A large room is either lent or rented, and a varied performance takes place, — songs, recitations, an occasional farce, and a few words of advice, admonition, or encouragement from the leader of the class. The chairman of the meeting is elected by the boys, as also are the secretary, treasurer, and door-keepers. Mr. Groom, when he is present, is always elected as leader. The small dues of the class, usually about six cents, are collected weekly. In connection with the classes, too, are penny banks and lending libraries. A remarkable work has been carried on by some of the bigger boys, who were formerly leaders in mischief and outrage among the vicious "larrikins" who nightly haunt the streets of the Australian cities, and cause sore perplexity to those who study social problems in those colonies. A few of these reclaimed "hoodlums," sally forth together on Saturday nights, go from one saloon to another, and, if they see boys drinking there, bid them come out and join them. The boys instinctively obey their former leaders, meekly follow them, and are brought within the circle of influence of the Excelsior Classes.

From Melbourne the movement has already spread to Sydney. A young clerk in one of the government offices of New South Wales, while on a visit to Melbourne, heard of Mr. Groom's work, and was so deeply impressed by what he saw of it that he determined to devote his evenings to a similar work in his own city. An admirable class is now organized in the midst of a very poor district.

It was at Sydney that I first came into contact with the work. I well remember the striking character of the scene. Passing between two vigilant boy door-keepers, I entered a large, bare school-room, lighted with flaming gas-jets. More than a hundred boys of all sorts and sizes, many ragged and with bare feet, were sitting, absolutely quiet and orderly, with eager, intelligent faces, listening to a few words from their elected leader or "critic," as he is here styled, the government clerk whom I have mentioned. The chairman, secretary, and treasurer, each adorned with a broad crimson scarf, as of some knightly order, were at their posts. Then the entertainment began, consisting almost entirely of recitations and songs chosen by the boys themselves. No trace of any thing coarse or low appeared: the tendency, oddly enough, was to pieces of a profoundly melancholy and sentimental order. The choruses of the more lively songs were taken up by the whole body of boys with an energy which seemed almost great enough to break the windows and blow off the roof. But throughout the meeting the order and discipline maintained for themselves by these rough street boys was simply perfect. After the entertainment was over, the treasurer collected the weekly dues, and then the business of a penny bank was transacted. I left the meeting, feeling that I had seen the finest sight in all Australia.

Some weeks later I had the privilege of meeting Mr. Groom himself at his little house near Melbourne. At this time he was in a very shattered state of health, and only just recovering from the effects of a terrible railroad accident. He had been compelled for six months to withdraw entirely from the supervision of the Excelsior Classes; but he was still able to attend to a deeply interesting branch of his work at home, — the rescue of boys of the most depraved and degraded class, whom he had found lying about the wharves at night, or had intercepted on their discharge from prison.

He showed me in his back garden a low, long barrack of six little chambers, separated from each other by solid walls, so that no communication should be possible by night among the inmates. Each room was simply but prettily furnished. On the wall hung an illuminated and framed copy of the Lord's Prayer; and in another frame, a stanza of some hymn or poem, intended to meet the special need of the occupant of the room. During the day the boys are sent to the public school: the rest of their time is filled up

with work of various kinds, — carpentry, digging, gardening, and household duties. They take their meals with Mr. and Mrs. Groom, and thus learn decent manners at table. Mr. Groom has gone with great care and thoroughness into the subject of the various forms of vice to which these poor boys are specially prone, and uses every effort to ascertain and apply the surest and most appropriate remedies and preventives. When the boys have been thoroughly reclaimed, they are drafted off to places in the country. The demand for the boys is far greater than Mr. Groom can supply.

This is a department of his work which Mr. Groom guards with the greatest care from ostentatious publicity, rightly deeming that the subject is far too grave and awful to be made a matter of advertising and promiscuous patronage. The necessary funds are, I believe, supplied by a few attached friends, and by a single large business firm. It is by no means easy — *experto credite* — for others to obtain the privilege of contributing to the work.

It was exceedingly interesting to observe the effect upon the Excelsior Classes of Mr. Groom's disablement. Four or five of the classes, it must be confessed, had at the time of my visit lapsed into a state of suspended animation, although there was every reason to hope that they would revive at Mr. Groom's touch. One class which I visited was still in operation, but it was evidently on the point of breaking down. The temporary leader, a good and really heroic young fellow, was evidently not quite fitted for his post. On the evening of my visit the meeting was a very large one, and a number of turbulent youths had made their way in. The leader, as I could tell from my former scholastic experience, was at fault in every appeal which he made to the audience, and naturally excited some derision. However, the performance was creditably gone through, in spite of some interruptions. I was struck by the genuine courtesy of the boys, who, although I was the only visitor present in the unruly assembly, never by word or act made my position in the slightest degree uncomfortable, although considerable ingenuity was shown in worrying their "leader." I was not surprised to learn that the subsequent meeting broke up in confusion, and the class was suspended.

In the next class which I visited, all was cheering and hopeful. About a hundred boys, with many of their friends and relations, were present in a cheerful, well-lighted schoolroom. An admirable entertainment was provided, — songs, recitations, a short farce, and, if I remember rightly, some gymnastic exercises. A few wholesome words were addressed to the boys by their elected leader, — a young, fresh-looking boy, who is employed as a clerk in a business-house. Although the class had for six months been deprived of Mr. Groom's supervision, the order and discipline of the meeting left nothing to be desired. The genial *bonhomie* and courtesy of the boys deeply impressed me. I remained for some time after the meeting, talking with the boys, and examining their library and savings bank. My favorable impression was continually deepened. Here, I thought, was a sight even grander than I had witnessed in Sydney, as proving what democratic government, free from all suspicion of being qualified, may do among boys.

Some further details of this interesting work may be derived from *The Excelsior*, — a monthly paper which was, and not improbably is still, published for the classes. Mr. Groom himself is always pleased to communicate with persons who are genuinely and practically interested in this and similar work. Address W. Groom, care of Edw. à Beckett, Brighton, Melbourne, Australia.

AMONG THE PUBLISHERS.

GINN & Co. have in preparation "Our World," by Mary L. Hall, revised and arranged as a supplementary reading-book.

— The latest issue of Ticknor's Paper Series is the novel "Under Green Apple Boughs," by Helen Campbell. The story is illuminated by eight full-page pictures by Howard Pyle.

— The *Fortnightly Review* for March (New York, Leonard Scott Publication Company) opens with the first of Sir Charles Dilke's important and valuable papers on "The Frontiers of India," in which he describes his journey, and the impressions made in the earlier part of it; F. I. Ricarde-Seaver and Sir Charles Metcalfe contribute a comprehensive article on "The British

Sphere of Influence in South Africa," illustrated with a map in colors; Professor Max Müller writes on "Some Lessons of Antiquity;" Mrs. Lynn Linton continues her series on "The Characteristics of English Women," and Mme. Blaze de Bury treats of "The Decadence of French Thought;" and J. D. Bourchier writes a timely paper on "The Heritage of the Hapsburgs." Other articles include "Australia in 1888," by the Earl of Carnarvon; "Obstruction and its Cure," by Sir G. Baden-Powell; and "The London Water-Supply," by Dr. Roose.

— A "History of West Virginia," from 1732 to the present time, has been written by Professor Virgil A. Lewis of Mason City, Mason County, W. Va. Only a limited number of copies will be published, and they will be sold by the author. "Professor Lewis," says the *Evening Post*, "has carefully examined all authentic rec-

ords of the State, the archives at Richmond, and those at county-seats, — in all, nearly one hundred. The first part of the book treats of the first permanent settlement in the Shenandoah valley, and comes down to the revolutionary war. Part second covers the ground between the Revolution and the civil war, and part third brings the narrative down to the present time."

— It is proposed to issue from time to time, in connection with the *Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science*, brief notes on current topics of interest. "Municipal Government in England," a report of an interview with Albert Shaw, Ph.D., was issued in January, 1889.

— *The Trained Nurse*, published from Buffalo, N. Y., suggests a new opening for professional nurses on board the large ocean-steamers, caring for seasick passengers.

Publications received at Editor's Office, March 4-23

- ALEXANDER, W. J. An Introduction to the Poetry of Robert Browning. Boston, Ginn & Co. 212 p. 12°. \$1.10.
 BERNHEIM, H. Suggestive Therapeutics: A Treatise on the Nature and Uses of Hypnotism. Tr. by C. A. Herter. New York and London, Putnam. 420 p. 8°. \$3.50.
 BONAPARTE, R. La Nouvelle-Guinée. III. Notice le Fleuve Augusta; IV. Notice le Golfe Huon. Paris, The Author. 78 p. 8°. \$1.25.
 BOWDITCH, H. P. Hints for Teachers of Physiology. (Guides for Science-Teaching, No. XIV.) Boston, Heath. 58 p. 24°. \$1.25.
 GALTON, F. Natural Inheritance. London and New York, Macmillan. 259 p. 8°. \$2.50.
 GILMAN, N. P. Profit Sharing between Employer and Employee. Boston and New York, Houghton, Mifflin, & Co. 466 p. 12°. \$1.75.
 GREAT DIVIDE, The. Vol. I. No. 1. m. Denver, Col., Great Divide Publ. Co. 12 p. 1°. \$1 per year.
 GREENE, H. R. Greene's Language Half-Blanks. Graded Exercises in Analyzing and Diagraming. No. 1. The Sentence and its Four Principal Parts. New York, A. Lovell & Co. 43 p. 12°. \$1.60.
 HARDY, A. S. Elements of Analytic Geometry. Boston, Ginn & Co. 229 p. 12°. \$1.60.
 How to be Successful on the Road as a Commercial Traveller. By an old drummer. New York, Fowler & Wells Co. 83 p. 20 cents.

DRAGON'S TEETH.

Translated from the Portuguese by Mrs. MARY J. SERRANO. 12mo. \$1.50.

"Suggests the close detail, and even the nicety of touch that distinguishes Daudet. It turns upon the temptation and unfaithfulness of a weak but loving woman. The plot is what we have learned to look upon as peculiarly French, and it is treated with French simplicity and frankness, without coarseness. It is a terrible presentation of the sure results of immorality. The slow retribution that follows the sin is remarkably depicted."—Nora Perry.

"A story of sin and its consequences powerfully set forth, and withal there is a great deal of humor in the story, a keen insight into the weaknesses of human nature that is delicious. It is wonderfully good. As a work of literary art, as a story, as a picture of life as it is lived under certain conditions, the book is a model."—Jeannette L. Gilder.

A Novel by the Author of "The Story of Margaret Kent."

A DAUGHTER OF EVE.

1 vol., 12mo, \$1.50.

"Exceptional cleverness, effective satire, a great deal of humor."—Boston Advertiser.

"A story that for rare merit and interest will surpass even either of this author's former novels that have won such a place in the literary world."—Home Journal.

"Graciously winning as was 'The Story of Margaret Kent,' brilliant and moving as was the tale of 'Queen Money,' we are strongly inclined to say, after reading 'A Daughter of Eve,' that the author has attained to a still more gratifying artistic triumph than in the case of either of the other two novels we have mentioned. Brilliance, sparkle and wit 'A Daughter of Eve' has in abundance, but it also has a definite ethical motive treated with inimitable taste."—Beacon.

Sold everywhere. Sent, postpaid, on receipt of price by the Publishers,

TICKNOR & CO., Boston.

STOCK, St. G. Deductive Logic. London and New York, Longmans, Green, & Co. 356 p. 16°. \$1.25.
 THORPE, F. N. The Government of the People of the United States. Philadelphia, Eldredge & Brother. 308 p. 12°. 90 cents.

A BOOK FOR THE TIMES!

NEW EDITIONS!

Laidlaw's Constitution of the United States and the Declaration of Independence, in English, French, and German, with notes. Sold by all book-sellers, or by the publishers, LAIDLAW BROS. AND CO., 137 W. 41st St., New York.

Second and Revised Edition, in cloth - - - - 50c. postpaid.

Third Edition, in paper - - - - - 25c. postpaid.

The New Princeton Review

Having been merged into the Political Science Quarterly, a complete set of the New Princeton Review, eighteen numbers in all, is offered for \$2.50, regular price, \$9.00. Among the contributors are Bancroft, Lowell, Norton, Bryce, Tolstoï, Taine, Benjamin, Comte de Paris, Lathrop and Eggleston.

As the supply of complete sets is limited, those desiring to avail themselves of this low offer, should write at once to Ginn & Company, Publishers Political Science Quarterly, 743 Broadway, N. Y.

Just Published!

PRIMER OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE.

Man, Animals, Plants, Stones, The Three States

of Bodies, Reading Lessons, Summaries,

Questions, Subjects for Composition.

BY PAUL BERT,

Author of "Bert's First Steps in Scientific Knowledge."

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED FOR AMERICAN SCHOOLS.

Illustrated 12mo, cloth, 36 cents.

This new work is carried out in the same spirit as "First Steps in Scientific Knowledge," and follows the same plan. The book is so arranged that the larger work becomes a review and extension of the subject. The method, which consists in presenting to the child during two or three consecutive years the same subjects, in the same order, following the same general arrangement, but with an increasing number of facts and a progressive elevation of ideas, is an excellent one, and is now universally adopted.

The reductions have naturally been largely in Physics, Chemistry, and Vegetable and Animal Physiology. Yet, a somewhat fuller development has been given to the descriptive part of Natural History, and to applications easy to comprehend. These two works, then, depend upon each other. They form a coherent whole. The first prepares for the second, the second completes the first; at the same time each has its individuality, and can be used without the other.

In the present translation only such changes and additions have been made as were necessary to Americanize the book and adapt it to the requirements of public and private schools in this country.

The illustrations are for the most part entirely new. Those upon Natural History were drawn from life by some of our best artists.

Sent post-paid on receipt of price.

J. B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY,

715, 717 Market Street, Philadelphia.

— The poem by Oliver Wendell Holmes, in honor of the dinner given to James Russell Lowell on his seventieth birthday, is the first thing to which the readers of the April *Atlantic* will turn. Mr. H. C. Merwin contributes a paper on "The People in Government;" and Mr. Samuel Sheldon answers the question "Why our Science Students go to Germany." Thomas Basin, Bishop of Lisieux, who suffered much at the hands of Louis XI., forms the subject of an article by Mr. F. C. Lowell; and William Cranston Lawton writes entertainingly of an archæological journey "From Venice to Assos." Miss Preston continues her series of articles by a paper entitled "Before the Assassination," giving an account of Cicero's closing years; and Miss Louise Imogen Guiney, under the name of "An Outline Portrait," writes a pleasant sketch about Lady Magdalene Herbert, mother to George Herbert. Mr. Hardy's serial, "Passe Rose," is concluded; Mr. James's "Tragic Muse" is continued, and the concluding portion of "Hannah Calline's Jim" also forms part of this number. The two short stories are "The King's Cup and Cake," by Sophie May, and "A Dissolving View of Carrick Meagher," by George H. Jessop. Mr. Bliss Carman, the young Canadian poet, contributes a long poem, "Death in April;" and Dr. T. W. Parsons, some verses called "In Eclipse." Criticisms of Renan's dramas and other recent books conclude the number.

— Sir Charles Dilke, in an article on "The Future of Russia," in the *Fortnightly Review* for March, says, "Not only is Russia the greatest military power in the world, but she is the European power with the largest homogeneous population and the greatest expansive force. Territorially she has the largest empire, possessing a vast share of the Old World; and hers is a people full of patriotic and religious spirit, and so well disciplined that all except an infinitesimal minority obey cheerfully and without question, under all circumstances, whether good or evil, the will of a single man. Yet, although subject to what, with our parliamentary ideas, we are disposed to style 'despotism,' the Russian people are full of spirit, and of those qualities which we consider specially Anglo-Saxon, — 'pluck' and 'go.' Russia has absorbed with rapidity, but with completeness, the greater part of central Asia, has drawn steadily nearer and nearer to our frontier, and has made herself extremely popular with the people she has conquered. Her policy throughout the century has been apparently fixed in object, but pursued with patience; and while there seems to be no reason to suppose any probability of a speedy collision, which England will do nothing to provoke, it is impossible for those who are charged with the defence of India to shut their eyes to the possibilities or even the probabilities of the future."

— The February number of the *American Journal of Psychology* opens with an interesting autobiography of a paranoiac, edited and commented upon by Dr. Frederick Peterson. The writer of the four-hundred-page manuscript book from which Dr. Peterson abstracts was a farm laborer, with a turn for study (he read Latin *con amore*) that helped to give him a remarkably direct literary style. The paper is interesting psychologically for the inside view it gives of the gradual development of his mental disease. Beginning life with hereditary predisposition, he grew up a hypersensitive and self-conscious child, a depressed and occasionally violent young man, suspicious of insult and persecution, contemplating murder in revenge, and finally reached the hallucinations and delusions of a typical paranoiac. His delusions of grandeur were colored by his reading of the Bible. First he found coincidences with his own experience. By degrees he recognized these less and less as coincidences, and regarded them more and more as prophetic, till at last he was ready to announce himself as the expounder of a new religion. His sufferings were the world's expiation, whence the title of his book, "The Piling of Tophet and the Trespass Offering." Though unable to correct his aberrations, he was a keen observer of his own mind, coherent, logical, and, like many of his class, not without at times a shadowy recognition of his true condition. The other two papers are continuations from the last number. Dr. W. H. Burnham brings down his survey of the doctrine of memory from Zanotti and his fantastic explanation of the association of ideas by their "electricity and magnetism," to Hering and Creighton. The theories held by the disciples of Hartley, by Kant and his followers, by the Scottish

school, by the English associationists, by the exponents of the "new psychology," are all considered; and finally, the modern theory of "organic memory," the beginnings of which, it appears, are to be found in Malebranche. Dr. E. C. Sanford discusses the variations produced in the amount of the personal equation by the kind of the heavenly body observed, by the magnitude of the star, by its rate and apparent direction of motion, and by the psychic and other conditions of observation. The reality of these changes seems demonstrable, and the law of their cause is not always clear. They furnish rather suggestive points for physiological and psychological research, than generalizations that can be taken ready-made into either science. This number contains the usual abundance of reviews and notes on psychological literature; "Nervous System," by Dr. H. H. Donaldson; "Hypnotism, Experimental and Abnormal," by Professor Joseph Jastrow. Rather prominent under the second heading are a number of abstracts from the rapidly growing literature of therapeutic hypnotism.

— The R. S. King Publishing Company, Chicago, have in press "The Story of America," by Elia W. Peattie, an historic narrative, arranged especially for young people. Many of the illustrations have been designed and engraved especially for this book. It is intended to be used as a text-book or supplementary reader in schools, as well as for general reading.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

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

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

Twenty copies of the number containing his communication will be furnished free to any correspondent on request.

The Soaring of Birds.

SINCE my return to Cambridge, I find that a rather extensive correspondence has collected upon the above subject. I admit the force of Mr. Gilbert's criticism on the medium with uniform motion, and, that being the case, need not defend the theory from the criticism of Professor MacGregor, further than to say that the force which he calls number (2) is not due to friction, and that he has misunderstood my meaning. As the original theory, in that form, is withdrawn, it is unnecessary to discuss it further in *Science*.

In regard to Mr. Gilbert's explanation, I must say that I cannot yet accept his horizontal-layer theory. The very essence of a bird's soaring is that he shall continually rise higher and higher, not continue to circle at one level. If the bird rises higher and higher, we must have a succession of these layers of air, the upper ones a few thousand feet from the ground moving with a velocity very much higher than is usually attributed to the clouds, or else a series of layers moving alternately fast and slowly, which seems to involve an hypothesis which we have no other ground save this theory for believing.

Moreover, if all the bird has to do is merely to dip from one moving layer of air into another, why should not small birds soar? Take the swallow, for instance, — a most excellent flier, and quite capable of travelling with outstretched wings for a few seconds; yet he is never known to maintain himself in the air circling for five or ten minutes at a time, or by the hour together, as do the larger birds.

But why make any new assumptions with regard to the atmosphere? Why not take the phenomena with which we are all of us familiar? Whenever there is a high wind, such as is undoubtedly required by a soaring bird, we know that the air-pressure is not uniform, that the wind comes in gusts. Those familiar with mountain summits know that the same phenomena are observed in the upper atmosphere as at the surface of the ground. If we were travelling along with such a wind in a balloon, the gusts would not be so severe, but they would be of longer duration.

A ————— B

Imagine, now, a bird travelling from A to B, in the same direction as the wind, and with its mean velocity. When the wind is uniform, it seems to him that he is in a dead calm. When a gust comes, the wind seems to blow from A. It carries him along faster; and when it ceases, the wind seems to blow from B. It therefore affects him precisely as if he were in an alternating current of wind.