

of the Giants." Besides these, a number of abstracts of other papers are given. The volume is illustrated with numerous engravings, and is issued in creditable style. The society is to be congratulated on this evidence of its prosperity.

The Old Navy and the New. By REAR-ADMIRAL DANIEL AMMEN. Philadelphia, Lippincott. 8°. \$3.

IN these days of the new navy we are apt to forget the old-timers, and all that they did to build up a solid foundation and educate the younger officers, so that the modern vessels can in their turn be models of efficiency as the wooden craft were. In this work the author tells a plain story of events, at home and abroad, just as he found them; and although he had no very startling adventures to punctuate his active career, there are many valuable lessons for officers about starting out for a naval life. The excellent habit of keeping a diary here bears good fruit, as the main dependence has quite evidently been placed upon notes taken at the time, with an occasional "freshening of the nip" by reference to official logs kept on board the vessels and afterward turned in to the navy department.

Among other points worthy of note are the meeting for the first time with men-of-war fitted with steam machinery, rifled guns, and other modern improvements of the day. The idea of the life-raft, or "balsa," which now forms an important feature in the outfit of vessels of war as well as passenger steamers, and for which thanks are largely due the author, seems to have struck him quite early in life. The efficiency of the ram as a fighting factor also impressed itself upon the admiral years ago, and the outcome is the modern ram that is now building for the navy.

The experience gained while on duty in the coast survey, and at the naval observatory, enabled the admiral, while chief of the Bureau of Navigation, to have carried on some very scientific work in relation to determining longitudes by telegraphy, and also surveys of the Isthmus, which latter are to-day resulting in the construction of the Nicaraguan Canal.

The former work by the same author, "The Atlantic Coast during the Civil War," so effectually covers the period of the Civil War that the present work unfortunately deals but slightly with the interesting events of that period. A very prominent feature of the book is the intimacy from boyhood that existed between the author and General Grant. The close of the volume contains some very interesting letters, which, among other things, show very plainly the very high regard and the warm friendship that the great hero of the war had for the admiral.

The book commends itself not only to professional men but to all who take a proper interest in the well-being of the navy.

AMONG THE PUBLISHERS.

AMONG the articles in *The Chautauquan* for June are, "The Intellectual Development of the English People," by Edward A. Freeman; "Hungary's Progress and Position," by Albert Shaw; "Studies in Astronomy, IX.," by Garrett P. Serviss; "The American Patent System," by Walter Hough; "Dr. Schliemann—The Excavator of Ancient Troy," by Thomas D. Seymour; "American Glass Workers," by F. M. Gessner; "Periodic Changes in Climate," by E. Richter; "The Latest Phases of Electricity," by Robert W. Prentiss; and "College Girls," by Kate Gannett Wells.

—"Philomythus, an Antidote against Credulity," Dr. Abbott's new book, is devoted to a discussion of Cardinal Newman's essay on ecclesiastical miracles. It will appear in a second edition, with a new preface, from the press of Macmillan & Co., New York.

—Mr. H. E. Haferkorn, Milwaukee, Wis., has published a translation, by Dr. Fr. Brendecke, of Koch's first communication to the *Deutsche Medicinische Wochenschrift* on the cure of tuberculosis. Explanatory notes have been inserted and the subject put into more popular shape by the editor, Dr. Max Birnbaum.

—D. C. Heath & Co., Boston, are just issuing "Comparative View of the Executive and Legislative Departments of the Governments of the United States, France, England, and Germany," by John Wenzel, assistant librarian of the College of Liberal Arts, Boston University. This consists of outlines of the four great constitutional governments, arranged in parallel columns in such

a way that similar topics are grouped together. By this arrangement comparison can readily be made. Professor Woodrow Wilson of Princeton, the author of "The State," has examined the manuscript, and made suggestions and corrections.

—The seventh volume of the new edition of "Chambers's Encyclopædia," to be published in June by the J. B. Lippincott Company, will contain articles on "Mysteries," by Baring-Gould; "Cardinal Newman," by Hutton; and Mr. Blackmore discourses about orchards; Stanley Lane-Poole writes about "Mecca and Medina," Dr. Head on "Numismatics," Dr. John Murray on the "Pacific," and Canon Taylor on "Names." "Palestine" engages two contributors, Mr. Besant and Professor Hull.

—Certainly an entirely new departure in journalism is made in *The Engineering Magazine*, the first number of which appeared in April. This is not an addition to the numerous trade papers, but is intended to give each month, in untechnical language, articles by competent writers on engineering matters likely to interest the public. Such topics are: "Epidemics and Water Pollution," treated by George W. Rafter; "Danger Signals about the Boiler," by Robert Grimshaw; "The Rapid Transit Problem in New York," by T. Graham Gribble; "Building the Steamship in America," by Horace Lee; "The Tall Office-Buildings of New York," by John Beverley Robinson; "Our Old-Fogy Methods of reckoning Time," by Sanford Fleming; and "Splendid Record of the Electric Railway," by Frank J. Sprague. All these and more appear in the May number. The Engineering Magazine Company, World Building, New York City, are the publishers.

—The North Carolina Experiment Station has just issued a twenty-page bulletin (No. 76) on plant-diseases, by Gerald McCarthy, the station botanist, illustrated by eleven engravings showing the appearance of diseased plants and the best forms of spraying-apparatus. This bulletin contains a brief and pointed chapter on vineyard and orchard hygiene, and treats in full of the following diseases: rot, mildew, and anthracnose of the grape; peach-rot; black-knot of plum and cherry; apple, pear, and quince scab; leaf-blight of pear; fire-blight of pear; peach-yellows; potato-blight; rust of cereals; bunt of wheat; smut of oats; smut of corn; ergot of rye. This bulletin will be sent free to all names on the regular mailing list of the station, and to others within the State who apply for it. Only a limited number of copies will be available for distribution outside the State. These will be sent, so long as the supply lasts, to applicants who inclose six cents. Address North Carolina Experiment Station, Raleigh, N.C.

—Messrs. Fords, Howard, & Hulbert have published a small book by Amos K. Fiske entitled "Beyond the Bourn." It purports to give the experience of a man during a visit to the spirit-world, whither he was transported while he lay unconscious from a railroad accident. He meets his old friends in the spirit-world, who instruct him in the mysteries and the enjoyments of the life they lead. A considerable portion of the book, however, is occupied with the account of a visit which he and his spirit friends made to a planet far distant from the earth, but peopled by a race of beings similar to men, only in a more advanced stage of development. They are represented as living in a veritable Utopia, surpassing even Mr. Bellamy's; yet they have reached it by voluntary action and co-operation without any help from the State. The book is fantastic throughout, and for the most part shallow, and it sheds no light on the great subjects with which it deals.

—Some photographs of luminous objects (taken by their own light) will be reproduced in the June *Scribner* by mechanical processes, directly from the original negatives. All amateurs will be interested in the pictures, which show fireworks, interiors by lamplight, rolling-mills, electric discharges, sun-dogs, and other curious subjects. William H. Rideing (who has all his life been familiar with steamship affairs) contributes to the same number the third of the Ocean Steamship series, on "Safety on the Atlantic." He gives an account of the precautions and devices which have made ocean travel one of the safest methods of locomotion. He prints the following remarkable record for 1890: "Nearly two thousand trips were made from New York alone to