

were brothers of the same race. But now they say that peoples who at present speak the same language should be assembled under the same dominion. It is the reason that the German politicians have for extending their language around them. It is really a conquest for the future.

Well, the Gobineau Association must have that doctrine as a flag, and the recrudescence of a Gobineau movement is certainly intended to make the said linguistic doctrine popular. It may be a preparatory movement to claim the German-speaking populations of Austria, when the old emperor dies.

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BOOK NOTICES.

A CENTURY OF CASTE. By *Judge A. N. Waterman*. Chicago: M. A. Donohue & Co. 1901. Pages, 85.

Judge A. N. Waterman has written a book under the title *A Century of Caste*. It is a simple but touching tale of the life of a Negro woman of the South, and if we mistake not the tenor and style of the story it is based on fact. There is nothing extraordinary in the fate of the poor old slave woman: how she grew up on a plantation, how she was married to Tom, how her husband was sold, how the War came, and her old age. The reader feels that he is confronted with a living personality. *Uncle Tom's Cabin* may have collected the worst facts of Southern slave life; but here we find mingled with the sufferings of the poor Negro, also the gentler sympathies of their white owners, and the love of the Negro for the white folks, whom they feared and admired at the same time. And we see how the slaves love the children of their masters as much as their own.

Judge Waterman begins his tale with these words: "With many, life is a melodrama; for some, a tragedy; to most, a disappointment. The greater portion of mankind feel that they have been unjustly dealt with, unduly vexed and troubled, not properly appreciated or rewarded; that opportunities afforded to others have been denied to them. To these, this presentation of burdens they have never borne, is offered for their consideration."

Being a judge of the Supreme Court of Illinois, we feel confident that Judge Waterman does not exaggerate the conditions; in fact, he substantiates the statements incidentally made in his book by adding in a note the laws and ordinances of several Southern states, and also of the state of Illinois, showing the spirit in which the black population was kept in subjection. The book is short, but no one can lay it aside after perusal without gaining sympathy for the downtrodden, and feeling the need of constant further improvement as to the removal of castes and extending good will even to the lowest and most unfortunate living creature. P. C.

A. S. Barnes & Co., of New York, just issue a book on *Atoms and Energies*, by D. A. Murray, A. M., some time instructor in the Government Shogyo Gakko, Kyoto, Japan. Now, the Shogyo Gakko is not a school of *physics*, or of *mechanics*, but a *commercial school*, and the weight of the book is further augmented by its having a preface written for it by our esteemed friend and contributor, Dr. Frederick Starr, who is Professor of Anthropology and Indian Science in the University of Chicago, and an authority on Indian mechanics. Mr. Barnes believes that energy is an "entity," and that there are two forms of Substance: (1) Material Substance or Atoms, and (2) Kinetic Substance or Energies, to which he adds a third, Psychic Substance, Soul or Life,—all genuinely prehistoric conceptions

which could not but have thrilled with rapture the heart of a professor of prehistoric lore, and logically have led to his fathering the book. "It is long," says Professor Starr, "since I have read a book in Physical Science which has given me so much pleasure," and we should be the last, by *our* animadversions, to deprive others of the same joy. Never were folklore and physics more happily blended. (Pp., 202. Cloth, \$1.25.)

Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., of New York, have recently issued a neat edition of Ralph Waldo Trine's three booklets: (1) *The Greatest Thing Ever Known*, (2) *Every Living Creature*, and (3) *Character-Building Thought Power*. Mr. Trine's books have been successful from the point of view of circulation, and appeal strongly to the semi-scientific and mystical tendencies of present-day thought. Amid most outspoken doctrines of Christian Science and Mental Healing will be found such ethical and psychological truths as the following: "A thought—good or evil—an act, in time a habit, so runs life's law,—what you live in your thought-world, that sooner or later you will find objectified in your life." (Pages, 82, 85, and 51 respectively. Price, each, 35 cents.)

NOTES.

We have learned with deep regret of the death of Prof. John Fiske of Cambridge, Massachusetts. Professor Fiske was an original and fearless thinker and did much to disseminate sound evolutionary thought in our country at a time when the reigning influences were decidedly hostile to it. The chief works of his which contributed to this end were *Myths and Myth-Makers* (1872), *Cosmic Philosophy* (1874), and *The Unseen World* (1876). Fiske's highest aspiration was the chair of philosophy at Harvard, but the time was not ripe and he failed to receive the appointment, although he was specially fitted for the place by his natural bent, his talents, his preparatory studies and the high achievements of his pen. He was suspected of being too liberal and so he was disappointed. He subsequently devoted himself with great success to the study of American history, and produced works in this field which betokened the highest impartiality and critical power, and which have been very effective in offsetting the ridiculous Chauvinism and braggadocio that characterised the current standard expositions of this subject prior to his labors. But in this field too he failed to find the official recognition which he would have most highly appreciated, a university position as professor of history, although that higher recognition which comes from the appreciation of thinkers and readers at large fell in both instances to his share. The titles of his main historical productions and text-books are as follows: *The Beginnings of New England* (1889), *The Discovery of America* (1892), *The American Revolution* (1891), *Critical Period of American History, 1783 to '89* (1888), and *Civil Government in the United States*. Other works of Professor Fiske are *Excursions of an Evolutionist* (1883) and *The Idea of God* (1885). Professor Fiske's labors and interests were very comprehensive, and his productions were invariably marked by erudition and critique.

The article on Burmese Temples in the present *Open Court* was written especially for our pages by Dr. Grünwedel, an officer of the great Ethnological Museum of Berlin, which corresponds to our Bureau of Ethnology in Washington; and the photographs were obtained for us by Dr. Huth from Herr Thomann's own collection. To all these gentlemen we wish to publicly express our thanks here.