

Company, New York and Boston, and with illustrations from the great artists by Gertrude Morse. The type is clear and good, and many will find it more useful than the preceding volumes as a beginner's reader.

#### AN EXEMPLARY COURSE IN ELEMENTARY MATHEMATICS.

Two volumes of the excellent course in elementary mathematics published under the direction of M. Darboux, the distinguished mathematician and dean of the Faculty of Sciences at Paris, have already been mentioned in *The Open Court*. They were the *Arithmetic* of Jules Tannery and the *Plane Geometry* of Jacques Hadamard. Three other important volumes have been published in the series, and are of just the type with which mathematical instructors in America should become acquainted. They are the *Algebra* and *Plane Trigonometry* of M. C. Bourlet, and the *Cosmography* of M. M. Tisserand and H. Andoyer.

M. Bourlet's *Algebra* (548 pages, price 7 fr. 50c.) is very complete for an elementary work. The treatment of negative numbers and of the commutative, associative and distributive properties of operations is quite detailed. Functions of a single variable are discussed, and the graphical representation of the variation of a function explained. Some few notions of analytical geometry have been introduced, and the theory of derivatives, usually deferred to the calculus, is touched upon. The methods employed are such as admit of subsequent extension in mathematics, and assure economy of presentation in all later developments.

The same author has written the treatise on *Plane Trigonometry* (322 pages, price 6 fr.). The book begins with an exposition of the notions of vectors, equipollency, and so forth. An appendix for special students treats of the trigonometrical representation of imaginary quantities, the formula of Moivre, the roots of imaginary quantities, binomial equations, and cubic equations.

The *Cosmography* of M. M. Tisserand and H. Andoyer (370 pages, price 6 fr.) is virtually a text-book of astronomy. The book is concisely written, and is devoted to the science of the subject as contrasted with its fictions. The most recent investigations have been recorded. There are twelve excellent plates from photographs of the heavens. The history of astronomy and some special technical points of difficulty are treated in an appendix.

Two important volumes in the same series, a *Solid Geometry* by M. Hadamard and a text-book of *Mechanics* by M. Koenigs, are announced as in the press. Inasmuch as the system of mathematical instruction in France is now more completely and rationally organised than that of any other country, the methods of these text-books are deserving of the closest attention. The publishers are Armand Colin & Co., 5 rue de Mézières, Paris.

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#### BOOK NOTICES.

GRUNDPRINZIPIEN FÜR LÖSUNG DER SOCIALEN FRAGE. Verfasst in drei Gesprächs-abenden von G. Krause. Published by the author. New York.

The author of this book is obviously a serious man who burns with the desire to redeem suffering mankind from the evils of the present system of social wrongs. He has passed through many sore disappointments without losing courage to carry on a propaganda for the principles and methods by which he proposes to solve the difficult problem. He submitted the MS. of his book to C. H. Boppe, editor of the *Friedenker*, to Maximilian Grossman, former principal of the Workingmen's

School of New York City, Prof. Ernst Haeckel of Jena, and Baroness Bertha von Suttner, author of *Ground Arms*; Col. M. von Egidy was also approached. All of them replied kindly but coolly, indicating that the MS. contained nothing new, and would scarcely find a publisher; some said that it was not worth publishing. The national executive of the Socialist Labor party of New York at first accepted the book for publication, but soon withdrew their promise, because they could not endorse the author's view and would only tolerate it as a private opinion. Herr Krause censures all these parties severally according to their answers, and handles them without gloves.

We must recognise that Herr Krause grows warm and eloquent when he speaks of "the true human progress that will benefit all" (p. 31), and he proposes as the sole means of progress a propaganda (*Agitationsweise*) of radical self-culture. He denounces the principle of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" which characterises the social democratic agitation (p. 29), and demands a pure morality and a spirit of self-sacrifice. Since the realisation of this ideal is impossible under the present social system of the god Mammon, he proposes to form a new organisation for the introduction of a new system on a new basis of human solidarity. Clubs are to be founded in which each member shall contribute an assessment of about 12 per cent. of their income for the various purposes of the organisation. There shall be regular meetings of the members; popular libraries, public lectures, free discussions, physical instruments for self instruction, etc., and if possible an exclusion of all spiritous drinks. At any rate alcoholism and other vices shall not be suffered (p. 41). The main benefit to members would consist in subsidies if for some reason or other they should become destitute; but above all, every one would upon his conscience be under the obligation of a faithful self-education.

The author's intentions are good, but we fear that he will meet with disappointments only. Many of his ideals are being realised through other methods and by people who are not Socialists; but his special plan can, in our opinion, not be carried out; but supposing he would be fortunate enough to start an organisation such as he sees in his prophetic vision, he would soon find out how difficult it is to run it. Even if the assessment of 12 per cent. were not too high, the members would by no means be assured that the officers of the club would administer the common funds with integrity and honesty. The anarchical system of individual responsibility such as prevails now will probably, in spite of its many drawbacks, prove more acceptable to the masses of mankind

P. C.

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WOMAN IN THE ANCIENT HEBREW CULT. By *Ismar J. Peritz*, A. M. Ph. D. (Harv.). Professor of Semitic Languages and Archæology, Syracuse University. Reprinted from *Journal of Biblical Literature* (1898, Part II.), published by the Society of Biblical Literature and Exegesis.

Woman's position in the ancient Hebrew cult has always been supposed to be inferior to that of man, a view which was used as an argument for barring the admission of women to the highest legislative council of the Methodist Episcopal Church at the General Conference. Dr. Peritz, however, after a careful investigation of the Biblical records, arrives at a result that will be unexpected in many circles, and is yet based upon good evidence. He says "that the Semites in general, and the Hebrews in particular, and the latter, especially in the earlier periods of their history, exhibit no tendency to discriminate between man and woman so far as regards participation in religious practices, but that woman participates in all the essentials of the cult, both as worshipper and official; and that only in later

time, with the progress in the development of the cult itself, a tendency appears not so much, however, to exclude woman from the cult, as rather to make man prominent in it " The essay is written in a thoroughly scholarly manner and the arguments carry conviction.

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DER SCHÄDEL DES SECUNDUS ARBITER. Die Geschichte eines Seelenwanderers von  
F. P. Kentel. Chicago: 1898.

This neat little book of 91 pages is a psychological novel describing the weird story of an educated but erratic man who believes he has discovered the skull of one of his prior incarnations. Mr. Secundus Strobel, a gentleman of means and too much leisure, devotes his life to the odd task of disentangling the secrets of his former life, and thus the romance of his imagination is woven into the history of the disease of his mind that leads him to the asylum.

P. C.

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Students of Catholic philosophy will welcome the appearance of a little metaphysical treatise on *The Notion of Time*,<sup>1</sup> which has been written by Désiré Nys, professor in the Catholic University of Louvain. The treatment is based on the philosophy of Saint Thomas Aquinas. The importance of the subject will be admitted by every one. In our opinion, the study of modern psychological investigations on this subject is preferable to the study of the works of Saint Thomas, great philosopher though he was. Nevertheless, the work has value as a contribution to the history of philosophy, and its author has not omitted to touch upon some of the views of recent philosophers.

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The January and February issues of the elegant *Bibelot* series, "a reprint of poetry and prose for book lovers, chosen in part from scarce editions and sources not generally known," are *Gertha's Lover's*, a tale by William Morris (Part I), and *Lyrics from Paul Verlaine*, the absinthe poet of France, who died in Paris in 1896 in abject poverty. The English translations of Verlaine are by various hands,—in one case the French original is given. "Friend and foe alike," says the editor, "have vied in stripping him of every vestige of reputation; one thing only his bitterest traducer could not choose but admit,—the exquisite poetry of such verse as *Chanson d'automne*, the *Avant que tu ne t'en ailles*, and *Il pleure dans mon cœur*." Each issue of the *Bibelot* series costs 5 cents. (Thomas B Mosher, 45 Exchange street, Portland, Me )

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Two attractive volumes have recently been added to the series of *Biographies of Saints* published by Victor Lecoffre, rue Bonaparte 90, Paris. One of them is devoted to *Saint Henry*, the Emperor of Germany, under whom the temporal and spiritual powers were consolidated. This little volume is written by Henry Lesêtre, who has acquired a reputation for researches in mediæval religious history. The second volume is on *Saint Dominic*, and has been written by Jean Guiraud. Saint Dominic, who was a Spaniard and lived between 1170 and 1221, was the founder of the order of Dominicans and an active participant in the crusade against the Albigenses. The volumes are cheap (75 cents, bound), and are written in French from the Roman Catholic point of view.

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The Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institution for the year ending 1896 has just been published. The bulk of the contents is devoted to archæology and

<sup>1</sup> *La Notion de Temps d'après les principes de Saint Thomas D'Aquin*. By Désiré Nys, Professeur à l'Université catholique de Louvain. Louvain: Institut Supérieur de Philosophie, 1 rue des Flamands. 1898. Pp., 232. Price, 2 fr. 50 c.



anthropology. The first of the larger contributions is a very elaborate monograph on *Historical Art*, by Thomas Wilson, Curator of Prehistorical Archæology in the United States National Museum. His paper "is a contribution to the history of art, rather than to the science of art, and is intended as a record of the actual manifestation of art in the various epochs of human culture in pre-historic times." The memoir covers over 300 large pages, and is very richly illustrated. The second original contribution of the volume is a long essay by Stewart Culin, of the Museum of Archæology of the University of Pennsylvania, on *Chess and Playing Cards* being a catalogue of games and implements for divination exhibited by the National Museum at the International Exposition in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1895. There is much of strange interest in the contribution, which is also profusely illustrated. The third paper is a description of the exhibit of Biblical Antiquities at the Atlanta Exposition, by Dr. Adler and Dr. Casanowicz. The fourth is on the *Lamp of the Esquimau*, by Dr. Hough, of the National Museum.

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Dr. William Benjamin Smith, professor of mathematics in Tulane University, has published the first volume of his work on the *Infinitesimal Calculus* (Macmillan, pp. 352, \$3.25). It deals with the more elementary parts of the subject, *Real Variables*, reserving the difficult parts, and especially the general theory of functions, for a second and a third volume. The book will not appeal to the average reader of *The Open Court*, but to the student it has much to recommend itself—large print, clear and distinct figures, salient subdivisions, a common-sense arrangement, good collections of familiar exercises, and, best of all, a practical appreciation of the real needs of instruction. The language is concise, though not elegant, and with a leaning to Teutonicisms and technicalities.

The same house has also just issued a large work (336 pp.) by Prof. J. Harkness, of Bryn Mawr, and Prof. F. Morley, of Haverford, entitled *Introduction to the Theory of Analytic Functions*, which is an entirely new book and not indistinguishable with their well-known *Treatise* in any way. The theory of functions occupies a central position in modern analysis, and has innumerable points of contact with other branches. Yet there is no text-book in English giving an elementary account of its fundamental concepts. It is this need the work in question supplies to those who have already entered on the higher mathematics. (Macmillan, \$3.00). Both volumes are handsome specimens of typography.

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A paper-covered edition of Dr. Paul Carus's *Buddhism and Its Christian Critics* has just been issued in the Religion of Science Library, at the reduced price of fifty cents (The Open Court Publishing Company, Chicago). The book is one which will be particularly interesting to students of comparative religion, and to Christian missionaries, to whom mainly it is addressed. There are six chapters, entitled as follows: The Origin of Buddhism, The Philosophy of Buddhism, The Psychological Problem. The Basic Concepts of Buddhism, Buddhism and Christianity, and Christian Critics of Buddhism. There are also a few illustrations.

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A new revised and enlarged edition of the same author's *Ethical Problem* has also just been issued. It contains, beside the original three lectures, the entire controversy that was elicited by the work when it first appeared, together with Dr. Carus's replies to prominent thinkers holding different views on the subject. This list includes Mr. William M. Salter, lecturer of the Chicago Ethical Society, Prof. Friedrich Jodl, of the University of Vienna, Prof. H. Hoeffding, of the University of Copenhagen, Prof. L. M. Billia, of Turin, Italy, the late Dr. Robert Lewins, of

the British Army, Mr. F. M. Holland, and Mr. John Maddock. The most important questions of ethics, such as the nature of conscience, the distinction between moral law and moral rules, the ultimate basis of morality, the relation of pleasure and pain to moral motives, and so forth, are fully discussed in the work. The bulk of the volume has been considerably swollen, and contains now 351 pages (The Open Court Publishing Company, Chicago. Cloth, \$1.25).

Dr. Douglas Houghton Campbell, professor of botany in the Leland Stanford University, of California, has collected the course of lectures which he delivered last year into a volume entitled: *The Evolution of Plants* (New York: The Macmillan Company. Pages, 319. Price, \$1.25). The lectures aim to present in an untechnical manner the most striking facts bearing upon the evolution of plant forms. So far as the author's knowledge reaches, no popular work, not addressed to botanical students alone, and giving a connected account of the development of the plant kingdom from an evolutionary standpoint, exists in the English language. And this deficiency in our scientific literature it was that moved him to publish the present work. He claims no originality for the matter presented, beyond its arrangement, and has availed himself freely of the material accumulated by botanists during the past fifty years. Sixty drawings have been prepared for the elucidation of the text.

#### NOTES.

Dr. W. L. Hailmann, the late superintendent of Indian schools (under Cleveland), writes concerning the article on the "Indian Question," written by Mr. A. H. Heinemann for the December *Open Court*, that "it is the most instructive, true to the core, and will do much to clear the atmosphere," adding, "I do not, however, think it quite severe enough on the political corruption which poisons every phase of the work," and "on the lack of conscience displayed" on "the part of secretaries of the interior, senators, representatives, and local party bosses. But all the statements made by Mr. Heinemann are good and true and thorough."

We learned with deep regret of the death, some months ago, of Hermann Boppe, the editor of the *Freidenker*, of Milwaukee, Wis. He was an honest man and stood up bravely for his convictions. As an iconoclast he had not his equal; but his language was moderate, and he never pandered to sensationalism. He condemned religion in any form and preferred the discarding of traditional ideas to the method of purifying them, as pursued by *The Open Court*. His political radicalism found its ideal in the institutions of Switzerland, and he advocated reforms such as the abolition of the presidency, etc. His field of work was limited to the Germans, especially the liberal element, which is represented by the *Turnverein*. Among the Turners he had his friends, although even here he frequently met with resistance, for he never tried to be popular and would have held to his views even though he had wrecked the *Freidenker* and all his literary enterprises. The cause of his death was overwork, for he was indefatigable, and the means at his disposal were not sufficient to engage effective editorial assistance. His best helpmate was his wife, a German-American lady, a native of Milwaukee, of scholarly education and high accomplishments.

We differed from Mr. Boppe's views on many points, and were repeatedly engaged in controversies, but they never disturbed our personal relations, which remained friendly to the very last.