

ment in England,' a few years ago. Both are standard works of reference. Longmans, Green & Co. are the publishers.

The Catholics, who felt themselves very near the spirit of Columbus in the celebrations which one is now rather glad to leave behind, have made a parting gift to the Columbian bibliophiles in a pretty book, 'The Columbus Memorial Volume,' in which the Catholic Club of New York and the United States Catholic Historical Society have united in admiration of the man whom some would like to adore as a saint.

'The Natural History of the Christian Religion' (Macmillan) is the taking title of the not very taking book which the Rev. William Mackintosh has written "to trace the origin of Christianity to the common religious instinct." The author has a good endowment of Scotch pertinacity in arguing out every phase of every theory to the bitter end, and this often gives an appearance of diffuseness to his pages, while his express reliance upon the "employment of conjecture" necessarily lends an air of unreality to many parts of his discussion. Strikingly in contrast is the method of Weizsäcker in his 'Apostolic Age of the Christian Church,' the first volume of which leads off in the new series of Williams & Norgate's "Theological Translation Library" (Putnams). Here we have a master of historical investigation, with his eye all the while on the fact, marshalling the different parts of the record into a sequence which has often been dislocated in the traditional form, and which, when restored, clears up many a puzzling tract in the narrative.

The life and works of Mrs. Elizabeth Rowe (1674-1737), the author of the Biblical epic 'Joseph' and of 'Letters from the Dead to the Living,' are discussed by Dr. Theodor Vetter in an excellent brochure ('Die göttliche Rowe') just published at Zürich. Though now one of the "very dead" authors, Mrs. Rowe was a not insignificant figure in her own day. Her relations to the English literature of her century are interesting; but much more remarkable is the impression which her poetry made on her German contemporaries, especially Klopstock, who decorated her with the title "die göttliche." Dr. Vetter's tract sets forth the facts briefly but sufficiently, and is agreeably written.

After twenty-six years of honorable activity the Spenser Society has issued its farewell volume. The first publication of the society was 'The Proverbs and Epigrams' of John Heywood, the last is the same author's 'The Spider and the Flie.' Between these two volumes stand in stately series the works of Taylor the Water-Poet, of Wither, and of Drayton, the 'Tenne Tragedies of Seneca,' the 'Shepherds Calender' of 1579 in facsimile, and many other indispensable reprints. The demise of the society is to students of English the loss of an old and very helpful friend. The excellence of the present volume makes regret the more poignant. The edition of 1556 is carefully reprinted, and the amusing woodcuts, of which there are very many, are faithfully reproduced. Finally, Prof. A. W. Ward, the last president of the Society, has prefixed an introduction which is both a good discussion of the work and a graceful valedictory. *Vivat sequens!*

M. Yriarte has given us, in the 'Livre de Souvenirs de Maso di Bartolommeo dit Masaccio' (Paris: J. Rothschild), a very curious and interesting document. Maso, who must not be confounded with the great Masaccio, was a

the fifteenth century, and not otherwise of great importance than that he had the happy thought to keep, for eight years together, a brief diary and account-book, and that this manuscript has been preserved for us—part of it in the library of Prato and part in the Magliabecchiana at Florence. It forms a unique record of the life of an artist at that period, before artists became the great men that the sixteenth century made of some of them, and when they were humble craftsmen and ready to accept anything in their line of work, from the decoration of a cathedral front to the casting of cannon or church-bells. Maso even records the casting of copper balls for a bed, yet he was a sculptor of enough repute to be named with Michelozzi and Luca della Robbia in the contract for the bronze gates of the sacristy of Santa Maria del Fiore, and an architect eminent enough to be designer-in-chief of the façade of S. Domenico di Urbino, where Luca della Robbia was subcontractor only for the reliefs in majolica and in stone. M. Yriarte gives the manuscript in full in its original crabbed Italian, as well as his own commentary and a translation of the more important passages. There are forty-odd illustrations, but only a comparatively small proportion of their number is strictly relevant to the subject.

To do something new seems to have been the principal aim of the publishers of 'The Yellow Book; An Illustrated Quarterly' (London: Elkin Mathews & John Lane; Boston: Copeland & Day), vol. i. of which, for April, 1894, lies before us. It is bound in boards of a hideous yellow color, with a design, only more hideous than frivolous, in violent black. The pictures (for they are not illustrations and have no connection with the text, but are introduced for their own sake) are of the latest school of English impressionism, and are very slight or very affected or very vulgar. The page is a broad 12mo, and the lines of letterpress, in old-faced type, run straight across it, with old-style catchwords. The matter is, much of it, very modern and very impressionistic, the Whistlerian affectations of Mr. Max Beer-bohm's "Defence of Cosmetics" being particularly intolerable. The names of Henry James, George Saintsbury, and Edmund Gosse among the writers, and that of Sir Frederick Leighton among the artists, give, however, a somewhat higher tone to the table of contents, and Mr. Arthur Waugh's essay on "Reticence in Literature" is a healthy protest against many of the vices of "modernity."

Probably no book ever came into this world amid such a clamor of vociferous advertising as has heralded and accompanied the advent of M. Zola's 'Lourdes.' Interviews with its illustrious author began to appear months ago, and clever newspaper paragraphs have since been whetting the interest then excited. On the publication of the first instalment of the romance, Paris broke out in a carnival of *réclame*. Many colored "posters," advertising vans, sandwich men swarmed throughout the city. No such a launching, says M. Gaston Deschamps, has been seen since the days of Boulanger's election or of the glory of Buffalo Bill. Whether the novel will justify all this noise remains to be seen. The opening chapters seem a little clumsy and dull.

Six numbers of a folio "Bibliothèque de Dessin," issued from the Librairie de l'Art, 8 Boulevard des Capucines, Paris, are filled with facsimile drawings by masters old and modern, eight sheets to a number, without letterpress, at two francs the number. Figures predomi-

nants—and the total represents the autographic work of Dürer, Rembrandt, Van Dyck, Rubens, Potter, Jordaens, Visscher, Signorelli, Donatello, Da Vinci, Del Sarto, Sanzio, Watteau, Boucher, Rousseau, Millet, Fragonard, Jacquemart, Delaunay, Constable, Herkomer, Legros, and two Americans, Boughton and Knight—to mention only a part. These are very cheap examples of great draughtmanship, and must recommend themselves both for purposes of instruction and for decorative uses. The same establishment sends us four more parts (5-8) of the smaller "Bibliothèque d'Éducation Artistique," continuing the series of choice "Japanese decorative documents" drawn from the Gillot collection. The subjects are flowers and plants, quadrupeds and fish, and strikingly exemplify the keenness of Japanese observation and firmness of stroke in delineating animal life in motion. Humor vies here with the decorative instinct in a way unknown to Western art.

Dr. Harrison Allen's 'Monograph of the Bats of North America,' Bulletin 43 of the National Museum, is a work of great merit. The quality and thoroughness of its descriptions and comparisons, whether external or anatomical, should commend it to all zoologists having to do with characterization or determination of species. Dr. Allen has devoted his energy to discovery of real additions to knowledge, rather than temporary arrangements; he has gathered a mass of information that cannot be set aside by future students and that is creditable alike to the author and the country. The work is done mainly from the specimens, comparatively little of it from the literature; its extent is shown in the fact that the record, from twenty-one species, with seven varieties, belonging to twelve genera, of two families, required 198 pages of closely printed text and 38 plates of illustrations.

A very dull imagination can infer from its title the labor and the merit of the volume just issued by a committee of the Society of the Alumni of the University of Pennsylvania, viz., 'Biographical Catalogue of the Matriculates of the College, together with lists of the members of the College Faculty, and the trustees, officers, and recipients of honorary degrees, 1749-1893.' A laudable compression has reduced this mass of details to less than 600 large octavo pages. Nothing is in order but to congratulate the University on the industry and devotion of its catalogue committee. Their work will be welcomed everywhere as one more bond in the union of educated men, and one more guide to posterity in tracing the fortunes and descent of a class whose conspicuity is not always commensurate with their influence.

The Geographical Society of Bern has published a report of its proceedings for the years 1891-1892, together with some score of papers presented to the society during this period. Among these we have noted a narrative of travels in Colombia, an interesting sketch of a visit to the King of Dahomey, and a notice by the president, Dr. Gobat, of some of the contributions to North American ethnology published by the Smithsonian Institution. Mr. A. S. Gatschet contributes, in English, some mythic stories of the Yuchi Indians, related to him by the pupil of a mission school at Wialaka, Creek Nation. In the first a council of the various animals, called by the Creator, decides that earth shall be taken from the bottom of the waters to provide solid matter for their home. After the loon and the beaver have failed, the crawfish succeeds in