logue of English versions of Italian novelle. Translations of poetry, plays, metrical romances, and miscellaneous books are reserved for enumeration in the subsequent papers. The present publication may be described as an expansion of Warton’s chapter on “Translation of Italian Novels.” The subject is one of much importance to students of English literature, and we shall await with interest the further papers promised by Mr. Scott. She already estimates that one-third of the extant Elizabethan plays “can be traced to Italian influence in one way or another.”

Under the title of “The Constitution of the United States at the End of the First Century” (Heath), Mr. George S. Boutwell publishes a manual presenting the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, the Northwest Territorial Ordinance, and the Constitution of 1787; the last-named document accompanied with annotations, section by section, giving the decisions of the Supreme Court relating thereto, and followed by a copious and convenient analytical index of its various provisions. A chapter on “the progress of a American Independence and its basis in the law of England” gives a clear summary of the events which evidence the growth of the disposition toward independence, beginning in the seventeenth century, and illustrating the evolution of the idea out of the principles of the British Constitution. This chapter is a valuable contribution to our national history. Succeeding chapters take up, clause by clause, the provisions of our Constitution, stating in familiar language the purport and effect of the judicial opinions in which these provisions have severally been expounded. The manual will be of value to constitutional students, and will doubtless interest a large circle of non-professional readers of our constitutional history.

It is quite appropriate that one function of a state university, supported by the public funds, should be the diffusion of knowledge among the people at large. This is done by the University of Wisconsin through the medium of its “Bulletin,” consisting of monographs by the instructors and advanced students in the various departments, which are printed at the public expense and distributed without charge to libraries and individuals within the state. The second number of the “Economics, Political Science, and History Series” is a study, by Mr. Charles J. Bullock, of “The Finances of the United States from 1775 to 1879, with special reference to the Budget.”

The Revolutionary period is of such importance that it has frequently been chosen for special investigation by students of American financial history; but on the other hand the mode of procedure in making appropriations, which is the particular subject of Mr. Bullock’s inquiry, has usually been neglected by American writers on finance. This essay gives evidence of much patient research among governmental records and possesses interest for the student as showing the development of budgetary methods in America.

A volume of entertaining dog-stories is most apparent from the fact that he fills columns of his most esteemed political and literary journal, “The Spectator,” with dog-stories. From the hundreds of these stories, Mr. J. St. Loa Strachey has made selections for a volume of “Dog Stories” (Macmillan). However, we cannot commend the editor’s work very highly. The introduction is of little value, and the classification clumsy: e.g., he separates the “syllogistic” dog from the “reasoning!” Again, the stories on pages 208–9 plainly belong under the heading, Dogs and Language; and the story on page 198 is clearly not a dog-story at all, but a cow-story. The only thing of any very serious scientific interest in the volume is Sir John Lubbock’s two letters on teaching dogs to read. This book, however, is not meant for the scientist, but for the dog-lover, to whom it will appeal most effectively by its many very interesting narratives of actual experiences.

Mr. Frank Samuel Child’s “An Old New England Town” (Scribner) is a pretty volume containing a sheaf of brief papers descriptive of life, scenery, and character in Fairfield, Conn. New England towns have borne a conspicuous part in the moulding of our social life and political institutions; and few of them have won a more honorable distinction in this direction than the one that is here described. The author has gleaned his material from the best public and private sources, and his little book is brimful of that saving spirit of old-time American patriotism which such societies as the Daughters of the Revolution tend (or should tend) to perpetuate. The work is plentifully illustrated with photogravure plates of Fairfield views and worthies.

BRIEFER MENTION.

Half a dozen of M. Zola’s short stories, put into exceptionally finished and accurate English by Mr. W. F. Apthorp, make up a small volume entitled “Jacques d’Amour” (Copeland & Day). The other stories are “Madame Neigeon,” “Nantas,” “How We Die,” “The Coqueville Spree,” and “The Attack on the Mill.” The publishers have made a striking book of this collection by imitating (although in cloth covers) the common French style of lettering for the outside of their paper-covered publications. The effect is so pretty that we hope to see more of it.

There are good names, such as those of Dr. Garnett and Mr. Kennett Grahame—names that give promise of entertainment, such as those of Mr. Henry Harland, Mr. A. C. Benson, and Miss Ella d’Arey; and names that have no particularly definite subjectiveness—in “The Yellow Book” for October, and there are some
very fair pictures as well; but the volume includes nothing striking, unless it be the amusing screed about current literary criticism, which takes the form of "a letter to the editor," and is signed "The Yellow Dwarf." Messrs. Copeland & Day are the American publishers of this quarterly magazine.

The annual bound volume of "St. Nicholas" and the "Century" magazine are at hand, no less attractive than the broad shelf-full of their predecessors. The "St. Nicholas" volume is in two parts, covering a whole year, while the "Century" volume is for the six months ending last October. The former has articles by Professor Brande Matthews, Mr. Rudyard Kipling, Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, and others; the latter gives us a large section of Professor Sloan's "Life of Napoleon" as its chief feature, flanked by all sorts of timely and readable contributions in the shape of essays, descriptive papers, stories, and poems.

"Langland's Vision of Piers the Plowman," translated into modern English prose by Miss Kate M. Warren (Imported by Putnam), provides university extension circles and amateur students of our literature with an excellent introduction to the work of Chaucer's great contemporary. While the book makes no pretense of being more than a compilation, it is praiseworthy for the careful use that has been made of the best authorities, and for the quality of its language. The style of the translation is modeled to a considerable extent upon the Biblical English of Wyclif, although obsolete words are but sparingly used. The apparatus of introduction, notes, and appendices supplies the beginner with the essentials, and the book as a whole may be said to accomplish its modest purpose in a very satisfactory manner.

Many poets miss their proper audience for being too voluminous or too widely dispersed in unrelated tones. No greater service can be done for such a poet than the preparation of a careful and choice selection from his various books — the service done, for example, by Arnold for Byron, by Mr. Stopford Brooke for Shelley, by Professor Woodberry for Mr. Asbury De Vere, or by Mr. Swinburne for himself. An exquisite example of this sort of service is afforded by Mrs. Meynell's selection of examples from the poems of Mr. Coventry Patmore. "Poems of Fathos and Delight," the book is called, and is a book of delight in more senses than one. Mrs. Meynell's preface is brief but adequate, the comment of one true poet upon the work of another. Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons publish the volume in this country.

Miss Lily Lewis Rood is the author of a brochure sketch of M. Pavis de Chavannes, her treatment being sketchy but sympathetic, anecdotal and mildly critical. The pamphlet is beautifully printed on French hand-made paper by Messrs. L. Prang & Co. There are several illustrations, including a portrait of the artist and the decorative printing for the Boston Public Library.

We noticed Dr. Tracy's "Psychology of Childhood" when it first appeared, expressing the opinion, which we see no reason for retracting or modifying, that it is one of the best studies of the child that American students have produced. The new edition (Heath), which is called, and is a book of delight in more senses than one. Mrs. Meynell's preface is brief but adequate, the comment of one true poet upon the work of another. Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons publish the volume in this country.

"Eugenie Grandet," translated by Miss Ellen M'Lain, is the latest volume of the Macmillan edition of Balzac. "The Fortunate Mistress" fills two volumes, numbered twelve and thirteen, in the Dent edition of Defoe, which Mr. Atkin is editing so acceptably. In the Lippincott edition of Smollett, we have, also in two volumes, a reprint of "The Adventures of Count Fathom." "The Lyric Poems of Sir Philip Sidney," edited by Mr. Ernest Rhys, is the newest volume in this charming Dent series of "The Lyric Poets." All of these books are manufactured in a highly tasteful manner.

The edition of Scheffel's "Ekkehard" just published by Messrs. T. Y. Crowell & Co. is one of the prettiest things of the season, and one for which lovers of the best literature should be unusually grateful. Of the work itself, we need not speak; it is simply one of the greatest historical novels ever written. This edition is in two volumes, with some charming illustrations, and all the notes of the latest German edition. The translation is an old one, revised by Mr. Nathan Haskell Dole, who also contributes a highly readable introductory account of the author.

"My Double, and How He Undid Me," by the Rev. Edward Everett Hale, is almost as well established among our short-story classics as "The Man without a Country" itself. Messrs. Lamson, Wolffe & Co. have just made of it a very pretty booklet, tastefully old-fashioned in get-up, and including both a portrait of the author and a preface written especially for this edition. We note that Dr. Hale promises a new story, to be entitled "A Man without a City," to be brought out by the same publishers.

Messrs. Way & Williams publish a charming reprint of Shelley's translation of the "Banquet" of Plato, with decorative initials and title-page by Mr. Bruce Rogers. A heavy-faced type, a well-proportioned page, and a tasteful buckram cover, are the chief mechanical features of this little classic, which will be highly prized by lovers of Plato and of Shelley alike. As one of the two most characteristic examples of Shelley's prose, it was well worthy of this separate publication.

A collection of fifty original charades has been published by the members of St. Agnes Society, Ogdensburg, N. Y., in a dainty little volume entitled "Guess Again." The charades are for the most part very good, and the book can be cordially recommended to those who are interested in this form of entertainment.—In this connection we may mention a similar volume containing over a hundred original charades, by Mr. Herbert Ingalls, entitled "The Boston Charades," and published by Messrs. Lee & Shepard.

"Poets' Dogs" is the latest of the anthologies, and is edited by Miss Elizabeth Richardson (Putnam). The idea of the book seems amusing at first, but is amply justified when we examine the selections, which range from the "Odyssey" to "Getz's Grave" and "Owd Ro." On the cover is stamped as a quaint device: "The little dogs and all." The Macmillan miniature edition of Tennyson now includes volumes headed, respectively, by "Locksley Hall" and "A Dream of Fair Women," each booklet containing besides a group of poems chronologically associated with the titular pieces.

The "Century Science" series of biographies aims to give brief accounts, by authors of recognized authority, of the life and work of nineteenth century leaders in

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