

MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

THE article by Mr. E. W. Gosse on the early writings of Mr. Robert Browning, in the December number of the *Century*, is one of the most remarkable and interesting fragments of literary biography ever published. The devotion of Mr. Browning's life to the development of his poetic genius; the love and sympathy shown by his father, notwithstanding the intellectual divergence of their minds; the vastness of his early epic projects; the illumination of his mind by the then neglected works of Shelley and Keats; the long neglect suffered also by himself, palliated by the recognition of his genius by such men as Wordsworth, Macready, John Forster, and John Stuart Mill—are all subjects of legitimate curiosity, and the facts relating thereto are here told with the authority of Mr. Browning himself. Not less interesting is that part of Mr. Gosse's paper which tells of the production of his plays, and of his connexion with Macready and the stage, which will clear up many misunderstandings. The error of supposing that these fine dramas "failed" in the ordinary sense of that term is here exposed. Mr. Browning has been more fortunate than many great men in choosing an editor for his valuable information. Mr. Gosse has shown great taste and skill in executing his important trust.

THE December number of *Temple Bar* has a short story by Tourguéneff, called "The Brigadier," which all should read if they care to know how a short story should be written. The impression left by its studied simplicity is almost painful, like the glare of a southern sun. We fancy that it must be translated from the French, but Tourguéneff has never been fortunate in his translators. Another article, on "Art and Landscape in Edinboro," by Mr. Frederick Wedmore, deserves notice. But for ourselves, we confess that the abbreviation "Edinboro" (is it an abbreviation?) has fairly upset our faculty of criticism. We hate, in literature, to be reminded of luggage labels. We will only remark that Mr. Wedmore says of the Edinburgh National Gallery:—

"Of collections quite easily accessible, without let or hindrance, within the limits of Great Britain, it stands second only to the gallery in Trafalgar Square; and, if it stands second at a very great distance, there is yet in it more than enough to justify a long study."

THE principal article in the *Revista de Ciencias Históricas* for August and September (which has reached us only lately) is "Los Iberos," by the editor. In it he examines the principal theories concerning the origin of the Basque race and language, and decides against that of Padre F. Fita, who would establish a relationship between the Basque and Georgian languages. The most original part of the article is an attempt at a systematic and exhaustive analysis of Basque roots in Spanish toponymy. This we think only partially successful. Some of the so-called roots seem to us arbitrary divisions of syllables; others, especially those from the *Basses-Pyrénées*, are decidedly of Romance origin. We notice, however, a corroboration of our own observations of the numerous Basque roots in Galicia and the *Asturias—i.e.*, in the parts where a Celtic toponymy is also most marked. Another valuable article is by F. Martorell y Peña on the fortified posts of Catalonia; the illustrations show clearly the cyclopean foundations of Tarragona, with the more recent masonry bearing Celtiberian letters above it, and this again succeeded by Roman and mediæval work. History is represented in "The Council of Constance," by F. de Bofarull, and in the "History of the Counts of Empurias" by Bishop Taverner. In numismatics Elias de Molins describes the commemorative medals in the Archaeological Museum of Barcelona.

BECCERRO DE BENGOLA opens an interesting number of the *Revista Contemporanea* (November 15) with a paper on "Modern Electricity." Luis Barthe, on "The Dismissal of Public Functionaries," discusses a question of the highest practical importance in Spain. Elias de Molins publishes the Roman inscriptions in the Provincial Museum of Barcelona. But the most important articles are by Tinajero y Martinez and by Gen. Cordova. The former, in "Polystoria," treats of Spanish historians of the seventeenth century. Mariana among the general, Aigensola and Solis among the colonial, and Hurtado de Mendoza and Melo among the special historians are selected for high commendation. Gen. Cordova, in "The Expedition to Italy in 1849," gives a spirited narrative of the abortive negotiations of M. F. de Lesseps with the Roman Government.

SELECTED BOOKS.

GENERAL LITERATURE.

- BERNOULLI, J. J. *Römische Ikonographie*. 1. Thl. Die Bildnisse berühmter Römer. Stuttgart: Spemann. 20 M.
 BRAUN, J. W. *Schiller u. Goethe im Urtheile ihrer Zeitgenossen*. Zeitungskritiken, Berichte u. Notizen. Schiller u. Goethe u. deren Werke betr. aus den J. 1773-1812. 1. Abth. Schiller. 1. u. 2. Bd. Leipzig: Schlicke. 15 M.
 CAYROIS, J., et H. DUHEM. *En Canot de Douai au Helder: Textes et Gravures*. Paris: Marpon & Flammarion. 10 fr.
 DANGLAR, E. G. *Les Sémites et le Sémitisme aux Points de Vue ethnographique, religieux et politiques*. Paris: Maisonneuve. 3 fr.
 DIFFERT, A. de. *Le Prince*. Etude politique. Leipzig: Riibe. 6 M. 40 Pf.
 DRAKE, S. A. *The Heart of the White Mountains: their Legend and Scenery*. Chatto & Windus. 31s 6d.
 GOEDKE, K. *Grundriss zur Geschichte der deutschen Dichtung*. 3. Bd. 7 Hft. Dresden: Ehrenmann. 4 M. 60 Pf.
 HOPMANN, N. *Bronce-Arbeiten in deutscher Renaissance*. 1. Lfg. Berlin: Nicolai. 15 M.
 LENTHÉRIC, Ch. *La Région du Bas-Rhône*. Paris: Hachette. 3 fr. 50 c.
 MARTIN, Sir Theodore. *The Works of Horace*. Translated into English Verse. With a Life and Notes. Blackwood. 21s.
 MATHIEU-BODET. *Les Finances françaises 1870 à 1878*. Paris: Hachette. 15 fr.
 MAURICE, F. *La Politique extérieure de la République française*. Paris: Germer Baillière. 3 fr. 50 c.
 MONTÉPIN, X. de. *La Fille de Marguerite*. Paris: Dentu. 6 fr.
 PALMER, W. J. *The Tyne and its Tributaries*. Bell. 25s.
 RODT, E. v. *Das alte Bern, nach Zeichnungen u. eigenen Aufnahmen*. 2. Serie. Bern: Huber. 25 M.
 SCHNEIDER, F. *Die St. Paulus-Kirche zu Worms, ihr Bau u. ihre Geschichte*. Mainz: Dimer. 12 M.
 SUMNER, H. *The Avon*. From Naseby to Tewkesbury. Seeley. 31s. 6d.
 WESSELY, J. E. *Supplemente zu den Handbüchern der Kupferstichkunde*. Stuttgart: Spemann. 6 M.
 WHINFIELD, E. H. *The Quatrains of Omar Khayyam*. Trübner. 5s.
 ZOLLING, Th. *Heinrich v. Kleist in der Schweiz*. Stuttgart: Spemann. 10 M.

THEOLOGY.

- BRUNTON, C. *Histoire critique de la Littérature prophétique des Hébreux depuis les Origines jusqu'à la Mort d'Isaïe*. Paris: Fischbacher.
 HERMÆ Pastor. *Græcæ. E codicibus Sinaitico et Lipsiensi etc.* Ed. A. Hilgenfeld. Ed. 2. Leipzig: Wigzel. 8 M.
 KUEZL, E. O. *Die epistolischen Penkopn. auf Grund der besten Ausleger älterer u. neuerer Zeit exegetisch u. homiletisch bearb.* 1. B1. Marburg: Elwert. 5 M.
 OROSH, Pauli. *Historiarum aduersus paganos libri VII*. Rec. O. Zangemeister. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 16 M.
 RHYNS DAVIDS, T. W. *Lectures on the Origin and Growth of Religion, as illustrated by some Points in the History of Indian Buddhism*. Williams & Norgate. 10s. 6d.

HISTORY, ETC.

- BORÉLY, A. E. *Histoire de la Ville du Havre et son ancien Gouvernement*. Rouen: Métairie. 30 fr.
 BORMANN, E. *Fastorum civitatis Tauromenitanæ reliquiae*. Marburg: Elwert. 1 M. 20 Pf.
 CHASSANT, A., et TAUSIN. *Dictionnaire des Dèvises historiques et héraldiques*. Paris: Dumoulin. 16 fr.
 DUQUET, A. *La Guerre d'Italie (1859)*. Paris: Charpentier. 3 fr. 50 c.
 GARDNER, J., and J. SPEDDING. *Studies in English History*. Edinburgh: Douglas. 12s.
 HOELDER, E. *Beiträge zur Geschichte d. römischen Erbrechtes*. Erlangen: Deichert. 8 M. 50 Pf.
 KAUFMANN, G. *Deutsche Geschichte bis auf Karl den Grossen*. 2. Bd. Leipzig: Duncker & Humblot. 7 M. 50 Pf.
 LECOQ, J. *La Prise de la Bastille et ses Anniversaires, d'après des Documents inédits*. Paris: Charavay.
 LUCAY, le Comte de. *Les Secrétaires d'Etat depuis leur Institution jusqu'à la Mort de Louis XV*. Paris: Tardieu. 10 fr.
 NEUMANN, C. *Geschichte Roms während d. Verfalls der Republik. Vom Zeitalter d. Scipio Aemilianus bis zu Sulla's Tode*. Hrg. v. E. Gothein. Breslau: Koebner. 12 M.

- POLLIO, J., et A. MARCEL. *Le Bataillon du 10 Août: Recherches pour servir à l'Histoire de la Révolution française*. Paris: Charpentier. 3 fr. 50 c.
 SCHMELTZ, J. D. E., u. R. KAUSE. *Die ethnographisch-anthropologische Abtheilung d. Museum Godeffroy in Hamburg*. Ein Beitrag zur Kunde der Südssee-Völker. Hamburg: Friedr. riehens. 25 M.
 STRAUB, A. *Le Cimetièrè gallo-romain de Strasbourg*. Strasbourg: Trübner. 20 M.
 WEIDLING, J. *Schwedische Geschichte im Zeitalter der Reformation*. Gotha: Schloßmann. 6 M.
 WENCK, C. Clemens V. u. Heinrich VII. *Die Anfänge d. franzüs. Papstthums*. Ein Beitrag zur Geschichte d. 14. Jahrh. Halle: Niemeyer. 5 M.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.

- BALTZER, L. *Glyphes des Rochers du Bohuslän*. 1^{re} Partie. Gothenburg: Pehrson. 4 fr.
 DRUDE, O. *Die stossweisen Wachstumsveränderungen in der Blattenwicklung v. Victoria regia Lindl.* Leipzig: Engelmann. 2 M. 50 Pf.
 GIRARD, M. *Traité élémentaire d'Entomologie*. T. 3. Fasc. 1. Hyménoptères tétrabérants et macrolépidoptères. Paris: J. B. Baillière. 20 fr.
 HAZAY, J. *Die Mollusken-Fauna v. Budapest m. besond. Rücksichtnahme auf die embryonalen u. biolog. Verhältnisse ihrer Vorkommnisse*. Cassel: Fischer. 8 M.
 HENZEL, R. *Craniologische Studien*. Leipzig: Engelmann. 12 M.
 HUBNOT, T. *Hepaticologia gallica*. Paris: Savy 10 fr. 50 c.
 KIPRIANOFF, W. *Studien üb. die fossilen Reptilien Russlands*. 1. Thl. St. Petersburg. 8s.
 LIARD, L. *Descartes*. Paris: Germer Baillière. 5 fr.
 LIEBSCH, Th. *Geometrische Krystallographie*. Leipzig: Engelmann. 12 M.
 RAMBERT, E., et P. ROBERT. *Les Oiseaux dans la Nature*. Paris: Lebet. 120 fr.
 SCHUPPE, W. *Grundzüge der Ethik u. Rechtsphilosophie*. Br-slaw: Koebner. 9 M.
 WILCKOMM, M. *Illustrationen florae Hispaniae insularumque Balearum*. Livr. 3. Stuttgart: Schweizerbart. 12 M.

PHILOLOGY, ETC.

- ARBOIS DE JUAINVILLE, H. d'. *Etudes grammaticales sur les Langues celtiques*. 1^{re} Partie. Introduction: Phonétique et Dérivation bretonnes. Paris: Vieweg.
 BABRI fabulae. Rec. M. Gitlbauer. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 3 M. 60 Pf.
 BARIHOLOMAR, Ch. *Arische Forschungen*. 1. Hft. Halle: Niemeyer. 5 M.
 DUEMMLEB, E. *Rhythmorum ecclesiasticorum aevi Carolini Specimen*. Berlin: Weidmann. 1 M. 20 Pf.
 EPHEMERIS epigraphica. Vol. 4. Fasc. 3. et 4. Berlin: Reimer. 10 M.
 MONACI, E. *Facsimili di antichi Manoscritti per uso delle Scuole di Filologia neolatina*. Milano: Hoepli. 12 fr.
 OVIDI NASONIS, P. *libellus de medicina faciei*. Ed. A. Kunz. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 2 M. 80 Pf.
 SCHIFFER, J. *Englische Metrik in historischer u. systematischer Entwicklung dargestellt*. 1. Thl. Altenglische Metrik. Bonn: Strauss. 13 M. 50 Pf.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE STATUE OF MARCO POLO AT VENICE.

Trieste: Nov. 11, 1881.

One of the chief attractions at the Mostra geografica of the "Carnival of Venice," as men now call the defunct Congress, was a supposed statue of Marco Polo. It was a life-sized figure in Chinese robes, gilt over, except the sailor's hat, which was black and intensely modern, and the beard, which was sky-blue, like that of an old Cutch pilot. The original is supposed to be in the "Hall of the Genii," Canton; and sundry Italian authorities, as the late Cav. Tomasoni, of Padua, believed in its authenticity.

My friend Mr. James Pincherle, of Trieste, copied the characters for you at my special request. The subject, I venture to say, deserves discussion. It is new to see a Fan-qui, or foreign devil, raised to the rank of a St. Josaphat.

RICHARD F. BURTON.

The Virtuous	善	Shen
and Reflective	注	Ch
Honoured	尊	Tsun
One	者	Ché

[The translation has been kindly supplied by Prof. R. K. Douglas, of the British Museum, who adds, "Tsun ché is an appellation of Buddhas and Arhats, answering to *Arya*, or venerable."—ED. ACADEMY.]