The Nation

as the former volume. Great story-teller as Hennipen was, upon occasion, he is yet less essentially an illustrator than was How-

Plait, and one feels that more of the essence of his art is omitted in the kind of com-

ment that Miss Hull given them in the case of the "Puritans." Parts of the book look

real dimly, like illuminated Sunday-

school lessons. The reproductions are rather better than in the first issue, but are not

yet irreproachable.

Just one year after the first appearance of Prentiss Hall's "Thur's Outlines of Indus-
trial Chemistry" (Hamlin Co.) comes a new and revised edition. If the de-
terminations is to retain this publication poorly, it will undoubtedly gain vastly in

importance. In the early parts it will be

required not only to keep up with the steady improvement, but also to remedy

immediate faults of the original prepara-

tion. We find, however, very few consider-

able changes in this form. namely, on p.

66, a paragraph of eleven lines enumer-

ating work is inserted at the expense of a

shorter paragraph on assaying wool. Two

others being more continually expressed; and

on p. 51 an account of the Herreshoff Py-

rite Burner taken the place of descrip-

tions of the Perseus-Olivier Furnace and the

Hamrath-Hickling Burner. The other changes

that we have remarked do not amount to a

more of slight executions. The index

is amended by the addition of a single entry,

tables which the above-quoted in-
nentions in the text required. The lists

of authority are almost absolutely unaltered.

Not even new citations have been added.

At this rate, the work, far from being im-

proved, is barely maintaining its place in

the line of month. Its external appearance

is even homelier, owing to the paper tak-

ing the ink better; and figure 21 has been

reduced in advantage.

Prof. John Goodrich's "Metallic Applications to Engineering" (McMillan) is a book which we

may, just mention, notwithstanding its

elementary technical character, because its

purpose is practical. It is addressed to men

who have some knowledge of mechanism, as

taught in the mathematical treatise, but

whose knowledge flags among the clouds, so

that they do not know how to apply it to

engineering problems. Among the various

effects of the usual bad teaching of mathe-

matics, this is a very common one; and this

work will do something for the victim.

Part of it, however, seems to fall between

two stools, being superficial for those who

are up in theoretical mechanics, and too

advanced for those who are not. This will

prevent other parts of the book from being

used. Even an accomplished engineer will

find some things in it worthy of atten-

tion.

"Mathematics," from the Chicago Record

(Douglas & McCall Co.), will be found

useful by journalists corporals who are

deficient in the theoretical side of their

profession, and perhaps by some others.

Prof. William Ripper's "Steam-Engines

Theory and Practice" (Lemmeny), though

less technical to be cripled here, is, never-

theless, so well put together and so

concisely expressed as to deserve notice for

its literary merit; and the matter of it is

equally judicious and severe. So far as

we have tested it, we have found it un-

usually accurate. But that students who

mean to make it their business to under-

stand the steam-engines, and who have gone

so far as to know what differentials and

integrals are, should think the labor of

learning enough mathematics thor-

oughly to master the theory of the sub-

ject, and should find themselves suffi-

ciently numerous to compel the adoption of

a work like this to their half-asleep hear-

This -this, we must say, keeps pace some

adequate fault in the methods of teaching.

Perhaps it is ultimately traceable to the

subject of scientific logic, in consequence

of which teachers of mathematics, not fully

understanding its logic themselves, are un-

able to impart it to others, unless their

school have a natural gift that makes them

independent of teaching. But, given the

conditions, we cannot see how Prof. Rip-

per could have done better than he has.

The Civil Engineers' Power Transmit-

ted by Electricity" (Van Nostrand) has

been fully revised; and absolute matter has

not gone out. There is nothing useless in

it, and it well represents the practise state

of the art.

A new volume of "The Specialities Series" is

"An Introduction to the Study of Contro-

olating Station Electricity Supply," by Albert Day

and C. H. Yarnall (McMillan). It is to

some extent a work of reference, but is much

rather a book to be read, dealing broadly

with all sorts of plates which are in

the conduction of a central station, but

which are distinct from direct connections

of electric lighters. There is no attempt

of treating details exhaustively; but we

feel sure that the discussions the work

contains will be highly appreciated and

found serviceable to those to whom they

are addressed.

We believe there is no more uncompre-

hensive and edificating textbook on this

subject that is published in the country. We

are informed that in this German E. P.

Burrow of Dusseldorf in the "International Review for February" of the

ideal public high school of the twentieth

century. Yet no such plan as he suggests

in what we are inevitably coming to:

the ever-expanding field of knowledge, the

accom-

amalgamating many of the educational

material, together with the growing

minds of individuals and the improve-

ments on the part of the pupils, are even now

beginning to remove beyond the range of

feasibility fixed courses of instruction for

all. To do away with all prescriptive work

and allow students to select any study, or

sciences, to suit themselves or their parents,

and to "carry their own century to the

field of high-school education," is merely

acceptable fully and frankly a practica-

ble already powerfully asserting itself in the

educational practice of our time. The

aiding

of responsibility for the pupil's educa-

tion and success in life from the school to

the pupil himself or the parent is considered

by every one, it will be said, the moral is to

be no greater in

the other. For no thinking

no woman of mature age can for a mo-

ment doubt that the number of lives marred

is at least equal to that done by socialistic

rigidity, and by the authoritative or per-

vasive influence of narrow-minded, ill-lead-

ed pedagogues. The subject, which the

status superintendence of schools discussed

in half-a-dozen pages, constitutes one of the

gration problems beset by the liberal

counterpart in the new.

We are glad to receive the first number of

an attractive quarterly magazine, abutted of

steeper dimensions, entitled the "Passium

German, and edited at Lebanon, Pa., by the Rev. P. C. Grell. It is to a large

degree devoted to Conrad Weiser, of whom a

curious frontispiece portrait is given. He

has a series of "Passam Linea Pennsylvania

and his works before some "Puckman Songs" in the book and partly in translation. The

tourist is invited by an interesting "Di-

nec "Pikes Peak". Numerous illustrations helpfully augment the number.

The modernization of the American charac-

ter by the physical nature of the country is daily

upon by A. Gipil in the "American

Oriphile for January." A sympathetic and

suggestive record of the impressions of an

intelligent observer along with a reference

to the wondrous but misted peaks of the

country, especially over German, and to

the completion of the "casino" by the

acquisition of tropical provinces and its

probable effects upon our future. Other

articles are a review of recent ty-

nations of cruel reefs, observations on Mt.

Bunsen, and the vegetation of the "casino" (with a map), and an interesting

sketch, with numerous illustrations, of some

of the German tribes inhabiting the same,

the highest chains of the Alps Mountain.

The Bulletin of the Society of Civil En-

ineers of France, at Paris, has become a

semi-monthly, and is published on the 10th

and 20th of each month. The first number

of the current volume contains the con-

tinuing of Pétrole and Géopostani's inter-

esting memoir on mechanical traction as

applied to public conveyances on railroads

and highways.

Among the contents of Peterson's Mus-

cyclopedia, number twelve, is a suggestive

color map, with notes, showing the dis-

tribution of the agricultural and industrial

population of the German Empire. A plea

sible enough to present that eastern Prussia and Silesia are almost exclusively agricultur-

ists, while Saxony and Brunswick are wholly

devoted to manufactures. The editor sum-

marizes the meteorological aberrations of

the Belgian Autumn Expedition, and hints

that they prove that the "climate of

petrol" of that country is to be found there. The

index of the geographical publications for

the year exhibits the influence of current

events on this branch of literature. The

whole number of works noticed is 99, of

which 75 and 22 are on Europe and the

United States respectively, somewhat falling off from the previous year, while the

127 and 149 for Asia and Africa show an

equal increase.

A striking description of Turkey under the

present Sultan was given by Holmest Pasha,

his brother-in-law and for twenty-seven

years his minister, now a refugee in Paris, in a recent interview with M. de Diplomacy of

the London Times. "The whole empire is

captive," he exclaimed impatiently at the

sight. "Alessand Hanou keeps everybody in

prison... Whatever he does not directly

kill he frightens them, and whatever he does

not make them do is bad enough. At the

same time the men of wonderland are,

whether small or large, do not know the

uniforms they are dressed in, nor do they

know the uniforms of the army and the dif-

ferent police services. Mehemet resented

his own futile efforts to secure reform, and

"Vol. 70. No. 1807