

of two persons, the Abbé Barthélemy, whose acquaintance she had made in Rome, and Madame du Deffand, whom she had known first in the salon of Madame du Châtel. Madame du Deffand is familiar to all who are acquainted with the history of French society in the eighteenth century; she is well known, also, to all who have read the Letters of Horace Walpole.

In 1761 Choiseul bought, near Amboise, the magnificent château of Chanteloup; in 1764 Louis XV. united Chanteloup to Amboise, and created out of them a ducal peerage under the title of Choiseul-Amboise. Choiseul entered into correspondence with Voltaire at the time when, after his quarrel with the great Frederick, the philosopher took refuge in the *pays de Gex*, a little territory situated between the Jura mountains and Switzerland. Voltaire obtained from Choiseul the renewal of some immunities which made the *pays de Gex* neutral ground. The letters of that period, some of which are very amusing, were published by M. Pierre Calmettes in his 'Choiseul et Voltaire' (1900). In 1762 peace was signed at last; and if the results of the Seven Years' War were not very brilliant, it was not the fault of Choiseul, who had found everything going wrong when he entered the Cabinet, and who had succeeded in procuring men and money in abundance for the continuation of hostilities. In the midst of all his troubles Choiseul never ceased to extend his protection to Voltaire; he did so during the famous Calas affair, after the publication of the 'Dictionnaire Philosophique.' But the time was approaching when he was going to lose his ally, Madame de Pompadour, who was, like himself, imbued with philosophical ideas and an enemy of the Jesuits. The Marquise died on the 15th of April, 1764, at the age of only forty-two years, worn out by the fatigues of her life. She left in her will to Madame de Choiseul a box of silver adorned with brilliants, and to Choiseul a remarkable diamond. Choiseul's difficulties were now to begin in earnest.

Correspondence.

A BRUGES EXHIBIT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: At Bruges, Belgium, an exhibition is now open, until September 15, of works of old Flemish painters. In the Hôtel du Gouvernement Provincial have been brought together the Memlings from the Hôpital de Saint Jean, many Memlings and Van Eycks from private collections in England and France, and a number of other early Flemish pictures. One of these latter, of the beginning of the sixteenth century, shows that the artist was striving for the effects of lighting attained by Rembrandt a hundred years later.

In the Gruuthuis is a collection of missals and illuminated manuscripts which date from about the tenth to the fifteenth centuries. Examined in connection with the oil paintings, these missals are an object-lesson in the evolution of painting in northern Europe. Beginning about the tenth century, the earliest drawings show an art knowledge on a par with that of a child about eight years old; if they were not rep-

resentations of saints, they might be ascribed to a Sioux Indian or a South Sea Islander. As the centuries roll on, the illuminations improve: drawing creeps in, so does color, glimpses of landscape begin to appear behind the figures, until at the end of the fifteenth century some really fine water colors are produced. Some of these show a close kinship with the oils of the Van Eycks and Memling. Indeed, so closely do some men-at-arms represented in one of the manuscripts resemble the men-at-arms in the legend of Saint Ursula of Memling, that it seems quite possible that the water-color was painted by Memling himself.

The conclusion to be drawn from the Bruges exhibit is, that the earliest oil paintings were only enlarged prayer-book illustrations carried out more thoroughly in a different medium. The aims and the methods of the painters (and possibly the painters themselves) were the same in both, and the only notable difference is that the oils are larger and more elaborate than the water-colors. To any one interested in art, the Bruges exhibition is well worth a visit, for it may be doubted whether such an opportunity for studying *de visu* the evolution of early European painting has ever before been offered to the public.

EDWIN S. BALCH.

Homburg v. d. Höhe, July 8, 1902.

Notes.

The late John G. Nicolay had completed a condensation of the ten-volume Life of Lincoln produced by him in conjunction with the present Secretary of State. It will soon be issued by the publishers of that work, the Century Co.

In keeping with the revival of interest in Northwestern exploration and fur-trade is the promised reprint of Alexander Mackenzie's century-old and classic 'Voyages' across this continent, by the New Amsterdam Book Company. They announce further a translation of the 'Mabinogion' by Lady Charlotte Guest.

T. Y. Crowell & Co. have in press 'Thoreau: His Home, Friends, and Books,' by Mrs. Annie Russell Marble; 'Economics of Forestry,' by B. E. Fernow; 'Word Coinage,' a study of slang and provincialisms, by Leon Mead; 'Mind Power and Privileges,' by Albert B. Olston; Poe's Works in seventeen volumes, edited by Prof. James A. Harrison; Hawthorne's Romances in fourteen, edited by Prof. Katharine Lee Bates; and Tennyson's Poems in ten, edited by Prof. Eugene Parsons.

'Ghetto Silhouettes,' to be published by James Pott & Co., shadow forth the Russian-Jewish element in this country.

'The Conquest of the Air,' by John Alexander, announced by A. Wessels Co., will have a proface by one of the conquerors, Sir Hiram Maxim.

Taine's Correspondence in an English version will be brought out in this country by E. P. Dutton & Co.

For an occasional lighthouse-builer like F. Hopkinson Smith, there is obvious propriety in naming "Beacon Edition" the new output of this versatile author's works in ten duodecimo volumes by Charles Scribner's Sons, by arrangement with Houghton, Mifflin & Co. It is also highly appropriate

that Mr. Smith should be the artist of the colored illustrations, and this is the case with volume one ('Laguerre's and Well-Worn Roads'); in volume six ('Caleb West, Master-Diver'), on the other hand, the drawings are by Reuterdahl. We can say no more at present of this attractive collection, which is handsomely printed, and tastefully bound in crimson cloth. Several volumes are still to come, and the whole is a subscription publication.

The fourth volume of the 'Theory of Differential Equations,' by Prof. Thorpe (Macmillan Co.)—virtually the fifth, since his 'Treatise' ought to be regarded as an introduction to the 'Theory'—is perhaps the last volume, though one more, at least, ought to follow. It is the most practical of the four, since it relates to ordinary linear equations. Nothing quite equivalent to this work exists in any language; nothing at all in our language supplying the same need of all who use differential equations.

Drude's 'Theory of Optics,' translated by C. R. Mann and R. A. Millikan (Longmans, Green & Co.), is the only work in our language, if not in any language, which presents the modern theory in the form of a text-book. No one whose business it is to be acquainted with the modern theory of light can afford to leave this work un-studied.

It is a common misconception that the pulse is an expansion of an artery (particularly confined to the wrist) from an increased volume of blood forced through it by the heart beat. In fact, the artery does not expand, and more blood does not pass any given point at a fixed time. The blood flow is continuous, and the impulse felt on pressure against a resisting background is that of a wave running along the channel. Its bedside lessons are traditionally of the greatest value; but the common impression that frequency and force are the only essentials to be observed, and that the nurse who makes a record of the number of beats relieves the educated touch from its delicate duty, is quite erroneous. The blood wave has numerous features besides mere force and frequency, and each tells its story to the instructed mind. Dr. James Mackenzie's 'Study of the Pulse' (Macmillan) is a delightfully clear and careful discussion of the whole subject, with special inquiry as to the diagnostic value of pulse irregularity, and includes a survey of the venous and the liver pulse. For twenty years the author has been accumulating and reflecting upon these facts. We especially commend section 104 to those insurance companies which make bradycardia an unqualified cause for rejection. Dr. Mackenzie has, in our opinion, added a classic to the literature of clinical medicine.

The *Beilage* of the Munich *Allgemeine Zeitung*, No. 130, contains, from the pen of Albert Mayr, an instructive report of the excavations made during the past twenty-five years by Father A. L. Delattre on the site of ancient Carthage, which have resulted practically in restoring in outline the old Punic city, and shed a flood of light on the life and antiquities of that mighty rival of Rome. The whole work has consisted virtually in unearthing one vast necropolis; the number of tombs from the oldest period alone, between the sixth and eighth centuries, being more than

P 00982