

YALE LITERATURE.

The Miller Memorial Volume.

A memorial volume of Theodore Westwood Miller, '97, who was mortally wounded at San Juan, July 1, 1898, has been printed and distributed to classmates and friends. It is privately published by Mr. Richard P. Marvin, and Professor George E. Vincent, Yale '85, of Chicago University, edited the book. Prof. Vincent knew Miller well and has made an appreciative and discriminating selection of facts of his life and of letters and diary extracts which could form the history of his service and death in the war. The dedication is as follows: "To the memory of a Christian gentleman and gallant soldier this little volume is dedicated by one of many who knew and loved him." The material of its 169 pages may be judged from these headings of the chapters: "Boyhood"; "Youth"; "College Life"; "Law School and Enlistment"; "The Diary, New York to Tampa"; "The Diary, from Tampa to Baiquiri"; "The Diary, from Baiquiri to San Juan"; "Battlefield and Hospital"; "From Cuba to Akron"; "The Service." The book, which is very well printed, is freely illustrated and contains among other Yale pictures, the quarters at Gales Ferry, the Fence, and the Memorial Gateway. The main part of the book closes with the address of Bishop Vincent at the funeral services, a very beautiful tribute to Theodore Miller, interpreting the value of his sacrifice. A number of letters are printed at the end of this very satisfactory memorial of one of the best men on Yale's martyr list.

A Good Latin Prose Book.

Connected Passages for Latin Prose Writing with Full Introductory Notes on Idiom. By M. W. Mather and A. L. Wheeler. (Harper's Latin Series, edited by E. P. Morris and M. H. Morgan.) New York and London, 1899.

However great and manifold the differences are which separate the camps of those who would improve or reform the methods of language instruction, there are certain facts concerning which all are fairly well agreed. So it is admitted on all sides that a thorough mastery of the language of a people is essential for the study of its literature. So long as texts are deciphered, a literary masterpiece cannot be read with pleasure or appreciation. It must, therefore, be the aim of all elementary language teaching to impart as soon as possible such knowledge of grammar and vocabulary as will enable the student to read a simple text, without undue exertion, so that he may proceed rapidly and may be able to concentrate the greater part of his attention upon the subject-matter. And there are probably very few who would deny that such familiarity cannot be acquired by mere passive assimilation (the reading of texts), but that active work (exercises in writing and speaking) must play a prominent part—much greater a part, in fact, than is usually assigned to it.

It was the fault of Ollendorff and those who followed in his wake that he believed sentences could be arithmetically constructed if a rule or two be given together with some vocabularies by which it might be exemplified, much as a child might build a house by putting together his blocks according to certain directions. Old Roger Ascham as early as 1570 turned against this method "whereby the childe commonlie learneth first an euill choice of wordes, then a wrong placing of wordes, and lastlie an ill framing of the sentence with a peruerse judgment both of wordes and sentences."

This mistake Messrs. Mather and Wheeler have fortunately avoided by basing all their exercises upon connected passages from Caesar's Gallic War, Cicero's Speech on the Manilian law, and a few of Nepos' biographies, the Latin text of which is included in this Primer. The student is therefore able, before he begins his work in composition, to familiarize himself with all the construction, phrases, and words which he will need in his work, with constant and careful reference to Part I in which is given a very admirable summary of the more important rules of syntax especially adapted to the needs of a student who attempts to write Latin, which require a somewhat different form of exposition than that usually found in the ordinary Latin Grammar. Thus the pupil, when he begins his translation, is sure of his ground and he has constantly at hand a standard by which test the correctness of his work can be tested. This method faithfully followed out cannot help but impart to the student a command of the language incomparably greater and more thorough than could be obtained by the mere reading of ten times the amount of Latin prose, even though not every one may succeed so well as did John Whitney, who began his study of Latin at Christmas and having devoted himself to it for eight months was able to translate back into Latin a simple passage of Cicero's De finibus "so choislie," as his teacher says, "so orderlie, so without any great misse in the hardest points of Grammar, that some in seven yeare in Grammar Scholes, yea, and some in the Vniuersities to, cannot do halfe so well."

The book, which includes within its covers everything that the student will find necessary to know, deserves warm commendation and should be heartily welcomed in a field in which the number of text-books stands in inverse ratio to their usefulness.

The New York Times has the following: "What is the Matter With the Church?" by the Rev. Frederick Stanley Root (Yale Law School '74, and Yale Theological School '79), will be shortly issued by the Abbey Press of this city. Dr. Root is said to deal with pessimistic facts in an optimistic spirit. There seems to be promise of very considerable discussion arising from the contents of this book, the facts of which have been gathered together with considerable cleverness."

Yale Club Members.

The following were elected members of the Yale Club July 9:

Resident—A. Ray Clark, '95; Frank J. Parker, '95 S.; Philemon F. Sturgis, '96; John R. McNeille, Jr., '97; Walter D. Makepeace, '97; Franklin A. Lord, '98; William D. McNulty, '98 L.S.; William R. Barbour, '80.
Non-Resident—Ervin E. Osgood, '95; Thomas M. Evans, '98; Weston S. Gales, '98; William P. Slocovich, '98 S.; Paul N. Dann, '99 S.

The Football Situation.

The Yale football season will begin Monday, Sept. 17, the date which Captain F. Gordon Brown, Jr., has set for the men to report at Yale Field. A large squad is expected, including some new men. Malcolm L. McBride, Captain of last year's Eleven, has promised to give Captain Brown all possible assistance in the development of the Eleven and will probably be here a good portion of the time during the season. Vance C. McCormick, '93 S., has also promised his aid, and with McBride will probably begin the season. Among other coaches expected during the training is W. W. Heffelfinger, '91 S. Walter Camp, though able to give but little time to actual field work, will act in the capacity of advisor.

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