

25. — HOLLY'S *Country Seats ; containing Lithographic Designs for Cottages, Villas, Mansions, etc., with their accompanying Outbuildings ; also, Country Churches, City Buildings, Railway Stations, etc., etc.* By HENRY HUDSON HOLLY, Architect. New York : D. Appleton & Co. 1863. 4to. pp. 171. Designs 34.

MR. HOLLY'S introductory pages conciliate our confidence in his skill and judgment as an architect. We do not refer to a concise History of Architecture, which is admirably well written, yet was not necessary to the work, but to a general chapter on the selection of building-sites, materials, and various incidental questions of taste and convenience. On all these topics the author shows himself master of his profession. We are particularly pleased with the stress he lays on "Truthfulness in building"; for if there be in our public and domestic architecture any one nuisance that more than all others craves to be abated, it is the paltry and never successful attempt to copy stone and the effects of stone-work in wood and plaster. The designs are adapted to a wide diversity of situations, demands, and pecuniary ability, and are without an exception tasteful and, in the genuine sense of the word, picturesque. The simplest and cheapest are even the most pleasing to the eye, while they demonstrate that beauty in building need not be a luxury for the few, but is within the reach of the many. Moreover, we would say emphatically that beauty may be attained, not only without cost, but with a positive saving of money. The 2½ per cent for which plans and specifications may be procured from a competent architect falls very far within the charge for "extras," which is an inevitable burden on the man who attempts to be his own architect, or who commences building with the rough plans furnished by a mere builder, which without fail require extensive modifications in their progress, and costly alterations after the structure is completed.

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26. — *The Works of FRANCIS BACON, Baron of Verulam, Viscount of St. Albans, and Lord High-Chancellor of England.* Collected and edited by JAMES SPEDDING, M. A. of Trinity College, Cambridge; ROBERT LESLIE ELLIS, M. A., late Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge; and DOUGLAS DENON HEATH, Barrister-at-Law, late Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. Volume V. Boston: Brown and Taggard. 1862. Small 8vo. pp. 456.

THE new firm of Messrs. Taggard and Thompson has assumed the charge of this edition of Bacon, and will bring out the remaining volumes as rapidly as they can be carried with accuracy through the press.

Our readers need not that we repeat from our former notices the claims of this edition to be regarded as superior to all others in completeness and correctness, or its merits on the score of typography and mechanical execution. The fifth volume contains the closing portion of the Natural History, several of the Latin treatises, and the New Atlantis, which, apart from its worth as embalming the social and ethical optimism of the times and the man, is of special interest as exhibiting the poetic and imaginative side of Bacon's mental character.

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27. — *Legends of Charlemagne ; or, Romance of the Middle Ages.* By THOMAS BULFINCH, Author of "The Age of Fable," "The Age of Chivalry," etc. Boston: J. E. Tilton & Co. 1863. 12mo. pp. 373.

THESE legends are of hardly less importance, in a literary point of view, than the classic mythology. Besides having been reproduced in various forms and in every generation, they are constantly the subjects of allusion and reference, so that some acquaintance with them is essential to every person who desires to understand all that he is likely to read. Yet hitherto there has been no easily accessible manual of this mediæval mythology, and our knowledge of it has been acquired in miscellaneous ways, and by slow and uncertain stages. The want which was thus felt, though unexpressed, Mr. Bulfinch has supplied. His book has the double merit of being at once a manual of instruction in its own department of literature, and a rich collection of romances charmingly narrated. It bears the characteristics which *his* books must needs bear, — conscientious accuracy, pure taste, symmetrical and graceful finish. His moral nature would not let him do anything with less than his best ability, and his ability is that of an accomplished scholar, a true poet in conception and fancy, (though we know not whether he has ever written verse,) and a writer of exquisite refinement and delicacy of thought and expression. The publishers have issued this book in a form and style worthy of its merits, and have enriched it with well-executed engravings and wood-cuts. We are glad to learn that the same publishers have issued in a similar style of beauty a new edition of Mr. Bulfinch's "Age of Fable."

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28. — *Hellas, her Monuments and Scenery.* By THOMAS CHASE, M. A. Cambridge: Sever and Francis. 1863. 16mo. pp. 220.

THIS is a scholar's itinerary in Greece, and it verifies the formula which we have repeatedly enunciated as applicable to all books of travel,