

Mallock continues his duel with Father Sebastian Bowden on reason and religion in a paper entitled "Reason Alone." Algernon Charles Swinburne contributes a notice of the life and works of the old English poet, Robert Davenport. The number closes with the second instalment of George Meredith's new novel, "One of Our Conquerors."

— One of the most recent additions to the American Book Company's list of schoolbooks is "The Natural Speller and Word Book." The word "natural" in this connection, we presume, relates to an important principle recognized in the higher branches, but too long neglected in the beginnings of school education. In the higher branches this principle is acted upon in showing the intimate relation existing between the various subjects taught, as mathematics, physics, astronomy, chemistry, etc. In this book an effort is made in the same direction by showing the relationship between the words in each lesson. As stated in the preface, "there are a certain number of useful words which the pupil must learn in any event. The question therefore arises whether it is of more benefit to teach him these words abstractly, or to combine them into various exercises which will prove both interesting and instructive." The latter plan has been adopted in this work, and the idea has been well worked out. In addition to the usual methods of calling attention to special letters and combinations by means of bold-faced type, etc., the use of red ink has been tried, and, in our opinion, with unsatisfactory results.

— "Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections," No. 741, is an "Index to the Literature of Thermodynamics," by Alfred Tuckerman, Ph.D. This is similar to the author's "Index to the Literature of the Spectroscope," published in the thirty-second volume of the same collection for 1888. All of the titles are given in full in the author-index; but in the subject-index, to save useless repetition, only the authors and the places where their works are to be found are given, except in the case of books. Applica-

tions of thermodynamics have been found, and kept, to the number of more than double the titles given, but they were omitted so as not to overload the index with matter of little or no use. No titles, however, have been left out which belong to the applications named in the table of contents. The work has been brought down to the middle of the year 1889.

— "A Woman's Trip to Alaska" is the title of a volume of travels which the Cassell Publishing Company will issue in a few days. The woman who made the trip is Mrs. Septima M. Collis, the wife of Gen. C. H. T. Collis of New York.

— The American publishers of the *Contemporary Review*, the Leonard Scott Publication Company, announce that the November number of that periodical will contain an important note on the personal relations of Stanley and Emin Pacha by Dr. Carl Peters, who gives Emin Pacha himself as the authority for his statements. Josephine Butler will write a graceful tribute to Mrs. Booth, the mother of the Salvation Army, not only describing Mrs. Booth's own part in building up the work of that organization, but pointing out the great good it has accomplished. Arnold White will tell the story of some recent experiments in colonization as gathered from his own observations in South Africa. George Bartrick Baker will contribute a paper on "The Late Crisis on the Stock Exchange," in which he will undertake to point out the causes which have led to the present stringent condition of the money market. Justin McCarthy will review Mr. Lecky's last volumes, the concluding portion of his "History of England in the Eighteenth Century," which are chiefly devoted to the study of the Irish Union. Mrs. Millicent Garrett Fawcett will write on "Infant Marriage in India," and detail the actual life of a Hindoo woman from her cradle. Rev. Dr. Edwin A. Abbott will have a thoughtful and interesting essay on "Illusion in Religion." Sir Thomas H. Farrer will continue his examination into the methods of imperial finance for the last four years. Vernon Lee's Story, "A

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