

THERE WAS ONCE A MAN. BY ORPHEUS C. KERR. Mr. R. H. Newell, whose pseudonym was made so famous by the publication of the clever "Orpheus C. Kerr Papers," the burlesque newspaper correspondence, written twenty or more years ago, gives us now a new book, a novel, thoroughly characteristic, unconventional, and original. The story first appeared as a serial in *The Continent*; it is now reprinted with the addition of an "author's note," in which arcuse dissed the matters of titles apropos of the title adopted by the author for his own book and its classification as "a Story" as distinct from "a Novel, or Romance, or Tale." The book is opened by a prologue which sets the scene in the metropolitan society of the patrician old Knickerbockers sixty years ago. The town extended no farther north than Houston Street, and the fashionable portions of the city centred about old Bowling Green. From old New York the scene is transferred to the most delightful of the tropical paradises of the Orient, and here it becomes "International"—English people and Americans meeting together in a series of adventures which are animated and unhackneyed. Among the characters is Rajah Brooke of Borneo, whose character is admirably sketched. Mr. Newell thus takes advantage of one of the cases whee truth is stranger than fiction, and these pages, in which the history of the great English crusaders is told, form a picturesque and most readable feature of the book. Conspicuous also is a great Darwinian naturalist, who has visited the home of the ourang-outang to work out the problem of the "missing link." An enormous ape figures later on as one of the chief personages in the plot, and by a curious scientific illustration a *denouement* is brought about so well devised that it at once suggests the unaccountable vagaries of the old war letters. [New York: Fords, Howard & Hulbert. 1 vol., 12mo, \$1.50.]

MENTAL EVOLUTION IN ANIMALS. BY GEORGE J. ROMANES. The readers of Professor Romanes's excellent work "Animal Intelligence" have been led to look forward to this book with not a little interest. Indeed both volumes may be regarded as one work. They are separated into two distinct parts mainly as a matter of convenience, since the plan of the International Science Series for which the earlier book was primarily intended would not admit of so voluminous a work as both volumes would form. "Animal Intelligence," it will be

remembered, was in reality a compendium of facts gathered with the most conscientious care and diligence. The present volume is a treatise on the facts already stated, while at the same time it deals with a wider range of subject matter, taking up as it does the involved question of evolution in the lower animals. The psychology of man, the author tells us, he has not touched upon reserving this for a subsequent exhaustive study. In the present essay he is content to trace in as scientific a manner as possible the probable history of mental evolution and to inquire into the causes which have determined it. When experimental or historical verification is not possible deductive reasoning is resorted to, but as sparingly as possible and chiefly to carry on the thread of the argument. In working out this plan, Professor Romanes has brought together a great array of facts, not only from books, but largely also from his personal experiments. A large section is devoted to the development of Instinct, and in these pages will be found a notable contribution to science particularly valuable because this branch of psychology in the writings of leading authorities has been too frequently slighted or obscured.

A book on such a subject as this could hardly be written without constant reference to Darwin's works, and Professor Romanes draws freely from his published writings. He has been able also to add, through his access to some unpublished MSS., much that is entirely new. In an appendix is printed the full text of a posthumous essay on instinct which Mr. Darwin wrote for the "Origin of Species," but afterward suppressed for the sake of condensation. [New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1 vol., 12mo, \$2.]

AMERICAN YACHTS. PLATES BY FREDERIC S. COZZENS. TEXT BY J. D. JERROLD KELLEY, U.S.N. At last we have a comprehensive series of sketches and an authoritative history of American Yachts and Yachting, by an artist and a writer, both exceptionally well qualified for the task. In the plates, of which there are twenty-six, the varied phases of yachting life are shown, and not only every type of boat sailing upon our waters, but the faithful portraits of nearly every pleasure craft which has contributed to the just fame of American yachts and yachtsmen the world over. Here, too, are pictures of the most notable events of our yachting history, in ocean races, home regattas, summer cruises, and in those international matches for the trophy won by the America thirty years ago in English waters.

Aside from the value of the plates as pre-