NOTES AND QUERIES.

The Library.

English Life in the Middle Ages. By L. F. Salzman. (Oxford University Press, 7s. 6d. net.)

In his preface Mr. Salzman says that "from no foolish modesty" he would "point to the illustrations, taken from medieval sources, as in some ways the most valuable part of the whole book." The illustrations form indeed a collection of most delightful and instructive pictures of mediaval life, worth going over again and again and thoroughly imprinting on the memory to serve as permanent background in one's imagination of the Middle Ages. The majority of them will be quite new to the readers for whom this book is designed, and indeed to many more advanced students. Mr. Salzman's text is charmingly written; the selection of detail from the vast mass of material in existence strikes us as unusually happy, and without the slightest stodginess an immense amount of information is given, and that so simply and clearly that matters which are apt to look dry and difficult take on a pleasant everyday sort of attractiveness. There is, however, one main point we should criticize. We demur to reckoning the Middle Ages from the conquest of Britain by the Saxons to the reign of Henry VIII, and treating the life and conditions of the English virtually as all one for that thousand years. Not only so, but where he can find French illustrations more to his purpose than English ones, our author does not hesitate to insert them; and also works in Roger Ascham and Lady Jane Grey, and even a little of Elizabeth's reign. This scheme allows him to dispense with any sort of chronological sequence in his remarks, and though this is no real matter where a well-informed reader is concerned we think it in itself a rather slovenly way of writing, and likely to prove confusing to the readers for whom this book is designed, and for whom this book is designed.

If a new edition is called for, and the book is so attractive that we should think this most probable, we would suggest some scrutiny for some objections taken, we found ourselves overdrawn a counts of monastic writers which miseries of Stephen's reign, derived from the overdrawn accounts of monastic writers which find place in school books; we therefore rather regretted the appearance here of the old quotation about Christ and His saints being asleep. We would not, however, close on a note of criticism for, in spite of some objections taken, we found ourselves reading with enjoyment, and believe the book will do good service in stimulating desire to know about the Middle Ages—a subject of study which has more than a merely academic interest.

Bust of an Old Man, with a gold chain, in the manner of Rembrandt; two plates, one without the chain.

Christ healing the sick, commonly called the Hundred Guilder Print. The original plate by Rembrandt, purchased by Captain Baillie in Holland, and admirably retouched by him.

Beggars at the Door of a House; after Rembrandt's etching.

The Gold-weigher; finely copied from Rembrandt's etching.

The Three Trees; Landscape; after the same.

An Old Man, half-length, with a Beard and Cap; W. Baillie, 1765; after Rembrandt.

Landscape, with a Horse lying; after Rembrandt's print.

ALFRED SYDNEY LEWIS.

STOCKS AT TEMPLE BAR (clii. 281).—The following is taken from ' Memorials of Temple Bar,' by T. C. Noble, p. 67. In October, 1671, one Richard Filkin was set upon the pillory in Fleet Street, near the end of Shoe Lane . . . Mr. Tims remembers to have seen four persons standing punished about the year 1813.

The last person punished by it was one Peter James Bossey (for perjury) in the Old Bailey, on the 24th June, 1830, for by Act of Parliament passed 1st Victoria, c., 2.3, June 30th, 1837, this long-lived "instrument of Torture," where men had stood and had their faces spoiled, their ears cut off, their noses slit, and all similar barbarous accessories, was abolished for ever.

ALFRED SYDNEY LEWIS.

ISSUE OF PAPER WITHDRAWN: DATE WANTED (clii. 231).—I remember very well the incident referred to by Mr. Joseph Bott for I happened to travel from London to Melton Mowbray on the morning when the newspaper in question appeared. I cannot, however, give the year. It must have been between 1851 and 1854, for only in those years did I have horses in Leicestershire, and it must have been in winter else I should not have gone to hunt. Sir William Harcourt, who was so grossly misrepresented in the newspaper in question, was in those years Home Secretary, and I was a young member of the Opposition.

HERBERT MAXWELL.

The date wanted by Mr. Bott is Jan. 23, 1882. The interpolation was one whole line only. One may gather that either the "spiteful compositor" was not at once discovered, or that there was a second such compositor, seeing that there was a similar interpolation in the same newspaper of June 12, 1882, in an advertisement of a book, 'Every-day Life in our Public Schools.'

ROBERT PIERPONT.