

Even students of considerable advancement in mechanics might do well to read this little book for the sake of the perspective which they might thus acquire.

Dr. Routh's treatises upon the various branches of mechanics, statics, dynamics of a particle, stability of motion, and in particular rigid dynamics, are so well known as to need no notice. It is therefore not surprising that Teubner, who is ever ready to publish a German translation of the best scientific literature of all nations, should now print this edition of Dr. Routh's Rigid Dynamics. As Professor Klein points out in his preface, this work is wholly different from any which has previously been available in German. To teach mechanics even in the most advanced portions from the standpoint of solving problems is furthest from the German method. We remember one instance in which a German reviewer recently said of a work under review that it was remarkable for its numerous examples. A count showed not more than forty in about five hundred pages of text. How Dr. Routh's work impresses this reviewer may be difficult to imagine. These English books are, however, an extreme. Placing such emphasis on the solution of problems is a result of the system of examinations at the colleges. The student is too apt to lose his perspective and to forget what the *theory* of mechanics is. In this the Germans are far ahead. We daresay that our English publishers would render no less service to our own scientific literature by translating the best German presentations of mechanics into English than Teubner has now rendered to German scientific literature by his translation of Dr. Routh's classic treatise on rigid dynamics.

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YALE UNIVERSITY,
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THE GALOIS THEORY IN BURNSIDE AND PANTON'S THEORY OF EQUATIONS.

ONE of the most welcome additions to Burnside and Panton's "Theory of Equations" is the appearance in the new edition (the fourth) of a chapter devoted to the theory of substitutions and the theory of equations from the Galois standpoint. The British interest in the methods of Galois never has been very deep and about all the national literature is comprised in the last two pages of Cayley's article "Equation" in the Encyclopedia Britannica and four or