

and index), published in 1856, completes the work, and terminates with the death of Alexander the Great, B.C. 323, which, in Mr. Grote's view, is the close of Grecian history properly so termed. For extent of research, critical skill, novelty and independence of thought, comprehensiveness of view, and soundness of judgment, it is one of the most important works in English historical literature.

This biographical sketch, which we have taken literally from the English Cyclopædia, shows us that Mr. Grote has approached the history of Greece in a truly Democratic spirit, which has enabled him to appreciate the political institutions of that wonderful and liberty-loving people. The chapter on Socrates is one of the ablest portions of the work. No words of ours are needed to recommend the teachings and heroic moral example of the sage who has done more than any other un-inspired man towards civilizing the world.

O. W. WIGHT.

Brooklyn, 1856.

SOCRATES.

THE life of Socrates comprises seventy years, from 469 to 399 B. C. His father, Sophroniscus, being a sculptor, the son began by following the same profession, in which he attained sufficient proficiency to have executed various works; especially a draped group of the Charites, or Graces, preserved in the Acropolis, and shown as his work down to the time of Pausanias. His mother, Phænarete, was a midwife; and he had a brother, by the mother's side, named Patrocles. Respecting his wife Xanthippe, and his three sons, all that has passed into

history is the violent temper of the former, and the patience of her husband in enduring it. The position and family of Socrates, without being absolutely poor, were humble and unimportant; but he was of genuine Attic breed, belonging to the ancient gens Dædalidæ, which took its name from Dædalus, the mythical artist, as progenitor.

The personal qualities of Socrates, on the other hand, were marked and distinguishing, not less in body than in mind. His physical constitution was healthy, robust, and enduring, to an extraordinary degree. He was not merely strong and active as a hoplite on military service, but capable of bearing fatigue or hardship, and indifferent to heat or cold, in a measure which astonished all his companions. He went barefoot in all seasons of the