common law which illustrate its tender care for the weak and unprotected. It is only when the student is launched upon the sea of every-day business and litigation that he discovers that a very great part of the modern law of carriers has been developed through efforts on their part to escape from the onerous obligations imposed upon them by the common law —in which they have been mainly successful. The limitations upon the duty have become more important than the duty itself. Partly by statute, partly by means of the introduction of exemption clauses in bills of lading (even the receipt given by an express company is now usually made to take the form of a bill of lading, *i. e.*, of an express contract between the carrier and his customer), one limitation after another has been introduced, until we find, in the form adopted recently by the New York Produce Exchange, an agreement that the carrier shall not be liable, among other things, on account of losses caused by perils of the sea, by fire, by barratry, by enemies, pirates, or robbers, by arrest and restraint of princes, rulers, or people, by explosion by bursting of boilers, by breakage of shafts, by latent defect in hull or machinery, by collisions, stranding, or other accidents of navigation (*even when occasioned by the negligence, default, or error in judgment of the pilot, master, mariners, or other servants of the owner*, not resulting, however, in any case from want of diligence by the owners, or by the ship's husband or manager). It is the right to exempt himself from the consequences of the negligence of his own servants that the carrier is mainly fighting for now, and Mr. Wheeler's book is a valuable contribution to the discussions of this subject. The decisions are in conflict. On the one hand, we have numerous State courts which see no reason why the carrier should not exempt himself in this way; on the other hand, other State courts, notably those of New York, and also the Supreme Court of the United States, which insist that it is against the policy of the law that such an extreme exemption should be allowed. Mr. Wheeler is a strong advocate of the most extreme liberty of contract, but he gives the argument on both sides with great fairness.

Perhaps an inquiry into the reason why the voluminous exemptions of modern bills of lading do not produce any of the serious inconveniences that the fathers of the common law would probably have anticipated from them, may throw some light upon the point at issue. It is usually said that the rigid rule of the common law originated in times when transportation was insecure, and the risk of collusion between carriers and pirates or thieves was great. But is not this one of those theories which are handed down from text-writer to text-writer more because they sound as if they stated a reason than because there is really any basis for them? What means have we of comparing the risk of collusion between Dick Turpin and the common carriers (*i. e.*, the owners of stage-coaches) of his day, and between Western "road agents" and Jay Gould or C. P. Huntington in our times? We know nothing about it. The real reason, we take it, why the shipper of to-day cares comparatively little about the old liability of the carrier as an insurer, is that he always insures his freight or cargo elsewhere. In other words, the insurance companies assume the risks which the common law undertook (and very wisely, as there was, in the days when the rule was first laid down, no other insurance) to impose upon the carrier. If this view is correct, and the insurance companies are ready to go on insuring on such bills of lading as Mr. Wheeler approves, it may be that the argument derived from the "policy of the law" is not so impregnable as it has seemed to some judges.

Our space forbids us to review in detail the many interesting points raised by Mr. Wheeler's treatise. There are valuable chapters on the Law Merchant, on procedure under the United States Statutes, the Conflict of Laws, and other technical subjects. Numerous as are the text-books on carriers, we know of no other treatise which covers precisely the same ground. It will be found a useful addition to the learning on a subject of constantly increasing importance.

Journal of Researches, etc. By Charles Darwin. New edition, with illustrations by R. T. Pritchett of places visited and objects described. D. Appleton & Co. 1890.

MR. MURRAY'S preface to this new edition of the 'Voyage of the *Beagle*' bears date December, 1889, but makes no allusion to the fiftieth anniversary of the original edition, which has in fact been celebrated by publisher and artist in the beautiful volume now before us. Nor is it wholly accurate to say that "no attempt, however, has hitherto been made to produce an illustrated edition of this valuable work." Such an attempt, in connection with a classified abridgment, was made during Mr. Darwin's lifetime, and with his hearty approval; and for ten years the youth of this country have (as any public library will testify) been enjoying the handsome volume, abounding in cuts, issued by the Messrs. Harper, under the title 'What Mr. Darwin Saw in his Voyage Round the World in the Ship *Beagle*' (New York, 1879). The number of cuts (upwards of 100) is almost identical with that which Mr. Pritchett has got together, and while the subjects of course sometimes agree, there is a wider range in the American volume, which in particular is strong on the side of ethnology. This branch has been decidedly neglected by Mr. Pritchett, whose non-use of the camera is nowhere so keenly felt. Nor can the English edition be much preferred to the American in respect of zoölogy. Portraits, too, are altogether wanting in the former, Mr. Darwin himself being unpictured, whereas the interesting assortment of naturalists, navigators, and rulers in the Harper edition is led off by Kruell's first (and still admirable) engraving of the beardless Darwin of 1854, made expressly for the work which commemorated the fortieth anniversary of the 'Journal.'

We make this comparison not invidiously, but to claim for Americans a proper share of the world's appreciation of the greatest book of travels yet produced, and one of the most charming; whose observations time has done so little to invalidate, and which will be for ever interesting as the unrecognized herald of the doctrine of evolution. The English publisher has been mindful of what was due to it in the matter of typographical openness and elegance, and the artist has left little to be desired in the care he has bestowed on the natural scenery of the voyage. The rarely visited solitary ocean islands, the banks of the Rio Negro, the waters and mountain barriers of the Straits of Magellan, the raised beaches of Patagonia, the Chonos archipelago, the Uspallata Pass, the Keeling atoll, may be singled out for mention as of prime value. At the same time we should have been better pleased if photography had supplemented the pencil wherever it was available, and if wood-engraving had been employed throughout. Such pains and expense must be, perhaps, reserved for the hundredth anniversary edition, when doubtless mere correspondence will suffice to procure, even from the least frequented regions, authentic photographs of everything delineated in this edition, and more. Meanwhile the public is to be congratulated that the *Beagle* renews its Voyage under such favorable auspices.

Delicate Feasting. By Theodore Child. Harper & Bros. 1890.

THIS is a very taking, indeed one may say a very appetizing, book. The eye is pleased at the first glance by the pretty yellow-brown cover with its agreeable decoration in silver, gold, and black; and although the print and paper inside do not quite bear out the cover's promise, still they are not wholly bad.

Every man of middle age is less wise than he ought to be if he is not in some degree a cook, or at the least a critic of cooking. Dietetics are becoming more and more every year a recognized department in medical science, while as a fine art cooking won its undisputed place centuries ago. In literature, indeed, its place never has been challenged. There is the record of much good eating, though too little refined, in the Hebrew sacred books, and in fact in world-literature everywhere. The best novels and the best poetry contain much more than mere allusions to it. Not only in the books of earthlier writers, like Dumas and Thackeray, does the charmed reader find records of feasting, but in Scott's novels and in Milton's verse there are precious passages for him who of such delights can judge. As one may say of biographies, so one may say of books on the table, that there never was one written that is not worth reading. If it does not tend to edification, at least it serves for reproof.

Mr. Child has written a good book. One may dissent from him in some points; one may not like his nonsense about "P. Z. Didsbury," the Dryasdust to whom he dedicates his volume; one may hesitate now and then and doubt if he is right about this or that detail; one may reject with horror what he says about the public use of toothpicks and mouth-bowls; but all these are minor matters. He has a firm grasp of the main principles of cookery. He has an intelligent and sympathetic understanding of food. He gives a few admirable receipts, notably those for a *matelote* and for *court-bouillon*. He has much good and sensible advice as to dinner-giving and dinner service. He abounds in interesting quotation from the literature of his subject, and altogether has made a book "full-worthy on the self shelf to be upset" with the best cookery books, with Kettner's 'Book of the Table,' with Thackeray's 'Memorials of Gormandizing,' and with Prof. Mattieu Williams's admirable 'Chemistry of Cookery.'

A Memory of Edward Thring. By John Huntley Skrine. Macmillan & Co. 1890.

IT appears that we are to wait somewhat longer for a biography of the remarkable educator who refounded Uppingham School, and gave to it a high place among the public schools of England by dint of his energetic and original individuality. Meanwhile, the present volume is a tribute of remembrance by one of his pupils and sub-masters, who was evidently filled with Thring's spirit and moulded by his influence. The volume is curiously mingled of eulogy and reminiscence, and varies between the fiery declamation of a skald and the tender affection of a disciple. The one thing kept before the reader is the figure of Thring himself; and whatever may be thought of him, there can be no complaint that he is not truthfully and