latter instrument was substituted for the printers, and with great success, as the intermittence in the work, with the ordinary instruments, was much disliked by the operators, who were continually resigning their situations, causing great inconvenience. The Bell telephones were the instruments employed, and were worked by the police staff without difficulty. The first were purchased, but afterwards they were manufactured locally with perfect success. Four telephones on one circuit were employed in some cases, the stations being called up by so many strokes on a bell. One of the lines was eight miles long, and ran on poles with other working wires: although the inductive disturbance was very strong it did not prevent proper working. Experiments were subsequently tried on fifty-seven miles of railway, with seventeen stations, with every success, and it was finally decided to adopt the telephones for block as well as ordinary signalling. Several instances were given of the value of telephonic communication as compared with the ordinary telegraph system. By means of shackles, placed on the poles at every mile, it would be possible, in case of a railway accident, for the guard to connect up a hand telephone and communicate with the nearest station.

Book Notice.


This book, now in its first edition, is an excellent hand-book for use in schools, in that it is not a mere compilation of facts, but is a complete and interesting narrative of the political events which have occurred in the last seventy years. It is written in a bright and vigorous style, and engages the attention of the reader from the first page to the last.

The translator has abridged somewhat the space allotted to Germany, while omitting entirely the references to the United States and making a few changes in regard to the minor European states.

There are six periods into which the book is divided, each one covering some especial feature of political history; and although the nations are taken up separately in these periods, they are so treated that the relations to each other may be clearly seen.

Prof. Mueller takes up the side of political liberty strongly, and believes that a slow but steady advance toward the political equality of the people is taking place.