

"Your pickaxes are your own care, wit and learning; and your smelting furnace is your own thoughtful soul. Do not hope to get at any good author's meaning, without these tools and that fire."—John Ruskin.



The Life of a Star, by Clara Morris. McClure, Phillips & Co., New York City.

For one who is essentially known as a really great American actress and will be known to generations to come as such, Clara Morris has written much in a biographical, possibly, discursive sort of way. She has fine literary ability, pathos, and descriptive power—so much so that she would have probably made a national name in literature had she not preferred to stand or fall as an actress. She created plenty of heroines and excelled in character work—old times tell us—in the glare of the footlights, and it is within the bounds of possibility that she could have evolved pen-and-ink people who could have been held in equally affectionate remembrance.

The newest of Clara Morris' stage experiences come in this new volume, "The Life of a Star," wherein the heart of the woman and actress is laid bare that all may read. Miss Morris' previous biographies are memorable for their portraits of notable men and women on the stage and "out in front," and the 21 chapters of the present volume are equally devoted to more memories of people likely to prove interesting to the world at large.

First there is her foreword: "To stave those later women who tasted sorrow and defeat before they won success, I dedicate these memories with a clasp of the hand, and the hope that they may reign long and happily." How often we hear the assertion that double-eyed jealousy invariably exists between people of the stage and musicians. But Miss Morris' biography is so frank and candid, her sympathy so sincere and her charity so broad, that surely as an actress there was no "latty," jealous streak in her makeup. Her comments on the many people she met and tells about—Augustin Daly, Henry Bergh, President Garfield, President McKinley, Jubal A. Early, L. Q. Lunt, Alessandro Salvini, Dion Boucicault and others—marked by a shrewd knowledge of human nature coupled with bright, incisive optimism.

Naturally when Miss Morris speaks of Mr. Daly as at her best, Mr. Daly is painted as a man with a kindly heart hidden by the masculinity of "Latty." May above all things was one of the best stage managers this world ever saw. Other lady stars have believed utterly in the masculinity of "Latty." May yet Miss Morris speedily converted her hearers into a conviction that Lady Macbeth possessed marked femininity.

Once, in speaking of the day of her search in Europe for a new leading man, Miss Morris said to her manager-employer: "I found him on our last night in London. What he said, Tall, dark, square, shouldered, free moving and wearing a long dress coat—that snobbooth of a gentleman—as if that had been his mother's name, he left his mother's name. The play was Bulwer's 'Money.' In the big scene he didn't bang or rave or work himself up to a wild burst of tears, but he looked at me with his eyes, sometimes rapidly, sometimes making a sort of absolute pause. When he reached the part referring to his dead mother, his voice fell two tones, his words were slower and more difficult, and finally stopped. And when the unconsciously smiling audience broke into applause he swiftly turned his head and with the knuckle of his forehead brushed away two tears. His name is Charles Cowden. He is Irish, but a bit Irish myself—you know I was born in St. Patrick's day in the month."

"I also saw England's great actor—a star by the name of John W. Headley. His own work. As a general thing I think he will look wonderfully like the character he is playing. He is not beautiful, neither can I imagine him as a pasteurized actor, but his face will adapt itself splendidly to any strong character make-up, whether noble or villainous. He is the mightiest man in show business today. I was convinced of this by his first five minutes on the stage. His business was applause without the aid of words, and you know what that means." "What's his name?" asked Mr. Daly. "He is called as Henry Irving," said I.

In the chapter "The Mormon Question" Miss Morris excoriates the entire Mormon system and predicts that the hand of the American woman "will yet collar the neck and trim the claws of the great Utah panther." Miss Morris says that in her day to have played a season in any Boston theater meant an addition of at least \$5 a week to the salary of either man or woman in the stock. When Miss Morris played in Boston the bill was "Canfield" for the first engagement, and before the rise of the curtain her physician warningly exclaimed: "You are playing this engagement on your naked nerves!" "Undraped nerves, please, doctor. Do remember this is Boston where even people's thoughts are properly clothed."

Henry Wallace Phillips and Other Critics. McClure, Phillips & Co., New York City.



The Life of a Star, by Clara Morris. McClure, Phillips & Co., New York City.

ring to it that sounds strangely to Northern readers. Still, the book in part tells of new things and will find its audience, especially in Oregon, where many sons and daughters of Confederate soldiers are now among our valued citizens.

"The woman in the Alove," by Anna Katharine Green. Illustrated by Arthur I. Keller. \$1.00. The Hobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, Ind.

Curiously enough, the modern reader unconsciously associates Anna Katharine Green with a novel in which a second last chapter, when the real murderer is trapped in a most unexpected way. The novel is one of exciting charm—so intense that on opening the book one is fairly whipped with curiosity to read it to the bitter end.

Lady Betty Across the Water, edited by C. E. and L. Q. Lunt. McClure, Phillips & Co., New York City.

Dull care and the troubles of this world generally vanish when novel readers are under the spell of anything written by the Williamsons—more power to them! People were pleasantly enthralled when they read "My Friend the Chauffeur," and they will be more so when they read about Lady Betty Hulkeley, a healthy, bright, English aristocrat of 18, and whose brother is a duke. In this novel, she visits this country, dips into New York society, makes the acquaintance of the cadets at West Point, does Newport, and goes West, where she meets her fate in James Brett Harborwood. Lady Betty—you are worth knowing. Though your blood is blue, your eye as entertaining as an American girl's.

The Intellectual Miss Lamb, by Florence Kingsley. \$1.00. The Century Company, New York City.

No more original love story has been published this year than this one. It is pleasant, bright and clever. The heroine, Miss Rosemary Lamb, B. A. and M. A., is a college instructor who looks at humanity, especially young men, through the spectacles of physiological psychology, and ultimately falls in love in a purely scientific but confessedly human way. The atmosphere recalls an episode in a certain department of the University of Oregon. This novel of 109 pages will prove entertaining reading for educated young women.

gets into trouble by wire-tapping to beat a poolroom in New York City. The most powerfully drawn chapter is that which tells of a man's search for a woman and illustrates the command: "Sell 20,000 May at 90."

The Praying Skipper and Other Stories, by Ralph D. Paine. Illustrated. \$1.50. The Outlook Publishing Company, New York City.

We are seven—say the stories Mr. Paine has published under the title "The Praying Skipper." The others are "A Victory Unforeseen," "Corporal Sweeney, Deserter," "The Last Pilot Schooner," "The Jade Treason," "The Arctic Choice," and "Surfman Brainard's Day Off."

The best of these—and the gold among the silver—is that eloquent sermon, a humanistic and far-reaching, "The Praying Skipper," in which the tragedy of Captain Jesse Kendrick, of the Suwannee, of the Palmetto Line, is revealed. In fact, this story is so good that it should be esteemed a real privilege to read it.

The Struggle for Self-Government, by Lincoln Steffens. \$1.20. McClure, Phillips & Co., New York City.

This is an attempt by the chief of the "muck-rake men" to trace American political corruption to its sources in six states. The chapters are: "A Dedication to the Emperor Nicholas of Russia," "Folk's Fight for Missouri," "Chicago's Appeal to Liberty," "Wisconsin's Representative Government Restored," "Rhode Island—A Corrupted People," "Ohio—A Tale of Two Cities," and "New Jersey—A Traitor State."

Heroes of Discovery in America, by Charles Kingsley. \$1.00. The Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, Pa.

Boys complain that the average history-book is dull, when they study the lives of those heroes who in the early centuries of our history "made" America. Here in story-book form is a series of admirable sketches of these discoverers, from Leif the Lucky and Columbus, down to Lewis and Clark and Washington. There isn't a dull page in the book. It possesses the positive charm of a novel.

Harold MacGrath, the popular novelist, has returned to this country after a brief stay abroad. He worked constantly during his trip on a new story, which is now well under way and which he regards as the best thing he has ever written.

Thrills of a Bell Boy, by Samuel Ellsworth Kiser. 30 cents. Illustrated by John T. McCutcheon. McClure, Phillips & Co., New York City.

Do you remember Wallace Irwin's inimitable "Love Sonnets of a Hoodlum"? Here's another laughter-maker in the same category—told in 19 chapters, bristling with slang and humor, well done and exuberantly funny. The verses have that snappy merit called jingle. Mr. Kiser is already a well known publisher and magazine contributor. His bell-boy would be an acquisition and dividend maker to any hotel.

In Honor of James Whitcomb Riley, with a preface by Edwin Holt Hughes. The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, Ind.

ing a vacation appeals to the average man quite so strongly as camping, and he will find one of the most practical articles ever written on the subject in this issue of Suburban Life.

Captain Harry Graham, author of "Misrepresentative Men" and "Races of Miss Edith Barrymore," has been appointed honorary secretary of the Ellen Terry Jubilee in London.

THE AMERICAN PERIL? How Older Countries View the Rise of the United States.

Vance Thompson in Munsey's. Is the great American nation one of those mighty empires which have risen in the world now and then, darting all other empires and societies? This question is of immense import to Europe, as we have seen. Within the last few years an enormous literature has grown up on the subject. Among modern sociologists none speaks with greater authority than Guglielmo Ferrero. Long and scientifically he has studied our country, and his opinion of the present, his forecast of the future, represent the best European thought upon the destinies of the United States. To many it will seem an exaggeration of our greatness; to others, it will show an undue distrust of democracy; but in any case, it is the word of a scientific historian—of a man who is looking for the truth. Neither wealth nor science can change the laws that govern the growth of nations. For Signor Ferrero the United States stands today in the position of the Roman empire in the days of Augustus. He pictures an America which is bound to go the Roman way: increasing in power; draining incalculable wealth from that which she conquers; Rome, forced, in spite of hereditary democratic ideals, to make itself strong by land and sea in order to hold its own and guard its world-wide trading flag; overshadowing the huge modern world as Rome did the little civilization of the Mediterranean.

After calm reflection, and in a cold, scientific way, the thinkers and statesmen of old Europe predict for the new world this visionary future; and brooding over it, they seem to be in the very shadow of the peril. The practical American, as he drops from the tallend of a street car and goes about his business, may not realize that Europe sees in him the terrible fellow who is to go swagging down the way of the world, taking the wall of everyone, in the good old Roman fashion; but so it is. He is—even when he wheels the baby abroad—an eighty-millionth part of the great American peril; in which fact he may find a certain measure of satisfaction.

Pickling Nature Till She Laughs. Pendleton East Oregonian.

The verdant spots of new made land, redeemable by the touch of the irrigator ditch now give a delightful aspect to the once wild desert regions. Everywhere in the western portion of the country the little ditch is rearing up its earth. It is impossible to believe that such a transformation could be performed within a few years.

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