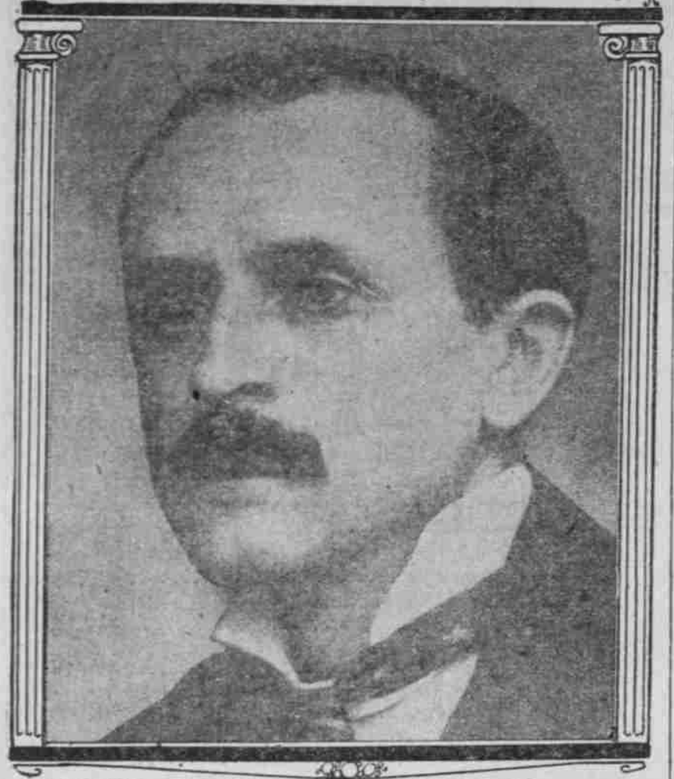
"What every woman knows is that Eve was not made out of Adam's ribs, but out of his funny-bone."
James M. Barrie, in His Newest Play.



JAMES M BARRIE, AUTHOR OF "WHAT EVERY WOMAN KNOWS"

The Missioner, by E. Phillips Oppenheim. Illustrated. $1.50. Little, Brown & Co., Boston, and the J. K. Gill Company, Portland.

Another from the Oppenheim novel-factory, about a maiden who has a vague yearning to be kissed.

But the exciting quality is there of the true story, with accompanying mystery of plot, fairly pulsing with successive thrills, until one realizes that "The Missioner" is probably the best of the Oppenheim series. It is so cleverly constructed that the reader instinctively takes off his hat to an ever resourceful author.

Of course, "The Missioner" is an English story of aristocratic life, and positive humor. Miss Wilhelmina Thorp-Hatton is one of those extraordinary young women in whom a bubbling sense of humor is omnipresent—just the sort of joke-maker James M. Barrie must have had in mind when he penned that famous sentence: "What every woman knows is that Eve was not made out of Adam's ribs, but out of his funny-bone!" Indeed, Miss Thorp-Hatton is so much a humorist that in compliment to her the story might have been labeled: "Tragedy of a Kissing Lady."

What would you think of a respectable young woman possessing a fortune of $200,000 a year and also her share of good looks, suddenly throwing herself into a strange man's arms and kissing him; and afterward repeating the dose? You would probably say that Miss Thorp-Hatton had no doubt kissed other good-looking young men, in the same "glad-I've-found-you old-man" style.

Victor Macheson, 28 years old, born in Australia, English college graduate, wealthy, etc., is the "missioner." Coming under the spell of a social reformer, Macheson and other college men seek to devote their lives to social-uplift, without seeking the co-operation of the church. To Macheson is assigned the task of awakening to better spiritual life, the outwardly-respectable, church-going inhabitants of the village of Thorp, England. Macheson makes personal application to Miss Thorp-Hatton, as owner of the manor, for permission to preach to her tenants, and being a creature of whims, she refuses. She seems to be a dissatisfied, rich-idler, one who yawns at the weariness of life. Gilbert Deyes loves her in secret.

Deyes walked to the window and threw it open. The storm was over, but the rain was still falling, in soft, steady downpour. The cooler air which swept into the room was almost faint with the delicious perfume of flowers and shrubs bathed in the refreshing downpour.

"I think," Deyes said, "that there is some magic abroad tonight. Did you meet Lucifer walking in the rose garden?" he asked, turning slightly toward his hostess. "The storm may have brought him even here."

"Neither Lucifer nor any of his princely fellows," Miss Thorp-Hatton answered. "The only demon is here"—she touched her bosom lightly—"the demon of unrest. It is not I alone who am born with the wanderer's curse. There are many of us, you know."

"You have not the writing in your face," he said. "I do not believe that we are one of the accursed at all. Tonight you have the look of one who has found what she has sought for a long time."

But, really Mr. Deyes is not the chief actor in the tale. Miss Thorp-Hatton, who smokes cigarettes and plays bridge, has such a disquieting effect on Macheson that he retires to a deserted hut on her estate, where he plays at bachelor hall. One fateful evening, Miss Thorp-Hatton deliberately leaves the society of her aristocratic guests, and, impelled by some unexplainable force, she runs toward Macheson's hut:

Macheson had been leaning against a tree, just inside. He opened the gate. She stepped almost into his arms. Her white face was suddenly illuminated by the soft blaze of Summer lightning which poured from the sky. He had no time to move, to realize. He felt her hands upon his cheek, his face drawn downwards, her lips, soft and burning, pressed against his for one long, exquisite second. And then—the darkness once more and his arms were empty.

No word of love had passed between them. On page 171 we read that Miss Thorp-Hatton took Macheson into her London house and sitting-room: "Wilhelmina closed the door and raised her veil. She laid her two hands upon his shoulders, and her touch was like a caress. She was drawing his face down to hers. 'I wonder,' she murmured, 'whether you remember!' "

There the chapter ends abruptly. No wonder Macheson is devoured with love and wonder. "Do you think," he asks her, "that I am another of those creatures of straw and putty, to dance to your whims, to be whistled to your heel, to be fed with stray kisses, and an occasional kind word? I think not. If I am to go to the devil, I will go my own way!"

Clearly, this strange young woman loves Macheson, and there is some barrier to her marrying him. Certainly, She quietly hints at a "secret chamber of sorrow." It seems that several years previously, she had secretly married in Paris one Jean Le Roi, an Apache-murderer-thief, who had pretended to her that he was the Duke of Languerois. On discovering the truth about him, on her wedding day, she left him without disclosing her identity and so arranged matters with the police that Jean Le Roi and his band of thieves were captured and lodged in jail. Wilhelmina returned to her English estate, money and diamonds.

Now, how is Mr. Oppenheim going to give in marriage Miss Thorp-Hatton to her missioner? By the operation of the divorce law? Remember, the events happen largely in England, "where they have none of the nasty American divorces." So, divorce isn't resorted to, but the special intervention of heaven.

Macheson isn't a saint, and he plunges into dissipation both in London and Paris, before he realizes that his mission is not to spiritually uplift the poor, but the idle-rich.

Above all, though, this Miss Wilhelmina is the greatest joke.

Discourses and Sermons on Various Subjects, by Cardinal Gibbons. $1.50. John Murphy Company, Baltimore, Md.

Differences of creed vanish when the thoughtful reader contemplates the piety, charity, learning and sturdy Americanism of this great prince of the Catholic Church in America, James Cardinal Gibbons, of Baltimore, Md. He is now in his 74th year, and the prayer that he will long be spared to minister to his people and send out wise messages like the present will be universal.

The word "sermons," to the layman, suggests at the first thought something profoundly theological, and even dry. But there isn't a single dry page here, and the book for its cheerful optimism and fatherly advice ought to be widely read, not only by those of all creeds but those who do not believe in any creed at all. It is with awe we learn that these sermons written by the cardinal have been the fruit of nearly 50 years serious meditation in the sacred ministry. In a singularly frank preface the cardinal says:

The author believes that the brevity of these sermons will also commend them to the reader, for long discourses are unusually tedious and fatiguing. They weigh heavily on the mind, as a surfeit of food palls upon the appetite, while short sermons, like a frugal and nutritious meal, are easily digested and assimilated. The subjects embraced in this work have been to the writer an unfailing source of joy and comfort, of strength and fortitude during the last half century. They have been to millions of souls in every age for nearly 20 centuries a fountain of light to these that sat in darkness; they have been an infallable guide to the Christian pilgrim, a consolation to the afflicted, courage to the faint hearted, food to the hungry, an inexhaustible refreshment to those that thirst after righteousness; they have been wholesome medicine to the sick, a salutary rebuke to the sinner and the hope of eternal life to the faithful followers of Christ.

It makes one pause to reflect that thousands of souls who have heard certain of these sermons preached have since gone to their long, eternal rest. Fifty years. Think of it. In what special star were many of us, say, 50 years ago?

Cardinal Gibbons makes his sermons replete with human interest, and I am glad to see that he is liberal enough to quote from Shakespeare. For real eloquence and wealth of appealing power probably the greatest sermon in the collection is the one on "International Peace." Love of humankind is the gospel preached in the question: "Am I My Brother's Keeper?" and the Cardinal cites cases in his native City of Baltimore where in sweat shops working men and women toiled for six days, 10 or 12 hours per day, their laboring compensation amounting to $6 or $8. "And with this pittance they have to pay for house rent, food and clothing, and other expenses incident to family life" proceeds this merciless critic of wrongful conditions, "They are living on starving wages. The result is that in a few years they become incapacitated for work. There is something radically wrong in our social and economic condition, when the employer becomes suddenly rich, while the toiler, with the utmost thrift and economy, can scarcely keep the wolf from the door. These toilers ask for no alms. They are our own flesh and blood. How can we help them? Agitate the question. Arouse public attention to a pressing grievance. Appeal to the conscience and humanity of employers themselves, who may be disposed to repair a wrong when their attention is called to the situation. If they are deaf to your expostulations, you can have recourse to more drastic measures. Thank God, there are in Baltimore some clothing-house proprietors that treat their employes with justice and charity. In making your purchases, you can discriminate in favor of these establishments." Other helpful suggestions are also appended.

Among the remaining sermons for consideration, the chief are those discussing: "Loss and Gain," "The Moral Aspects of Suicide," "A Personal Providence," "Sickness a Season of Divine Mercy," "Pay What Thou Owest" and "Lay Co-operation."

History of the United States of America, by Solon J. Vlasto and Nicholas Gortzis. In Greek. Illustrated. $2. The Atlantis newspaper, New York City.

There are said to be over 200,000 Greeks in this country, and Atlantis is a newspaper published in New York City with the object of educating and otherwise catering to the mental development of American-Greeks from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Complaint has heretofore been made that these Greeks have not been able to obtain a history of the United States written in their own language, but it would seem to the critical observer that if these Greeks wish to become model American citizens they had better learn enough English to read American books and newspapers printed in English, in order to be on better terms of equality with their new fellow-citizens. But nevertheless a demand for such a history printed in Greek has been made, and Mr. Vlasto and Mr. Gortzis have written a book calculated to fill the bill. It is illustrated with 48 halftone cuts, and in the space of 286 pages covers the entire history of this country from the day Columbus landed, to the election of William H. Taft to the Presidency of the United States. The book is certainly a marvel of condensation and enterprise.

The work the Atlantis is doing is very much to its credit as a factor for Americanism. Three years ago, it published a Greek-English "Method," and later on a "Greek-English Grammar" and a "Greek-English and English-Greek Dictionary." Now comes the present history, dedicated to Greek youth, and on the title page appears this message: "To read, study and practice the examples of a Nation which from little became great."

Out of the Depths, by George A. Parker. Illustrated. Reid Publishing Company, Boston, Mass.

A Christian Science story, one of the principal features of which is where a boy, about 8 years old, prays over and helps to make well a sick guinea pig. Says the boy: "You are well, now, little pig. It was only error that made you feel bad."

Much of the tale is localized in New Jersey. In the opening scene a fox terrier named Caper played an important role. Chester Bond is bidding farewell to his sweetheart, Elizabeth Edwards, before he leaves for Ann Arbor to resume his law studies. Chester has suffered an injury to one of his hands, and before returning to his home for the Christmas holidays it was necessary to undergo a surgical operation. He had inherited a dread disease, and a shadow began to creep over his life. In the meantime Elizabeth's little nephew, Harvey, a bright lad of 7 years, visits the Edwards home. His wisdom is far beyond his years and at every opportunity he demonstrates "the doctrines of Truth and Love," inculcated by his parents. Consternation is created in the Edwards home when Harvey's grandmother finds him reading his little "Love Book." But Aunt Elizabeth is more sympathetic, and after studying the little book for herself, is convinced by its wonderful revelations. She has discovered life in the new doctrine for Chester Bond, and although Dr. Weaver, an eminent surgeon, declares Chester beyond medical skill, she determines to send for a Christian Science practitioner.

Chester is at length completely restored to health. A month afterward he meets Dr. Weaver, who was surprised to see him alive and asked him how the cure was effected. After hearing that it was by means of Christian Science, the physician replied scornfully: "Nonsense! I recollect now. I was trying a new discovery of mine on it, when the case was taken out of my hands. That is the only sensible explanation." He examined the hand more closely. "A very interesting case," he went on. "No cicatrix, no discoloration. Ha! What a fine paper I shall be able to present at the next association meeting."

Trail Dust, by Daniel S. Richardson. $1.25. Robertson's, San Francisco, Cal.

Thirty-six poems in a book described by the author as "a little round-up of Western verse," although its locale is largely California. The verse is high class, has the right taste of poesy, and is at its best when describing the wonderful beauties of nature. It is also up to date, one of the poems being headed, "California to the Fleet." There's a tender voice in the message to "Joaquin," Joaquin Miller, the last verse ending:

Good night, old singer. I descry
Thy tree-built cross against the sky;
And, standing in the vale below
Where roses bloom and peach trees blow,
I watch the purple twilight creep
O'er field and wood and shaggy steep.
Good night, old bard; the shadows fall
And stars across thy mountain wall
Are looking over to the west.
Good night, old singer; take thy rest.

All of which will probably be appreciated by the said Joaquin Miller except the prefix "old." People who know him intimately say that he resents being called "old."

New Laboratory Manual of Physics, by S. E. Coleman. Illustrated. 60 cents. The American Book Company, New York City.

Mr. Coleman is head of the science department and teachers of physics in the Oakland, Cal., High School. His new book extends to 264 pages and its scope is that of a laboratory guide for the pupil, while college entrance requirements seem to have been met intelligently. It is in greater part a revision of the author's "Physical Laboratory Manual," yet it is newly written throughout and opportunity has been taken to make many improvements in teaching which years of experience and friendly criticism would suggest.

Gus Brohm's Budget, compiled and illustrated by H. W. B. Kantner. 25 cents. Kantner, 553 Logan avenue, Denver, Colo.

Fun from cover to cover. This little book is a compilation of the wit and humor of Gus Brohm, the well-known comedian, and he is droll, whether he illustrates laughter in Irish, Dutch, negro or Yiddish. There are several smiles to a page, and the book cover states that the contents are "guaranteed under the pure-food law."

Checkerberry, by Lucretia S. McDonald. $1.60, postpaid. Cochrane Publishing Company, New York City.

Miss Debby, a spinster maiden, falls heir to a large fortune, and fills Greystone House with a whopping, happy tribe of boys and girls, whose parentage doesn't help them much when meal time arrives. One of the waifs is Rachel Berry, whose nickname is "Checkerberry," separated from her parents. A lively story, which would read much better were some of the slang eliminated.

JOSEPH M. QUENTIN.

IN LIBRARY AND WORKSHOP.

Authors and writers are certainly coming into their own. Prizes to the tune of $15,000 in cash are announced by Woman's Home Journal, Springfield, Mass., for long and short stories, poems and anecdotes. Still more wonderful, a winner dissatisfied with the prize award has redress!

* * *

Among recent new editions, old favorites like the following are noted on the list of the Harpers: "The Princess of Thule," by William Black; "Their Silver Wedding Journey," by William Dean Howells; "The Awkward Age," by Henry James, and "Innocents Abroad," by Mark Twain.

* * *

Dr. Orison Swett Marden, editor of Success, has just completed a book which advance readers call the most original and vigorous piece of inspirational writing he has yet done. It is entitled "Peace, Power and Plenty," and deals with the power of those thought forces and soul qualities which cause every man to rise superior to his environment.

* * *

With the authorization of the Fabian Society of London, the Ball Publishing Company has just published a library edition of the "Fabian Essays in Socialism" as edited by G. Bernard Shaw. Nearly 50,000 copies of this book have been sold in England. The same firm is also issuing two other books on this subject by H. G. Wells—"This Misery of Boots," and "Socialism and the Family."

* * *

March 1 will see the publication of a new book of poems by Henry S. Wilcox, of Chicago, entitled "Joys of Earth." Mr. Wilcox will be remembered as the author of "Foibles of the Bench" and other volumes, among which are a novel entitled "A Strange Flaw," and a series of sketches entitled "The Trials of a Stump Speaker." This is his first venture in the poetical field.

* * *

"There is something wrong with the man who can read this book unmoved. It is life." This is the comment of an enthusiastic reader of Alfred Ollivant's romance, "The Gentleman." Evidently there is nothing wrong with a certain retired army officer who has informed Mr. Ollivant's publishers that he has read "The Gentleman" three times and has begun his fourth reading of it.

* * *

A new novel by Lord Iddesleigh, one of the few English peers who have taken to fiction, will soon be published in London by John Murray. Its title is "Lone Challoner," and it is a romance of the Young Pretender's invasion of England. Lord Iddesleigh is the eldest son of Sir Stafford Northcote, who was elevated to the peerage in reward for his services after he had been leader of the House of Commons under Lord Beaconsfield.

* * *

News of the earthquake disaster in Sicily has caused Marion Crawford's "Southern Italy and Sicily" to appear suddenly as one of the books most in demand at the libraries and in bookstores. Mr. Crawford's well-known book, which was published in 1909, is probably the best available source of historical and topographical information about the devastated country, and its many illustrations are particularly valuable at the present time.

* * *

"Shift the scenes from Japan and China to India, conceal the author's name and one might well be excused for declaring that 'The Forbidden Boundary and Other Stories' is the work of Mr. Kipling." This is about the highest praise that could be bestowed on a writer of stories of the East. That it has been earned by Putnam Weale, the author of the book mentioned, will be readily believed by those who have read this and his other books on the Far East.

* * *

Paternoster Row, London, is the scene of episodes in the love story of Robert Carr, Earl of Somerset, and Lady Essex, and it was in a house there, long ago, that the poisons were prepared which did away with Sir Thomas Overbury. New from Paternoster Row comes a book which tells of the guilty love that dragged down one of the noblest names in England. It is entitled "A King's Favorite," is written by Philip Gibbs, and will be published in London by the Hutchinsons.

* * *

The Macmillan Company announces the third volume of the Variorum edition of Beaumont and Fletcher, which is being issued under the general editorship of A. H. Bullen. The volume contains five plays: "The Faithful Shepherdess," edited by W. W. Greg; "The Mad Lover" and "Rule a Wife and Have a Wife," edited by R. Warwick Bond; "The Loyal Subject," edited by John Masefield, with an introduction by R. Warwick Bond, and "The Laws of Candy," edited by E. K. Chambers.

* * *

"Lost Cabin Mine," by Frederick Niven, which a well-known publisher will shortly produce at the head of his list of books, continues to absorb readers in the February number of the Popular Magazine, in which this interesting story of the West has been running. A noteworthy addition to the list of astute detectives of modern fiction is Tomlinson Querriot, the society detective, who unravels the amazing secret of the disappearance of Mrs. Teackle's jewels in "An Affair of Jewels," by George Bronson-Howard, which also appears in the same magazine number.

* * *

Personal charm and genial humor mark Thomas Nelson Page's new serial story, "John Marvel, Assistant," now appearing in Scribner's Magazine. Says Mr. Page, in explanation: "Heretofore my work in fiction has been occupied with the portrayal of Virginian life and character. That has been my theme. In my new novel, although still Virginian, is not what you might call sectional or local. It is primarily a love story, but a love story interwoven with the sterner questions of the day, which are rife just now from one end of the country to the other. In my novel a young clergyman and an idealistic Jew work shoulder to shoulder in the effort to uplift humanity, and in it, also, I aim to voice the protest of the great educated classes against the encroachments and tyrannies of the two forces between which they stand—capital and labor. It is to the treatment of subjects of this kind that the fiction of the day is undoubtedly tending, which marks a new era in the evolution of the American novel, South as well as North."

* * *

Professor W. D. Lyman, of Whitman College, Walla Walla, Wash., is engaged in the preparation of a book on the Columbia River for a series published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, of New York and London, known as "Historic Rivers of America." This is the first effort to present a book distinctively on the Columbia River. It is the intention of the author to give some special prominence to Nelson and the magnificent lake district by which it is surrounded. "As the joint possession of the United States and British Columbia, and as the grandest scenic river of the continent," says the publishers' note, "the Columbia is worthy of special attention."

* * *

The Lincoln centenary, already heralded among the publishers of books, will be observed by Harper & Brothers with two volumes to be issued in a few days. One of these, entitled "Reminiscences of Abraham Lincoln," is by distinguished men of his time, whose names are among the most significant memories in this country. The other, the story of the President and the Green Mountain boy who was found asleep on post, called "Lincoln and the Sleeping Sentinel," is told by L. E. Chittenden, who was Register of the Treasury in Lincoln's administration. Both of these books aim directly at a presentment of Lincoln the Man, his simplicity, his instructive wisdom, and his gentle humanity.

* * *

The January number of The Bookman contains a summary of their reports for the past year on the six best selling books. As was expected, "Mr. Crewe's Career" proves to have been the book of the year. It led all others in the number of points scored, 1389, its nearest competitor having received 1195. Mr. Churchill's novel also leads in the number of times it appeared at the head of the list. In four successive months it was the best seller, while its nearest competitors remained at the head of the list only two months. It recently opened as a play at New Haven, Conn., with every prospect of a successful run. The picture of political scenes in New England is said to have won the approval of the University town audience.

* * *

Booth Tarkington has something of that gift of charicature which has made Peter Newell famous, and, like Mr. Newell, takes a half-savage, half-melancholy pleasure in doing an occasional pencil-caricature of himself. The talent is a reminder that it was Mr. Tarkington's first ambition. Indeed, to become an illustrator, and recalls his own amusing story about the first drawing he ever had accepted, and how he figured the amount of his income on the basis of his check and foresaw himself in happy luxury. But the drawings proved to be like the chickens that were counted before they were hatched, and when Mr. Tarkington found that his books were accepted, while his drawings were sometimes declined, he yielded to the temptation to become a writer. After that it was a short step to a play-writer. Mr. Tarkington has resided in New York during most of the run of "The Man From Home," which was recently produced in book form, and which has been pleasantly successful.

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Salmon P. Chase kept a careful diary throughout his career in Washington, D. C., and in next month's Scribner some notable extracts from it will be given, particularly an account of "A Midnight Conference," with Lincoln, Seward, Stanton, Halleck and Chase present, to discuss a crisis in the war. This narrative is referred to by Hay and Nicolay in their "Life of Lincoln." The anonymous author of "England and the English from an American Point of View," whose criticisms have attracted wide attention, will discuss in the same number the question of "Who Are the English?" with particular reference to the mixture of Saxons, Angles, Danes and Normans that went into the making of the race. He points out that the present House of Lords is conspicuously a democratic body, chosen from the successful of the land, and generally takes a plutocratic view. "Seventy of the peers," he says, were ennobled on account of distinction in the practice of law alone; many others have humble beginnings and owe their present position to great success as business men." Indeed!

* * *

According to the memory of a great many of us, the name of James M. Barrie, the Scotch novelist, is associated with his one great story, "The Little Minister." But Mr. Barrie can't forever live on the laurels he gained with Lady Babbie and her Gavin. So it is good news to spread that he has written another Scotch comedy, entitled "What Every Woman Knows," which is having an immense success in New York, of course with Miss Maude Adams in the title role. Women, especially, delight in the harmless fun of the play, which relates principally to a demure young Scotchwoman named Maggie, who at the age of 26 is still unsought by suitors. Her well-to-do brothers are disappointed at what they term her failure in life, and make a contract with another shrewd Scot, John Shand, by which they supply funds for his education on the understanding that he, later, will marry the said Maggie.

At length, Shand is a member of Parliament, and with the help of Maggie, his wife, becomes known as a first-class debater, in which capacity he dispenses what is known as the "Shand" humor. Then he thinks that he has fallen in love with another woman, a pretty fool. Maggie, wise young woman, doesn't weep. No; she artfully plans matters so that her husband and his new lady-love are constantly thrown together at a time when he is composing a great speech by which he hopes to shake the very earth to its foundations, but to his astonishment finds that his inamorata hasn't one funny idea, although she is pretty. His wife comes to his rescue in the nick of time, and not until then does Shand discover that his alleged "Shand" wit belongs to his wife. Curtain descends over a reunited husband and wife. Wise Maggie, maker of delighted laughter! Again has Mr. Barrie shown that the Scotch really have humor, quiet but sparkling and infectious.

* * *

With all the hundreds of Bible Commentaries that are in existence it has remained for an English scholar to plan and prepare a work that promises to be more widely useful than any of its predecessors in this field. This is a one-volume commentary on the entire Bible, written by some of the best Biblical scholars of England and America, and edited by Rev. J. R. Dummelow. Its purpose is to meet the wants of the ordinary Bible reader by furnishing adequate introductions to the various books, and notes explaining the principal difficulties which arise in connection with them. The volume includes not only a commentary on each of the books of the Bible, but also a series of articles dealing with the larger questions suggested by the Bible as a whole. It has been edited on the principle of incorporating the assured results of modern scholarship, while avoiding extreme or doubtful opinions. Among the contributors are such famous scholars as Canon Rage, Principal Adeny, Professor Nairne, Dr. Plummer, and Professor Kennett, in England; and in this country, Professor MacFadyen, of Toronto; Professor Paton, of Hartford Seminary; Professor Robinson, of McCormick Theological Seminary, and Professor Ropes, of Harvard. It is to be published by the Macmillan Company.

* * *

The rewritten editions of Henry James' novels come along slowly, accompanied by Mr. James' explanatory prefaces. "As I read over 'A Passionate Pilgrim' and 'The Madonna of the Future,'" he says, "they become in the highest degree documentary for myself—from all measure of such interest as they may possibly have at this time of day for others I stand off; though I disengage from them but one thing, their betrayal of their consolatory use. The deep begullement of the lost vision recovered, in comparative indigence, by a certain inexpert intensity of art—the service rendered by them at need, with whatever awkwardness and difficulty—sticks out of them for me to the exclusion of everything else and consecrates them. I freely admit, to memory. 'Madame de Mauves,' and 'Louisa Pallant' are another matter; the latter, in especial, belongs to recent years." It is of the writing of the former story that Mr. James recalls most vividly his surroundings—a form of reminiscence that very strongly appeals to him. He sees, as he looks back, the little old inn at Bad-Homburg and the damp and dusky room wherein it was written. "The room was so dark that I could see my way to and from my inkstand, I remember, but by keeping the door to the court open—thanks to which also the muse, witness of many mild domestic incidents, was distracted and beguiled."

How Our Ancestors Dress Us.

Frank Crane, in the Atlantic.

Once gentlemen wore sword-belts and gauntlets; these have disappeared; but their ghosts still guide all tailors, and two useless buttons are invariably sewed upon each cuff, and two others at the back of the frock coats, of all afternoon males.

Somewhere about 1753 a hatter named John Hetherington, of London, made and wore the first tall hat, now known as the silk, full dress, plug, or stove-pipe hat. A horse saw him and ran away. The owner of the horse sued Hetherington, but lost his case, the Judge doubtless holding that an Englishman has an inalienable right to dress as ugly as he can. One time there was a King who had a deformed knee; he abandoned the knickerbockers which revealed the weakness of the royal leg, and took to long trousers. Hetherington and the King have long since gone to their reward, but their ghosts still ride civilized man, one at one end and one at the other, from Paris to Tokio; and Lord-a-mercy! we daren't even laugh at the spectacle!

A Town Built of Concrete.

Boston Transcript.

A serious fire recently visited Winthrop and within an hour two hotels and seven houses were completely destroyed. The progress of the fire in one direction was completely stopped by a concrete house which was just being finished, and which was not injured at all. The fire was so intense where this building stands that the granite curbing across the street was split and crumbled as if broken with sledge-hammers. In view of the strength and fire-resisting properties of concrete, the new town of Concrete, Pembina County, N. D., proposes to stand by its name, and the townsite people refuse to sell lots except on the condition that concrete will be used in the construction of the buildings to be erected thereon.

RUINS OF SAN FRANCISCO CITY HALL

BUILDING WHICH COST $7,000,000 AND REEKED WITH GRAFT.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Jan. 23.—(Special.)—Almost three years from the time the earthquake caused its columns to tumble and to disclose to the gaping eyes of the world the monumental fraud in its construction, the San Francisco City Hall, the last of the earthquake spectacles, is being razed to the ground. Every stick and timber will be cleared away and in six months, if the contractors keep their word, there will be nothing of a big nature to remind the residents and visitors to this city that there was an earthquake on April 18, 1906.

For many reasons there has been no more remarkable building in the country. Costing $7,000,000, and taking more than a quarter of a century to complete, it is said that there never was a bigger grafting proposition over the length and breadth of the United States. Many a contractor grew rich as a result of the erection of this city structure. It was in March, 1871, that the first excavations were made, and it was not until 1897 that it was fully completed. Amounts for the erection increased until, at the end, the taxpayers had been saddled with a bill of a larger amount than it took to build the Capitol of the United States.

When the earthquake came no building felt the effects of the temblor as did the City Hall. The immense dome, on which was erected a wingless angel, was left little more than a steel skeleton, and the entire building was so wrecked that it was impossible and at the same time unsafe to use it.

From time to time the Supervisors have considered the question of completely wrecking the building. But on such occasions there have been protests from various citizens, who have declared that it could be repaired, in spite of the reports by numberless architects.

Finally, bids were called for, and William B. Abbott was given the contract to raze the building for $7900, the contractor to have all the material that he can save. Even then court proceedings were brought to stop the work, but the courts have decided that it may proceed, and very shortly San Franciscans will have only recollections of their City Hall, for the work is already under way.

THE LIVING SONGS
By Wilbur D. Nesbit

These are the poems of the world:
The grass that whispers to the wind,
The rose with petals half uncurled,
The mountains in blue haze outlined,
The wondrous, ever-changing sea—
In calms adream, in tempests hurled
In one compelling harmony—
These are the poems of the world.

These are the poems that God has writ:
The skies that redden with the dawn,
That with the stars are lantern lit—
The stars that journey on and on;
The hush that dusk sends to the plain
When the twilight falters down the hills,
The sunshine, and the mist and rain,
The flower scent that June distills.

These are the poems of the world:
The shaded forest solitudes
Where ancient trees, broad-limbed and burled,
Invite us to uplifted moods;
The snow-fields stretching white and far,
In moonlight's subtle magic pearled;
The meadows, green and fair—these are
The song-spread pages of the world.

These poems, written clear and true,
Bear impress of the master hand
That made them—Ah, and I and you
Look long before we understand.
They live! No finger-fretted pen
Must heap them up of mental sherds—
God writes his poems not as men
Who walk the narrow path of words.

Books Added to Library

The following books may be examined at the Public Library during this week and will be ready for circulation on Monday, February 1.

BIOGRAPHY.

Beaconsfield—Lord Beaconsfield and other Tory memories; by T. E. Kebbel. 1907.
Shelley—Letters to Elizabeth Hitchener. 1908.

BOOKS IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES.

Bible—Bibelen eller den Hellige Skrift.
Bible—Neue Testament.
Bohlau—Schlimme flitterwochen.
Bojer—Paa kirkevei.
Carlen—Jungfrutornet.
Castelar—La hermana de la caridad. 2 v.
Collett—I de lange haetter.
Flaubert—Madama Bovary.
Flood—Fra fjeldet og skaergaarden.
Geijerstam—Frik Grane.
Grimm & Grimm—Folke-eventyr.
Handel-Mazzetti—Jesse und Maria.
Hazel—Ce qu'il fait lire dans sa vie.
Mauron & Verrier—Nouvelle grammaire Anglaise.
Richelmann—Meine erlebnisse in der wismann-truppe.
Ruppius—Das vermachtnis des pediars.

DESCRIPTION AND TRAVEL.

Fisher—A woman alone in the heart of Japan. 1906.
Lathrop—Sunny days in Italy. 1907.
Wharton—A motor flight through France. 1908.

FICTION.

Benson—A lord of lands.
Galsworthy—Island Pharisees.
Loomis—A holiday touch.
Meyer-Forester—Old Heidelberg; tr. by Max Chapelle.
Nicholson—The little brown jug at Kildare.
Williams—My lost duchess.

LITERATURE.

Herford—Monologues. 1908.
Sedgwick—The new American type and other essays. 1908.

FINE ARTS

Debussy—Claude-Achille Debussy; by Mrs. Franz Liebich. 1908.
Goya—Goya; an account of his life and works; by A. F. Calvert. 1908.
Heaton—A concise history of painting. 1907.
Wylde—How to collect continental china. 1907.

HISTORY.

Baring—A year in Russia. 1907.
Corbett—England in the Seven Years' war. 1907.

PHILOSOPHY.

Arrhenius—Worlds in the making; the evolution of the universe; tr. by H. Borns. 1908.
Orr—David Hume and his influence on philosophy and theology. 1903.

RELIGION.

Bible—Bible for beginners; compiled by J. P. Hopps. Ed. 2. 1885.
Jones—Love and loyalty; sermons. 1907.

SCIENCE.

Job—The sport of bird-study. 1908.
Keller—Mathematics for engineering students. 1907.
Sohn—Dictionary of the active principles of plants. 1894.
Washburn—The animal mind; a textbook of comparative psychology. 1908.

SOCIOLOGY.

Johnson—Introductory economics. 1907.
Lafargue—Social and philosophical studies. 1906.
Lewis—Ten blind leaders of the blind. 1909.
Lockwood & Prosser—The new Harmony movement. 1905.
Marx—Value, price and profit; addresses to working men. 1908.
Washington—The negro in business. 1907.

USEFUL ARTS.

Andrewes—Lessons in disinfection and sterilization. 1907.
Macfie—The romance of medicine. 1907.
Pacsette—The art of canning and preserving as an industry; formulas and receipts. 1901.
Standfield—The electric furnace. 1907.
Thompson—Heating by steam and water; a practical treatise on house heating. 1907.
Whipple—The value of pure water. 1907.

BOOKS ADDED TO CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT.

Burgess—More goops.
Crowther—Rowing and track athletics.
Newell—Topsys and turvys.