



By JOSEPH MACQUEEN.



Sugared Memories, by William Winter. Illustrated. El. George H. Doran Co., New York City.

Because William Winter is the man he is, a man of great friendships with many men and women eminent in the theatrical world, and also because he is the dean of dramatic critics in America, this book on passing memories, he definitely worth reading. It is one of the best books of reminiscence of the season. The pages are 125, and the illustrations 22, many of them of notable interest.

It is significant that Mr. Winter, who sought to know all about such things, says that the amateur dramatics of today and tomorrow would be wise to avoid the dramatic school. Why?

The art of acting cannot be taught as the three he can. Certain accomplishments which are used on the stage and in schools—dancing and singing—can be acquired at some dramatic schools, but, in general, they can be more advantageously acquired elsewhere. The most useful impairment of the dramatic school is the art of hygiene which happens to be taught. But teaching up the rascals is the stage itself. An indispensable part of the dramatic performance is the audience. Acting without an audience is in itself like practicing the piano upon a noiseless keyboard—idle, except for posterity, which causes to the exponent only a temporary career. The practical way to obtain employment in a good repertory or stock company, resident or touring, to acquire complete self-command when before an audience, and to profit by continual continuous practice of the methods of professional actors.

This frank and very different from the advice given to young actors, to him in a dramatic school.

It is interesting to know that E. H. Southern was once a frightened boy—“Southern’s first appearance on the stage was in New York, September 1, 1874,” writes Mr. Winter. His first part was that of “A Cabman” in the farce of “Brother Sam,” produced by his father. I saw the performance and sympathized with the boy, who was overcomely by birth, bright and unattractive.

We in Portland who have witnessed the ease and grace with which Southern abhors in “It I Were King,” the story that at first he suffered from stage fright, is informed. It is not possible to communicate the famous action of his author writes冬日的温暖。

Here is a fragment of a speech Mr. Winter delivered at the Lotus Club when he entertained Forbes-Robertson there in 1910:

My labor, like my life, is drawing toward a close. It has been lived, must be ended, to serve the ministry of beauty. That to be the unconquerable agency of existence and that should be the aspiration of all art, is the secret of all thoughts and purposes of art, and of the beauty of the soul and of the beauty of the beautiful. Life should predominate as an impulse, imperial and absolute, with the lives of the men and women of the world as the Great World; when I have listened to the silver chimes of Heidelberg, or paid in the classic groves of Oxford, or seen the sun-dappled temples that rise on glorious spires those baronial, incomparable towers, I have mourned in vain, for I have known that the modern man who believes in Christ, with special arguments as to war, wealth and the church, and chained himself to the cross of orthodoxy. The world is a present-day story of adventure in Mexico, of special interest to telegraphers and railroad men (Macmillan Company, New York).

The Nursery Door, by Isabel McEneaney, illustrated by her, is a well-idealized biography of the biography of a girl (Stokes Company, New York).

Violette of Paris, Lachaise, by Anna Maria Wallach, is a well-idealized biography of the life of a girl (Stokes Company, New York).

Typical Newspaper Stories, by H. F. Harrington, \$1.00, Ginn & Co., Chicago.

Viewed from many angles, this book on newspaper stories is a profound study of journalism. There are 27 pages, and every page is worth reading, for the surprises in store awaiting the interested reader.

For one thing the human viewpoint is very much in evidence, also the stern glance of the justice, mingled with the optimism of the press. Who after all can judge newspaper stories? What one man alone constitutes the court of last resort, of last appeal, before the literary judgment appears in print? Necessarily the author of the book, and as he is human and therefore liable to err, his judgment is not infallible.

This much in Justice to Mr. Harrington. His book is what the title page implies: “Typical Newspaper Stories.” Stories selected by a method known to Mr. Harrington, presumably, are called “newspaper stories,” a profound knowledge of which is 27 pages, and every page is worth reading, for the surprises in store awaiting the interested reader.

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But to return to Dr. Dean’s boy—

Edwin Booth was closely associated with Edwin Booth, his father, in his wanderings and often and adventurous travel.

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