WOMEN'S CLUBS

Edited by MRS. SARAH A. EVANS

WOMEN'S WORK

Women in Reform Subject of Fine Address.

The following address was given by Mrs. E. P. Athey before the Political Study club of University park, at its last meeting:

"The test of civilization is the estimate of women,'" said George William Curtis. "The present is woman's hour in a larger and purer sense than ever before. In Christendom the woman movement dominates all other questions that involve social, moral and spiritual freedom.' Truly says a well-known author, "The mother heart of God will never be known to the world until translated into terms of speech by mother-hearted women.' Law and love will never balance in the realm of grace until a woman's hand shall hold the scales.'

"The last century was blessed in a wonderful degree, in all walks of life, by the work of noble women. Lucy Larcom, Adelaide Proctor and Alice and Phoebe Carey wrote for the betterment of humanity, while Louise Alcott's writings have no equal for children and young people. Harriet Beecher Stowe spoke for thousands of slave mothers whose hearts were wrung with the loss of those who, by the law of humanity, were their own.

"What voices rose higher, or whose efforts counted for more, in that great struggle for equality than those of Lucretia Mott and Lydia Maria Child? Christendom's favorite hymn, 'Nearer, my God, to Thee,' is a woman's gift to the world. Through the work of a few devoted women, foremost among them being Clara Barton and Florence Nightengale, today over 40 nations, in time of war, agree to protect that portion of the battlefield occupied by the red cross in its ministry to the wounded.

"The philanthropic work of Dorothy Dix ranks with the highest in the line of social reform and public charity institutions with Frances E. Willard's great temperance work and for purer social life, and also the disinterested efforts of her co-worker, Lady Somerset. Of the life-long devotion of Margaret Fuller, Lucy Stone, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony and our own Abigail Scott Duniway to the cause of equal suffrage we are all well acquainted. Mary Livermore has graced the lecture platform and preached from the pulpit with a quiet dignity for years. The work of Julia Ward Howe for patriotism and humanity, and especially for the great truth that there should be but 'one moral standard for man and woman,' has been a telling factor in social reform.

"The work of Ramabia Punditi for the work of the women of India has been of untold worth. Anna Garland Spencer stands as a peace reformer, and how much we need such reformers today! We all know somewhat of the work of Mrs. Ballington Booth as a prison reformer and of Mrs. Booth Tucker's work for humanity. Jane Adaams of Hull house fame and Charlotte Perkins Gilman are workers along reform lines whom we may have the pleasure of greeting in Portland this year. Madame Curries' discovery of radium is revolutionizing science. Along religious and reformation work we have Mary Baker Eddy, who through her realization of the beautiful truths of the Bible the sick are healed, the libertine and drunkard reformed, and thousands of earth's weary ones fed with the bread of life.

"In closing, let me say we believe there is a great army of women in churches and organizations who are striving daily to reform self; to so live in the great light of divine love that they may think no evil of any of God's children; that their prayers for peace will encircle the globe until all nations cease from strife; that selfish interests shall be eliminated and perfect obedience be rendered to the Master, which will then bring about a grander civilization through this reformation of self."

Ninth Annual Meeting Washington State Federation.

The following call has been sent out for the ninth annual meeting of the Washington State federation, to be held in Walla Walla May 31, June 1, 2. It contains some excellent suggestions which might be adopted with profit in the state work of Oregon:

"The ninth annual meeting of the W. S. F. W. C. will be held in Walla Walla, May 31, June 1 and 2, 1905. The board of directors will hold a meeting at 9 o'clock a. m., May 31. Delegates will be registered at the same hour.

"The convention will be called to order at 10 o'clock a. m., Wednesday, May 31, and adjourn Friday afternoon, June 2.

"Federation officers, chairmen of standing committees, accredited delegates, and program appointees, will be provided entertainment by the Walla Walla club women. Special hotel rates will be secured for visiting club women.

"Clubs admitted since the last convention will give a three minutes' report of their work and the city federations will be granted 10 minutes to report their work.

"All clubs will please file a written report of the year's work with the recording secretary. Do not fail to include a list of the new officers in this report.

"A 'council of presidents' will be conducted and an opportunity given clubs to discuss work planned or already accomplished.

"Will club presidents attend to the payment of club dues before the annual meeting? Delegates from clubs having failed to pay dues are not entitled to seats in the convention.

"Each woman's club of 15 members or less within the state of Washington, otherwise entitled to membership, shall be entitled to one voting member in the convention; each club of more than 15 members shall be entitled to two voting members until the club to which the said two members belong numbers 50, when the said club shall be entitled to one additional voting member for each additional 25 members.

"Each local federation of 15 clubs or less shall be entitled to two voting members, and for each additional 10 clubs to one additional voting member.

"Chairmen of standing committees are entitled to vote.

Members of other women's organizations will be cordially welcomed as visitors to all sessions of the convention.

"For information regarding transportation, delegates' names, etc., see 'Instructions to Delegates' from the Walla Walla local committee.

"Will the club presidents or secretaries kindly have 'the call' for the convention, also the Walla Walla letter of instructions read at a club meeting?

"MARY M. BROWN, President.
"ELSIE ST. JOHN, Corresponding Secretary."

"Will you please read at a club meeting the 'ten reasons' given in the enclosed pamphlet, why the women of the northwest should erect a statue to Sacajawea? We think the club women of Washington should take a pride in having a part in this work. Will you send any contribution to Mrs. Sarah A. Evans, Oswego, Oregon?

"MARY M. BROWN."

This last clause is an unusual compliment to the work of another state and is highly appreciated by the Sacajewea Statue association.

Another Good Club For the State Federation.

A new star in the firmament of clubs made itself known by a generous donation to the Sacajawea Statue fund, which was quite enough to prove it was up to date, had a proper appreciation of the fitness of things, and would therefore be an acquisition to the state family of clubs, so a little investigation proved all these surmises to be correct, and the history of the little club ever at Mitchell one to be proud of.

"The Blue Mountain Literary" was organized last January, and is the first woman's club in Mitchell. It organized with nine members and is limited to 12. Meetings are held twice a month at the homes of the members. The study this year, which will continue until July 1, is English history and literature, with a parliamentary drill and short discussion of current events. The club is anxious that it should not be understood, as the name would imply, that it intends to confine its activities to self improvement, for next year it plans to establish and maintain a free reading room and interest itself actively in civic improvement, believing, as the president, Mrs. J. G. Fontaine says, "that women's clubs should take up live issues as well as dead poets."

During the past winter the club presented a fine flag and a number of books to the public school. The club is much interested in the work of the State federation, and believes that only the best results can be attained by united effort, and as soon as the preliminaries can be arranged they will no doubt be welcomed into the state organization.

Woman's Easter Edition Of the Bellingham Herald.

The finest "woman's edition" ever got out by a club—and they have come thick and fast the past year or two, is the Bellingham Easter edition of the Herald, issued by the P. F. E. club of that city. It is a 68-page paper devoted to all branches of journalism, from telegraphic news, over leased wires to magazine features, and embracing stories, literary features, book reviews, fashions and all branches of domestic science, altogether making it one of the papers women will want to file away for reference. It is elaborately illustrated both in its advertising columns and news pages, and a cursory glance shows that the women, in their efforts, had the loyal support and encouragement of the business people of the city. Ella Higginson, who is an associate member of the club and resident of Bellingham, gave the edition valuable assistance, both as the editor of a literary page and in material for other pages. A three-column article by Cora F. Bratton on "Hints on Attending the Portland Fair" is quite a feature and gives some very excellent advice both as to the loyalty that should be extended the enterprise, and for the most comfortable and effective way of seeing it.

The P. L. F. club was organized in 1900 with seven charter members; at the close of the first year its membership had grown to 39, and at present it enjoys a membership of 54. Its motto is, "The world is advancing, advance with it." The letters stand for Progressive, Literary and Fraternal. The first years of the club were largely devoted to civic work, later the object has been to erect a club house, which has now been realized and for which the proceeds of the edition was to complete payment.

The club is to be congratulated both for the success of its undertaking and the handsome paper it got out. It was a pleasure for sister clubs to subscribe to it, and an equal pleasure to receive so readable a paper. Congratulations from The Oregon Journal.

Mrs. Marian White.

Severe Criticism for New York State Federation.

A trade school for girls has been the "bete noire" of the New York State federation for years past, almost since its organization. Last fall at the state convention the issue in the election for president was plainly on a platform of for or against the school. Miss Carpenter won over Miss Dore Lyon, and the school was definitely abandoned. Since that time a new issue has presented itself. What should be done with the few thousands that had been collected for a school? It was given for a school and to a school it had to go; then came the question, what school? Claimants innumerable appeared, but finally simmered down to three.

A few days ago a meeting was called for the purpose of disposing of this momentous question, and the account given of it in the club column of a New York paper contains so many lessons for other clubs and state federations, laughable as the proceedings were, that it is quite worth reading. It said in part:

"Mrs. Harry Hastings spoke in favor of the proposition made by the Manhattan Trade School for Girls. She had no exact figures to show the financial responsibility of the institution, nor very much detailed information to present. Miss Margaret Pascal spoke in favor of the Pascal institute, showing it to be in a disorganized condition at present, but giving personal assurance of its future possibilities. Mrs. Linda Hull Larned of Syracuse presented the claims of the institution founded 20 years ago by the Woman's Educational and Industrial union of Syracuse, in which she is personally interested. She promised that all the trades which were needed in Syracuse would be taught in the school, although the school is intended to be a State federation institution, and pleased her audience by promising to grant every concession or condition imposed by the federation.

"Mrs. Larned has a charming personality, and all her friends were present. Hence the meeting voted, 'by a very large majority,' as the chairman delightfully announced, to recommend to the executive board that the trade school fund be turned over to the Syracuse Educational and Industrial union.

"There is no disputing facts. The Tuesday proceedings were a crystallization of the essential weaknesses of the New York State federation. There is hardly a well established state body in the General federation where such a slipshod, wavering, dilletante policy would be tolerated. The Manhattan Trade School for Girls is situated in a central and very accessible part of New York, yet hardly half a dozen of the women who have been most anxious to establish a trade school have ever visited it. They cheerfully voted to give the money they have collected to another institution they have not seen, for the very good reason that it does not as yet exist. They have never taken the smallest pains to investigate any part of the industrial situation. They do not know what kind of technical education is called for, or what trades offer the best inducements to women. They know nothing of the limitations placed upon women's work by the trades unions and other industrial factors. A few individual club women do know these things, but their information is received with languid interest. Imagine the Massachusetts federation or the Illinois or Colorado federation going about a tremendously important enterprise in such a manner."

Professor Hugh Herdman Lectures to Tuesday Club.

It has long been the custom of the Tuesday afternoon club to close its year's work with a lecture bearing on the subject of the year's study. Last Tuesday finished the prescribed course, and Professor Hugh Herdman of the Portland Academy was invited to deliver the address. Choosing for his topic, "What English Literature has Done for the World," he gave a masterly resume of English literature from its earliest period to the authors of the present day. It was a large subject to be treated in little more than a half hour, but Professor Herdman had his subject so well in hand that there was apparently no skimming, but every vital point in prose and poetry, essay, history and fiction, epic, lyric and the drama, were touched on, and their influence on the times and people logically shown. It was right along the line of study the club had been working on, and was a fitting climax to a profitable year, and was a lecture to leave its impress on every one that heard it.

Several excellent musical numbers, among them two piano solos by Miss May Shillock, accompanied by Mrs. Bergen, and some piano numbers by Mrs. Marshall were very much enjoyed.

The meeting was held at the beautiful home of Mrs. George A. Dunham, at Richmond. The house was exquisitely decorated in snowballs and greens, and the members and guest completely filled the two large parlors. At the close of the program a delightful social hour was enjoyed, while ices and other refreshments were served. Several other social functions are on the tapis for the club before it will really feel itself adjourned for the year.

The Industrial Committee Sends Some Good Suggestions.

The following letter has just been sent by the industrial committee of the state federation to all the clubs of the state, with the earnest request that it may receive consideration by the calendar committees:

"The industrial committee, appointed at the last meeting of the Oregon State Federation of Woman's clubs, submits the following suggestions for the consideration of your program committee. The industrial problem is one which affects the life of every family, and this committee feels that the time has come when the women of leisure can do much toward lightening the burden of the women who work. It is because other women work that club women have the time to devote to club work. While legislation is necessary, public opinion can accomplish more, and to direct public opinion is the province of club women. To do this intelligently we must study the problems.

"These suggestions are the result of careful study, and are submitted with the following recommendations:

"That each club appoint an industrial committee.

"That each club should devote one meeting a year to the consideration of some feature of industrial problems.

"The following subjects are suggested for study:

"'The Problems of the Unemployed.'

"'How Woman's Work Affects Labor.'

"'The Trades Union Movement in America.'

"'Work of the Consumers' League.'

"'The Labor Laws in Oregon.'

"We request the secretaries of clubs to inform the industrial committee of any action that their clubs may take upon this matter, and of the subject chosen for study.

"A copy of the labor laws of the state may be secured on application to O. P. Hoff, labor commissioner, Salem, Oregon.

"MRS. A. A. BAILEY,
"MRS. MILLIE R. TRUMBULL,
"Committee."

The State Flower Will Have Day at Fair.

Too late to give full particulars in this week's page, the invitation has just reached the secretary of the Oregon State federation from the Oregon Historical society to take charge of "Oregon Grape day," which has been arranged by the management of the exposition. The exact date has not yet been set, but it will probably be July 12, which is the date on which it was adopted by the State Horticultural society. The matter will be turned over to the exposition committee of the State federation, and it is quite safe to predict that a creditable day will be arranged.

Collegiate Scholarship Given to Western Girl.

Miss Aurelia Henry, of Berkeley, who was graduated from the University of California in the class of 1898, and who later took the degree of doctor of philosophy at Yale University, has just been awarded the European scholarship of the "Association of Collegiate Alumnae."

This association is a national organization of women college graduates. It has branches in 30 different cities—Portland being about the latest to form a branch—with a membership of over 3,500. It supports this scholarship with the aim of promoting advanced study by college women who give promise of distinction through original gifts, previous training, energy, power of endurance and health. The bestowal of the scholarship is based on evidence of the candidate's ability and of her promise of success in her chosen line of study. Women who are looking forward to positions as professors and teachers, or to literary or scientific vocations, are chosen for the scholarship. Miss Henry has been a teacher of English at Lewiston, Idaho, for three years, where she now holds the chair of English. Recently she attained distinction with a translation of Dante's "De Omarcia." She expects to spend the time allotted her by the scholarship in traveling and the study of literature in Europe.

Mrs. Marian White's "Art in the Greater West."

The many who visited Chautauqua daily last year to hear Mrs. Marian White's delightful talks on "Art and Artists" will be pleased to learn that she is to lecture for the Woman's club Monday, May 8, in the K. of P. hall, Marquam building. The subject chosen for this lecture is "Art in the Greater West." While Mrs. White is an English woman, who knew Gladstone, Thackeray and Dickens as intimate friends in her father's home, she is at heart an enthusiastic western woman; we might almost say a typical one, for she possesses all the forceful characteristic usually credited to the women of the west.

A strong point in all Mrs. White's conversation and lectures is an illuminating faith in the west and everything western. Repeatedly, much to the disgust of some of our Portland connoisseurs, who are afraid to worship away from the shrine of the "old masters," she maintained that out of the west would come the great artist of the future, and to the west the artists of the present must look for inspiration and subject; that the art of the east was becoming stale and largely reproduction, while that of the west was alive with originality and spirit. With these well known views it is little wonder her coming lecture is looked forward to with a ripple of excitement and much interest.

Mrs. White is the editor of the Fine Arts Journal of Chicago and conducts a "Travelers' Club" in the Chicago "Woman's Journal." The lecture will be free to club members, who may bring guests upon the terms obtaining at regular club meetings.

Some Factors In Making of Oregon.

The next meeting of the Woman's club, May 12, will be one of unusual interest and importance. It will be under the auspices of the Oregon History class. The date was chosen as being the club day nearest to the anniversary of the Lewis and Clark party's departure from St. Louis. The subject for the day will be "Some Factors in the Making of Oregon," which will be discussed by Professor Joseph Schafer of the department of history of the University of Eugene.

Professor Schafer is one of the most eminent scholars and historians on this coast. He is the joint author of "Strong and Schafer's Sons of the American People," and is author of "The Origin of the System of Land Grants in Aid of Education," and many historical papers. At present he is engaged in writing a history of the Pacific slope, which is to be volume 10 of the greatest history of North America ever published, edited by Dr. Guy Carleton Lee and of which the sixth volume has just appeared.

Professor Schafer is a prominent member of the American Historical society and also of the Oregon Historical society.

That all may have the benefit of this lecture it has been decided to make it an open day, and the members will have the privilege to bring as many guests as they like.

Notes of Interest From W. C. T. U. Work.

Sunnyside W. C. T. U. continues to hold interesting meetings every Thursday at their headquarters, Yamhill and Thirty-fifth streets, at 2 p. m.

Central Portland will now meet every Wednesday at 2 p. m. in the new state headquarters in the Goodnough building.

Arleta union meets in the M. E. church first and third Thursdays of the month.

Mrs. W. E. De Riemer, wife of Dr. De Riemer, who is to be in charge of the government exhibit at the Lewis and Clark exposition, is the corresponding secretary of District of Columbia W. C. T. U., and is specially connected with the work of mothers' meetings. Her coming is looked forward to with keen interest and a royal welcome awaits her from white ribboners of Oregon.

Mrs. Mattie Graves organized a union at Weston recently with a most promising outlook for future activity.

Reports coming from eastern Oregon give enthusiastic accounts of Mrs. Graves' work. Mrs. Emily Merritt, formerly of Nebraska, will do some field work in Baker and Union counties.

The four meetings planned by the state for the reception of Mrs. Stevens and Miss Anna Gordon bid fair to be the greatest events of the season.

State headquarters will soon be opened all the time. Miss Lena Parker will be in charge.

The organization of a young woman's temperance union is one of the events in the near future.

A formal opening of headquarters is being arranged for.

To Iceland, With Lady Von Rydingsvard.

It is rarely the women of Portland have enjoyed so delightful a treat as they did last Saturday in the lecture on Iceland by Lady Anna Von Rydingsvard. When the subject of the lecture was announced, some objection was made that "it was such an uninteresting country," but one and all rejoiced, before the speaker was through that the objection was overruled, as they were forced to conclude that Iceland was one of the most interesting countries they had ever been permitted to visit with a lecturer.

To a vast amount of information, the lecturer adds a grace of delivery, a command of vocabulary and expression that few speakers, especially women, possess. Lady Von Rydingsvard is entirely devoid of stage effect, and tells her story in an unassuming, conversational manner, giving details sufficient for a clear understanding of situations but unincumbered with figures or tiresome statistics.

Club women throughout the state will be pleased to know that Lady Rydingsvard will make her home permanently in Portland, and we predict that she will be much in demand for club programs the coming year.

Woman's Club Secures Headquarters at Imperial.

How to properly entertain visiting club women during the exposition has been a question that has puzzled the local brain for a long time. Four months of festivity was not to be thought of, as it is neither expedient nor desirable, but some arrangement that would be practical and agreeable must be found, and at length the Woman's club has effected an arrangement which, while not as yet worked out in detail, is sufficiently advanced to be announced. During the summer the club will have headquarters in the parlors of the Hotel Imperial. Each day two members will be detailed to go to the hotel and remain for the day, where they will hold themselves in readiness to accompany visiting members to the stores, on excursions, give them information regarding trains, street car lines, features of the exposition, and assist them in every way possible. A register will be kept, and all club women visiting the city can drop in and leave their addresses or messages, and appointments can be made through this bureau of information. Nothing in the way of social entertainment will be attempted at these headquarters, as it will be solely of a business nature and to give fraternal greetings and assistance to visitors.

Meeting of National Federation Musical Clubs.

The biennial of the National Federation of Musical clubs will be held in Denver, June 7 to 10 inclusive. The meetings will be held in the club house of the Denver Woman's club, which has a beautiful concert hall. The program is as follows: June 7, luncheon by the Woman's club to delegates, and in the evening a reception will be given by the national board. On June 8 there will be an executive session and a concert by Denver women. The election of officers takes place on the 9th. In the afternoon will be given a lecture, and in the evening a concert by the Tuesday Musical club, assisted by artists. On the last day of the biennial the delegates and visitors will be taken on an excursion to the mountains. Very moderate railroad rates have been made.

Forestry Club Will Hold Early Meeting.

As the regular monthly meeting of the Forestry club come on the same afternoon as Mrs. Marian White's lecture, and as many wish to attend both, it has been decided to hold an early session of the "Forestry" and adjourn in time to attend the lecture; therefore, instead of meeting at the home of one of the members, as is customary, the club has been called to meet at 1 o'clock, May 8, in the committee room of the Woman's club, K. of P. hall, Marquam building.

Mrs. Howard will be the essayist of the afternoon.

GOSSIP OF SOME CURRENT BOOKS

"THE PRISON LIFE OF JEFFERSON DAVIS"—By Bvt. Lieut.-Col. John J. Craven, surgeon of volunteers and physician to the prisoner during his confinement in Fortress Monroe.

Forty years ago this book, which is simply a record of the periodical visits of the attending physician to a prisoner, was given to the public. Its author was a man distinguished for loyal service in the ranks of the Union army; the prisoner, the late president of the Confederate states—in the history of the country, the most distinguished prisoner ever held captive.

The intimate and peculiar conditions under which a physician studies a patient gives him a knowledge that years of ordinary observation could not acquire; hence, when Dr. Craven published his book in 1866 it sent a thrill through the whole country. To the intimates of Jefferson Davis in the senate of some years before and to those who came under his jurisdiction during his service as secretary of war, the book appealed like the return of a lost friend; for four years they had viewed him through the mist of war and rebellion, and now again they heard from him as the man. To the mass of people the book was simply food for a morbid curiosity. The writer had actually seen and talked with and administered to "Jeff Davis," and everything he could tell about him was food for the hungry.

The book comes today, in its reprint, with a far greater significance and is vastly more important as a work of history than probably the author ever dreamed of it being. Upon its first issue the host of witnesses were then alive to prove every little detail. With the eyes of the civilized world focused upon the situation, hedged about with narrowness, bigotry and prejudice from both sides, and his own life and liberty in jeopardy for any lapse of duty or discipline, it is altogether improbable that Dr. Craven would have written one word that could not have been substantiated beyond a question of a doubt.

Today the hosts have melted away leaving but here and there a solitary figure who witnessed the scenes of Jefferson Davis' incarceration; the world has lost its interest and the whole event is ready to go into history, the permanent history of our country, and here comes the importance of this work for some of its most positive statements, told simply and without secrecy, are being loudly and flatly contradicted by some of the most conspicuous actors of the events, and they insist that history must be written as they would now like to see it, after 40 years of humanity and civilization have toned down their ideas of military discipline.

The pity is that these controversies should have arisen, for they simply throw discredit as well as blame upon the officers themselves who at the time, no doubt acted from a high sense of duty. The better way to look at it would be, that in 40 years the world has advanced and become so much better that we shudder and recoil from what was then simply the fortunes of war, cruel and inhuman, but done according to our light.

Dr. Craven's story is so straightforward and unaffected that a doubt of its authenticity could never enter the reader's mind. It however does more than give the facts of his imprisonment at Fortress Monroe. Nine of Mr. Davis' biographies have ever given a clearer insight into the character of the man. The present generation has largely been brought up with the idea that all he was fit for was to be "hung to a sour apple tree." To belittle one's adversary is to diminish one's victory and one of the glories of the north should be that the man who directed operations against them, was one of exceptional attainments, unusual ability and broad and liberal education as proven by the many conversations with him which Dr. Craven carefully wrote down, until he was forbidden by General Miles to talk to him upon any but professional subjects.

The bood does not touch upon the war record of Jefferson Davis, nor does it comment on any of its events, and ends before the trial. The record was not originally kept for publication, and should receive more credence from this fact, but the writer later felt it a duty to publish it, as no doubt, on account of the disputes and controversies, his son recognizes a demand for its republication now.

The farthest thing probably from the writer's mind when he wrote the book was any strain of humor in it, and yet as we see Major General Miles assuming command of Fortress Monroe, issuing orders and strutting the strut of the bumptious army officer, we anticipate the smiles that have covered the face of the land as some of these characteristics have been emphasized by time and declining years. The book has an excellent portrait of Dr. Craven for frontispiece, and it is serviceably bound for library purposes. G. W. Dillingham company. Price $1.20.

"The Princess Elopes"—By Harold McGrath. "The Amethyst Box"—By Anna Katharine Green. These are the first two stories in what the publishers very appropriately call "the Pocketbook series." This series when completed will contain five stories, two by each of the above authors and one by Lloyd Osbourne. It will be a complete little set, so far as the scope covered by it is concerned, as it is designed to cover three aspects of American romance—adventure, mystery and humor.

Anyone who has read Mr. McGrath's "The Man on the Box" will realize that the stories coming under the head of "humorous" will be replete with interesting features and full of rich, delicate humor that can be enjoyed without leaving a sensation of coarseness or unfitness. The story first sent out deals with a foreign situation, the characters are well drawn and the story has been worked out in the author's own inimitable manner.

The mention of the mystery romance of the series at once suggests the name of Anna Katharine Green, who has entered a field of story writing few women have ventured upon, and in which none have attained her success—that of the detective story. "The Amethyst Box" is the story of a mysterious death, brought about through a tiny vial of deadly poison that had been encased in an amethyst enclosure. The story is deeply interesting, full of exciting situations and highly characteristic of Mrs. Green's style.

But why the name "Pocketbook Series?" A glance at the neat, uniform size, binding and general get-up explains the name, for they are scarcely larger than a man's letter case, will easily slip into the breast pocket or hand bag, and of a clear distinct type that will not try the eyes in poor light, or unsteady travel. The brown linen binding is completely covered with a red and green basket pattern design which is attractive and serviceable.

The publishers of this series have certainly filled a need, and at a time when people are beginning to condense their baggage for light summer travel; when books of ordinary size are cumbersome and heavy, but reading matter must be carried along. These fresh, bright little books will be welcomed and appreciated. Bobbs-Merrill & Co. Price 75 cents each.

"Port Arthur; A Monster Heroism"—By Richard Barry. On April 29 this book was given to the public by Moffat, Yard & Co. It has had a spirited advance sale in every section of the country, showing a lively interest everywhere, not only in the great war now in progress in the far east, but also, and especially in that vast spectacular epoch-making siege by which the war will be remembered generations after its other details have merged into mere historical record.

The illustrations are also novel and interesting. With two exceptions they are the product of Mr. Barry's own camera. The frontispiece is a painting by the Russian artist Mazzanovich from Mr. Barry's snap shot of a Japanese detachment springing from cover for a frontal attack.

"The Breath of the Gods"—By Sidney McCall. It is now four years since the sweetness and freshness and tenderness of "Truth Dexter" captivated and delighted the reading public, and the author has devoted these years to the careful writing of "The Breath of the Gods," just published this month.

Those who have read the manuscript of the book assert that it is a wonderful story and of unusual power, with a strong, original and unexpected plot, closely knit and vividly unfolded, and replete and striking with situation. The scenes are laid in Washington and Japan. Little, Brown & Co. Price $1.50.

"You Can Search Me"—By the author of "John Henry." To those who have followed the career of John Henry, under the skillful management of Hugh McHugh will be delighted to again see him make his bow to the public, this time as the co-partner of Bunch in an enterprise to retrieve the fortune which Bunch has lost on the eve of his wedding, and which John Henry himself is much in need of.

It is not a high grade of literature surely, but can provoke a laugh where more studied wit would grow wearisome and he has the virtue, at least, of knowing when to stop, and the bright side of every situation is always uppermost. G. W. Dillingham company. Price 75 cents.

Magazines.

"Impressions Quarterly"—This is one of the dear, delightful little magazines. The first number of an article on "Art and Life," by Regina E. Wilson, to be given in three parts, is begun in the current number, and promises a delightful treat in the two to follow.

The magazine contains no illustrations but two very pretty inserts, one illustrating Mr. Pritchard's submarine pictures and the other of Le Torre Del Magia accompany the articles. "Impressions" is edited by Paul Elder and published at 238 Post street, San Francisco.

"Leslie's Monthly Magazine"—The opening article is an exceedingly good and sensible one by Jeanette L. Gilder on "Does It Pay to Be a Literary Woman?" Miss Gilder's own successful career as a literary woman has fitted her for the well handling of the subject and a satisfactory answer.

The article which will be read with the greatest interest by Pacific coast readers will be "Vikings of the Pacific," by Agnes C. Laut. This begins a series of articles, this particular one dealing with the adventures of Captain Cook drawn from original sources. "The Pinkertons" is a subject that the public never grows weary of, and no matter how the newspapers have exhausted the records of great criminal cases, when the magazines give a story like the present one in Leslie's about the Bidwell brothers and the Reno family, it is just as fresh as a new discovery by Edison. The May number has several very good short stories.

"The Century Magazine"—The first articles on "Great Inventions, Described by Their Inventors," begins in May's number with Mr. Charles Bush's account of "The Arc Light." This story of one of the most wonderful factors of modern life told by the inventor, should prove of permanent interest and value.

The frontispiece of the May issue is the first of four drawings by Sigmond Ivanowski, illustrative of the four seasons, this first typifying the joyousness of spring.