

NEW BOOKS AND THEIR PUBLISHERS

"THE DUST OF CONFLICT"—By Harold Bindloss. The book certainly has received no misnomer, for the dust of the conflict in which its different characters play their parts is thick and at times almost stifling in its rapid swirl and action. It is a book to make glad the heart of any reader who enjoys the intrigues of insurgent warfare, the dangers of filibustering and the excitement of dangerous adventure.

In attempting to relieve Tony of a blackmailer a fatal accident occurs which, if explained by Appleby, would have been the end of Tony, but to the meant to throw suspicion of murder upon himself, but never a word of it escaped him and he went to the States after various experiences became a leader of the "Sin Vergueria" and was experiencing some pretty hot work about the time of the sinking of the Maine, and which grew hotter from that time on.

On his way over he fell in with Cyrus Harding of New York, but one of Cuba's sugar kings, and indeed it was through this meeting Appleby turned to Cuba. On the same boat was Nettie Harding, a typical American girl who was engaged to an officer of the navy and in a position to draw the confidence of Appleby and with perspicuity to supply what he omitted of his story. This she afterward used to telling advantage in straightening out things for Appleby in England.

It has been said that Mr. Bindloss handles with difficulty his women in fiction, and the method and manner Nettie Harding used in relieving her conscience and performing what she believed to be her duty, is a bit bungled and would give some color to the charge made against the author; but he redeems himself in the wholly womanly character of Violet Mayne.

The force of the book, however, lays more in its vivid portrayal of the insurgent warfare in Cuba, than in its romance and into it the author has put the most vivid light and coloring and it would require a little discernment to discover that Mr. Bindloss writes with a personal knowledge of the scenes he describes.

The book is illustrated in colors by W. Herbert Dunton, Frederick A. Stokes company. Price \$1.50.

"Tenants of the Trees"—By Charles Hawkes. Mr. Hawkes writes delightfully and intimately of nature and animal life. He is acutely sensitive to all moods of the outdoors world and has made a close study of animal and bird life since his childhood. His nature biographies are noted for their simplicity and truth; and his writings show the fullest appreciation of the beauties in woods and streams and with smaller woodland animals, and there is also much charming and vital description of still life.

The publishers are particularly gratified to announce Mr. Louis Rhead as the illustrator. His characteristic drawings are in complete harmony with Mr. Hawkes' text. L. C. Page & Co. Price \$1.50.

"The Lady of the Blue Motor"—By Sidney Paternoster. The Lady of the Blue Motor is an audacious heroine who drove her mysterious car at break-neck speed. Her plea for assistance in an adventure promising more than a spice of danger could not, of course, be disregarded by any gallant fellow motorist. Mr. Paternoster's hero rose promptly to the occasion. Across France they tore and across the English channel. There the escapade past, he lost her. Mr. Paternoster, however, is generous and allows the reader to follow their separate adventures until the Lady of the Blue Motor is found again and properly vindicated of all save womanly courage and affection. It is a unique romance and one continuous series of adventures. L. C. Page & Co. Price, \$1.50.

"The Making of a Criminal"—By Charles E. Russell and L. M. Rigby. For many years concern for the welfare of the young has been increasing, and innumerable agencies exist for providing the condition and brightening the prospects of unfortunate and refractory children. In nearly all our cities a boy found destitute and homeless, and the condition of crime or misdemeanor can at once be placed in a really excellent home, and given every possible chance for the future. But he must be under sixteen. Beyond that age neither the certified reformatory, nor, with rare exceptions, the voluntary establishments, will receive him, and the nearer he approaches it, the less readily will he gain admission to the latter.

The present endeavor, the authors say, is to discuss the circumstances of those who are unhappy enough to be described in general terms as young criminals, feeling more particularly with those who have passed the age of sixteen and are technically known as juvenile adults. The Macmillan company. Price, \$1.25.

"Life in Ancient Athens"—By Professor T. G. Tucker. Professor Tucker's informal, yet scholarly book, seems at once to take its place as by far the best account we have of the every-day life of the classical Athenian. Such reconstruction as he has achieved could be accomplished only by a powerful imagination working under the guidance of the broadest and most accurate scholarship.

As a critic puts it: "Few historians possess the gift of making the far-distant as human and interesting as a transcript of modern life. T. G. Tucker is one of the few. He has produced a book that has all of the charm and reality of a contemporary record. With deft touch and illuminating reference and apt comparison he shows a typical Athenian citizen in his daily life, following him as with the zeal of a Bowell about his business." The Macmillan Co. Price, \$1.25.

"The Nutrition of Man"—By Professor Russell H. Chittenden, of Yale. This is the latest work on the subject of food and food values. Much fun has been poked at the Yale experiment. The students who submitted to the diet experiment were termed the "starvation squad." One is reminded of the "poison squad" of Dr. Wiley of Washington.

Just been brought out by the Fredrick A. Stokes company. It is a novel dealing with the San Francisco earthquake and fire. The author is one of those who passed through this calamity and felt the impress of it stamped indelibly upon her mind. The theme of the story is the overturning of the conventional characters of men in the catastrophe. The hero becomes a thief, and the thief becomes a hero. The action of the story is rapid, taking place in a single week, and the incidents are unusual and striking.

"Jennifer"—By Lucy Meacham Thurston. This is a strong novel of the Carolina mountains, dealing with the development of the human soul. Jennifer, beginning as a poor boy dependent upon himself, discovers kaolin, buys the land from one who is unconscious of its value, and selfishly makes his own fortune. The awakening of his conscience and the acquisition of deeper convictions of duty and human responsibility give the chief motive of the book.

The characters are interesting, and Amblee altogether natural and charming. The story touches on vital themes in which everyone is interested, and gives effective hints of the southern country and its people.

It portrays a forcible individual character, neither priggish nor unreal, and it shows something of the nature of those struggles which are necessary to make a man out of a boy. It is unquestionably the strongest story ever written by this talented author. Little, Brown & Co. Price \$1.50.

"The Garden and Its Accessories"—By Loring Underwood. This is a book that is invaluable for those lovers of nature who would make their gardens outdoor living-rooms.

The author describes the kind of garden the American type should be—that is, an intimate sort of garden that possesses comfort and beauty side by side, floral display and looks attractive when no flowers are in bloom.

He shows how home grounds, both modest and elaborate, may be given an individual and livable air by the proper use of such garden accessories as summer-houses, arbors, fountains and pools, sundials, benches and other features.

The author writes with the knowledge gained from thorough training and wide experience in landscape architecture, and his book is valuable not only to the amateur, but to the professional designer. Little, Brown & Co. Price \$1.00.

"What Happened to Barbara"—By Olive Thorne Miller. This is a pleasant little story of a pleasant and natural little girl, with morals running thick and fast through every chapter. It can hardly be called a continuous story, though it is of the same little girl as she goes through the trials of childhood and reaches maturer years.

It is far removed from the ordinary Sunday school story, though it has some lessons that Barbara had to learn through severe trials. It has a lesson or two, as well, for the older members of the family. When Barbara was a little girl, at a sensitive age, and being of that temperament, there came to her home a distant relative and her little daughter, who was ten years, a very little older than Barbara, but whose disposition and character were more mature.

She was a sly, jealous child, and at once began undermining and criticizing Barbara, which, while it had no effect on Barbara's parents, was endured with a good deal of indignation by Janet and her mother were dependent on the bounty of Barbara's good parents, who showed both mother and daughter special favors on that account. Barbara was too young to appreciate this and her young life was warped and soured by this unhappy element in her other home.

The author has very cleverly written into her story this lesson to parents, who overlook the happiness of their nearest to them to do a larger, and what seems at the time a more important, duty. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Price \$1.25.

"Cinders" (The Diary of a Drummer)—By Wright Bauer. Two drummers, Charlie Abbott and Cinders, make a bet of \$50 that Cinders could not keep a diary of all the stories he heard on one trip. Cinders says: "I'll bet you \$50, Charlie, that I'll have a record in my diary of every story I hear on my next trip out." "You're on, Cinders; any and every wheeze you hear goes in the book, no matter if some of them are so bad they bite your fingers."

"I'll except the hot tamales." "Right," said Charlie, "hot tamales, over-ripe and disinfected are barred," and this little book in its gay gingham cover, are the stories Cinders records. They are good ones, too; just the kind traveling men delight to tell on train or boat to wile away the time. It is a unique little book with its dashing cover and comic illustrations. G. W. Dillingham company. Price 75 cents.

"Flip Flap Fables", a bunch of 27 tales concerning animals of various kinds, of which many are deduced many morals—By Frank E. Kellogg. In his preface Mr. Kellogg says: "Lest the reader should clinch with the wrong idea, we rise to remark right here at the front door that these fables were conceived, and many of them written, before the war and before they had even put up their entrance money, so far as we know."

"As one of the editors of a little country daily, some years ago, we yearned to assist the people in their toil. So we wrote one of these fables, and watching a favorable opportunity, slammed it over to a second and jumped behind a tree. No fatalities, resulting, we repeated the dose several times since when the fables have lain in the toning hall. But those few helped the morals of that burg greatly." etc.

The fables are all of more than ordinary merit, and while the author occasionally strikes a flat, his notes are generally in upper key and never in minor tones, making on the whole quite a notable addition to the character of literature. E. W. Dillingham company. Price \$1.25.

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