

THE BOOKS and their Publishers

"STUDIES in the American Race Problem," by Alfred Holt Stone.—If one were asked to designate the two strongest characteristics of this book they would at once say, "The familiarity of the author with his subject and his clear and unbiased way of presenting it to his readers." That both of these are essentials to a work of this kind goes without saying. Then the work is extremely analytical; there is nothing said, or attempted to be proved from surface indications, but, bit by bit, the author takes the various phases of the subject, dissecting them and testing them by every known method, and bringing about his logical conclusions as neatly and as absolutely correct as the chemist would separate and combine the chemicals in his retorts. The volume contains three statistical papers contributed by Walter F. Willcox, from whom there is perhaps no better authority upon the subject, and the publishers truthfully say: "Neither contributor to this volume is a propagandist, neither has any panacea, the aim of both is a scientific study of the subject."

That locality plays a strong part in determining the race problem, the author brings out clearly and proves it in a way that is both convincing and original to any one who has never given the subject mature deliberation. In the opening chapter on "Contrasts and Parallels," the author shows the relation of the negro to his environment and the outgrowth of this relation to his natural sequence. He does not excuse or blame, and much less sentimentalize over, the negro; he simply accepts them and in clear cut language gives plain facts, and proves them. Much of his proof, through the use of book, he brings from such well known and experienced authorities as Booker T. Washington and Dr. Du Bois. One of the most interesting chapters are the work treats of the "Economic Future of the Negro." It is interesting because it brings such a practical side to the problem to us, and yet is discouraging from the fact that it is a conceded fact that industrial education is the hope of the race and that in the industrial world, the negro is worse off than at the close of the war—there are less skilled workmen and less property holdings are far smaller in proportion to their numbers. The author says: "It is inconceivable that any people who could increase in numbers from four and a half millions in 1860 to nine millions in 1900 could fall also to increase their property during this period." Mr. Stone does not simply make this assertion and ask you to accept it on credit, but he accompanies it with convincing figures, quoting among others Mr. Wainwright, who in an address at the New York convention of the National Negro Business League, made this significant remark, which also gives the real cause of negro deterioration in the business enterprise, recalling the fact that Philadelphia once had a number of negro business men in whom the local business world took pride—many of these men, their business before they passed away. As an old business man I am speaking from fact; the loss of their business to the cause of the negro, and the loss of their business before they passed away. As an old business man I am speaking from fact; the loss of their business to the cause of the negro, and the loss of their business before they passed away.



A. H. Stone, Author of "Studies in the American Race Problem."

prophecy when he said that emancipation would be the beginning of the American's racial problems. And to study this problem is the duty and responsibility of every American citizen, and a better text book could not be furnished than Mr. Stone has given.

Doubleday, Page & Co. Price \$2.

"I and my true love," by H. A. Mitchell Keays.—Again Mrs. Keays has given us a novel founded upon her favorite theme—divorce. She is however a clean writer and tells no disgusting tale of marital infidelity with the shine and pollution of infidelity clinging about it. This is not her style; she simply points to the fitful, illustrates her point by entertaining fiction, and concludes without leaving a bad taste in the mouth. In this story, "I and my true love," she tells of a woman who, after a long and painful separation, is reunited to her husband. The story is told in a simple, direct, and unadorned style, which is characteristic of the author's work. The plot is straightforward, and the characters are well drawn. The book is a good example of the author's skill in handling a domestic subject with grace and simplicity.

"The Riverman," by Stewart Edward White.—Mr. White has carved another notch in his climb to fame as a fiction writer, in this his latest story, and he was already very near the top. Some of the best of his work is to be found in his earlier books, and perhaps there are points of contact, but Mr. White, while dropping the title and story of the "Red Stocking Times" has brought into his work poise and silent strength that Cooper never could have attained. In fact this story is a quiet, strong, and simple, but it is more vivacious and is full of brightness and fairly overflows with the mirth of the irrepressible Christmas. In Cooper's books one reads voraciously, and in the present story Jack Orde is the river-boats who, by difficult and successful work at the attorney's office of Newark, a shrewd lawyer, who sees the commercial advantages of the river and enters into a partnership with Orde to put in pipe lines in various ways control the river. When it is accomplished Newark then turns his trained talents to "doing people" in various ways, who like all great hearted creatures of nature, is slow to see the drift of his

partners whenever, but when he finally does rise up in his righteous indignation and smites his legal friend hip and thigh, and relieves his conscience of every American citizen, and a better text book could not be furnished than Mr. Stone has given.

Doubleday, Page & Co. Price \$2.

"Through Life Us Do Part," by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps (Mrs. H. D. Ward).—This is a simple tale of domestic infelicity, but one in which sorrow and suffering bring out the best that is in the man's character; and not quite late to retrieve what he has thrown away. Like most of Mrs. Ward's fiction this is a "down-east" story. She introduces her principal characters as they gather upon the broad veranda of a summer which the author remarks: "Golf, like death or hunger, is leveller and people who do not meet in the same drawing-room might tee off into the same bunker." Carolyn Sterling is the character about which the story revolves—a girl of rare bravery, wealth and beauty. She marries a man not to the manner born, and then the author carries them through the gradual decline of affection until the final break comes, and he enlists and goes off to the Spanish war. Through all the troublous times, past, and to come, two strong beautiful characters stand out more prominently than any others save the hero and heroine—these are first, the strong, but tender-hearted rector and the noble, almost austere Scotch collier, who is the protector and mentor of his mistress. The story is full of life and action, with a somewhat unusual plot. It is written in the clean-cut, decisive

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style, which is one of the characteristics of Mrs. Ward's works. Elizabeth Stuart Phelps (Mrs. H. D. Ward) has been a prolific writer, but no less a popular one, for her stories have never grown dimmer or repeated themselves, and the present one, save and except for uniformity of excellent and polished literary style, is as new and fresh as though it were her first attempt in the field of fiction. The book is bound in a fine dignified manner, and has a pretty colored frontispiece. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Price, \$1.50.

"The One and I" by Elizabeth Freemantle.—An English girl, whose father and mother have moved to Canada, finds herself engaged to "One," but for whom she is not willing to give up her personal ambitions and aspirations; nor is she willing to settle down to the life of labor and deprivation that Canadian farm life demands. Her mother having died and her father marrying again, she is left with a large inheritance, and she decides to marry "One" again. It is a story of a woman who is simply her diary, begun at about this period of her interesting existence. It is almost a description of the Canadian northwest with its people—half English, half native and all interesting, as written by a bright, liberty-loving girl, whose greatest joy is "God's out-of-doors." Of course it takes well nigh a tragedy to convince her that she is the only one thing in all the world, and she decides: "This diary shall be kept always; it is a monument of folly, wisdom, and a tale of vanity." But the writing is assuredly most interesting and instructive to the reader, and it is a tale that is well worth the telling.

"Wyoming," by William MacLeod Raine.—The title biases the world the nature of the story for only a tale of the west could come forth under this significant name—and a veritable tale of life and love in a bright, energetic, full of snap and vim and fairly bubbling over with life in its best and healthiest conditions, and then it is the story of a woman that did things. Helen Messiter, up to two months before the story opens, has been a second grade teacher in the schools of Kalamazoo, Mich., when an uncle died and left her a valuable ranch in Wyoming, for which she promptly refused a hundred thousand dollars, and getting a substitute to finish her school, she, against the advice of her lawyers and the protests of several young men, went out and assumed the management of it herself. She not only took with her the knowledge and accomplishments of her eastern civilization but provided herself with the habiliments of comfort and luxury in the shape of a great pent-up, careering automobile, which was the wonder and surprise of the many cowboys which it falls to Miss Messiter's lot to be thrown in contact with. Of course a plot, and a very clever one, develops, in which the girl from the east meets every emergency with steady nerve, warm sympathy and keen intelligence. The book is full of sparkling conversation and light repartee, as well as of good, wholesome and exciting adventure. On the whole it is a book very far above the average western or cowboy story, now so much in vogue. The book is well illustrated by C. M. Rowe. George W. Dillingham. Price, \$1.50.

Colored Child Fatally Burned.
(United Press Leased Wire.)
Los Angeles, Nov. 21.—Her face and body a mass of burns, Mamie Broughton, a 6-year-old colored girl, is dying at the receiving hospital this afternoon. Her father caught fire from a stove near which she and her two little brothers were playing. She was fatally burned before the flames were extinguished by Robert Brown, a 14-year-old colored boy, who rushed to her assistance.

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