

LIFE FOR A LIFE," by Robert Herrick-The fortunes of the fiction reader might be very approriately compared to approriately compared to those of the gold miner. for both delve into the unknown for things that satisfy, with the difference, only, that the one seeks the mental riches, whether they be instruction, profit or pure entertainment, while the other seeks the material wealth; but both is there a striking similarity results; the miner finds their streaks, pay gravel, an abundance of country rock, and if he perseveres long enough he is almost sure to pick up a nuget or two of pure gold, beautiful, rich in values and valuable enough to pay for the worthless material he has worked through. The flotion reader gets a wonderful amount of trash, an occasional color of value, and in a great while he picks up the nuget of pure gold, in the form of a story that is so satisfying, so full of thought values, he is repaid for many a weary hour spent in searching through the lean material that is passed to the public labeled 'literature.' "A Life For a Life," is one of the

nugets, and of such value as is rarely found in the field of fiction. It is a powerful story dealing with the most momentious question of the day-capital and labor-but is so far removed from the ordinary stories that have attempted to handle this question through fiction. that it stands in a class by itself. It is a story of conditions rather than problems, and without apparently intending to do so, points the lesson of the middle may-the brotherhood of man, rather than the power of capital or the lawlessness of the Anarch.

While Hugh Grant is the figure gund which the entire story circles. the book is peculiar in the entire dependence of one character upon another, and the manner in which every character helps to build up the fabric of the narrative; not one could be left out without leaving a gap, and not another is needed to make it complete. This is a characteristic of Mr. Herrick's fiction, and one of his most pronounced accomplishments. Hugh Grant, was a foundling and brought up in the humble home of his foster father, an honest unworldly man. He is introduced to the reader, a strong athletic youth wakening up to his first sensaupon this day, accidentally meets two Hugh Grant she plays the most

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Ralph Henry Barbour, author of "Kingford, Quarter."

important role, and while they become | changed to Boston Town of New Englovers, it is not through the romance, land. except in an indirect way, that the strenght of the story develops. Hugh goes to the city-boy and girl forgetting each other for a time, but Hugh is unconsciously inspired with the thought she had given him, that the tions of manhood; he goes forth and life of the world was power. His opportunity came and he scaled the moungirls who typify two classes of society. tain top of success, but the life of the Of the one, May Todd, who represents city had planted other seeds. His city had planted other seeds. His the dull country girl who grows to a first acquaintance in that sea of humoderate social position and comparative comfort, after breaking the chrysalis of her country life and migrat-world, but in the fulness of time Hugh ing to the city, we hear little save as had the clear vision born of his own she helps to build up the social struc-reasoning. Like the prophets of the ture. It is different with Alexandra old he went up into the mountains, and the Aruold, who is the only daughter of these wrestled with his soul, and the mined to omit no detail requisite for the man, who, through the book typifies author tells us: "A man came down the well-being of this volume. The settle money power of America. Next from the mountain, a man new made, ting in which the 'Little Maid' should resolute, set upon his path. The world was unfolding in all the leveliness of Old England home, there to be early the golden morning light before him—nurtured and equipped for entrance into the world neither of the Anarch nor of the new life beyond the sea. Accord-

the Plupderer."

In making this discovery Hugh
Grant has traveled the bitter road of experience, and from the pinnacle of success, when wealth honors, love were within his reach, he was forced to acknowledge what the lawless Anarch acknowledge wh said: "For no longer can you nide the truth from your heart as others may by specious words. You know the privelege of one is the sacrifice of another -near or remote. You who are skilled in the ways of money, who have seen the tricks and the frauds done under the law in secret, you know that the game means a life for a life. One takes and another yields perforce."

When the story is finally brought to

its dramatic climax the reader, too, feels he has seen the vision, and into it has been reflected the naked truths about our much vaunted American privilege of enjoying "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

As a whole the book is worth far more consideration and careful reflective reading than is usually given a work of fiction. The Macmillan Co.

"The Letters of John Stuart Mill," edited, with an introduction by Hugh S. R. Elliot-On Mr. Mill's death in 1873, he left behind him an almost comand assiduous to a unique degree, he rarely wrote a letter, even on unimportant matters, without a liberal sprinkling of erasures and interlineations, which often make its deciphering a task of some difficulty. He, therefore, formed the habit of transcribing every letter he wrote after he had revised it; the transcribed letter he dispatched to his correspondent, while he himself carefully preserved the rough draft. These rough drafts accumulated in the course of years to many thou-sands, and it is from them that the bulk of the present book is taken. It was clearly Mill's intention that a selection of them should be published after his death, for across many of them he had written—"For publication. J. S. Mill." Mr. Elliot in his preface says: "While I have included in the present collection all those so marked by Mill, even though in some cases their interest at the present day hardly seems to justify it. I have inserted in addition a large number which he had not marked, but which appeared to me to possess interest, either on account of modern development in politics and philosophical speculation, or some other grounds. \* \* I have generally excluded from the present collection such letters as have already been published in other works-those for instance, appearing in Mrs. Grote's life of her husband, in Duncan's 'Life of Herbert Spencer," in "Memories" of Caroline Fox. in "Letter of Kingsley, of Gustave d'Eichthal, the "Letters Ined-ites de Mill a Comte," etc.

The work is in two volumes, and contains a number of portrait illustrations. There is also a note on Mill's private life by Mary Taylor, Longmans, Green & Co. Price \$6.50.

"A Little Mald of Boston Town," by Margaret Sidney-The author, who is the founder of the National Society of the founder of the National Society of the Children of the American Revolution, is one of the best equipped and most ably qualified of our many American writers to produce a genuinely inspiring and patriotic story for the young. She has the quality of not only making it writing good history but of making it most attractive to the young, and even to those who take little interest in his tory. The opening chapter introduces the reader to Old Boston in England. but the setting of the story is soon in

The story is absorbing, graphic and truly delightful, carrying one along till it seems as if actual participation in the events had been the lot of the reader. In her preface the author says: "For many years this story has been growing in the author's mind. Thrust one side for other matters of immediate interest, It has accepted its enrorced background, biding its time with what patience it could command, 'During one of the interims in which the author's quill was busy on other work, she paid one of her periodical visits to Old England. Here was its opportunity and it gladly asserted itself. Old Boston should have first meet her public was naturally the

taking task it was. The purely imaginative part of the story was vastly easier, and neither limped nor halted. Anastasia and the other creations of the author's fancy had a good time of it among themselves. They made enjoyment for the author, who forgot, in their presence the drudgery enforced by

the pen," She very grankly explains where she has taken libertles with historical facts, but they are so unimportant, it gives the reader confidence to believe that the story has unusual historic value.

Margaret Sidney is the author of the famous "Pepper Books," nearly a dozen in number, that have been so popular with young folks for several years. Lothrop, Lea & Shepard. Price \$1.50.

"The Castle Builders," by Charles Clark Munn-This is a book for the vast number who still believe in the homely virtues of family devotion business honor; who are moved by the majesty of nature, scorn the artificial and frankly enjoy an old fashloned love plete record of his correspondence over story. The chief "castle-builder" is a large period of his life. Painstaking young man of brains, who dreams of a city where the story finds but a sleepy

must village. He joins forces with Uncle Asa" Webster, a rural philoso-her of a personality as delightful as pher of a personality as delightful as quaint, and the father of the herdine, the winning of whom bids fair to be a harder matter than securing power to furn his million spindles of the future. A leading charm of the story is the comradeship of 'Uncle Asa' with his daughter in as pure and deep an affection as any human relation can offer. In this Mr. Munn, with all his popular success, has risen higher than ever before. Lathrop Lee & Shepard. Price \$1.50.

"Salomy Jane" by Bret Harte-The worlte love story of the west is unubtedly the thrilling romance of Salomy Jane's kiss. Of all the brilliant and popular tales of Bret Harte few have had such wide popularity. On the siage it made a successful play with Eleanor Robson in the title role. It now appears for the first time in a separate edition with separate edition, with some most interesting pictures in color and tint by Harrison Fisher and Arthur I, Keller. It is further embelished with marginal decorations in color and a dainty bindng in blue and white. As a gift book, it should be one of the leaders of the coming holiday season, for it is both beautiful and a reasonable price. Houghton Mifflin Co. Price \$1.

"Kingsford Quarter," by Ralph Henry Barbour -- The sale, of Ralph Henry Barbour's books proves there is no more popular writer for young people today. Always, wholesome is the key note of his stories; and work and play and innocent fun are mixed in liberal pro-portions. This, his last story, intro-duces an entirely new set of characters —jolly good fellows to know—Evan Kingsford, Rob Langton, Jelly, Malcohn Warne. Of course there are some chaps not so well worth knowing-Frank Hopkins, bully, for one-but they really count for little after all. The boys at Riverport have all kinds of good times; and football plays a large part in their lives and thoughts. There is some study, plenty of fun, and lots of light-hearted talk; but football practice, football business and bootball games are important things at River-port; and Mr. Barbour tells about them ill most entertainingly.

A youthful enjoyment prevades the and in his more recent books there is o abatement of wholesome fun and adventure.

"No American writer of the day." says the Cambridge Tribune, "Is more deservedly popular with boys and girls than the author of "The Crimson Sweater." The Century Co. Price \$1.50.

"The Fight for Conservation," by Gifford Pinchot-The conservation move-ment, as President Roosevelt declared in his address to the governors in the White House in 1908, owes more to Mr. Pinchot than to any other man. With-out him it would not have come as it has. This book is an explanation of the movement from every point of view -- physical, patriotic, moral. It might be called the hand-book of the fighting gospel of the white movement. Doubleday, Page & Co. Price 60 cents.

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