

A Novel; A Romantic Biography; A Philosophic Treatise Reviewed

Life of the Poet, Byron, Becomes Real Under Pen of Barrington; Curwood Writes Another Best Seller

ANNE TO LORD BYRON
(After reading "Glorious Apollo")
By Audred Bunch

You cannot frighten me. I knew before
What unnamed thing lay at your heart and mind,
That you could set me weeping more and more.
It wasn't hard to see; or hard to find.

I knew you loved me not, nor ever would;
That's why I knew I better go; be done.
It is one thing I did, and knew I could,
(If I could cry a little; laugh; could run

Into those woods where soft the shadows played,
I'd be morose a moment, then no more
Regretful of what vows I may have made.)
But always do I see you as before.

Till years that pass can never make me glad
To lose the hardest joy girl ever had.

"The Rational Proof of Immortality," by Jack Laird. Published by the Excelsior Publishers, Hood River, Oregon. Price postpaid, \$5.00.

There is probably more of the psychological than of the philosophic in the fact that Mr. Laird has written a treatise on "Immortality." And there is probably quite as much of psychological interest in the author as in his text. Mr. Laird is a life-terminer at the Oregon state penitentiary. A prisoner who has failed of one life, and is trying to get his hold on another, is not hard to understand; neither is the small volume which he has written. Though cloaked in technicalities, the thesis has to do with the fact that consciousness is not limited with either beginning or end, and is therefore continuous. Consciousness, self, ego, are all synonymous, he says, and may go by the name of soul. Mr. Laird likes to use Nietzsche's phrase, "Endless Becoming," in presenting his thesis. Because no thought can ever stand singly—alone—but will always have another thought full-blown behind and yet another budding just ahead, it is not unreasonable to foresee no end to consciousness. A continuous consciousness would be immortality, then, wouldn't it? Mr. Laird carefully re-endorse his own premises then attempts to meet the materialistic criticisms he can foresee. He also prepares his doctrine against the attacks of the metaphysical school. His conclusion deals with the probable state of the soul in the future.

"The Ancient Highway," by James Oliver Curwood. Published by the Cosmopolitan Book Corporation. Price \$2 net.

An author who has written a total of two dozen books, many of which have gone with success to the moving picture screen, needs neither defense nor commendation. The people know him, and know what he has to offer. In "The Ancient Highway" James Oliver Curwood has chosen a memorable roadway in Quebec which he has peopled with virile, breathing characters whose aim and ideals, whose purposes and cross-purposes are stuff, indeed, for a drama. "The Ancient Highway" is a book of the forests, and the dedicatory note itself reads to a man of the great Canadian outdoors. Clifton Brant takes his role as hero of the book under circumstances so unique as to be almost appalling. Among those with whom the swiftly moving events of his life interlock are an Indian princess, mother, a daughter of the old seigneurs, a political Samson, a Trappist monk, and two dozen others. Either romance or adventure, alone, may be enough to insure a book of a wide reading public, but, as usual, Curwood is the magnanimous novelist, and offers both. "The Ancient Highway" is of particular interest to Oregonians, the western part of whose state is being used for scenes in filming the novel.

"Glorious Apollo," by E. Barrington. Published by Dodd, Mead and Company. Price \$2.50 net.

Byron, the poet, is an unmatched subject for any biographer. For a biographer such as E. Barrington, the stylist superb, he is possibility enhanced to the full. Barrington's best romancing manner and the heady content of Byron's life converge in making a literary document worthy of commendation. While Barrington insures his readers of much tasty diction and many sparkling paragraphs, it can't be said that he does it to the expense of his story. Barrington may introduce facts that are entirely unheard of in other biographies of Lord Byron, but they are additions, rather than alterations.

Lord Byron's life was not a pleasant one, and neither could this story have been if an artist hadn't recorded it. Here indeed is workmanship that is worthy of the substance with which it deals—a dazling genius fettered by the flesh—an immortal mortal—the most romantic of the Romantics. Mr. Barrington deals in no limited way with the amours of this lover whose "heart was a stage coach where passengers came and went." There is much to tell of the affair with Lady Caroline Lamb, of his marriage to his "lady of quality," Anne Milbank, of Claire Clairmont and of all others who ever fell in love with this "Glorious Apollo." The story proceeds in four parts from "Dawn" through "The Risen Sun," "Storm" and "The Night," one's very familiarity with this life fore-

SOCIAL

(Continued from page 3)

ton. The service was conducted before a rose garden bower out-of-doors, with ferns, palms and late summer flowers increasing the beauty of the scene. Immediately preceding the ceremony, A. P. Speer, accompanied by Mrs. R. D. Hoke, sang "At Dawning" and "Because." Lohengrin's wedding march was played by Miss Esther Stayton, a niece of the bride.

The bride wore an attractive gown of white satin crepe with a full length veil and carried a shower bouquet of roses and sweet peas. The bride's brother, C. D. Stayton, gave her in marriage. Miss Mabel Fryer was maid of honor while little Janet Fryer was flower girl. Master Max Stayton carried the ring. After a wedding trip to Seaside, Mr. and Mrs. Keith will go to Seattle to make their home.

Visitors in Portland early this week were Mrs. L. F. Griffith and Miss Margaret Griffith.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Liston have as their house-guest, Miss Cecilia Liston of Portland. Miss Liston will be here a week or more.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Robins are stopping at the Hotel Monticello in Longview, Wash.

Activities Scheduled
Some of the activities in a social way scheduled for St. Joseph's parish in the near future are a dinner which will be known as the "Get-Together" dinner on Sunday, September 20th, at noon. A harvest festival, fair and bazaar on three days, November 6th, 7th and 8th, a play by the Dramatic club of the parish and the reorganization of the young people's dancing club.

Return From Vacation
Mrs. George M. King and sons, Stanley and Bobby, are home from a five weeks' vacation in Washington and British Columbia. Mr. King having motored north with the family for the trip, Mrs. King and children were guests of Mrs. C. T. Davis, Mrs. King's sister, at Bellingham. A particularly delightful part of the period was spent at Cottonwood Beach close to the Canadian border, where the water is unusually sheltered.

Miss Audrey Pomeroy was a guest in Portland yesterday.

The sympathy of a host of friends goes out to Mr. and Mrs. Merrill D. Ohling in the loss of their infant son.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Reiser are being congratulated upon the birth of a six and one half pound daughter, Relta Cyrell, at the Reiser home, 585 N. Liberty street.

Musical Study for Clergy Being Urged as Necessary
NEW YORK—Episcopal church clergymen are not particularly musical, intimates the report which a joint commission on church music has just completed for consideration at the general convention of the church which will meet in New Orleans October 7 next.

The report asks in effect how can a minister exercise the sole authority for administration of church music in his parish, when he does not know anything about music? Renewal is made of the recommendation of three years ago that courses in the history and practice—and appreciation—of church music be established in all the theological seminaries. Some progress along these lines has been made, the report adds, but there is still great room for improvement.

ITALIAN EMIGRATION GRADUALLY DECREASE

ROME.—Laws of the United States and other nations outside Europe which restrict immigration are advanced as the reason for decreased Italian emigration during the first four months of 1925. In that time 118,000 Italians left to make their homes elsewhere, compared with 146,000 during the first four months of 1924. Statistics show that a larger percentage than formerly of the emigrants are going to other European countries.

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