

THE CAPITAL JOURNAL
(DAILY AND WEEKLY)
BY HOFER BROTHERS.
TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 1896.

FAR WESTERN REFLECTIONS.
Weekly Review of New Books—Literary Notes and News.
LITERARY NEWS.

Harper's Weekly Aug. 24 has a sketch of du Maurier's career with original drawings.

Harper's Bazar contains a striking portrait of the talented Southern authoress, Miss Winnie Davis.

Richard Harding Davis tells of a recent overland journey in Honduras, undertaken for Harper's.

Godley's for September, treats "Recent Amateur Photography" and "Women Writers of the Day" with some very fine illustrations.

The "Bookman," a monthly literary journal, by Dodd, Mead & Co., New York, will be published on the 25th of each month hereafter.

Scottish fiction is wholesome, humorous and refreshing. The September Harper has a story by Ian Maclaren otherwise known as Mr. Watson.

"George Eliot's Place in Literature" is the subject of a writer in the September Forum. He says he could never find anything better than her "Silas Marner."

Godley's Magazine for September has drawings and an article on the American yacht Defender. This timely best of ten-cent periodicals has also an able paper on the Cuban revolution.

If George Eliot were alive she could not help smiling at the effort of an essayist who has never written a story to fit her proper place in literature. She would exclaim, "How like a man!"

The September and October "Bookman" will contain two chapters of further revelations in the character of Drumbeugh, the harsh village hero.

Friends of this department can obtain a beautiful sample copy of "The Bookman" free by sending a postal card request to Dodd, Mead & Co., publishers, New York. Mention THE JOURNAL.

Among the many monthly publications devoted to news and criticisms of current literature, Book News, published at Philadelphia by John Wamsnaker, is one which is well worthy of being read carefully, and it certainly covers its field.

Thus, the September Forum sweeps over the whole field of contemporaneous thought, presenting its readers with eleven timely and interesting articles by notable writers on a variety of important topics—literature, politics, sociology, criminology, economics, municipal reform, education, biography, etc., etc.

A splendid illustrated volume devoted to city government is the report of the Department of Public Works of the city of Chicago for 1896. It is a very complete publication of one of America's greatest and best governed cities. The plates, showing in detail the system of the water supply and the methods of distribution, are of the greatest importance.

Our Edible Mushrooms and Truffles and How to Distinguish Them, is the title of a very handsome and valuable work by W. Hamilton Gibson, soon to be published by Harper & Brothers. Thirty native food varieties, easily recognizable by their marked individualities, have been selected by Mr. Gibson for depiction and description in these pages, and simple rules are given for the identification of poisonous species.

A unique short story is one of the features of the September Scribner, Alexander Black, a well-known journalist, some time ago conceived the plan of uniting photography and fiction—that is, of illustrating a story with a series of photographic illustrations.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

ations in which, as in a play, the characters move about against a real background and illustrate the various points of the dialogue by actual poses. Mr. Black further carried his schemes of realism to the point of introducing Mr. Channoy Dewey as one of the characters, and he is actually photographed at his desk in the interview told of in the story. The text and the accompanying illustrations are side by side in parallel columns.

Frederic Harrison discusses great women writers thus in the September Forum in his paper on George Eliot: Jane Austen and Maria Edgeworth "lapsed" in novelettes, as Pope said he "lapsed" in numbers."

Though Charlotte Bronte published so little, she wrote stories incessantly from childhood. George Eliot was thirty-nine when her first tales were published, and was forty before she was known to the public as a novelist at all. And so little was novel writing her natural gift, that her most intimate friends never suspected her power, nor did she herself altogether enjoy the exercise of her art.

To the last, her periods of mental agitation were long, painful, and unhelpful. Parturition was a dangerous crisis, and the long-expected infant was reared with misgivings and a superfluity of coddling. The romances of George Eliot came like some-thing of a miracle, born late in the mother's life, at the cost of infinite pain, much anxiety, and amidst the wondering trepidation of expectant circles of friends.

"Lisbeth Wilson," by Mrs. Eliza Nelson Blair, wife of Senator Blair, of New Hampshire. No doubt many New Englanders can describe in detail all the homely scenes of country life early in the present century.

"Pleasure Cycling," by Henry Clyde. This is a pretty volume devoted to the most independent of sports. It is illustrated by 34 silhouettes and vignettes.

This book, which has been carefully prepared, is intended to serve as a full manual of useful information and instruction for cyclists in their first season on the wheel, and to promote a sport which the writer believes easily leads all others as a means of pleasure and health.

Some novels are imposed upon a long-suffering public, because a man or woman is ambitious to write a novel. Others appear, because the publisher advises a second after a success, or a third or fourth, usually a dreary dilution.

Some are turned out, as if from a machine or an oven with fatiguing frequency, until the sale stops. A few novels write themselves, recalling impressions burnt in upon the soul, from childhood up; the author impelled by these forceful reminiscences writes because called to tell the story.

Such a book makes its own way and lives." Ruskin says, "the greatest thing a human soul ever does in this world is to see something and tell what it saw in a plain way. Hundreds of people can talk for one who can think, but thousands can think for one who can see." And Mrs. Blair certainly has that gift.

The story deals with the home-like scenes and real New Hampshire people of generations gone, and their habits, customs, manners, opinions, controversies are shown as in a verbal mirror, true and clear. It is a first book, but neither crude nor sensational; a delightful addition to the few really valuable novels of our day.

Lee & Shepard, Publ., Boston, Mass., \$1.50.

Now the State administration is taking a hand in the great never-ending Statesman theological controversy. We thought Tim Davenport had his hands full untangling the snarls in the school land department without trying to straighten out such crooked sticks as Rev. Adams and Rev. Shules.

Albany, like Salem, has business men who will patronize every fair concern that comes to the city, with his useless scheme. They forget that it hurts them to see our citizens sending away for their merchandise and patronizing peddlers.—Albany Democrat.

Judging from the sacks of gold and silver one sees about the state capital and county seat almost daily one would not think it hard to raise that \$6200 stock for the butter factory.

A staple article in the local press is "Major So-and-so's pleasant smile."

characters, which are prominent in "Brother Against Brother," the preceding volume of the series. The real military operations of the war now commence and the residents of the section where the scene is laid see and feel the terrors and anxieties of Civil War. It requires the genius of the best of all American juvenile fiction writers to convey to the youthful reader of the present day a realistic view of exciting scenes and events of that trying time. Titus Lyons raises a company of Home Guards, which soon becomes a part of the Confederate army. Noah Lyon, the younger brother, having obtained a commission, raises a squadron of cavalry, in which, among other old friends, Dick and Artie appear as privates. The operation of the loyal battalion of cavalry in protection of railroad bridges, the repressing of partisan onslaughts, and the guarding of towns and villages largely inhabited by citizens loyal to the union form the basis of the story. Our young friends have ample opportunity to show their courage and do gallant deeds in the course of the stirring events through which the story takes them, and well do they acquit themselves. The main incidents are historically correct. Not the least important of the merits of the story is the sturdy patriotism which runs through it. The author carefully avoids reflection on the motives of those who took the Southern side but loses no opportunities to impress upon the minds of his readers the great lessons of honor, duty and love of country. Lee & Shepard, Publ., Boston, Mass. \$1.50.

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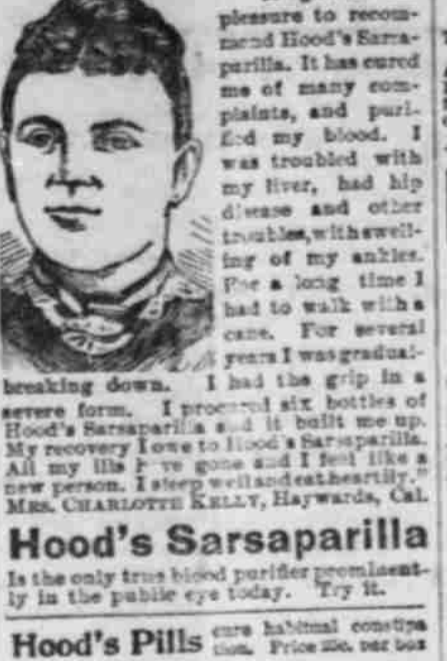
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