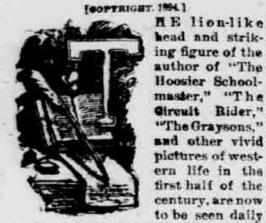


ARE NOT HOOSIERS.

He Revisits His Hoosier Home After Forty Years' Absence.

The Literary West of To-Day—Dr. Eggleston's Life at "Joshua's Rock"—His Library and His Methods of Work.



ARE lion-like head and striking figure of the author of "The Hoosier Schoolmaster," "The Circuit Rider," "The Graysens," and other vivid pictures of western life in the first half of the century, are now to be seen daily on the streets of New York, in which city Dr. Eggleston usually spends a portion of the winter season. His marriage to a charming young lady of Madison, Ind., and a resulting visit to his former home in the Hoosier state have been announced in the press. It seemed a propitious time to obtain the doctor's observations as to the changes which have taken place in his native region. His varied career as a Methodist circuit rider, teacher, minister, editor, novelist and historian is all too well known for mention here. Suffice it to say that the village of his birth was Vevoy, Ind., and that his recent marriage was a second marriage, the doctor, as is well known, having two accomplished daughters, Miss Allegra Eggleston, the artist, and Elizabeth



EDWARD EGGLESTON.

Eggleston Seelye, the writer, who continue to make their summer home with their father. Dr. Eggleston was found at his winter apartments in "The Chelsea," and with his usual kindness expressed himself as willing to talk for our readers. "Well, doctor, how did you pass the summer?" "As usual, at Lake George, most of the summer, except for some lectures given at Chautauqua and in the university extension course at Philadelphia. Except for the time spent at these places, I was at "Joshua's Rock" after my return from the west." "Did you see the fair?" "No, I didn't see the fair, and I didn't find any time this summer that I could spare from Lake George to go to the fair. I think the fair was a nice place for people who don't live at Lake George." "Is "Joshua's Rock" the name of your Lake George home?" "No, "Joshua's Rock" is the name of the post office. It is the old historical name for the promontory, having been



CORNER OF EGGLESTON LIBRARY.

named after a trapper who used to live there. It is not the name of my place, but of the post office. "You have your own cottage there?" "Yes, I have two cottages (built of stone), one to live in and one for my library and my daughter's studio, connected by a covered way which we call the Hyphen." "How long have you been going there, doctor?" "I have been going to the Lake George region since 1875, and have lived at Joshua's Rock since 1881. I am five miles from a railroad and telegraph, and as well protected from interruption as a man can be. I am very fond of a quiet country life, and pass every forenoon in my library among my books, which are all there. This year I remained until the middle of November, so much pleased were we with the life and the country. With the large wood-fires and the beautiful lights and scenery we enjoyed our time very much, working every morning in the library; driving, walking, or sailing every afternoon. I have spent as much as two months there at a time in the winter, in order to get quiet for writing. It is very cold, but I have a furnace in my house so that I can heat it up in the winter, and a large coal stove to make it still more comfortable. I aim to go there early in the spring and stay until late in the fall." "Are you able to carry on your historical work with the materials in your library?" "My library has grown about me and meets my wants even better than public libraries; so I prefer to go there. It is only of late that my library has become complete enough for me to be comfortable with it alone. I attend auctions and buy anything that is likely to be of interest to me in my work. So I have collected a library that suits me better than anything I can find in New York." "What is the exact character of your present historical work?"

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from the railroad where a first-class lecture course was maintained among the Quakers, and a high-grade school. I found that the leading lecturers of the country had been there. This was seventeen years ago.

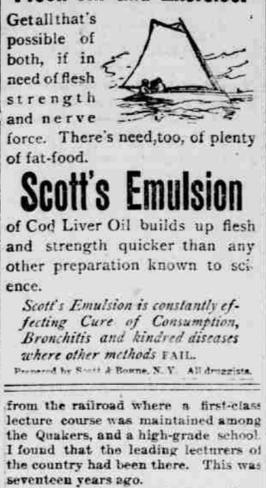
"The town I was born in has perhaps two thousand people; opposite it is a town in Kentucky which has about one thousand. The town I was born in has two clubs; the town opposite has one prosperous club. There is hardly a town on the Ohio river which hasn't a literary club of some kind."

"In reply to that question I would say that it depends upon his tastes and aptitudes. From a money point of view there are few literary men who could not do better in some other calling, but if one likes an intellectual life there is a reward to the literary man aside from all matter of profit."

"The public have a very false idea of the profits of literature. The higher sort of literature is not at all remunerative, as compared with the pursuits of other professional men."

"What do you think of the influence of the magazine on literature?" "I should say that the magazine is, peculiarly, an advantage to writers of established reputation as things are at present. I am not sure, however, that if the magazine were out of the way, or less dominant, that even the author of established reputation might not be better off; and, as to the rising author, the magazine is decidedly a disadvantage. The present facilities for distribution concentrate the dissemination of literature in the hands of a few magazines. Young authors are, therefore, at a great disadvantage from a lack of room. The magazine exercises a discouraging effect on the originality of literature from the fact that the author writes with reference to the wants of the editor or publisher of the magazine. So that there is intruded another personality between him and the public. The editor is not even free but must consider the welfare of his magazine. So there are two modifying forces, the editor's own preferences and the exigencies of the business interests of a magazine. Now it is to the interest of literature to get as nearly as possible the natural and spontaneous production of each personality that has any value in literature. This is in some measure defeated by the dominance of the monthly magazine."

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He Encouraged Her in It. Black: They tell me your wife is quite a whistler. White: She is. Whistles most of the time. B: And you allow it? Don't it annoy you? W: It doesn't annoy me; and as for allowing it, I encourage her in it. B: Why? W: Because a woman can't whistle and talk at the same time.—Boston Courier.

Where the Difference Was. "I cannot marry you, Mr. Albion. I have looked up your ancestry and your grandfather was a tradesman." "True, Marie; but we are cousins. He was your grandfather, too. How are you better born than I?" "You forget that I am American while you are English. It is nothing for an American to have had a grandfather in trade, but for an Englishman—oh! It's awful!"—Life.

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