

Literary News and Criticism.

Literary Gleanings from the War in the Far East.

GREAT JAPAN. A Study of National Efficiency. With a Foreword by the Hon. Earl of... THE RISEN SUN. By Baron Suematsu. Svo. pp. xvi, 255. E. P. Dutton & Co.

Japan has nothing to complain of in the treatment by her Anglican admirers and apologists. Not even Baron Suematsu, who was a sort of... THE WAR IN THE FAR EAST, 1894-'05. By the Hon. Earl of... THE RISEN SUN. By Baron Suematsu. Svo. pp. xvi, 255. E. P. Dutton & Co.

It is as a source publication that Mr. Stead has treated it in his present volume. He has carefully digested and assimilated the contents, and under much the same general heads, has presented in his own words, supplemented by abundant quotations, the information he had gathered together in his earlier work.

OLD ENGLAND. Historical Scenes and Incidents in the Cotswolds. HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS IN OXFORD AND THE COTSWOLDS. By Herbert A. Evans. With Illustrations by Frederick L. Griggs. Crown, pp. 467. The Macmillan Company.

It is only in his opening chapter that the author of this charming book gives much attention to Oxford; but in his wanderings through the hill-country lying to the north and west of the ancient city he comes repeatedly upon reminiscences of her scholars, upon goodly estates owned by her colleges, upon church livings in their gift.

Mr. Stead's enthusiasm has unconsciously or ignorantly led him to put the cart before the horse in one of his statements in the foregoing quotation, since, as Baron Suematsu points out, "pride of country," so far from resulting from patriotism, is, in fact, its cause.

become problematical." Such a policy is more conducive to the making of good journalism than of good history; but even as history, granting the admitted limitations, the author has succeeded in presenting the orderly and disorderly procession of events, the tactical dispositions of the forces and the strategy of the opposing military leaders with a far greater impression of aloofness than any of his brother journalists whose books have so far been published.

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Much suspected, of me Nothing proved can be Quoth Elizabeth, Prisoner. And hearing from the garden, on one occasion, a "certain milkmaid singing pleasantly," the royal girl bemoaned herself that the milkmaid's "case was better and life more merrier than was hers in that state as she was."

This region, indeed, is filled with memorials of the Civil War, for here Charles I and his son struggled most desperately to regain their kingdom. There are countless stories connected with its old manor houses. At Charlton there is a "Cavalier" room, opening out of which is a secret chamber. This, after the battle of Worcester, saved the life of Arthur Jones, the master of the manor.

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safe; she then entered the room, opened the door of the hiding place, and, accompanied by her husband downstairs. He proceeded at once to the stable, and, finding that his own horse had not recovered from its fatigue, mounted that of the commander of the party and rode off.

One of the most pathetic traditions of the war handed down from generation to generation about Kinsbury Camp shows the White King seated on a stone there, after a weary, disheartened march. One of the young princes with childish impatience asked his father when they should go home.

At Banbury the author went in search of the cakes which, as he reminds us, were famous in the days of Camden and Ben Jonson. There was the original shop with its small paneled windows, a shop which has been in the hands of the same family for some generations.

The poor vicar was shot dead by one of the soldiers. An eighteenth century writer quaintly describes what followed: "Some of the Parish have since affirmed that the Person who had given notice to the Party of the Doctor's Journey, fell down dead upon that very Spot of Ground where the Doctor fell when he was shot. I have heard that he scattered his Money along the Highway and by that Artifice delayed all of them but one, who thrustered more for Blood than Piunder. And 'tis said the Villain had been Supported formerly by the Doctor's Charity; and that his very Comrades abhorred the Baseness of the Action."

This region, indeed, is filled with memorials of the Civil War, for here Charles I and his son struggled most desperately to regain their kingdom. There are countless stories connected with its old manor houses. At Charlton there is a "Cavalier" room, opening out of which is a secret chamber. This, after the battle of Worcester, saved the life of Arthur Jones, the master of the manor.

Scarcely had he had time to eat and drink when the sound of horses' feet was heard approaching, and their riders were soon clearing the door for admittance. Arthur Jones hurried to the front chamber, while Mrs. Jones went to the front door, which a voice outside called a secret door.

Whether their suspicions were aroused or whether the room seemed to them the most comfortable one in the house, they signified to their hostess that they intended to spend the night there; and she, who had been so long waiting for them, thereupon led them to the secret chamber, and was no other than the secret chamber, there being no other of the kind in the house.

In the series of "Highways and Byways," a truly invaluable one, there is no more agreeable volume than this. Its stores of tradition, legend, historical incident and picturesque description are accompanied by admirable illustrations. If the book has a fault it is that it will inspire in the reader a restless desire to search out for himself all that is therein described as strange, venerable and lovely.

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A Remarkable SHORT STORY The Hermit and the Wild Woman

BY

Edith Wharton

Author of the House of Mirth

Appears in the

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truth of the legend is asserted to be as little vital as the sawdust anatomy of the presumptuous Fordham bird. The statement is made on satisfactory evidence that "The Raven" was published as early as 1845, while Poe did not go to Fordham to live until 1846.

"American Men of Science" is the title of a biographical directory just issued by The Science Press, New-York. The work was originally begun as a manuscript reference list for the Carnegie Institution of Washington, and was so much in demand that it was determined to enlarge its sphere of usefulness by printing it for general distribution.

The just published biography of the Margravine of Balreuth summarizes from one of her own letters Wilhelmina's description of her introduction to her husband's subjects immediately after her marriage:

"All of good family, and some very rich, mostly Reitzensteins, with faces to frighten children with, dressed in dirty old wigs, and ancient ancestral robes, tarnished and ragged, with manners to correspond." Then she was introduced to "animals of another species, the clergy, with great ruffs as big as baskets round their necks, and such speeches as 'She sat to dine with about thirty of the most important of these Noble's Ark folk, the suite farming, when the wits caught fire, and indulged in disputes on the relative merits of plain or mountain sheep, till she nearly went to sleep. The health drinking woke her up, and found herself her back aching from being, she found herself in the company of thirty-four drunkards.'

Instead of the maxims with which the school teachers of not so distant days sought to combine moral and economical instruction with progress in chirography, in setting copies for youthful penmen and penwomen, the coming generation is to be regaled and gently led along the paths of penmanship by means of selections from the poems and Mother Goose, and even by original jingles by Carolyn Wells. "Berry's Writing Books," published by B. D. Berry & Co., Chicago, have instituted this innovation. Of the books for younger writers, that containing the "Mother Goose" extracts is illustrated with full page outline drawings by Lucy Fitch Perkins, and the jingle copies set by Miss Wells are illustrated with colored drawings by Fanny Y. Cory. Isabel Franklin Betts, Will Vawter and B. Cory Kilvert.

After several years of preparation Henry Holt & Co. are about to begin the publication of a series of books on contemporary political, economical and social questions, to be issued under the general title of "American Public Problems," and under the general editorial direction of Ralph Curtis Ringwood, of the New-York bar and author of "Modern American Oratory." The first volume, which is now in press and will be issued shortly, is entitled "Immigration, and Its Effect Upon the United States," and is by Prescott F. Hall, A. B., LL. B., who is by her back acting from being, she found herself in the company of thirty-four drunkards.

Francis Bisset Archer, the treasurer of the colony, has written a volume on "The Gambia Colony and the Protectorate," which will be published February 1 by the St. Bride's Press, London. Besides the matters of local interest which form the main theme of the book, the author undertakes to give at some length the history of all of West Africa in its relations to the colony from the time of the first explorers.

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been for many years secretary of the Immigration Restriction League. The publishers state that neither this nor the volumes which are to follow are designed to present any particular theory or to uphold any special doctrine. Each will aim to contain a complete history of the question treated in its political and legislative aspects, the available facts pertinent to it, and an impartial discussion of the policies advocated.