

Literary News and Criticism.

Mr. Howells's Dream of a Land of Happiness.

THROUGH THE EYE OF THE NEEDLE. A Romance. By W. D. Howells. With Introduction. 8vo, pp. xii, 222. Harper & Bros.

THE MASTER OF STAIR. By Marjorie Bowen. 12mo, pp. 376. McClure, Phillips & Co.

GHEZZO COMEDIES. By Israel Zangwill. 12mo, pp. 45. The Macmillan Company.

NEW CHRONICLES OF REBECCA. By Kate Douglas Wiggin. Illustrated. 12mo, pp. 277. Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

THE NOVELS AND STORIES OF IVAN TURGENIEFF. By Helen F. Hapgood. In fourteen volumes. Charles Scribner's Sons.

The novel with a purpose, the novel with too obvious a moral, is commonly supposed to have worn out its welcome a long time ago. But a book like "Through the Eye of the Needle" warns us against attaching too much importance to these easy generalizations.

Nothing could be more agreeable than the re-entrance upon the scene of Mrs. Riggs's engaging little heroine. The "New Chronicles of Rebecca" have all of the light, playful charm which belonged to the earlier book in which Miss Randall was introduced to us.

When Miss Hapgood's translation of Turgeneff was first issued by the Scribners in a beautiful subscription edition, we considered the work at length, and spoke of it with cordial approval.

ditions of his art; it is his business to tell a story for the sake of the story, and he does this with a success which may be judged from the fact that while he harps on one string, sticks to his Jewish theme, he does not tire us for a moment. There is a strange blend in his work of sympathy and cynicism. It is as though the life of the Jew among aliens moved him at once to smiles and to tears.

It is interesting to see how well the author keeps his head, how just he is in painting the conflict of racial impulses. If he is moved when his Jews suffer he is not blind to the inevitableness of fate. This collection of stories, one of the most readable of the season, is also one of the most thoughtful.

When Miss Hapgood's translation of Turgeneff was first issued by the Scribners in a beautiful subscription edition, we considered the work at length, and spoke of it with cordial approval.

"A Nobleman's Nest," "On the Eve" and "Rudin" and "A King Lear of the Steppes." There will be ten more volumes. The form adopted is a handy octavo, in a simple green cloth binding.

"PRINCESS SOPHIA."

And What She Saw in Japan.

AS THE HAGUE ORDAINS. Journal of a Russian Prisoner's Wife in Japan. Illustrated. 12mo, pp. 329. Henry Holt & Co.

The framework upon which is built up this description of the life of the Russian prisoners in a Japanese hospital has the aspect of fiction. But whether the wounded Colonel Vladimir von Theil and his charming wife, the Princess Sophia, be real personages or not is of little importance—it is the vivid story of war and of the daily happenings at Matsuyama that concerns us.

There is a kind of eloquence in this passage. There is a world of meaning between the lines. Is there a New Yorker who could read it without a certain rueful sympathy? Mr. Howells lightly touches many of the troubles that New York flesh is heir to, but he knows when to stop, and just as the reader begins to feel that he has heard enough of our social weariness and absurdities, he is carried off to Altruria, and is there delighted with a picture of what is not, after all, an impossible form of existence.

they stood or lay on the wet snow—sick and wounded men, each moaning, they moved the droves to fresh pasture ground, in lieu of cleaning—and plucked up the dead and helpless. All the time the Jews were dropping off their backs, and our own men needed it, and we buried them in trenches pile-up, it was terrible.

A touching evidence of the chivalric spirit of old Japan was the generous sympathy of the attendants with the prisoners when the news of Russian defeat arrived.

I asked one Port Arthur officer what was the best he had seen during the war, the thing that impressed him most with the goodness of the world and the human race in it. He said: "The absence of the Japanese flag at Port Arthur. We never saw it after the surrender, and we got down to Dabny. The Russian flag came down and the flagstaffs and buildings were left bare. We stood on our own house-ropes on by our own servants, and the men remained in their barracks until time to march to the Dabny train. Some even rowed over in the night and hung black streamers on the Pobieda (Victory's) wreck. Poor Pobieda! Pobieda! What a name of irony! It was General Nogi's special order that no flag should be raised until Stossel had left Port Arthur."

BOOKS AND AUTHORS.

Current Talk of Things Present and to Come.

One of the brightest incidents of the spring publishing season should be the appearance in book form of the novel called "Fräulein Schmidt and Mr. Anstruther," which the author of "Elizabeth and Her German Garden" has been bringing out serially in the pages of "Cornhill."

A commentator in "The London Sketch" alludes to the story, recently printed, that Matthew Arnold once attributed all the talent of the Arnold family to the children of his brother Tom. This, he adds, "was before Mrs. Humphry Ward began to wear down a hundred pens, and may therefore be taken as a rather fine instance of Uncle Matt's prevision. But there is a sequel, which we may venture to supply. When Tom's daughter did write a book, and Uncle Matt read it, the remark he made was this: 'No Arnold ever could write a novel; if any Arnold could, I should have written one myself.'"

Professor J. Burnet has finished his edition of the text of Plato in the Oxford Classical Texts. The fifth and concluding volume has just appeared. It contains Mino, Leges, Epinomis, Epistulae, definitions and spuria.

Miss Marie Corell is about to publish a collection of her short stories in a volume which will borrow the title of the first one, "Delicia."

In a pleasant notice of Mr. Howells's recent book on certain English towns, "The London Standard" administers this cuff to the author of another new book, "The American Scene":

Mr. James could not mention the name of an American city without an elaborate analysis of its psychological significance. If it has no such significance, he would invent one to fit it, and it would be not less, but vastly more, intricate and baffling, because it existed only in the microscopic lens of Mr. Henry James's amazing mind.

The Gypsy Lore Society is preparing to resume the publication of its quarterly containing contributions from students of the Romany. Among the subjects to be discussed will be "Secret languages, cant and slang, and especially Shelta, the ancient jargon of the Irish tinkers."

The centenary of the birth of Edgar Allan Poe is not far off, and there are to be noted some possibilities of a desirable commemoration. "The Sun," of Baltimore, has suggested a movement looking toward the erection in that city of a beautiful mausoleum, in which all that is left of the author may be permanently laid to rest. It is a comparatively humble monument which now marks his grave and Virginia's in the Westminster Cemetery. This was unveiled in 1877, the cost of it being largely defrayed by the late G. W. Childs. The project for a memorial worthy of the man of genius, to be dedicated on the centenary, January 19, 1909, has evoked enthusiasm in Baltimore. Governor Wartwell and President Remsen of Johns Hopkins University have expressed hearty approval, and the literary societies are preparing an effective advocacy. It is proposed that the funds shall be provided by a popular subscription. It is believed, moreover, that appropriations from the city and state governments could be obtained. The city would probably give the site for the monument—and many fine sites are available in Baltimore. "The Baltimore Sun" quotes Tennyson's opinion of Poe: "He is the literary glory of America. No poet, certainly no modern poet, was so susceptible to the impression of beauty as Poe. He had all the Greeks' appreciation of beauty and much of their power of expressing it in poetry," and that journal adds: "We should show to the world that we do not put the materialities of life above the honor which is due to our greatest literary name."

Richmond, the city in which Poe spent his early years, has collected \$10,000 for a monument to him within its precincts; and the University of Virginia is arranging to celebrate the centenary. It has already placed a bronze medal over the room once occupied by Poe; it has an excellent collection of Poe literature, and the Raven Society aids in keeping his memory green in the old halls where he studied. No reading American will fail to honor and applaud plans for an adequate recognition of Poe's genius. His contemporaries suffered him to struggle for a great part of his life in the grimmest poverty, and to die therein; a later generation can at least raise to him a fitting memorial.

It is worth while to place on record a reminiscence by Professor H. E. Shepherd, of Baltimore: "Few persons know that originally Poe's body was placed in the rear of the lot of Westminster Church yard, and that the church had not been erected in 1807. It was not until the erection of the church, a few years later, completely obscured the grave. I happened to be there at the corner, and saw the remains lying in his coffin, which had been opened. For some time I had a piece of the coffin, but it has been misplaced. All that remained of the body was the bones. The skull was in admirable condition. The teeth were perfect and as white as pearl. The shape of his forehead, which was one of Poe's striking features, could be easily discerned."

Books and Publications.

"If there is any competition going on for the finest novel of the year, best drawn characters in modern fiction or the coming novelist, my votes unhesitatingly go to 'The Country House, to Mr. Barter, to Mrs. Pendyce and to Mr. John Galsworthy.'"

The Country House. By JOHN GALSWORTHY, author of "The Man of Property," etc. "A book that exhibits wide sympathies, genuine observation and a quiet humor of its own. Whatever Mr. Galsworthy writes possesses an irresistible appeal for the readers of cultivated tastes."—London Standard. "A superb social satire."—Illustrated London News.

At all Booksellers

THE MAN OF PROPERTY

"A perfectly fascinating and enthralling book."—London Truth. Two volumes. Each Crown 8vo. \$1.50.

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS

New York and London

Books and Publications.

Israel Zangwill's new book Ghetto Comedies. Stories of the Ghetto, "presented as no one else could write them... with dramatic force, intense realism, infinite pity and certain knowledge."—Boston Herald.

Mr. William Stearns Davis's brilliant new novel A Victor of Salamis. A swift-moving story whose plot of unwavering interest follows the adventures of Glaucon, winner in the Isthmian games, outlawed as a traitor, yet "a victor of Salamis" on the day when the little overmatched ships of the allied Greeks, cornered between battle and slavery, fought and conquered the splendid navies of the East.

At all Booksellers

New Macmillan Books

READY THIS DAY

Mr. Allen French's convenient new Book of Vegetables and Garden Herbs. A practical handbook and planting table for the vegetable garden, full of practical suggestions for the enriching of the home table.

Mr. Bolton Hall's Three Acres and Liberty. The fascination of the book lies in the sanity with which he proves that a man may in comfort, within reach of the opportunities of the city, enjoy the healthfulness of open air life without overwork, heavy responsibility or the necessity of capital.

Mrs. Roger A. Pryor's charming new book The Birth of the Nation, Jamestown, 1607. The book must especially attract those who wish to refresh their memories before the Jamestown exposition becomes the topic of the day.

Prof. J. Allen Smith of the University of Washington, in The Spirit of American Government. makes an important addition to the notable Citizens' Library, edited by Dr. RICHARD T. ELY, of the University of Wisconsin. The book is a study of the Constitution—its Origin, Influence and Relation to Democracy.

Prof. Walter Raleigh's new study of the life of Shakespeare—ENGLISH MEN OF LETTERS SERIES. is a valuable handbook for those who would read with ease and comprehendingly, for pleasure, the work of the great poet of humanity.

Published by THE MACMILLAN COMPANY, 64-68 5th Ave., New York.

Books and Publications.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS PUBLISH TO-DAY GENERAL E. P. ALEXANDER'S Military Memoirs of a Confederate A Critical Narrative

W. W. JACOB'S Short Cruises. His best and latest stories. Full of the dry humor, ingenious plots, and highly original characters that have made him famous. Illustrated, \$1.50. WINFIELD SCOTT MOODY'S The Pickwick Ladle and other Collector's Stories. The lively account of the way in which Peter Wyckoff and his wife, collectors of great energy, ingenuity and taste, acquired or did not acquire many rare and precious things. Illustrated, \$1.50.

At all Booksellers

Books of the Week.

LETTERS TO A PAINTER ON THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF PAINTING. By W. Ostwald. Authorized translation by H. W. Morse. 12mo, pp. viii, 162. (Glim & Co.)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION / AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS. An American Problem. By George U. Wenner. 12mo, pp. ix, 133. (Bonnell, Silver & Co.)

HER OWN WAY. A Play in Four Acts. By Clyde Fitch. 12mo, pp. xiii, 255. (Macmillan Company.)

A NIGHT IN AFRICA. By C. de Young Rice. 12mo, pp. 52. (McClure, Phillips & Co.)

THE DISCIPLE OF A SAINT. Being the Imaginary Biography of Raniero di Landocello del Paggiare. By Ylva D. Ender. 12mo, pp. xvii, 352. (G. P. Putnam & Co.)

THE WINDFALL. By Charles Egbert Craddock. 12mo, pp. 450. (Duffell & Co.)

THE GOLDEN HAWK. By Edith Rickert. Illustrated. 12mo, pp. viii, 349. (Baker & Taylor Company.)

A story of modern Provence. GRINMAR. By Nathan Kussay. Illustrated by William

HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN & CO., NEW YORK.

JUST PUBLISHED

NEW CHRONICLES OF REBECCA. By KATE DOUGLAS WIGGIN. "Rebecca is well known and deservedly popular. She is one of those 'State of Maine' girls who excite lovers to poetry, and are depicted with intimate appreciation, a true blue little New Englander, lively, forcible, more sprightly than most of her stock."—Boston Advertiser. Illustrated by F. C. Yohn. \$1.25.

Ready Today THE WORLD'S WARRANT. By NORAH DAVIS. The originality in plot, the freshness of the background—present-day Alabama—the real attraction of the chief participants in the strange love story, and above all, the strength and boldness in style, give "The World's Warrant" a fascination which is felt page by page until the close of the novel. \$1.50.

THE YOUNG IN HEART. By ARTHUR S. PIER. A book of very readable essays on tennis, swimming and other recreations of men in 1907. \$1.25 net. Postage 5 cents.

WHAT HAPPENED TO BARBARA. By OLIVE THOMAS MILLER. A charming story of the experiences of an American girl at school and at home, introducing some quaint characters. \$1.25.

Boston Houghton, Mifflin & Co., New York.

Published by THE MACMILLAN COMPANY, 64-68 5th Ave., New York.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS PUBLISH TO-DAY GENERAL E. P. ALEXANDER'S Military Memoirs of a Confederate A Critical Narrative

W. W. JACOB'S Short Cruises. His best and latest stories. Full of the dry humor, ingenious plots, and highly original characters that have made him famous. Illustrated, \$1.50.

WINFIELD SCOTT MOODY'S The Pickwick Ladle and other Collector's Stories. The lively account of the way in which Peter Wyckoff and his wife, collectors of great energy, ingenuity and taste, acquired or did not acquire many rare and precious things. Illustrated, \$1.50.

At all Booksellers

Books of the Week.

LETTERS TO A PAINTER ON THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF PAINTING. By W. Ostwald. Authorized translation by H. W. Morse. 12mo, pp. viii, 162. (Glim & Co.)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION / AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS. An American Problem. By George U. Wenner. 12mo, pp. ix, 133. (Bonnell, Silver & Co.)

HER OWN WAY. A Play in Four Acts. By Clyde Fitch. 12mo, pp. xiii, 255. (Macmillan Company.)

A NIGHT IN AFRICA. By C. de Young Rice. 12mo, pp. 52. (McClure, Phillips & Co.)

THE DISCIPLE OF A SAINT. Being the Imaginary Biography of Raniero di Landocello del Paggiare. By Ylva D. Ender. 12mo, pp. xvii, 352. (G. P. Putnam & Co.)

THE WINDFALL. By Charles Egbert Craddock. 12mo, pp. 450. (Duffell & Co.)

THE GOLDEN HAWK. By Edith Rickert. Illustrated. 12mo, pp. viii, 349. (Baker & Taylor Company.)

A story of modern Provence. GRINMAR. By Nathan Kussay. Illustrated by William

HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN & CO., NEW YORK.

JUST PUBLISHED

NEW CHRONICLES OF REBECCA. By KATE DOUGLAS WIGGIN. "Rebecca is well known and deservedly popular. She is one of those 'State of Maine' girls who excite lovers to poetry, and are depicted with intimate appreciation, a true blue little New Englander, lively, forcible, more sprightly than most of her stock."—Boston Advertiser. Illustrated by F. C. Yohn. \$1.25.

Ready Today THE WORLD'S WARRANT. By NORAH DAVIS. The originality in plot, the freshness of the background—present-day Alabama—the real attraction of the chief participants in the strange love story, and above all, the strength and boldness in style, give "The World's Warrant" a fascination which is felt page by page until the close of the novel. \$1.50.

THE YOUNG IN HEART. By ARTHUR S. PIER. A book of very readable essays on tennis, swimming and other recreations of men in 1907. \$1.25 net. Postage 5 cents.

WHAT HAPPENED TO BARBARA. By OLIVE THOMAS MILLER. A charming story of the experiences of an American girl at school and at home, introducing some quaint characters. \$1.25.

Boston Houghton, Mifflin & Co., New York.

Published by THE MACMILLAN COMPANY, 64-68 5th Ave., New York.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS PUBLISH TO-DAY GENERAL E. P. ALEXANDER'S Military Memoirs of a Confederate A Critical Narrative

W. W. JACOB'S Short Cruises. His best and latest stories. Full of the dry humor, ingenious plots, and highly original characters that have made him famous. Illustrated, \$1.50.

WINFIELD SCOTT MOODY'S The Pickwick Ladle and other Collector's Stories. The lively account of the way in which Peter Wyckoff and his wife, collectors of great energy, ingenuity and taste, acquired or did not acquire many rare and precious things. Illustrated, \$1.50.