BOOKS AND AUTHORS

LITERARY CRITICISM AND BOOK NEWS

Continued from page 10

Aufklärung; the critical philosophy and agnosticism; the scientific attitude toward phenomena, and the hypothesis of evolution. When these powers have done their worst in demolishing certain ancient positions and profoundly modifying others, some constructive affirmations are found emerging from the wreckage. Thus it may be said of the evolution that it has promoted the substitution of natural for legal categories. Death is no longer thought of as a punishment for sin, but as the necessary condition of progress. Life is pictured as an education rather than a probation, and future blessedness as an attainment rather than a reward.

In his valuable chapters on the conception of God Dr. McGiffert shows how the two disparate interests, the cosmical and the ethical, are involved in any attempt to combine a Christian theism with the idea of an immanent deity. And as for this age-long schism between love and righteousness in our idea of God, we have reached a conception, thanks to the contribution of Albrecht Ritschl, which may be described as at once ethical and consistent through and through. For the divine love eventuates, according to Ritschl, not in anything passive, but in active social service. Nothing in the modern religious outlook is more noteworthy, in our author's opinion, than the social emphasis. The credit of establishing the supreme obligation of humanitarianism in the moral consciousness of the modern man is to be accorded to the eighteenth century: not only to the rationalists of that period, who resorted to the simplicity of Jesus's teachings as a refuge from elaborate theologies, but also to the Evangelicals. Though they made much of the ascetic and other-worldly ideals of traditional Christianity, the Evangelicals yet emphasized also to an unusual degree love and service of one's fellows, and applied their principles often on a large scale in one form or another of practical philanthropy.

VIEWS AND REVIEWS OF CURRENT FICTION

A Spirited Tale of a Horse—New Detective Stories—The Jolly Roger and a Shipwreck in the Indian Ocean—More Feminist Fiction.

BRED OF THE DESERT. A Horse and a Boy. By Stewart Edward White. Illus. 12mo, pp. 280. Doubleday, Page & Co.

Mr. Horton has done a remarkable thing. His romance is not just one more "nature story" of the school that was founded by Mr. Thompson-Seton; his horse is not a human being in disguise. It is real, a blooded animal with its unknown thoroughbred sire's instinct always to do its best, the thoroughbred's pride and sensitiveness, loyalty to duty, gratitude for good treatment and resentment of abuse. Lovers of horseflesh will recognize the picture as true, and relish over it, but even those who have never owned a horse or ridden one will come to love Pat, born by the wayside in the New Mexican desert.

He is not allowed to overshadow the human element of the story, with its many adventures, but he has his full share in all of them in his own way; there is such a thing as horse sense. A young woman's mount, stolen by rustlers, recaptured by Rangers, abducted again by Indians on the warpath, recaptured once more by United States cavalry in pursuit, he passes from hand to hand, from masters kind to masters cruel, most appreciative if not gentlest of them all, though their association is but short, the plundering, burning and murdering Indian desperado whom he almost carries to safety. The breaking of Pat to the saddle is stirringly described as the horse itself must experience it; the varying dispositions of his four-footed mates are an added interest, for it is through his association with them that he trains the fighting instinct which enables him to conquer in his mighty battle with the wild stallion. The story is a welcome novelty in current minor fiction.

There is in this book a Prayer of the Horse that deserves to be printed as a leaflet and scattered far and wide. It is recited by one of the Rangers in the desert at night by the dying campfire. It is too long to be quoted here in full, but part of it is given in the hope that it may lead those who read it to the book:

"To thee, my master, I offer my prayer. Feed me, water me, care for me, and when the day's work is done provide me with shelter and a clean, dry bed, and, when you can, a stall wide enough for me to lie down in in comfort. Always be kind to me. Talk to me—your voice often means as much to me as the reins. Pet me sometimes, that I may serve you the more gladly and know that my services are appreciated, and that I may learn to love you. . . . When I don't understand you, what you want, do not strike or beat or kick me, but give me a chance to understand you. . . .

"And this is important, and finally, O my master! when my useful strength is gone do not turn me out to starve, or sell me to some cruel owner to be slowly tortured and starved to death; but do thou, my master, take my life in the kindest way, and your God will reward you here and hereafter. You will not consider me irreverent, I know, if I ask all this in the name of Him Who was born in a stable."

"Go on," demanded the Professor in muffled tones. "Is that all?"

"Only one word more."

"What is it?"

"Why"—the voice was solemn—"it is 'Amen.'"

DETECTIVE STORIES.

THE TEETH OF THE TIGER. By Maurice Leblanc. Translated by Alexander Teixeira de Mattos. Illustrated by Gordon Grant. 12mo, pp. 320. Harper & Bros.

THE CASE AT CENTRAL. By Geraldine Bonner. Illustrated by Arthur William Brown. 12mo, pp. 319. Appleton & Co.

THE WHITE ALLEY. By Carolyn Wells. Frontispiece by Charles Hopkins. 12mo, pp. 309. Lippincott & Company.

THE BANK OF PERIL. A novel of adventure. By Arthur Stringer. Illustrated by Frank Snapp. 12mo, pp. 320. The Macmillan Company.

No season without its detective stories; that is one of the rules of the publishing business, in response, no doubt, to a steady demand. Sherlock Holmes is gradually going into retirement, though one can never tell, for several years ago his author led us to believe that he was dead, only to revive him for further exploits. The same is true of Arsene Lupin, the rumor of whose taking off, spread by M. Leblanc himself, now proves to have been very much exaggerated. But besides these contributions from abroad we have a steady annual supply of the native article, mostly of less importance, but generally worth the while of those who like this sort of thing, which is, after all, nothing but a puzzle in a book instead of in a box.

In "The Teeth of the Tiger" Lupin outdoes himself; so does his author in the inexhaustible fertility of his inventiveness and in the breathless celerity with which one unexpected turn of the plot succeeds the other. This is the story of a great fortune for whose possession a master plotter commits one crime after the other. Lupin himself is one of the heirs. That he frustrates the attempts on his own life would be glory enough, but, of course, he triumphs all along the line.

Geraldine Bonner has had the happy thought of intrusting the unravelling of the murder of a young heiress in a suburban neighborhood to the young woman in charge of its telephone exchange. This girl breaks the rule which forbids her to listen to conversations over the wire, and thus comes upon more than one false clew, for the victim was unconventional and had many admirers. Moreover, she has an insight of the condition of affairs in the heiress's home through her friendship with the housekeeper. The story is most entertaining; it keeps one interested, but the denouement is somewhat far-fetched. Miss Bonner's criminal is, indeed, the weakest part of her story.

Carolyn Wells has written better detective stories than "The White Alley," which is probably an earlier effort of hers not published until now—one of Fleming Stone's first cases. Here we have still another murder mystery, and, as in Miss Bonner's story, the denouement is its weakest part. It is not Stone the detective, but his author, who solves the case.

Mr. Stringer's book is a collection of stories of adventure linked together by their characters and a general purpose—the pursuit and conviction of a master counterfeiter by an agent of the Secret Service, who is foiled with unfailing regularity by two of the criminal's women accomplices until the last chapter but one. The hero is in constant danger; he risks his life in Paris, Palermo and New York; his disguises are penetrated, and, to add to his difficulties, he is falling rapidly in love with one of the two women. Each adventure is worth reading as an episode; read consecutively, they suggest somewhat pointedly the "continued in our next" principle of periodical literature.

GROCER GREATHEART.

GROCER GREATHEART. A Tropical Romance. By Archibald Adams. Illus. pp. 327. The John Lane Company.

Greatheart has retired from the grocery business in Woolloomooloo, which is a suburb of Sydney, N. S. W. He is forty-five when he starts on his travels. One sniff of the Spice Islands on the deck of the steamer that carries him to Japan suddenly awakens in him the romance, the thirst for adventure that has lain numb and unsuspected below the prosaic efficiency of his success in trade. And when the boat is shipwrecked and a small company of survivors reach a desert island it is Greatheart who takes command—like the Admirable Crichton in Barrie's play. Already on the raft he had proved his right to leadership by coolly deliberating whether it would not be better to throw the stout man overboard on account of his weight, but deciding that he might be useful as ballast. There are six of them altogether, two of their number being women. Then new adventures come—a gigantic tiger first of all, and then a mysterious young woman, and a trained elephant, and a murderous crew of treasure hunters, and, last of all, a pirate ship out of the distant past, which proves to be the most modern of all the happenings in this mildly amusing fantasy.

THE GENTLEMAN ADVENTURER.

THE GENTLEMAN ADVENTURER. By R. C. Bailey. 12mo, pp. 325. George H. Doran Company.

It is all according to Esquemeling, and even outdoes him, this story of piracy and the Spanish Main and the buccaneers' city of pleasure on Tortuga. The hero is an English country squire, drawn into a plot against Dutch William's life, then forced to flee because he refuses to turn King's evidence. And so, after the custom of the time, the captain of the ship on which he takes passage sells him in Jamaica to a planter. Under the leadership of one Luke Veal the white men held in bondage on the plantation revolt, escape in a longboat, capture a ship, and the piracy begins. There is a woman in all this, the planter's daughter, abducted by Veal, more ferocious than Morgan himself, and twice as treacherous. The gentleman adventurer starts out in a ship of his own; he obtains letters of marque from the Governor of Jamaica in a private feud with Estevan, the terror of the Caribbean, and thereafter there is fighting and adventure in tropical forests, and love-making—all that a story of piracy should contain, in abundant measure and of good quality.

MARY WESTMORELAND.

MARY WESTMORELAND. A Novel. By Marie Van Vorst. Frontispiece by C. H. Taffs. 12mo, pp. 326. Dodd, Mead & Company.

After so creditable a performance as Miss Van Vorst's "Big Tremaine," published last year, this new novel of hers is somewhat of a disappointment. The author's choice of subject has no doubt something to do with this, but, in addition, her treatment of it is noticeably uneven. Are we not beginning to get just a little too much in our feminist fiction of the strong man of large affairs with the incompatible parasitic wife and the private secretary, who is as efficient as she is nobly yet sympathetically womanly? Is not the time approaching for a parody on this now overfamiliar plot, in which the same hero shall find refuge with his womanly consort from the daily discomfort of association with a disagreeable but indispensably capable business woman in his private office? Such situations, too, have been and are and will be. "Mary Westmoreland," then, is one more variation on this theme connu, an elaborate variation, very readable in parts, but decidedly forced in others. It is in its character drawing that the story is most uneven. The heroine's parasitic mother, for instance, is very indistinctly drawn; on the other hand, the figure of the invalid British poet, heir to a peerage, is appealingly whimsical, and the Western family are delightful people. There are, also, some well conceived and well written episodes, the best of them being that of Mary's renunciation for the sake of a child. Of course, the author fittingly rewards her for this in the end.

GOOD 'CHASES ON THE CARD TO-DAY

United Hunts Racing Association Meeting at Belmont Terminal.

Racegoers, especially those with a partiality for the steeplechases, will have another taste of the sport this afternoon. For the card of six regular races and one special one arranged for the first day of the spring meeting of the United Hunts Racing Association at Belmont Park Terminal is particularly strong in the fixtures for jumpers.

Interest will centre in the running of the Greentree Steeplechase Handicap for hunters at about two and a half miles over the brush course and the Queens Open Steeplechase Handicap for four-year-olds and upward at about two miles. Fourteen good ones have been named for the latter fixture. Meeting House, now carrying the silks of the Greentree Stable, probably will make his first start through the field in this, although Mrs. Payne Whitney has entered Cabaret, Royal Amber and Unmask, three other good ones, but new to these parts.

In the Greentree Steeplechase most of the old familiar hunt club performers have been named, and A. J. A. Devereux's Conqueror should have a harder time of it in this than on last Saturday.

The other 'chase, the Turf and Field Hurdle Plate, is for three-year-olds and up at about a mile and a half over the sticks. August Belmont's Mission will carry top weights in this.

The entries have filled nicely for the three races on the flat, and they should furnish as keen sport as the 'chases. The Hillside High Weight Handicap for three-year-olds and up, at five furlongs, has attracted a baker's dozen with Philip Stevenson's Ambrose in the post of honor, with 165 pounds.

Then there is the Hollis Plate for three-year-olds and up at seven furlongs, and the La Montagne Memorial Plate for hack, hunters and army horses at about a mile and a quarter, with smaller but just as classy fields.

PUBLIC UTILITY NOTES

General News and Earnings of Various Corporations.

Earnings of the Sierra Pacific Electric Company and its subsidiaries continue to show a marked falling off, owing to the present unsatisfactory condition of business—principally the mining industry—in the territory served by the company. The company reports that collections in general are unsatisfactory and the unpaid portion of all bills which has not been taken into earnings is now being carried as "accounts receivable—special," this figure as of March 31, 1915, amounting to $64,811. Gross income for March amounted to $36,324, a decrease of $18,102 from the same month in 1914; operating expenses and taxes were reduced by $6,657 and net income decreased $11,445, to $19,769. The surplus balance for reserves, replacements and dividends after interest charges, etc., was $12,517, a loss of $11,525. In the twelve months ended March 31 gross income of $544,044 showed a reduction of $106,697 from the previous year, and net decreased $85,446, to $201,571.

New England Power.

Consolidated earnings of the New England Power Companies covering operation for the four months ended April 30 were more than 28 per cent higher in gross revenues, which amounted to $489,010, than in the preceding year. The net income after charges for operation and taxes was $280,912, an increase of more than 33 per cent, and the balance after interest requirements on outstanding bonds was increased $60,756, to $166,528. The surplus balance after other interest charges and preferred stock dividends was $52,021, compared with $9,471 in 1914.

C. Vanderbilt Rents Estate.

Cornelius Vanderbilt has leased through Clifford Van Schaick, Rainier, the Gelgate Hunt estate on Centre Island, Long Island, which was built as a summer rental for the season. It consists of 15 acres of land, with a mile of front on Long Island Sound and a landing on the Sagamore Hill Yacht Club. The estate has a deer park, extensive pool and a herd of selected imported cattle. Immediately adjoining it and occupying the other end of the island is the estate of Arnold H. Smith, of Smith & Smith, who has just completed a $1,000,000 dwelling.

INCORPORATED AT ALBANY

Albany, May 14.—Incorporations filed with the Secretary of State to-day:

American Products Refining Co., Watertown; manufacture, etc., $200,000; Wentworth H. Hoyt, Barkley's Harbor, N. S.; Charles Whipple, Watertown, and Charles D. Garman, Sackett's Harbor.

Flower Construction Co., Rochester; $100,000; John M. Flower, 1 Argyle st, Rochester; John F. Allen, Lake Ave., Rochester; Maurice Duffy, Stillwater, $500; Charles A. Wood, 115 East Lombard st., Baltimore; Oscar Wagner, Yonkers; James A. Aitchison, Brooklyn.

York Producing Corp., Manhattan; mfg. chemical products; Franz Hunter, Hotel Pittsburg, N. Y.; Hermann Lindauer, Philip Hauer, N. Y.

Hoover & Hedderman, Manhattan; mfg. lighting fixtures, $10,000; Christian Hoover, 207 West 74th st., N. Y.; Charles Heddenberger, Josephine E. Dolan, N. Y.

Globe Feature Picture Booking Office, Manhattan; motion pictures; Edward Dunbar, 175 Broadway, N. Y.; Robert W. Alexander, James E. Moore, N. Y.

Marcelle Studio Restaurant and Café Corp., Manhattan; $10,000; Marcelle Orlen, 119 West 47th st., N. Y.; Claude Bruce, Henry Hoke, N. Y.

Brown Electric Heating and Power Co., Manhattan; $100,000; John L. Brown, 115 Broadway, N. Y.; Lucian E. Emerson, Daniel H. Boston, N. Y.

Hersey & Co., Manhattan; mfg. agricultural implements, $10,000; W. R. Hersey, 432 4th av., N. Y.; Charles H. Ludlow, Jersey City, N. J.; Charles H. Ludlow, Jr., Jersey City, N. J.

Bernard Realty Co., Manhattan; $5,000; Bertha S. Clark, 197 West 4th st., N. Y.; Orell B. Clark, N. Y.; A. C. Wickers, Brooklyn.

E. H. Hayden, Manhattan; agents and brokers, insurance, $5,000; Edward H. Hayden, 62 William st., N. Y.; Charles Hayden, N. Y.; Marie E. Hayden, Brooklyn.

Wheeler Tower Publishing Co., Manhattan; publishing, $5,000; Joseph T. Pasquarello, 203 West 126th st., N. Y.; John T. Pasquarello, N. Y.; Salvatore Tower, N. Y.; W. H. Bordelon, N. Y.; Salvatore Tower, Yonkers.

Vergamore Cook Corp., Buffalo, contracting, $5,000; Belle M. Vergamore, 175 Rosewood st., Buffalo; William P. Vergamore, Hiram Cook, Buffalo.

Hirsch & Hart, Manhattan; furs and leather; $10,000; M. B. Hirsch, 23 Wall st., N. Y.; Abe Hirsch, Max Ach, N. Y.

Hogan-Ford Co., Manhattan; jewelry, coral, etc., $10,000; Gregory Hogan, 315 Broadway, N. Y.; Gustave Ladbury, Henri Pomerantz, N. Y.

Thomas & Co., Manhattan; mfg. jewelry, $10,000; Alfred Thomas, 1 Maiden la., N. Y.; Arthur Thomas, Brooklyn; Alfred Thomas, Jr., Brooklyn.

Whitmore M. Mead, Albany; Robert L. Kinsla, Troy.

M. Grady & Son, Manhattan; restaurants, etc., $5,000; Marie Grady, 1 Avenue A, N. Y.; Gussie Grady, 1 Avenue A, N. Y.

APPRAISALS OF ESTATES.

DR. LOUIS SCHAEFER, chemist (Nov. 24, 1913), net, $1,236,076. Under an agreement of separation made May 18, 1914, Mrs. Olga Schaefer receives the income of $10,000 a year. Francis Schaefer, brother, is given $30,000. Emilie Rau, sister, an annuity of $300; German Hospital and Dispensary, $1,000, and the residuary estate, $1,195,076, subject to the annuity, which is held for the benefit of Amalia Jenner, Bertha Schaefer Koenig, Helen Schaefer Kipper and Emilie Schaefer Rau, nieces, and Louis Schaefer, nephew, who are given shares and presumptive shares as living issue, in addition to his share in the residuary estate, and there were special legacies amounting to $4,500 to relatives. Amalia Horstmann, of Newark, N. J., receives $1,000 for life, remainder to Hoboken, $1,000 for same, Dr. Louis, personal effects and jewelry, $2,000; Theodore Schaefer, nephew, $1,000; Mrs. Theodore Schaefer, $1,000; Dr. Henry Schaefer, nephew, $1,000; Dr. Louis Schaefer, Jr., $1,000; Dr. Henry Schaefer, $1,000; Dr. Theodore Schaefer, $1,000; Dr. Louis Schaefer,