

NEWEST BOOKS SEEN THROUGH REVIEWS AND COMMENT

CRITICAL REVIEWS OF THE SEASON'S LATEST BOOKS

Realism, Melodrama, Sentiment and Poetical Phrases Seen in Some of the New Fiction.

Interesting Account of First Barge to Cross the Ocean—Adventures of Wild Animal Photography.

Jan Vermeer Described to the Generality—Books on Theology, Philosophy and Other Subjects.

In "Fascination" (John Lane Company) Cecil Champain Lewis has turned out an honest bit of realism; not the kind that is manufactured by showing only the disagreeable or disgusting side of things, but a photograph of commonplace people and everyday happenings. His narrator is a minor official in an out of the way place in Burma, whose tribulations are caused by the intrusion of an English party on his solitary life.

his neighbors and regarded as half-witted, prepares for the coming of the Christ child and is helped out in his idea by various accidents that lead to his freedom to death in a barn. The author of "Governor Jones" (M. S. Boyce, Niverline, N. Y.), Frank M. Boyce, Jr., seems to have decided views on the settlement of labor disputes, on unions and "scabs," and on woman suffrage. His heroine shows great decision in her marital relations, but beyond for office the author does not disclose any contribution she makes for the improvement of humanity. The method of succession which lands her in office in the ideal commonwealth is more original than practical.

Crowninshield's "Cleopatra's Barge." The distinction of producing the first American yacht, as well as the first yacht to cross the ocean, is claimed for Salem by Francis Boardman Crowninshield, who has prepared a careful account of the latter vessel and its voyage in "The Story of George Crown-

inshield's "Cleopatra's Barge." This is a satisfactory sketch, for there is practical agreement as to what it was that the old philosophers before Kant thought, for they did most of the real thinking. With the second volume the author has to deal with the moderns, and, as it is hard to distinguish between many of these without coming into details, a brief summary leaves something to be desired.

Jan Vermeer. Fashions in art change rapidly, so that it is often difficult for a public willing to admire what it should keep abreast of the critics who decide. After a period of neglect following on many years of perhaps excessive praise, the Dutch and Flemish painters seem to be coming into favor again, not in a body, of course, but singly as one authoritative critic after another picks out his precious jewel from the wreckage.

Other Books. With the second portion of his journey round the world, which George Hamlin Pitts of the "The Critic in the Occident" (Paul Elder and Company, San Francisco), he enters on regions often visited by other travelers. Passing through the Red Sea and the Suez Canal, he gives his impressions of Greece and Athens, of Naples, Pompeii, Rome, Florence and Venice, of Monte Carlo and Paris, of London and New York. It is interesting to note what was the effect of these places on Mr. Pitts, more than the other that of New York; he feels in duty bound, however, to describe many of the attractions they contain to his Californian readers, a labor that might have been left to the guide books. The illustrations are very good, that is, entertaining, and characteristic in Edward Hungerford's sketches, even if they are not complete or thorough enough to warrant the title "The Personality of American Cities" (McBride, Nast and Company, New York). The author charts pleasantly about whatever aspect of the city in question happens to occur to his mind and stops when he chooses to, whether he has made his point or not. If anecdotes suit his purpose he does not let antiquity stand in his way. The cities are arranged geographically beginning with Boston and ending with San Francisco, the three Canadian capitals being thrown in for good measure. Most cities are first ranked as to their location, then there are marked omissions for which the author apologizes. Descriptions of common occurrences in country life, bits about plants, animals, much about nature with the touches of sentiment and philosophizing which the present fashion calls for, will be found in Helen R. Albee's "A Kingdom of the Mind" (Macmillan), a book that the future lover should enjoy.

"A BLESSED COMPANION IS A FITLY CHOSEN BOOK"

Are a substantial world, both pure and good. Round there, with tenders strong as flesh and blood. Our pasture and our happiness will grow. WORDSWORTH. A blessed companion is a book—a book that fitsly chosen is a lifelong friend. DOROTHY WORDSWORTH TO COLERIDGE. A good book is the precious lifeblood of a master spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond a life. MILTON. Yes, do you send me a book. Not a bargain book bought from a haberdasher, but a beautiful book, a book to cherish, peculiar, distinctive, individual, a book that has first caught your eye and then pleased your fancy, written by an author with a tender skin, all right of his heart. When you have found it, give it to me, and when the gathering dusk darks the page will sit with hearts too full for speech and think it over. DOROTHY WORDSWORTH TO COLERIDGE. Give me a book. And a book. And a book. Of a distant city to make me. Enjoy my riches. OLD GREEK PROVERB. To give a book to enrich the receiver permanently; to put into his or her possession something which leaves a residuum of pleasure long after the particular day on which it was received has been forgotten. HAMILTON W. MADIE. A little library, growing larger every year, is on honorable part of a man's history. It is a man's duty to have books. A library is not a luxury, but one of the necessities of life. HENRY WARD BEECHER. Novels are secrets. All people with healthy literary appetites love them, almost all women: a vast number of clear, hard headed men, judges, bishops, clergymen, mathematicians, are notorious novel readers, as well as young boys and sweet girls, and their kind, tender mothers. WILLIAM MAKEPEACE THAKRAY. Books are not made for furniture, but there is nothing else that so beautifully furnishes a house. Give us a house furnished with books rather than furniture. HENRY WARD BEECHER.

inshield's Yacht "Cleopatra's Barge" (privately printed by D. B. Uppike at the Merrymount Press, Boston). The first part is Mr. Crowninshield's own work and the reader will wish it much longer. He gives a vivid picture of old time Salem, a capital portrait of the eccentric shipmaster who determined to gratify his own whim regardless of expense and a full description of the building of the ship and of its furnishings. He quotes extracts from family correspondence that make us ask for more. The main part of the book is taken up with the voyage, which was taken in 1818 and 1817; for this the author has had the log and the journals of the ship to draw from and the much more voluminous journal of a cantankerous cousin whom the owner took along. He has limited to brief explanations incidents that connect the separate items. The idea of a cruise for pleasure alone did not satisfy practical people; they sought for some hidden motive, such as the rescue of Napoleon. The ship visited the Azores, Madeira and various parts in the Mediterranean; Crowninshield took a trip to Rome and saw a good deal of the Bonapartists there, Pauline and Cardinal Fesch. In conclusion the author again becomes the narrator and tells of the death of George Crowninshield and the ultimate fate of his ship, which was sold to Kamehameha I and wrecked in the Pacific. He adds an account of the record as a privateer of the first American yacht, the Jefferson. The volume is a beautiful specimen of book making; it is illustrated with contemporary pictures, plans and facsimiles. It may be had in New York from Charles Scribner's Sons.

Well known as is the photographic art of A. A. Radcliffe-Dugmore and the surprising flash with which he has made wild animals reveal their secrets to the camera, and splendid as are the many large photographs with which he adorns "The Romance of the Newfoundland Caribou" (William Heinemann; J. B. Lippincott Company), to sportsman and to general reader alike the chief attraction of the handsome large quarto volume must lie in the remarkable and spirited story told in the text. The author begins with a description of the caribou, its life and habits, based on the observations of many seasons in Newfoundland. He next tells of his intrusion with the camera into the caribou's domestic life; of the flight he saw between stages of the trouble he had in circumventing a white doe who took it on herself to act as chaperon of the herd when he was watching the mating; of the fickle stags who seemed willing to swap families; of the migration of the caribou; here the recollection of particular sights and incidents prevails over the generalization and the reader can share in Mr. Dugmore's hunt. He is not a mere naturalist, however; he heeds the sportsman's cry for information and tells him not only about the game but about what he will need in camping. He appends the game

be utilized as a holiday gift book, but hardly to be ranked as a monograph that exhausts the subject or adds much that is new to the knowledge of art.

Compact Theology and Philosophy.

The more elaborate volumes of the "International Theological Library" planned by the late Dr. Charles A. Briggs and Dr. Stewart D. F. Salmund of Aberdeen have as a rule been admirable demonstrations of the ability of modern scholars to explain clearly and concisely the outcome of recent research in their special fields of science. The first volume of "History of Religions" (Charles Scribner's Sons), by Prof. George Foot Moore, D. D., LL. D., of Harvard University, is a case in point. The author has condensed into a volume of moderate size all that the average man, or even the specialist from the pulpit, needs to know about the great religions of the world that are not bound up in Christianity, and has summarized the religions of China and Japan, of Egypt, Babylonia and Assyria, of India, of Persia and of Greece and Rome so lucidly that the lay reader can comprehend them easily. In another volume he intends to describe in a similar manner Judaism, Christianity and Mohammedanism. He deals only with the beliefs of civilized nations, leaving primitive religions to the anthropologists. Of the shorter and more elementary books comprised in the "Studies in Theology" series (Charles Scribner's Sons), Dr. Alfred Ernest Garvie's "A Handbook of Christian Apologetics" is extremely well done and may serve either as a text book or as an outline for further study. The "Ideals of H. Wheeler Robinson in 'The History of Ideas of the Old Testament'" was most difficult in view of the differences in opinion as to the significance of the higher criticism, but it has been carried out satisfactorily and with great fairness. In "Matter and Some of its Dimensions" (Harper's), published as a volume of the "Harper's Library of Living Thought," William Kearney Carr after asserting that there is no antagonism between religion and modern science, evolves from some recent scientific hypothesis a system of the universe of his own, ingeniously transferring to the fourth dimension whatever is puzzling.

A handy little two volume, "History of Psychology" has been written by Prof. James Mark Baldwin, once of Princeton, for the "History of the Sciences" series published by G. P. Putnam's Sons. The first volume, brief as

THE CHALLENGE By Prof. DOWDEN. 'Tis better alter; calm the seasons' mood: Yet come, one bout; I throw my gage. And dare you can never prove That I am not as bright as age. From "A Woman's Reliquary."

it is, is a satisfactory sketch, for there is practical agreement as to what it was that the old philosophers before Kant thought, for they did most of the real thinking. With the second volume the author has to deal with the moderns, and, as it is hard to distinguish between many of these without coming into details, a brief summary leaves something to be desired. The scheme of the "Short Course" series edited by the Rev. John Adams (Charles Scribner's Sons) seems to be to provide brief expositions and exhortations by well known clergymen on selected themes from the Scriptures. Thus Dr. Charles A. Aked preaches on "The Divine Drama," Dr. Adam C. Welch of Edinburgh on "The Story of Joseph," Canon John Vaughan in "A Mirror of the Soul" on the Psalter and Dr. David James Burrell on John xiii. xvii. under the title "In the Upper Room."

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An account of the campaign against intoxicating beverages which is being carried on in various portions of Europe now is given by Ernest Gordon in "The Anti-Alcohol Movement in Europe" (Fleming H. Revell Company), with much vehement abuse of the evils of drunkenness and a formidable array of statistics. The movement in Scandinavia and Germany, and some phases of it in the Latin countries, is interesting, wholly apart from the evils it hopes to do away with, because it is founded on reasons different from those that have inspired such movements in America and England. If the author had been so much in earnest he might have seen more humor in the story he tells of Prof. Hugo Muensterberg's expatriating in America on the civilizing effects of drinking beer and wine while his two brothers in Berlin were explaining what harm they did.

An exercise book in condensation has been prepared by M. E. Whitcomb (Grove and Company), the object being to prepare the pupil for examinations. Some fifty pieces are provided, narratives, transcripts of evidence, correspondence, reports of which abstracts must be made within a fixed, small number of words for each form of material, but whatever direction the pupil can obtain must come from direct instruction and the corrections on his papers. That well known guide book to a favorite winter resort, "Beautiful Bermuda" by Euphemia Young Bell, comes to us in a fifth, revised and enlarged edition, with a good map and many illustrations from the Bermuda Tourist and Advertising Bureau. A sixth edition of the "Electrical Blue Book" with the National Electrical Code and other useful information appended to its classified lists of advertisements, is sent to us by the Electrical Review Publishing Company, Chicago.

LATEST BOOKS FROM THE VARIOUS HOUSES

W. E. Chamberlain's well known Boston architect, was the author of an excellent little volume of charades which is published by G. P. Putnam's Sons. When he became an invalid he wrote the charades for his own amusement and that of his friends and after his death they were privately printed for the benefit of his family. There arose such a demand for them that they have been placed on the market in the regular way. There are sixteen charades, each written in good verse, and each with a key explaining the answer. The book sells for \$1. New books issued by John Lane Company include: "Belie Memories and Other Poems," a volume of original verse by an Irishman, Charles Deane; "The Lonely Dancer," by Richard Le Gallienne, and "The Knave of Hearts," a collection of the poetical works of Arthur Symonds from 1894-1908. Walter Chapman's "The Face of Politics," published by Mitchell Kennerly, has gone into a second edition and is to be published in London next month. "Textiles," a handbook for the student and the consumer, issued by the Macmillan Company, has been compiled by Mary Schenk Woolman, D. S., and Ellen Beers McGowan, instructors in Teachers College. It contains information designed for the modern teacher of the art of household arts, home economics and textile industries getting special attention. Two of the season's biographies now in their third printing are "The Memoirs of Le Hung Chang" and "Letters and Recollections of Alexander Assis," both published by Houghton Mifflin Company. New impressions announced by Houghton Mifflin Company are interesting in the variety of subjects represented. Three books published within the last few weeks and now in their second printing are "The Wolf of Guibon," Josephine Preston Peabody's new comedy, "Our Common Road," a collection of short, crisp essays by Agnes Edwards, and Milton C. Wray's latest auction book, "Auction Developments," "Mother Carey's Chickens," by Kate Douglas Wiggin, is now in its third printing.

Harper & Bros. announce that they are putting to press this week for reprints the following books: "Pictures of Italy," by Mary King Courtney; "The Nervous System," by H. Spearman; "The Girl Proposition," "People You

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Across Unknown South America By A. HENRY SAVAGE-LANDOR. A 400-page book, profusely illustrated, for every seasoned traveler that recalls famous acts and actresses. Bored, \$2.50 net; postpaid \$2.70. The Romance of the American Theatre By MARY CAROLINE CRAWFORD. A distinguished travel book that depicts the Athens of today. Fully illustrated. Bored, \$2.50 net; postpaid \$2.70.

Athens, the Violet-Crowned By LILIAN WHITING. A distinguished travel book that depicts the Athens of today. Fully illustrated. Bored, \$2.50 net; postpaid \$2.70. A Line o' Cheer for Each Day o' the Year By JOHN KENDRICK BANGS. A delightful gift-book of original, optimistic verse for daily reading. \$1.25 net; by mail \$1.36.

LITTLE, BROWN & CO., Publishers, Boston. Unpopular Among the Non-Thinkers, a Best-Seller Among Men of Brains CROWDS By Gerald Stanley Lee. Richard Burton, Prof. of English, University of Minnesota, says: "Crowds" is about the most encouraging spectacle that has come to my notice for years. Here is a thing that I would more expect to be popular than I would Carlyle's Sartor Resartus, and by Gosh, it sells! It is proof positive that humans hunger for the higher.

The Best Books of the Year Selected From the List of G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS. Biography: Henry Labouchere. Life, by his Nephew, Alagar Labouchere Thorold. An American Prima Donna. Memoirs of Clara Louise Kellogg. Happy Women. By Myrtle Reed. Travel and Description: The Conquest of Mount McKinley. By Belmont Brown. The Old Boston Post Road. By Stephen Jenkins. To the River Plate and Back. By W. J. Holland. Miscellaneous: Joyous Gard. By A. C. Benson. Along the Road. By A. C. Benson. Threads of Grey and Gold. By Myrtle Reed. Magic: A Fantastic Comedy. By C. K. Chesterton.

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The Sun Book Exchange. Advertisements of second hand books for sale, exchange or wanted will be inserted in The Sun, Saturdays, at 25c a line (seven words to the line, fourteen lines to the inch).

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