LATE NEWS FROM THE WRITING AND PUBLISHING WORLD

VARIETY IN THE NEWEST FICTION--- BOOKS ON THE WAR

Downfall of an Actress as Seen by Her Boy.

Short Stories Evidently First Used in British Magazines—Views of Boer Frontier Life.

An Old Fashioned Indian Tale, and School Life Shown in Bright Stories.

The cheerful idea has struck Philip Gibbs to describe in "Beauty and Nick" (The Devin-Adair Company, New York) the moral downfall of an actress as seen by her child, a sensitive and imaginative little boy. He is aware of nothing but the breaking up of his home and the disappearance of the mother whom he continues to adore. He is brought up by his father, whom he blames for his harshness to the woman, and by a queer company of social derelicts and remains unchanged. He is very fond of a domineering little girl who sometimes shares his moods. When he grows up he studies art, still retaining his boyish innocence. He finds his mother again, who, whatever she may have been to start with, is now a shallow, selfish and malevolently vicious creature; for her sake he throws over his father and neglects his work. She tries to drag him into the sordidly corrupt life she leads herself, but his eyes are opened at last to her wickedness and at the same time the girl he loves finds that she cares more for his rich friend than for him. He goes back to his father and the two seek consolation in work. Repulsive though the latter portion of the story is, it is artistic, clever and very well written. The hero's extreme innocence is needed for the suffering the author schemes to inflict on him and also in order to intensify the iniquity of women.

No less than twenty-seven short stories are contained in John Ayscough's "Prodigals and Sons" (P. J. Kenedy and Sons, New York), and some of them are very short. They seem to be a somewhat haphazard collection of the author's contributions to British periodicals, for the themes they treat of are extremely varied. A few are Catholic in sentiment, a few satirize ritualistic practices, but most of them are plain magazine stories of good average quality. The mystery tales have usually capital and ingenious plots; it is a pity that the author could not command more space for them and should be obliged to condense them into little more than skeleton sketches.

A quaintly realistic description of Boer frontier life will be found in L. H. Brinkman's "The Breath of the Karroo" (Herbert Jenkins; Brentano's). The author takes great pains to explain Boer terms and customs; the story is held up for funerals, church meetings and the like and Boer ideas about the blacks and the English rule are made clear. Even the hero needs argument to make him concede that the Bushmen are human beings and not a variety of gorillas, and the author is in full sympathy with their extermination. The story tells of some of the hardships of frontier life; the people we have not found to be very interesting save a brilliantly vivid Jew trader, who is a likable rascal.

The portions of Crittenden Marriott's "The Ward of Tecumseh" (J. B. Lippincott Company) that are pure romance are entertaining and we could wish that the author had made more of that. The old fashioned tales of the Indian frontier can always be read with interest, even if the same materials and situations are used over and over again. Mr. Marriott has thought it necessary to bring in some historical matter, however, which he does not make equally interesting and which only clogs his story. His Tecumseh is not very satisfactory.

English society manners and English girls are decidedly peculiar if Margaret Peterson's "Blind Eyes" (Browne and Howell Company, New York) is to be trusted. The heroine is a wilful young woman who is allowed by her family to engage in a bachelor girl life in a manner more usual in America than in England. She manages to escape serious trouble more through luck than any strength of character. Her companion deliberately selects a career of vice. Even the militant suffragettes show more sense than these aspirants for independence. There are passages of crude and wholly uncalled for indecency in the book which the author probably mistakes for strength.

In "Father Ralph" (Mitchell Kennerley) Gerald O'Donovan writes a bitter indictment of the Catholic priesthood in Ireland. The hero is trained from childhood by a bigoted mother, aided by an equally bigoted nurse, to be a priest. He sincerely wishes to do his duty, undeterred by many things of which he disapproves while he is studying. After his ordination he finds himself thwarted at every step by the hierarchy and corrupt priests, who are made responsible by the author for much of the misery in Ireland. By their intrigues he is driven out of the priesthood after being stripped of his inheritance and given up by his mother.

Half a dozen bright stories turning on school life will be found in C. W. Bardeen's "The Girl from Girton" (C. W. Bardeen, Syracuse). The title story is humorous and far from pedagogical, and others are good enough to make the reader wish that the author would occasionally forget the schoolroom and tell more about the characters he creates.

The story of two street boys who are adopted by kind people and made into respectable citizens is told by Anna C. Browne in "The Prophet's Wife" (Benziger Brothers, New York). A just and kind judge trusts to his wife's goodness to counteract the influence of heredity in the case of one boy. The author invests him with so much mystery as to obscure the whole story and especially whatever moral is to be drawn from it. The concealment of an unpleasant fact seems more excusable than allowing youthful arrogance to grow unchecked.

That it should take two authors to work up sentiment for France in a short story may seem strange to readers of Perley Poore Sheehan and Robert H. Davis's "We Are French" (George H. Doran Company). One old soldier is remarkably obstinate and the other carries off a well meant fraud, but neither the sentiment nor the curious idiom in which the story is told is French. The old lady dragged in at the end is wholly superfluous.

BOOKS ON THE WAR.

A real service is done to people who are trying to get at the truth about the war in Europe by the publication at the present time of the full text of Gen. Friedrich von Bernhardi's "On War of To-day" (Dodd, Mead and Company), in the translation of Lieut. Karl von Donat. This puts before the reader what the author really said three years before this outbreak, just as he said it and not torn away from the context. It will be seen from it that opinions and expressions attributed to von Bernhardi in current literature misrepresent him and should be modified and that where he touches on politics he is far more sane and reasonable than partisans would have him. The book itself is an exposition by a trained expert of the science of modern warfare as he understands it, and is put in such a form that any intelligent reader can comprehend it. Every fair minded man will prefer to read what the author wrote calmly and deliberately to the abridged extracts taken to suit the convenience of advocates of one side or the other.

The correspondents who happened to be in Belgium at the start were the only ones who had the opportunity of seeing and reporting anything of importance before the censorship shut down on them. In "Fighting in Flanders" (Charles Scribner's Sons) E. Alexander Powell relates his experiences. He was on hand when Brussels was taken and saw the retreat to Antwerp and the capture of that city. He has much to say of what happened to himself in person and to other newspaper men, which gives vividness to his story. The book is illustrated with fine photographs.

The experiences of Elbert Francis Baldwin, who writes "The World War," (Macmillans) were far more peaceable and commonplace. He was at Nauheim when trouble began and made his way home gradually through Holland and England, writing weekly letters in which he described the reasons for what happened and the conditions of the countries. For Germany and England he was able to note sentiments of the moment. His own feelings seem to change somewhat with his surroundings and as he is about to land he kindly suggests how America should look on the war.

A collection of material, which may be made much more complete and valuable in a later edition, has been prepared by M. P. Price in "The Diplomatic History of the War" (Charles Scribner's Sons). This contains a brief historical introduction, then a diary of events and negotiations up to August 5; these are followed by translations of the German Denkschrift, the Russian Orange Book, extracts from the Austrian White Paper, the Belgian Gray Book, the texts of all the treaties that are applicable, and an assortment of official documents, speeches and so forth. Bound in with the volume, but forming no part of it, is a copy of the British White Paper. The volume will prove very convenient to those studying the beginnings of the war; it comes out too soon to contain all the diplomatic material.

The title "Britain's Case Against Germany" (Longmans, Green and Company) by Ramsay Muir explains itself. The author is an English university professor, who like his fellow professors on both sides of the Atlantic, has become very much excited, and has seized the opportunity to leap over the barriers of professional reticence. He draws up an intemperate indictment of Germany, present and past, making the most of her misdeeds and giving no hint of possible provocation on the part of Great Britain. It is a characteristic British product excusable through the patriotic fervor of the moment, on the same level as the outbursts of the German intellectuals and their adherents in American universities.

OLIVE T DARGAN AUTHOR OF "THE PATH-FLOWER" (SCRIBNERS)

CONRAD AIKEN AUTHOR OF "EARTH TRIUMPHANT" (MACMILLAN)

RICHARD HARDING DAVIS AUTHOR OF "WITH THE ALLIES" (SCRIBNERS)

HORTICULTURE.

The information supplied by George C. Thomas, Jr., in "The Practical Book of Outdoor Rose Growing" (J. B. Lippincott Company) is clear, concise and to the point; it should enable any one who grows roses to know what to do in any emergency and will also help those eager to develop new species. The lists, by their methodical arrangement, show the complete history and description of each rose in a single line; to this the author adds very pertinently his own experience as to how it grows in this climate. The main charm of the volume, however, is in the beautiful, full page pictures of roses, taken directly in color by a photographic process; there are nearly a hundred of these. All the flowers are so beautiful that we can only again regret the prosaic custom of rose fanciers to attach the names of persons to the new roses they develop. Why inflict on roses appellations like Frau Karl Druschki or Jonkheer J. L. Mock or Aviateur Bleriot or Gartendirektor Harrath or Mrs. Arthur E. E. Coxheade whatever merits these worthy persons may have had in developing them? It is hardly a question of fragrance or of beauty, but of checking an absurd practice.

Farming is approached wholly from the biological side by John M. Coulter, Ph. D., in "The Fundamentals of Plant Breeding" (Appletons), an admirable example of how science should be popularized. The author explains the main principles of evolution, such as variation, natural selection, mutation, Mendel's law and so on; he tells of the present state of research in matters like reproduction, hybridization, resistance to drought and diseases; he describes what is being done in forestry and the search for new plants by the United States Government and others. He supplies the thoughtful farmer who wishes to understand modern methods with just the kind of information that will help him to know why the new processes succeed.

About half of J. J. Levison's small volume, "Studies of Trees" (John Wiley and Sons, New York), is given up to telling how the more common trees may be recognized. The other chapters deal with raising trees, with caring for them and with the tasks of forestry. The information is put clearly and the book will be useful to all who are interested in trees, notwithstanding the text book form the author has adopted.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL.

Several thorough studies by specialists in out of the way lines of research, studies of high importance to the few though well nigh unintelligible to the many, are at hand in sumptuous editions. Charles R. Morey reports in "East Christian Paintings in the Freer Collection" (Macmillans) on certain mediæval miniatures that Mr. Freer has gathered. Two are from a manuscript of St. John Climacus, eight from a Gospel manuscript, the others are the painted covers of the Washington manuscript of the Gospels. The author describes the manuscripts and the pictures with great minuteness; he gives his reasons for the dates and the origins he assigns to them. They are all reproduced beautifully, and many other pictures that may help to understand them are introduced. The book is an excellent example of modern research processes. The miniatures are interesting, though it may call for a trained taste to appreciate their beauty.

A further volume on the paintings on Greek white jars has been compiled by Arthur Fairbanks in "Athenian Lekythoi With Outline Drawing in Matt Color on a White Ground" (Macmillans). They are arranged according to the classification the author has devised and are all fully described and the compositions are explained. The pictures are placed at the end, a necessary arrangement which is not very convenient. This essay and Mr. Morey's form part of the "Humanistic" series of the University of Michigan "Studies."

From the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania come another three volumes of Babylonian investigations. These contain the results of the examination of a batch of tablets by Dr. Arno Poebel and are called, Vol. V., "Historical and Grammatical Texts," this contains only photographs and transliterations of the inscriptions; Vol. IV., "Historical Texts" and Vol. VI. "Grammatical Texts," the translations and comments on the contents of Vol. IV. Among the finds are fragments of a new creation and deluge story, lists of kings, inscriptions of kings of Agade and some short chronicles. Dr. Poebel also writes articles on the personal pronoun, the verb and noun governed complexes in Sumerian. Little by little we are solving the Babylonian riddles.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION.

A very complete study of a defect which in one form or another is extremely common has been made by C. S. Bluemel in the two volumes of "Stammering and Cognate Defects of Speech" (G. E. Stechert and Company, New York). In the first volume he deals with the causes of stammering, which he calls the psychology, though he has fully as much to say about the physiology, as is inevitable nowadays. He is careful to explain both the psychological and physiological facts from the very beginning, not disdaining to impart elementary knowledge, so that the layman will be able to understand him without referring to other books. In the second volume he treats of modern cures, including all the methods he has heard of, good or bad, that are now employed, but as the successive steps in handling the infirmity are arranged systematically the student is enabled to learn what science can do for stammering and of many empirics that should be shunned.

Full directions are supplied to the neophyte in "The Practical Book of Period Furniture," by Harold Donaldson Eberlein and Abbot McClure (J. B. Lippincott Company), to enable him to classify and distinguish antique furniture. The book begins with Jacobean furniture; it includes some popular French styles, but has to do chiefly with English makers and English and American work. It is profusely illustrated and will enable the reader to become familiar with the characteristics of each period and the points he must look for in the hunt for genuine antiques.

In "Artificial Waterways of the World" (Macmillans) A. Barton Hepburn touches on the canals of the world and a little more fully on those of the United States, but devotes himself chiefly to those of the State of New York, with their connections. He also studies the relations of the railroads to the waterways and provides plenty of statistics. It is an illuminating little book.

A thorough study of the various State and Federal laws relating to the public ownership of land has been made by Flavel Shurtleff in collaboration with Frederick Law Olmsted in "Carrying Out the City Plan" (Survey Associates, New York). It deals with the power to acquire land, with the restrictions on the use of land and with the ways of distributing the cost of acquisition. The treatise was drawn up for the guidance of improvement boards and landscape architects so that they might know what a municipality can and cannot do with regard to land.

The pageant, like the dance, has now become a fad in educational and civic circles and it seems fitting that persons who have made a business of promoting and organizing the practice should make known the elements of their trade. In "American Pageantry," by Ralph Davol (Davol Publishing Company, Taunton, Mass.), we find enthusiastic laudation of this form of public theatricals, which is ranked as one of the fine arts. It is treated from the points of view of philosophy, of æsthetics, of education, of patriotism, of sociology and of morals; it is also dealt with from the practical side in the suggestions for organization, for costumes, for scenarios, and so forth. The book is illustrated liberally from photographs and should be consulted by all pageant promoters.

The ground principles involved in the mechanism of a vehicle which few besides the possessor regard with favor are explained very clearly and simply by Roger B. Whitman in "Motorcycle Principles and the Light Car" (Appletons). Though the author takes the motor engine to demonstrate with, his explanations are easily applicable to automobiles as well, and his book will be a great help to all amateur mechanicians who really want to understand what they are handling and what to do when things go wrong.

OTHER BOOKS.

When Dr. William T. Hornaday lectured before the Yale forestry school on "Wild Life Conservation in Theory and Practice," lectures which the Yale University Press publishes, both lecturer and audience were sure to be enthusiastic on the matter of conservation and sarcastic against the public which is deaf to their entreaties or is actually opposing them in deed. The preservers have a hard fight to wage against heedlessness and selfishness, and a certain amount of intemperance in statements of fact and in prophecies of calamity is excusable. Dr. Hornaday is always interesting; we can sympathize with him in lamenting the extinction of many species of animals, though some we cannot deplore, and can understand how the naturalist may look on some animals with other eyes than the farmer or the hunter. Dr. Hornaday is perfectly fair, he tells also about the instances where conservation has gone wrong, about the rabbit in Australia and the English sparrow and more annoying starling here; he warns us against the mongoose as the coming peril.

Only the expert with plenty of time on his hands and full confidence in his reason can judge of the meaning or importance of Theodore Andrea Cook's "The Curves of Life" (Henry Holt and Company), in which he seems to base art and biology on the spiral lines in shellfish. We are assured that it is a "desperate feat in thinking" and are willing to believe it. We can only compare it to the treatises based on measurements in the Pyramids. The book is illustrated with over 400 pictures.

There is much about pain and much about childbirth, with a brief general account of the subject itself, in "Twilight Sleep," by Henry Smith Williams, M. D., LL. D. (Harpers). The author, like the practitioners, seems disinclined to regard it as a new form of anæsthetic.

A summary of events relating to negroes that have occurred during the year, together with many articles which practically relate the history of the negro in the United States, besides valuable statistical tables, will be found in the "Negro Year Book," edited by Monroe N. Work (The Negro Year Book Publishing Company, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama).

Rather a melancholy interest attaches to the "Year Book of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace" (Washington, D. C.), which deals with the activities of the Institute up to the end of June, 1913. The volume contains the deed of gift, the rules and the reports of the directors of the several departments. With it comes a pamphlet containing the report of Secretary of State John W. Foster to President Harrison on "Limitation of Armament on the Great Lakes" (The Endowment, Washington).

The British taste in Christmas cards, at least as manifested by royalty, turns to artistic reproductions of historical pictures. From Raphael Tuck and Sons, London, we have received the cards selected this year by King George, Queen Mary, Queen Alexandra and the Prince of Wales as well as one they have devised as the nation's Christmas card. All are beautiful specimens of lithographic art, but none has the least application to Christmas or to the present condition of affairs.

THE SHIP.

By JOHN MASEFIELD.

I MARCH across great waters like a queen,
I whom so many wisdoms helped to make,
Over the uncruddled billows of seas green
I blanch the bubbled highway of my wake.
By me my wandering tenants clasp the hands
And know the thoughts of men in other lands.

—From Harper's Magazine.

A FACE AT CHRISTMAS

By DANA BURNET.

A WHITE face at the glowing window pane—
A face of Failure, weary and ill scarred;
Nor can the merry holly shut it out,
Nor the bright Tree, flame dressed and candle starred.

Eyes at our window, hearts! Nor all the light
Of all our wicks can touch them into gleam;
Deep in their dusk a soul with empty lamp
Kneels at the crumbled altar of a Dream.

How can I give the Gifts of cloth and gold?
How give but dross who might give paradise?
My brother's hurt, laid at my door, is mine—
Myself in judgment startles from his eyes.

Myself and more! Myself and all men's selves,
Bound in that look of his—that weary nod;
Though one bruised soul shall don the world's defeat,
*Yet all souls share it. * * * And the sharing's God!*

A white face at my threshold! Fling the door—
A house withholden is a house for sin!
*Call to the Tramp. * * * Yet hark, what voice replies?*
What light leaps up, what Shining Guest comes in?

—From Harper's Magazine.

ALICE HEGAN RICE AND HER BOOKS

In the early summer of 1901 a young lady called at the office of the Century Company to make the acquaintance of the publishers and editors, who had just accepted a modest manuscript. This is not an unusual occurrence in that office in Union Square, whose elevators have carried up so many famous writers; gone now, many of them, Mary Mapes Dodge, Frank Stockton, Dr. Holland, Noah Brooks, Edward Eggleston, Mark Twain—a long line. But this lady was not at that time in the ranks of famous authors, far from it; she was only a private citizen of Louisville, Ky., who had interested herself in work among the needy of that city, and out of her experiences had written a story which she called by the rather long and not easily understood title of "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch." Publishers in those days were inclined to refuse short books, but somebody in the Century Company's office had the theory that length was not essential, and that books put out at $1 instead of $1.50, the usual price of fiction at that time, might have a sale, and the manuscript itself, with its optimistic chief character, had made a hit with the Century's readers. So "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch" became the first of the dollar books of which a recent writer on the publishing fraternity has referred to as "the amazingly popular series, beginning with 'Mrs Wiggs' and running down through 'The Lady of the Decoration,' 'Uncle William' and others to 'Molly Make-Believe.'

But at the time of issue the publishers had no idea of the size of the nugget they had picked up. In September a modest edition of 2,000 copies was issued; in October 2,000 more were printed, twice in December it became necessary to print editions of 2,000 each to supply a little demand which had sprung up among people who felt that "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch" was just what they wanted to use for Christmas presents. Of course all of Mrs. Rice's friends in Louisville were using it for that purpose, but home friends don't reach very far. A surprising thing then happened; in January it became necessary to print an edition of 5,000—in January, mind you, just after Christmas, when the book market is not only asleep but actually inoribund. And in February another 10,000, and other ten thousands in March, April and June, and two in August, with one of 20,000, and from September to January 95,000 more were printed and sold. No book ever won its way more effectively than "Mrs. Wiggs." It was advertised and pushed, but it did not seem to need it. A copy sold two more.

And so the sale went on, spreading from city to city and from country to country, until Mrs. Rice had succeeded in sending a smile entirely around the world. It has been made into a very successful play which a number of companies have presented for years. That, too, has gone around the world, and Mrs. Rice herself saw it in India! Although the book is thirteen years old 1,395 copies were sold by the publishers in the month just closing as these lines are written. It has been printed fifty times in America, besides a great number of times in England.

When the author's next book appeared (and she was Mrs. Alice Hegan Rice then and no longer the Alice Caldwell Hegan of her first book), "Lovey Mary," in January, 1903, instead of a first edition of 2,000, as in the case of "Mrs Wiggs," more than 100,000 were needed to supply the demand in the first month of issue.

Then came "Sandy" and a book for boys and girls, "Captain June," which grew out of Mrs. Rice's Japanese experiences. While "Mrs. Wiggs" is the implied record of an experience, Mrs Rice's next book, "Mr. Opp," is a creation which would do credit to the great masters of fiction. The little Kentucky editor, always putting up a bold front, trying to boom his home town, playing tolls with his poor half witted little sister, is a character such as Charles Dickens would have delighted in, and Dickens himself could not have made him more true to life.

"The Honorable Percival" is Mrs. Rice's seventh book, and again the presses are working hard to turn out copies enough for the first edition.

WILLIAMSONS KEPT BY WAR FROM PICTURESQUE HOME

AFTER completing their latest novel, "A Soldier of the Legion," Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Williamson left their villa in the Riviera for England, Mrs. Williamson to make a flying trip to the United States and Mr. Williamson to attend to business in London. The war broke out while Mrs. Williamson was in this country, however, and although she returned to England without doing half the things in the United States that she had planned to do in a few short days, it was impossible for them to attempt to return to Cap Martin.

When asked how soon they expected to return home the other day in London Mrs. Williamson picked up a recent issue of the London *Book Monthly* and said: "I have no idea, and just looking at this article describing a visit to Cap Martin makes me truly homesick. This article was written shortly after we returned from Algeria, where we studied the Foreign Legion at close range for the new book. We were glad enough to get away last summer for a while, but now I wish we were back."

The article Mrs. Williamson refers to gives a charming description of their new home in the Riviera, which will no doubt interest readers of the Williamsons' swift moving novels.

"Yesterday I went to the Villa La Pausa at Cabbe-Roquebrune, near Cap Martin, the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Williamson, the novelists. I saw a long, low, green shuttered, pink villa, with a loggia and terraces, set like a pink blossom in a wild olive grove. A mountain promontory densely covered with dark pine trees, with olive trees, with lemon trees and with rosemary. Then, a few hundred yards distant, a pink bud, the miniature guest house, which hides a chapel from view. Also another and yet smaller pink bud in the other direction, the gardener's lodge.

"And now my snapshot of the surrounding panorama from La Pausa. To the left, Menton, with further along the coast line, the Italian Riviera; to the right Monte Carlo, Monaco, the French Riviera; forward, Cap Martin; rearward, Cabbe-Roquebrune and range on range of Alps. Thus La Pausa commands a sweep of more than three-fourths of a circle of glorious ocean, of deep blue Mediterranean. Ideal, it stands almost alone on its splendid throne, for when three years ago Mr. and Mrs. Williamson designed and had built their new home they were careful to procure from the various landed and peasant proprietaires a great many acres of ground. Henceforth their mountain home need never change its outward form; its peace and beauty need never be disturbed by the hand of man.

"Imagine an ideal home, the atmosphere one of comfort, or airiness, of light, of beauty. The rooms are just large enough, in shape just correct enough, everything within them blending harmony. Then imagine treasures and works of art collected from many travels; paintings, signed photographs, those books, and there are very many, one likes to have always at hand, flowers, plants, vases. The walls, carpets and curtains are all very plain, very simple, the chintzes of Eastern designs.

"Imagine, from wherever you may be, the vista of looking through glass doors into other bright and beautiful rooms, or into a picturesque and nicely romantic courtyard with a garden beyond, or on the loggia, with a garden beyond that also. Follow the loggia, expanding Italyward into a huge square shape and you come on divans and a slung hammock for reposing. In the latter Mrs. Williamson prefers to do her writing.

"Inside is the study, a rich, cosey book lined, busy looking room, containing many souvenirs and pictures of great men and of great pictures of great men and of great friends. It is here in this delightful sanctum that Mr. Williamson spends most of his studious hours.

"The spot is one sacred in legend, as I ascertained by asking, 'Why do you call your home La Pausa?'

"More than nine hundred years ago the village of Roquebrune was a very wicked place. So the Virgin Mary decided to visit it herself to see just how bad it might be. Disguised as a poor peasant, with the baby Jesus in her arms, she begged of all she met. But alas, one and all denied alms and words of cheer to her, and leaving Roquebrune village behind her she went down the path.

"There the Virgin came upon an aged peasant resting her weary body on a stone. By her side was her donkey saddled with its pack of twigs which she had been gathering in the mountain woods. At the approach of Mary the peasant arose and offered her seat on the stone, for the other peasant, as she thought, seemed to her so much more fatigued. You see, although Mary looked so much the younger, she carried the heavy burden of her sleeping Babe. The Virgin accepted the offer and reposed a while on the stone. Then suddenly both Mother and Son vanished, ascending to Heaven in a flash of flame.

"The villagers forthwith erected a cross and a small stone chapel on the spot where the miracle had taken place. It still stands, a lasting sign of their humble repentance and of their gratitude to the one virtuous villager who had prevented their entire future destruction. So the land round about came to be called 'La Pausa,' patois for 'repose'; and as that is the legend, so thus it was that Mr. and Mrs. Williamson came to christen their home, which stands on this land, by the name La Pausa.

"Mr. and Mrs. Williamson often tear themselves away from their enchanting home, though it must be hard to do. Very often it is in order to gather local color, atmosphere and a setting for a new novel. Quite recently they have been on a long visit to Algeria and at Side-Belahlis, where the First Regiment of the French Foreign Legion is quartered. Its commanding officer, Col. Le Breton, welcomed them cordially and kindly. Indeed from what Mr. and Mrs. Williamson told me I gathered that the great kindness which he extends to all will reap some harvest in their next novel, which is to be written around the famous and picturesque French Foreign Legion."

LATEST LITERATURE BEARING ON THE WAR

JAPAN and Turkey form the locale of the war books of most recent interest. According to the New York Library's complete bulletin of war books:

For information about the army and navy of Japan consult J. C. Balet's "Military Japan" and a book of which Alfred Stead was the editor called "Japan by the Japanese." About Turkey the reader may enjoy Marmaduke Pickthall's "With the Turk in War Time," B. G. Baker's "The Passing of the Turkish Empire in Europe" or Vahan Cardashian's "The Ottoman Empire of the Twentieth Century."

Two books about Belgium, both written before the war began, are "The Belgians at Home" by Clive Holland and "Belgium, Her Kings, Kingdom and People" by J. de C. MacDonnell. "The German Enigma" by Georges Bourdon also was written before the war. So was the third of Maurice Baring's works on Russia—"The Mainsprings of Russia." Another book, first published several years ago but of renewed importance today, is Houston Stewart Chamberlain's celebrated work, "The Foundations of the Nineteenth Century." F. H. Lynch is the author of "Through Europe on the Eve of War." The nations engaged are described in "The European War: the Powers" by R. Stromps-Quarlia, and in Charles Morris's "The Nations of Europe, the Causes and Issues of the Great War."

Some of the armies have been the subject of a series of little books which claim to speak from inside knowledge. Thus E. C. Vivian writes on "The British Army from Within"; "Ex-Trooper" on "The French Army from Within"; W. H. Steveni on "The Russian Army from Within," and "A British Officer Who Has Served in It" on "The German Army from Within." E. T. Henderson writes a book called "Germany's Fighting Machine"; "Ubique" is the author of "How Armies Fight," and A. S. Hurd writes "The Fleets at War."

J. M. Kennedy is the author of "How the War Began" and "The Campaign Round Liege." C. L. Barnard's "Paris War Days" is very readable. "The Great War," by F. H. Simonds, is a reprint of the editorial articles which have attracted favorable attention in the New York EVENING SUN. It covers the period from the murder of the Archduke to the fall of Antwerp. "On the Firing Line" is by A. St. John Adcock. The two "War Manuals" issued by the *World's Work* are well illustrated. Prof. A. B. Hart has written "The War in Europe," and James A. Kilpatrick has compiled an entertaining book called "Atkins at War, as Told in His Own Letters."

For the controversial literature the German side offers "The Truth About Germany," by the American Institute of Berlin; Prof. Muensterberg's "The War and America," and Edmund von Mach's "What Germany Wants." On the other side are: Douglas Sladen's "The Real Truth About Germany;" J. A. Cramb's "Germany and England," E. J. Dillon's "A Scrap of Paper," John C. Powy's "The War and Culture," Cloudesley Brereton's "Who Is Responsible?", F. W. Whitridge's "One American's Opinion of the War" and Arnold Bennett's "Liberty." The Oxford faculty of modern history has compiled "Why We Are at War," and the statement of the Belgian Commissioners is in "The Case of the Belgians." Emil Reich's "Germany's Madness" (published in England as "Germany's Swelled Head") first appeared a number of years ago.

EUROPEAN UNREST BRINGS FOREIGN AUTHORS TO U. S.

ONE notable effect of the European unrest upon our literary conditions has been the number of foreign authors who have visited or are contemplating visiting this country. Though the announced purposes of these writers may vary, to lecture, to "read" from their work, to perform "missionary" work, &c., the fundamental reason, of course, is that their local market being closed they must look elsewhere, at least temporarily. Even if it is not a market for their wares they are seeking among our magazines and our book publishers, lectures and "readings" serve to tide over, and the American public is about the only civilized one available.

Among the foreign writers who already have visited us are Jerome K. Jerome, James M. Barrie, A. E. N. Mason, Harold Begbie, Eugene Brieux, as well as many other well knowns.

Cecil Chesterton, who is the younger brother of G. K. Chesterton, the well known writer, is coming to America in January for a lecture tour. Mr. Chesterton is said to be one of the three most forceful speakers in England, the two others being Bernard Shaw and Hilaire Belloc. At present he is the editor of the *New Witness*, one of the most original weekly papers in London, which was founded by Hilaire Belloc, whom Mr. Chesterton succeeded as editor.

It was in the columns of the *New Witness* that Mr. Chesterton exposed the notorious Marconi scandals, and as the result of that exposure became the defendant in the famous Marconi case, in which he was sued by the present Lord Chief Justice of England, then Sir Rufus Isaacs, and other English politicians for libel. Mr. Chesterton is a close rival of his brother in wit and paradox. Robert Hugh Benson, the late novelist, once said that he considered Cecil Chesterton one of the four cleverest men in London, the three others being Gilbert Chesterton, Hilaire Belloc and Bernard Shaw. He will lecture on socialism, the European war, modern English politics and other subjects.

Another Englishman who is now announced to lecture is Barry Pain, the to lecture here shortly is Barry Pain, the famous English short story writer.

Barry Pain was "discovered" by Stevenson about 1892, when the young writer had only recently left Cambridge. Since that time there is hardly any side of London life he has not portrayed in his pages, humorous, grim and grave. Though he at times is not sparing in satire, in England his books circulate by the hundreds of thousands.

In this country, in addition to reading from his own works, he will lecture on "The Difficulties of a Story Writer."

Books Received.

"On the Cosmic Relations." 2 vols. Henry Holt. (Houghton Mifflin Company.)

"The Life of Lord Roberts, K. G., V. C." Sir George Forrest. (Frederick A. Stokes Company.)

"Aspects of Modern Drama." Frank Wadleigh Chandler. (Macmillans.)

"Brittany With Bergere." William M. E. Whitelock. (Richard G. Badger, Boston.)

"Transplanted Truths." Alvah Sabin Hobart, D. D. (The Griffith and Rowland Press, Philadelphia.)

"The Story of Wendell Phillips." Charles Edward Russell. (Charles H. Kerr and Company, Chicago.)

"The People's Prayer." George W. Coleman. (The Griffith and Rowland Press.)

"Dean: His Recollections." Willard A. Pash, M. D. (The American Humane Education Society, Boston.)

"World Stories Retold." William James Sly, Ph.D. (The Griffith and Rowland Press.)

"Beside the Blackwater." Norreys Jephson O'Conor. (John Lane Company.)

"Pieces of Eight." John Armstrong Chaloner. (Palmetto Press, Roanoke Rapids, N. C.)

"The Naked Truth of Jesuitism." Lyman F. George. (The George Book Publishing Company, Pittsburg, Pa.)

"The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company." (The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, New York.)

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