

Rare Books

Dealing in Them Is a Profitable Trade
Collecting Them Is a Fine Art
Possessing Them Is an Endless Pleasure

THE dealer in scarce and rare books is hard put to it these days to find stock that will meet his requirements. For some reason little is offered direct from owners or other sources of supply and only at rare intervals is the opportunity presented to buy collections of a desirable sort.

Many persons who have old books set so little store by them that the volumes are soon in an unmerchantable condition, and then are thrown out as waste. If the owner would call upon some one of the numerous dealers—or upon THE SUN—a ready market would probably be found.

REPLIES TO QUERIES—THE SUN will be glad to give to readers possessing old books, autograph letters, prints and other material information regarding present values as shown by auction records and quoted prices of dealers. Address THE SUN: Books and the Book World.

BOOKS FOR THE TROOPS IN FRANCE—There are few dealers who could not, and no doubt would, if asked, give a dozen or more books to be shipped to the boys in the trenches. English dealers are making very generous contributions to Tommy Atkins in this way. Send them fiction, especially detective stories; humor, good poetry and history.

ENGLISH PAPER COMMISSION—American dealers will be interested in learning that the English Paper Commission, by a recent ruling, confines catalogues of booksellers to a weight one-third less than that allowed last year, in order to conserve the paper supply. The dealers have made vigorous protest because the commission did not include the auction catalogues, many of which are quite large and heavy.

ADVERTISING—Will be accepted from dealers in rare and scarce books, &c., rates for which will be made known on application. THE SUN wishes to bring buyer and seller together.

CATALOGUES—THE SUN would like to receive the catalogues of all dealers, foreign and American. Auction catalogues are also desired.

LOCAL TRADE—Collectors of books are getting a habit of buying only when they are permitted to make the price. There is something abnormal in a trade when a buyer is permitted to say at what price a dealer shall sell him a book.

The buyer would certainly not enter one of the large department stores and after asking the price of an article offer the attendant a price much lower than that quoted.

Books are not different. Every dealer is entitled to and should receive a fair price.

On the other hand, the dealer should keep his stock in clean condition and orderly arrangement. Nothing disgusts a buyer more than to find himself covered with grime, especially after a long search has been in vain.

Classify your stock and have it arranged so as to be easily reached. An old store in a city between New York and Washington has books piled up on the floor in front of shelving so that it is almost impossible to read titles on the shelves.

Sales at the Anderson Galleries.

The sale by the Anderson Galleries of the large Shakespeare collection, consigned, it is said, by Pearson of London, was rather dis-

appointing when the rarity of many of the items is considered.

Perhaps no such collection is now in existence. It contained many of the source books from which the bard drew incidents as well as inspiration.

H. C. Folger and Henry E. Huntington added many of the great rarities to their well known libraries. The sale totalled \$28,000.

The Caplin collection, sold at Anderson's on the afternoons of Tuesday and Wednesday last, contained some excessively rare Americana, and it may be wondered why so fine a lot has been dispersed so soon after its acquisition.

In the salesroom were many prominent collectors and dealers, with the usual number of commission bidders, among them Mr. Ely, Mr. Kane, Mr. Harbeck, Mr. Harper, Mr. Dodd, George D. Smith, F. W. Morris, C. Everitt and H. Barton. The first important item, *Sharp Narrative of the Horrid Massacre in Boston, &c.*, went to George D. Smith for \$160. Mr. Smith also took the next item, the trial of certain men of the Twenty-ninth Regiment of Foot for the murder of Crispus Attucks and others, for \$112.50. Mr. Smith also got the broadside describing the sufferings of the inmates of the Jersey Prison Ship, \$90. Other prices were:

Dee's *Letters on the Opposition to the New Constitution in Virginia*, 1789, said to be the only perfect copy known, \$355; Major Robert Dunkin's *Military Collections and Remarks*, N.-Y., 1777, \$115; Drayton's *Letter from Freeman of South Carolina*, Charleston, S. C., 1774, \$205; Elmer's *Essay on the Late Francis Barber*, Chatham, N. J., 1783, \$163.

Mr. Morris took *The Conduct of Cadwallader Colden*, N. Y., 1767, \$180; Dunalop's tragedy, *Andre*, N. Y., 1798, \$50; Howe's *Journal Kept While He Was a British Spy*, Concord, N. H., 1827, \$82.50.

The total for the sale was \$13,203.50.

Sales of the Next Fortnight.

Coming sales are at Anderson's, February 26, 27, 28 and March 1, evenings, Mark P. Robinson Library, with additions, 563 lots. Contains much of American interest, historical and other. Twenty-two Eugene Field items, among them unpublished manuscripts, autograph letters containing bits of verse, and some books. Among other interesting items are manuscripts of George Gissing's *Demos* and George Meredith's *One of Our Conquerors*.

Anderson's, March 5, 6 and 7, afternoons, John D. Crimmins library. The major part of Mr. Crimmins's library goes to the Irish Historical Society. The offering consists of 674 items, largely composed of extra illustrated books, manuscripts and religious books in bindings.

In the same rooms, Friday, March 8, afternoon, will be sold association books and autograph letters from the library of George W. Smalley, New York correspondent of the *London Times*, 299 lots. There are forty-three letters of James Russell Lowell to Mr. Smalley of much literary and political interest, and a number of inscribed books.

Hairbreadth Escapes.

THE GIRL FROM KELLER'S—By Harold Bindloss. (Frederick A. Stokes Company.) \$1.40.

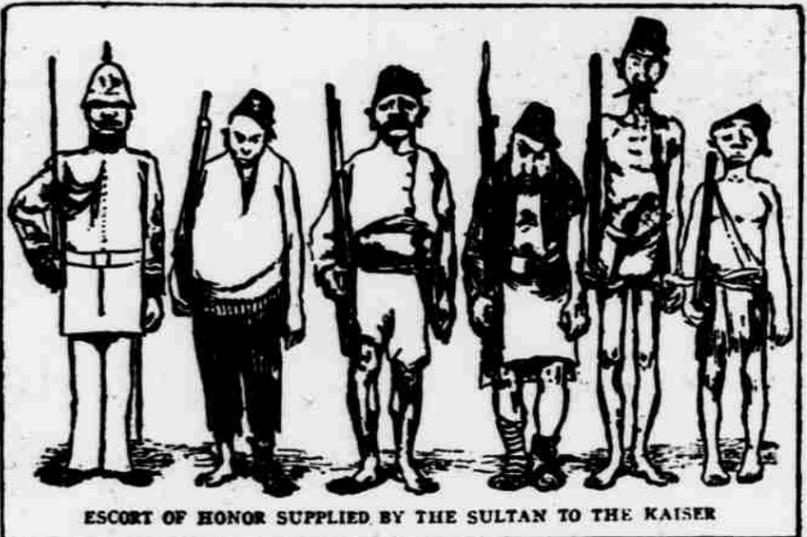
There is a certain type of book which is known as "a man's book," just as there are "boys' books," and Harold Bindloss writes that kind. Those men who in their younger days sat enthralled over the Alger and Rollo books have by the same token fallen under the spell of such books as his latest novel, *The Girl from Keller's*.

Here one makes pleasing acquaintance with the young city man who, trembling on the verge of failure in the Great Northwest, is reclaimed by the masterful woman of the plains who "spurs him to success in the world of hard knocks."

Readers who in their younger days have overlooked unlimited improbabilities will follow with undaunted credibility. Festing and Charnoek as they go their perilous ways, passing so closely to huge and tottering masses of logs as to tear buttons from their coats, but swerving in the nick of time, whirling swiftly through foaming gulleys from which they save each other and finally all but ending in an accident due to the cunning of their brutal enemy Wilkinson.

We do not wish to underrate the interest. There is no lack of action and the story reads easily and quickly. Nor is it men alone who delight in this author's books. Any one who doubts the grip they have on a large mass of readers will need only to ask for any Bindloss book in a public library and look once at its pages, thumbed by loving followers.

Touring With Kaiser Bill



ESCORT OF HONOR SUPPLIED BY THE SULTAN TO THE KAISER

With Smuts in Africa.

MARCHING ON TANGA: With Gen. Smuts in East Africa—By Francis Brett Young. (E. P. Dutton & Co.) \$1.50.

The world war has brought to few officers as great admiration as to Gen. Smuts for his brilliant work in East Africa. Capt. Francis Brett Young gives a vivid account of the Boer General's campaign in German East Africa in *Marching On Tanga*. To his General nothing was impossible.

The personality of one man dominated the whole African war because of the absolute confidence which the men had in the leadership of Gen. Smuts. His personal courage was partly responsible for this.

"I sometimes wonder," says Capt. Young, "what would happen if fortune had not carried him safely through the risks he faced daily; for though his divisional Generals and Brigadiers might well have carried out in detail the broad strategic movements with which he quartered that wide country, we should have lacked the enormous physical asset which his masterful courage gave us, and I think that we should have endured our deprivations and our sickness with a less happy confidence."

What Smuts Did.

In three months time from May, 1916, Smuts and his men had not only freed the Tanga line of a stubborn enemy but had swept through the heart of a savage and waterless country and struck again at the central railway, isolating the capital, Dar-es-Salaam. So great a military movement had probably never been executed before through the heart of tropical Africa.

The men who were engaged endured with a wonderful patience hardships unequalled in any other campaign. They sometimes lacked food and even water, and marched day after day without respite beneath a vertical sun, "ravaged by disease from which there was no escape in a country which even the natives of Africa had found to be incompatible with human life."

Shakespeare in New Dress.

THE YALE SHAKESPEARE—Much *Ado About Nothing*, *A Winter's Tale*, and *Othello*. (Yale University Press.) 50 cents each.

Three plays of the new Yale Shakespeare are at hand: *Much Ado About Nothing*, *A Winter's Tale* and *Othello*.

Much Ado is edited by Tucker Brooke. The neat black volume, with an attractive paper label, is a decided improvement upon the usual school or college edition of classics; indeed, it invites the reader to open and read—and enjoy. Only too often does the ugly format of a delightful classic seem to forbid the student to sport with Amaryllis in the shade, enjoying him only to scan the verses and look up the hard words.

Perhaps it was in pursuance of some enlightened policy on the part of the editors of the present edition that they relegated the notes, glossaries and so on to the end of the book. At least the reader will do well to follow the text as it appears, and read the notes afterward.

Mr. Brooke's notes are very brief, but to the point. He realizes that the scholar will refer not to his unassuming little volume but to the Variorum, and in consequence he has included only such fundamental information as sources, the history of the play, a list of collateral readings and an index of words glossed.

The *Winter's Tale* and *Othello*, edited respectively by Frederick E. Pierce and Lawrence Mason, are similarly arranged and edited.



A Sermon in the Desert

Nearly twenty years ago *Le Rive*, the French Punch, printed an imaginary diary of the Kaiser's trip to Constantinople and the Holy Land. The diary was the Kaiser's own, of course.

George H. Doran has had the satire translated by Frank Alvah Dearborn, and here are two of the illustrations.

Of a sermon he delivered in the desert Wilhelm was represented as recording:

I have a fine talent for speaking. I not only strike my hearers, I move them.

And had the pleasure of converting myself after having moved myself to tears. That conversion does me honor.

I wore for the occasion the frock coat of an officiating minister. The heat is overpowering.

"En l'air!"

(IN THE AIR)

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