Books and Authors

Among the Book People

Some of the Leading Features of the Meeting of the American Library Association—Putnam on Function of Congressional Library—Children's Department—Traveling Libraries—Home Delivery.

It is rather difficult to be born original in these days. The majority of the world seem somehow to have lost the knack of it. But at the recent American Library convention at Waukesha the president of the association had originality thrust upon him. Doubtless July 4th is a fitting day for the expression of any noble sentiment, but we generally utter it in fire crackers, and the unique service which the latter was made to render the Library association is almost worthy to be accepted as precedent. After the beneficent influence of a gloriously hot day, the president, H. J. Carr of Pennsylvania, opened the convention with three of its most brilliant speakers on the program and as the audience filed in, gasping to catch one of the passing breaths of air, yet heroically resolved both to listen and applaud, a great flood of pity swept over the sub-conscious self of the president which was communicated to the small boy outside, and when Thomas L. Montgomery of Philadelphia closed his eloquent address on "What May Be Done for Libraries by the City," a loud roar of exploding fire crackers shot up in applause, to the slight consternation but presently to the relief of an audience economizing in physical exertion. And so on during the evening, each brilliant remark was punctured either by the patriotic bursting of a tin can or the familiar staccato of the cracker. Men forgot the horizontal condition of their collars in their anxiety to note if the applause would be timely, which in the main it was, and the librarians dispersed with a triumphant sense of having conquered physical conditions and given expression to original thoughts under the thrill of having "stood by their guns."

It has been the precedent of the association to alternate its meetings between some prominent city and a summer resort. This year the convention was held at Waukesha, where the Fountain Spring House was placed at its disposal, whose commodious parlors and wide verandas afforded delightful opportunities for meetings and intellectual interchange of library experience.

A Vigorous Society.

The American Library Association grows more and more vigorous each year and takes a higher and wider view of the powers and responsibilities of the profession. The whole trend of the convention was towards extending the privileges of the libraries, both state and public. Herbert Putnam, in his address on "What May Be Done for Libraries by the Nation," said:

The library of congress is intended to serve the country at large if there is any such thing possible. The great collection of the congressional library should not be limited to the city of Washington.

And speaking of its possibilities, he said "that if some student or professor of a university, in connection with some research important to scholarship, requires some volume in an unusual set not in its library, and requests the loan of it through his university, if the national library is to be a national library, what does logic seem to require, and expediency, and good government?"

He closed his address with these pertinent remarks.

If there is any citizen who thinks it should never lend a book to another library in aid of the highest research, when the book can be spared from Washington, and is not a book within the proper duty of the local library to supply; if there be any citizen who thinks that for the national library to lend under these circumstances would be a misuse of its resources and therefore an abuse of trust, he had better speak quickly or he may be too late. Precedents may be created which it would be awkward to ignore. The most stimulating, most fruitful service of all libraries must be the direct service.

The same trend of thought pervaded even the conservatism of the state librarians, where the discussions led prominently towards rendering their collections available not to the capital city alone, but to the entire state, through judicious loans.

This broadening out of interests was strikingly illustrated at this same session by a paper read by C. D. Galbraith, state librarian of Ohio, who, diverging from regulation library themes, gave a sketch of the growth of the newspaper in his state. The date of Joseph Maxwell's birth is not known, but the story of his transporting his outfit over the mountains on packing mules with the self-denying determination to start a newspaper in the northwest, read like a page of ancient history to these modern librarians. On the morning of 1793, after long and heroic preparations, the Ramage press, similar to the one used by Dr. Franklin, delivered to the city of Cincinnati the "Centinel of the Northwest Territory." A newspaper was born destined from this humble beginning to evolve into journals reeling off daily issues aggregating millions of copies, vast hives of literary industry where the roll of the cylinder and the click of the linotype echo without interruption the whole year round.

A copy of this first issue is preserved in the state library in Ohio. Mr. Galbraith gave illustrations of some of its early advertisements, one of which asked the subscribers to "call at the office for the paper, as the subscription list was lost." The soul-absorbing effort to bring out the "Centinel of the Northwest Territory" made of the subscription list a minor matter. After long search Mr. Galbraith found the grave of Maxwell on a small farm in the northern pat of the state, and an endeavor will be made to erect a suitable slab in memory of Ohio's first editor.

Children's Department.

Two of the most important sessions were devoted to the children's librarians' section. The progress of the library movement scarcely calls for comment, but occasionally some new phase of it becomes unusually significant. The children's department is one of these, and at the recent convention many of its problems and opportunities were brought out in the discussions and in the various papers. The general interest in the question was emphatically evidenced by the at- for aside from this general interest lies the for asid from this general interest lies the practical fact, which far sighted librarians recognize, that their future patrons are the children and if they wish to appeal to an intelligent community and stand side by side with the school as an educational institution, some early responsibility must be assumed in forming a cultivated knowledge of books. One of the practical outcomes of these meetings was a resolution to form a list of the best 500 juvenile books, each book to be carefully read and annoted by a children's librarian of literary tasted and judgment. Such a list will be invaluable not only to librarians and patrons, but especially so to those opening a children's room.

One of the impressions received from these sessions was the sense of being among people who were "doing things." The resources of the children's librarian are heavily drawn upon. Judging from the many-sided subjects of the papers presented they evidently intend to provide against all possibilities of falling into ruts for they touched with equal minded gravity the "good boy and girl" and the bad, what they ought to read and what would happen to them if they didn't. Pictures, bulletins, work with the schools, reference work, the advisability of introducing playrooms and a few other subjects were calculated to impress one with the breadth of the work undertaken in this department.

The Traveling Library.

Prominent also before the convention was the interest shown in the traveling library, where the keynote of the discussion was how best to reach the interior homes, how best to bring any isolated spot into touch with the beneficent influence of books, how to extend to the individual the book he needed, and the general discussion pointed towards making the county rather than the state the center of activity.

At Milwaukee.

Although the convention was held at Waukesha, it was not overlooked that within an hour's ride by trolly was the beautiful library of Milwaukee, which was visited by the convention and several times by devoted enthusiasts to whom the beatiful marble halls thoroughly ventilated was a gentle protest against what one has to endure in the average public building. The children's room was of course an object of great interest. Situated on the third floor, with ample light and space, and decorated with beautiful pictures, is it small wonder that a faint sigh of regret welled up over the forgetfulness of our pioneer library builders who must have thought they were born grown up.

Wisconsin State Historical Society.

Another delightful day was spent at Madison, a two hours' ride by rail from Waukesha, where under a glorious sky the state historical library building spread itself out before us in all its classic beauty. Can one ever forget those spotless reading rooms which just to enter invoked study. The afternoon at Madison was devoted to a short literary program where Miss Mary Wright Plummer of Pratt institute read a most interesting paper on a "Comparison of European and American Libraries," which showed the American free library management greatly to advantage. Dr. Hosmer also gave a paper in his most happy vein on "The Era of the Placard," where we were introduced to our familiar friends, the soap man, the cigar man, the uneeda biscuit man, etc., who so cheerfully greet us from our streets and boulevards.

The Minneapolis Delegation.

Minneapolis, as usual, had her share of the honors whose delegates received always respectful attention. Dr. Hosmer was chosen first vice president upon the ticket with Dr. John Shaw Billings of the New York Public library as president. The delegates from Minneapolis were Dr. Hosmer, Miss Baldwin, Miss Countryman, Miss Crafts, Mrs. Ellison and Miss Todd. Miss Countryman read a paper on "Opportunities," and Mrs. Ellison read a report at a special meeting of the children's librarians section on "Work with Schools," which called out some interesting discussion.

The American Library Association is distinctly a movement of education and progress. Gathered from all parts of the country the librarians naturally assume a cosmopolitan character; they bring to the convention a knowledge of people, of what they read and what they ought to read; they know the trend of modern development and they keep in close touch with the popular mind. They are able to report that the general taste is improving and that real discrimination in books is becoming a reality.

Home Delivery.

There was a phase of library methods not brought in the regular sessions, but discussed on verandas and at luncheon and elsewhere, and that was the question of home delivery of books. Some of our patrons would doubtless be willing to encourage such progressive ideas, while many will regard it as undesirable. As a matter of fact, many librarians consider such delivery as probable in the near future, and John C. Dana, librarian of Springfield, Mass., has already inaugurated the system and speaks with enthusiasm of its success.

—A. C. Ellison.

NEW BOOKS

A Summer Hymnal. A Romance of Tennessee. By John Trotwood Moore, Author of "Ole Mistis," etc. Philadelphia: Henry Coates & Co.

This is a peculiarly constructed novel. The reader finds several chapters of philosophy and aesthetics and bird lore, with a poem between each chapter, and much interesting descriptive writing and some pleasant talk about the hero's pretty old maid housekeeper. Ned Ballington, loves by turns, Thesis and Berenice, daughters of Colonel Phillips, and how he came to make a final decision between the two girls is well told by the author, who, in the latter half of the book, contrives to unfold a mean conspiracy and its defeat and talks horse like a native Tennesseean. The book is full of taking apothegms. The blind man, who is a conspicuous figure, shows his value at the close and the old-time negro, "Uncle Wash," brightens many a page with his wit and wisdom.

New Modes of Thought Based Upon the New Materialism and the New Pantheism. By C. T. Stockwell, author of "The Evolution of Immortality." Boston: James H. West company.

The author, like other apostles of the so-called New Thought, assumes that science has destroyed all forms of materialistic and spiritualistic philosophies and has established the monistic philosophy of the oneness of matter and spirit, the common "world-soul" of man and nature. He seems to be satisfied with "proof that there is, in reality, a God, who, though past finding out, is nevertheless, a constant challenge to the human understanding." Such a doctrine of God established by the final word of science, is hardly comprehensible by the masses as a pitying father. The conception cannot be translated into human consciousness. There is no getting in touch with a God who is unknowable and the affirmation that all is God and God is all, offers no relief. That doctrine is as old as the Hindu religion and the Hindu makes it a license for the elimination of sin from his system of theology.

The Abandoned Farmer. By Sydney H. Preston. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Minneapolis: Nathaniel McCarthy. Price, $1.25.

This is a decidedly good story, with many live and glowing sparks of humor in it. Mr. Carton relates the experiences of himself, his wife Marion, and their little son, Paul, on a farm, whither they went from the city because the doctor told them their child's health positively demanded it. Carton, musical and dramatic critic on a daily journal, did not know a harrow from a pitchfork and had a babe-like ignorance of crops and land culture, and his wife, while a little more practical, was a stranger to farm life. Their first misstep was to pay a farmer $400 a year for letting them live in his farm house, while he took all the crops and other products of the farm. The recital of their experience after they made this bargain, is decidedly rich in humor. Having discovered that they had the worst of the bargain and were buying all their food in the city, they determined to buy the farm outright. The story of the process by which it came into their possession is Pickwickian in humor. A kindly-disposed aunt, Mr. Carton and Mrs. Carton were secretly and simultaneously and separately negotiating with the farmer for the farm and the result was ludicrous in the extreme. The portrayal of the hired man, William, is admirably comical. Carton's absurd misunderstanding with his wife and his interview with her through a closed and locked door is one of the most humorous passages in the book. The gentleman farmer finally celebrated his proprietorship of broad acres by giving away to the community, nearly his entire and bountiful crop of potatoes and for this he had the satisfaction of finding out that his neighbors called him a "darned fool."

Anting-Anting Stories and Other Strange Tales of the Filipinos. By Sargent Kayme. Boston: Small, Maynard Co. Price, $1.25.

The eleven stories in this book tell the reader of the superstitions, character types and idiosyncrasies of the natives of the Philippines, embodying some amusing as well as tragical incidents. The word "anting-anting" means a charm or a fetich, and the first story, "The Anting-Anting of Captain Von Tollig," illustrates the importance attached to such charms by the Filipinos. The author has fought these people and knows well their methods, and later, in making collections for scientific institutions at home, he came closely in touch with them on various islands and acquainted himself with their home life. He had the pleasure of treating the sultan of Culion successfully for a severe attack of neuralgia, with cayenne pepper and morphine and built up a fine reputation as a healer. The author has a simple and attractive way of telling a story.

A Little Book of Tribune Verse. A Number of Hitherto Uncollected Poems, Grave and Gay. By Eugene Field. Collected and Arranged by Joseph G. Brown. Denver, Col.: Tandy, Wheeler & Co. Price, $1.50.

The literary remains of the late Eugene Field are very voluminous. The poems in this book appeared in 1881 and 1883 in the Denver Tribune, and, according to Joseph Brown, whose veracity can never be doubted (for was the veteran "Joe" ever known to tell a lie?) they have "been buried for twenty years and forgotten save by the few who were his intimate associates during his career in Denver." Mr. Field conducted a department in the Denver Tribune known as "The Nonpareil Column," the matter being set in nonpareil type. Field entitled the column "Odd Gossip," and most of the poems appeared in it and the others were placed elsewhere. A number of them appeared over the signatures of well-known Denver men as a joke, and he only attached his signature to the poem on page 80, entitled "The Christmas Treasures," one of his pathetic poems about children. The little child prays for a Christmas gift and—

They must have heard his baby prayer,
For in the morn, with glowing face,
He toddled to the chimney place
And found the little treasure there.

They came again one Christmastide—
That angel host so fair and white—
And, singing all the Christmas night,
They lured my darling from my side.

A little sock, a little toy,
A little lock of golden hair—
The Christmas music on the air—
A watching for my baby boy.

But if again that angel train
And golden head come back for me,
To bear me to eternity,
My watching will not be in vain.

Noticeable among these poems are "The Jaffa and Jerusalem R. R.," "Lost Chords," "The Mustang," "Formerly of Kansas," "The Front Gate," "The Truant." Field's admiration for Emma Abbott was fervent. There are several poems about her, and most all of them were rather extensively recopied by newspapers throughout the country. In a poem to "Emma Abbott" Field wrote:

The stars are jealous of thine eyes,
The lark is jealous of thy song,
Thy glorious hair, so fair and long,
Hath waked the envy of the skies.

Another is addressed to "Emma Abbott's Baby," and "Emma Abbott's Kiss" is thus described:

To the capable critic it's clear
That Abbott's a daisy Lucia,
But somehow we miss
That world-renowned kiss,
And that harvest of hugging, oh, dear.

And there is another extravagant tribute to the singer. Field did better work after he left Denver. He was then in the sprouting period of versification.

The Kidnapped Millionaires. A Tale of Wall Street and the Tropics. By Frederick U. Adams, author of "President John Smith." Boston: The Lothrop Publishing company, No. 530 Atlantic avenue. Price, $1.50.

The author of this book is a newspaper man, and while he introduces a large amount of "shop" talk, he has put his plot together so well that the reader can bear with his many excursions into the technique of newspaper work. The reader may readily recognize the millionaires of the book in such names as Palmer J. Morton (Pierpont Morgan), R. J. Kent (Keene, the plunger), Andrus Carmody (Andrew Carnegie) and others. Recognizable, too, in the New York Record, is the New York Journal, and in Robert Van Horne its proprietor, Mr. Hearst. Chalmers, the managing editor, is a typical progressive newspaper director and confidential man. Walter Hestor, special correspondent and getter-up of sensations, is a multi-millionaire member of the Record's staff and he conceived and executed the scheme of kidnapping the millionaires and upsetting the stock exchange in New York and creating the biggest sensation for his paper on record. He invited these millionaires to a dinner and a short sail on his yacht to discuss a project for organizing a newspaper trust after the plan suggested by young Harmsworth of the London Mail. Hestor steams off with the millionaires and lands them on the mainland of Mexico and leaves them there, well provided with a roomy house, food and every luxury, including guns to shoot game. The gentlemen take their captivity philosophically and have many adventures and perils, but manage to keep up their spirits until they can construct a large raft, on which they embark with water and provisions, hoping to be rescued by some vessel. Meantime the Record and the families of the kidnapped millionaires offer enormous rewards for the rescue of the gentlemen and the best newspaper reporter detectives in the country are put on the trail and how they worked up clews is one of the interesting features of the story. The Record rescuing expedition, under Chalmers, finally discovered the weather-beaten millionaires on the raft and brought them home. Incidently the author gives an inside view of speculative Wall street and the book throughout is very lively reading and it will no doubt have a large sale. The picture of the millionaires in their place of exile is decidedly good. They had to put in practice their culinary talents and did some hard work otherwise and gained in strength and health. The author has made a decided hit.

The Jewish Encyclopaedia. A Descriptive Record of the History, Religion, Literature and Customs of the Jewish People from the Earliest Times to the Present Day. Prepared by more than four hundred scholars and specialists. Volume I., from Aach to Apocalyptic Literature. New York: Funk & Wagnalls. Price, $6 per volume.

The first volume of this great work, which will be completed in eleven volumes of 700 pages each, large octavo, very impressively suggests the great value which the completed set will be to students. The names in the editorial board and board of consulting editors embrace those of the leading Jewish scholars in this country, such as Dr. Isidore Singer, general manager; the distinguished Dr. Adler, president of the American Jewish Historical society and librarian Smithsonian Institution; Professor Deutsch, of Cincinnati; Dr. Jastrow of the University of Pennsylvania; Dr. Gotthell of Columbia university, and eminent American scholars. There is a foreign board of consulting editors, composed of the most distinguished Jewish scholars in Europe.

The civilized world owes much to Israel, for unto Israel was committed the custody of the oracles of God. Israel was the sole possessor for ages of the only rational account of the early history of the world and man, and the most ancient and rational ethnological record of the human race. The higher criticism has battled against the authenticity of these records in vain. They stand out with sublime distinctness above the congeries of guesses and childish fabrications of the old civilizations of Nippur, Accad, Ur, Babylon and Nineveh. Jewish literature, outside the Jewish scriptures, is voluminous. There is a vast literature of rabbinical exegesis of the scriptures on the Hebrew and Septuagint texts. Scholars like Philo of Alexandria thought as Hebrews and wrote in Greek. The literature of the Talmud (Jerusalum and Babylonian) is extensive. It embraces the aggregation of Jewish doctrine and science, thought and opinion during seven centuries, revealing the development of the law and the growth of ethical principle. The literature embraces the mishna, the text of the voluminous oral law, and the Gemara, or notes upon it, and the massora, the body of textual criticism and rectification. The encylopaedia covers a vast amount of Jewish thought and literature, which has for the most part been a sealed book to many. Jews have written in nearly every language which has a literature. The dispersion of the race after the destruction of Jerusalem stimulated expression in their own literature and, in the seventeenth century, some Jewish scholars attempted to form an encyclopaedia of the work and times of the teachers of the mishna. Since then much material has accumulated, notably during the nineteenth century, to aid the scholars who are preparing the present work, the plan of which seems to be exhaustive. Special attention is given to the integrity of the text of the Hebrew scriptures and to the history of the doctrines and practices of Judiasm, Jewish folk-lore and ancient and modern customs and superstitions, the Jewish liturgy, its history and music. Attention is given in this work to the Jewish vital statistics and their social and economic condition. The work is to be well illustrated throughout, the first volume indicating the liberality of this feature.

It is to the credit of our country that Dr. Singer, the originator of this great work, found that it was only in the United States that he could find the material aid and practical, scholarly co-operation essential to carry out the plan on the large scale he had contemplated. The Funk & Wagnalls company accorded their efficient co-operation and large and valuable equipment, and the volumes will be issued at the rate of one or two a year. The work is hailed by all Jewish scholars and students with great commendations, as it presents Judaism in a favorable light as a tremendous spiritual force, which has wrought a revolution in human thought and destiny. The Encyclopaedia is sure to correct misapprehensions and ignorance concerning Israel, present and past. This ancient people have enriched all modern progress by their genius and are destined to play a very important part in the world's history in the future. Scattered at present, they will one day be united as a nation. Jews differ about the quality and nature of their ultimate triumph over irrational prejudice and the ensuing conditions, but not only Zionists, who are preparing for a Jewish restoration to Palestine, believe firmly in an ultimate reunion of all Jews, but all orthodox and rationalizing Jews believe that historic Judaism will be the ultimate religion of the world.

JULY MAGAZINES

The Atlantic gives prominence to Louis Dyer's fine article on King Alfred, the one thousandth anniversary of whose death is to be celebrated a little later by English-speaking peoples who recognize in him, as Mr. Dyer says, "the first exemplar of the virtues held in highest esteem by that race the world over, but nowhere more highly rated than in England and America, whose political and social institutions still embody so much of Alfred's spirit." There is a fine, piquant letter from Italy by H. D. Sedgwick, Jr., giving an inside view of that country, which he says "paces to and fro like an ambitious poor man with a large family, not knowing what to do." Very interesting is Mr. Lee's paper on "The Limits of the Stellar Universe"—a charming mingling of scientific fact and bewildering speculation, and Kate Stephens' exquisite homily on "The New England Woman" will be read more than once. She shows how the social changes have broadened the conception of woman's "sphere" and portrays the passing of the historic spinster with much humor and pathos. W. De Witt Hyde's "The Cardinal Virtues" is an interesting feature of the number, and, among other attractions, are the poems, "The Heart of the Woods," by John Burroughs, and "Rain," by Laura S. Portor. The two serials by Mary Johnston and Sarah Orne Jewett continue to delight the readers of fiction, and there is much interesting reading in "Two Generations of Quakers," from an old diary.

A notable article in Everybody's Magazine is "The Real Abdul Hamid," by E. P. Lyle, who strips the bloody scoundrel of all his pretenses to virtue and paints him as he is, a hideous tyrant. A portrait of Abdul is given, showing a frightfully vicious old face, entirely unlike the portraits usually published, representing a sleek, sensuous, dark-eyed youth.

A notable article in the Political Science Quarterly is "The Trust Companies," by A. D. Noyes, who points out financial peril in the lack of safeguards about these institutions, such as are required for state, national and savings banks. The trust company was not designed originally to be a general repository, but to act as fiscal or transfer agent of a state, municipality or corporation, or as trustee, etc. It was never contemplated that the trust company should do the business of a deposit bank, yet in New York state, in addition to $245,367,995 deposits in trust, their general deposits reach $392,753,774, but there is no requirement of a cash reserve to be kept on hand, as is the case with the banks. Mr. Noyes puts the case strongly in concluding the article. "The trust company, under its present status," says he, "is as much subject to a run of depositors as was the country bank in 1893; the average ratio of its cash reserves to deposits is less than half that of the country banks of the panic year; and it is quite at liberty to keep no reserve at all. Yet a run of its own depositors would force the trust company to recall its funds from the deposit bank, and at a time when a run might be in progress on that bank as well." Undeniably an element of peril. There is a valuable article on "Municipal Activity in England," by Elsie Watson, and a very interesting picture of "Mississippi During the Civil War," and a second and concluding paper of deep interest on the Chicago building trades dispute by E. L. Bogart.

The current number of Progress is devoted to the consideration of "International Law," by Professor John B. Moore of Columbia university and ex-assistant secretary of state, and secretary of the Paris peace commission. This is a masterly treatise on the origin and obligation of international law; independence and equality of state; recognition of states and governments; acquisition of territory; territorial jurisdiction; fisheries, extradition, expulsion, nationality, treaties, intervention, redress, war, blockade, etc. The citations are from the leading recognized authorities on international law and decisions in notable cases. It is an admirable work of reference on this important subject, which is becoming more and more important and essential to the educated American. University Association, Association building, Chicago.

John McGovern contributes to the special Pan-American number of the Inland Printer (Chicago: Inland Printer Co.), which, by the way, is the most splendid and impressive example of the illustrative and book-making art in these latter days, a very fine appreciation of "The Rubaiyat of Mirza-Mem'n," recently noticed in The Journal as one of the best of the numerous free translations and amplifications of Omar Khayyam's poem. McGovern says: "It is the honest work of a faithful admirer of Omar, who, however, must join to the materialism of the Persian some emanation, some homoousian sense of intelligent molecular physics, some creator of creation. Our poet cannot drink the red wine, breathe the attared midnight air, and kiss the opening lip—he cannot drink that cup and hope himself to turn to senseless molecule, eternal though it be. Optimist of life, why should he turn to pessimist by merely casting off the mantle of life and song?" It is not impossible that McGovern himself wrote this version of the Rubaiyat, which would hardly be recognized by old Omar as his own child, born in spicy Iran. It may be remarked of this number of the Inland Printer that it embodies all that is best in the recent triumphs of typography and the photographic art applied to book illustration. It is a delight to the eye in every respect.

In the North American, Alfred Austin, the poet laureate of England, appears at his poetic best in a poem based on the classic legend of the loves of Polyphemus and Acis for the fair nymph Galatea. It contains some very beautiful and impressive passages. A very pleasant literary diversion and offset to graver articles is W. D. Howell's "Difference in English and American Fiction," which seems to have been suggested by his reading of Mrs. Humphrey Ward's "Eleanor," which he analyzes with great ability. Those who in summer weather can enjoy a discussion of that well-worn topic, the "balance of trade," will enjoy Professor Bullock's paper, "The Theory of the Balance of Trade," in which it is held that large excess of exports does not denote anything more than that we are paying our debts to the outside world and are not, strictly speaking, a creditor nation, but only apparently so. The professor regards the present balance of exports as due to our position as a debtor country on the "many invisible accounts of the foreign exchanges." Professor J. F. Johnson, an authority in economics, discussing "Our Foreign Trade and Prosperity," argues that a reversal of our favorable foreign trade statistics would be no evidence of adversity in this country, but would be a warning of derangement in the world's markets, which would compel us to wait for demand to overtake supply. He thinks we are not, with all our advantages, yet in a position to talk about independence. The seller and buyer are in absolute need of each other. Industrial and financial collapse in Europe would be injuriously felt with us, as Europe is our largest customer and the fact suggests the folly of arguing against reciprocity treaties. Another paper on this line is "American Progress and British Commerce," by an English writer, Harold Cox, who laughs at the idea of a decadent England and presents a strong statistical argument to prove her virility, only a little abraided by the financial pull occasioned by the South African war. He shows, incidentally, that in England's case the immense prepondérance of her imports over exports represents profit on the product exchange. Of the other articles in the number, perhaps Cardinal Gibbons' paper on "Catholic Christianity," a very earnest plea for the Roman or Latin form of Christian doctrine and ceremony, is the most interesting. The whole number is excellent and attractive.

Literary Notes

The Appletons have issued a third edition of General J. H. Wilson's "China."

The London correspondent of the Philadelphia Times says that Kipling is at work on a long story, entitled, "McIntosh," based on one of his earlier short stories, and that it will probably be published when "Kim" is complete. The new story is foreshadowed in the former tale of "To Be Filed for Reference," in which McIntosh Jellaladin figures.

The books of the late English author, Robert Buchanan, were many, but few of them will be read a few decades hence, and his conspicuity has rested largely on his bitter and fully justified assault upon what he called the "fleshly school of poetry," represented by Algernon Swinburne and Dante Gabriel Rosetti. Comparatively few people can affirm that they have read Buchanan's "The Shadow of the Sword," or his lyrical drama, "Napoleon Fullen."

Madame Sarah Grand lives on fish, meat and toast; never eats sweets, fruits or vegetables; frowns upon alcohol and abhors milk. That accounts for some of her eccentricities.

Doubleday, Page & Co. say in their "Notes": "J. P. Mowbray, the author of that charming philosophical outdoor book, 'A Journey to Nature,' has spent much of his life in the wilds of Minnesota with the surveyor's chain, where the loon and the gray wolf were oftenest his intimates. He left the jungle for a course of study in Pennsylvania university and again retired with his books and a small income to a salubrious farm in Rockland county, New York, where he now cultivates the soil and evinces no inconsiderable disinclination to the exploitation of his personality, even since the very marked and, doubtless, lasting success of 'A Journey to Nature.'"

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A SUNDAY WITH REV. JOSEPH PARKER

London's Great Pulpit Orator—The Embodiment of the Non-Conformist Conscience—One of His Sermons.

London, July 3.—A minister of the gospel who for thirty-two years can shine as a pulpit star of the first magnitude in a city like this which has so many stars and meteors in its ecclesiastical firmament, is surely a phenomenon of more than passing interest, and it was just that many years ago last Sunday since the name of Joseph Parker was first put upon the sign board of a London church. To be exact, however, it was not a church of which he became pastor at that time; it was a chapel. Thirty or forty years ago there were two classes of meeting-goers in this country—those who went to church and those who went to chapel. The former included those only who gave adherence to what is called the Church of England, while into the class known as "Chapel-folk" were gathered the divided hosts of Nonconformity and Dissent, chief amongst these being Baptists, Wesleyans, Congregationalists, Presbyterians. Between church and chapel the line of nomenclature is not drawn now so sharply, and one of the earliest revolts against a custom which was surely tending to belittle those who were constantly called chapel people was that of Joseph Parker, who very soon after taking the pastorate of a Congregational chapel in the Poultry, Cheapside, transferred this seemingly inconsequential plant into a new edifice, standing on the main thoroughfare from the city to the West End, and ambitiously dubbed this new center of churchly enterprise, the City Temple.

To-day the City Temple is almost as well known in London as the Mansion house or St. Paul's cathedral. It was a bold stroke to establish this new venture at Holborn Viaduct. Its location made it conspicuous from the start. City Temple looked at first like an intruder, for were there not houses of worship of the regular Church of England sort? Yes, indeed, and just around the corner, just beyond the Old Bailey and Newgate prison, there was the great St. Paul's itself. But here it was, nevertheless, where this daring man, who, strange to say, hadn't been trained in any college, but who had grit and brains, a pious faith in God and not a particle less faith in himself, chose to establish the City Temple, which, from the position it has gained since, may not inappropriately be called the St. Paul's cathedral of English Nonconformity, while the man who has regularly ministered in this widely known church, adding to his Sabbath appeals a 12 o'clock sermon to business men every Thursday, might surely be styled, without disrepect to others, and without any serious implication of prelacy toward himself, the primate of the once-despised chapel-folk.

But one must be very careful in associating anything prelatical with the name of Joseph Parker. To properly characterize his work, and perhaps, also, to fully appreciate his striking personality, you have to remember that the antecedent of City Temple, that chapel in the Poultry, stood for the strictest Puritanism and had a line of descent stretching clear back to Oliver Cromwell. The cause represented to-day by a stately edifice at Holborn Viaduct and by one of the greatest pulpit genuises of this age, had its original meetings in Anchor Lane, Thames street, and was founded in 1640 by Dr. Thomas Goodwin, who, besides being president of Magdalen college, Oxford, had the unique distinction of being chaplain to Old Ironsides. Somehow this sort of history seems to fit Parker exactly. With a background like this, his rugged figure and truly leonine face, which always has, even in its kindliest moods, an expression of imperiousness, are in perfect harmony.

There is no man in any London pulpit to-day with the originality of a Spurgeon, and none who compares in dramatic power or in the genius for apt expression with "the old man eloquent" at City Temple. And still another matchless trait of Parker's has been his pulpit audacity. He is not so reckless now as he used to be, though even now the volcano can flare up on occasion. Everybody has heard about "the nonconformist conscience." Gladstone used to lay great store by it when he wanted support for any measure of moral reform, and similarly it was the one thing most feared by those of an opposite political faith from Gladstone. For long years the flesh and blood embodiment of this conscience has been Dr. Parker. When people have seen him in one of his most fiercely denunciatory moods they feel as though they had seen the Nonconformist conscience in eruption, and so terrible is the sight that some timid people, it is said, have gone away from seeing Parker denounce them to quite expect that their next vision would be of the devil himself come to carry them off.

The "Old Ironsides" of the London pulpit is as forcible in the expression he can put into his features as in any words that issue from his lips. And this is saying much, because in the use of language he is one of the greatest of living geniuses. By his words he can overwhelm you in a torrent of eloquence or he can crush you with just an adjective. But he can also damn without words—just a look such as he can put on is enough for either blessing or cursing. It is proverbial here that this greatest of Nonconformist preachers, had he taken to the stage, would have been an actor equal to Sir Henry Irving. In fact, to those who have seen the two, and have marked how they can storm with fury, or again can express passion and contempt by whispers scarcely audible, or by a look or gesture, Parker will always recall Irving, and vice versa.

Allusion has already been made to Parker's defects. A serious one on his delivery is that sometimes his voice will be so explosive that you will not catch the burning word he is hurling out, and at other times you will neccessarily fail to hear what is said because the voice is suddenly dropped. This is a defect which has increased with the years, and it is now so serious as to make attendance at his church hardly any more gratifying than it is provoking. Another defect used to be his lack of self-control and the fact that, as I have before hinted, he would sometimes become so indignant as to show all the signs of downright anger, and so violent in invective as really to savor of vulgarity. In this respect he is improving. Age is modifying and mellowing him. One can scarcely say that his features are any more conciliatory. The natural look is still one of intense self-satisfaction. He is as scornful and defiant as ever—if anything a little more so in looks. Yet in what he says there is apt these days to be a tenderness that was formerly lacking. He can still be violent on occasion, but more often now, in the beauty of the yellow leaf, he is reminiscent and pathetic.

At the time of the Armenian massacres Joseph Parker stood up in City Temple and cursed the Sultan of Turkey in language which in a barroom would scarcely have been distinguished from downright swearing, and more recently the rulers of China came in for an assault that was not much milder. When Lord Roseberry won the Derby and the Nonconformist conscience resented a so-called "horse-racer" in the position of prime minister, that conscience, as usual, found its most acute expression at City Temple, and Roseberry must have felt long after the sting of what was said. So, too, when Dr. Parker gave a tongue lashing of the severest kind to the Prince of Wales in connection with what is known as the baccarat scandal. But he has mellowed of late. It is greatly to the credit of this modern edition of Cromwell that he can appreciate what is good in Roman Catholics—the original never could—and is not slow to denounce what is unfair toward them. In proof, he is heartily in favor of modifying the king's oath on this subject. Good fellowship, fraternity, optimism, are Dr. Parker's watchwords to-day. He never had so many admirers—never so few who hated him. As for King Edward—himself a model of the forgiving spirit—I do not doubt that, circumstances permitting, he would be glad to have this plain-spoken successor of Cromwell's chaplain for one of his own chaplains.

When last I heard Dr. Parker his text was "I looked for pity and found none." His prayer, as usual, led his audience directly to the subject of his sermon. It was an invocation for God to be near to us, "as near as our whispers—so near that Thou can'st hear the falling of our tears." Out of the sermon one culls gems such as these—"How is it you've been living on small ideas? Why hav'n't you joined the thunder-anthem of the universe?" "Nothing is so disgusting or destructive as religion depraved, narrowed and depleted of grace and charitableness." "If you cannot heal, you can at least pity. People do not always want money. Sometimes all that is needed is a tone. A sigh for us may embrace all the ministries." "Tell me if he who creates a smile isn't next to Him who creates a sun." "Some people have talked to me in my sorrow till they've driven me to the verge of madness. They have the gift of tongues, but not the gift of sighs."

"Pity," he said, "has delicate ways of doing things—she doesn't come to you with a card of introduction." "Pity struggles to be the strength; it may fail, but therein is its success." "Tell a man there is more in him than he thinks—that is comfort." "How can I help this poor creature? By listening. Good listeners are good comforters. Don't look at your watch while the poor creature is telling you her troubles. Either go or listen. Listen with your hands, eyes, and every hair on your head. She will go away and say you are the best friend she ever had."

His conclusion was something like this, and it was his usual way of closing: "You've been watching by the bedside of that poor invalid. But all the time you've been reading, and the paper crackled every time you moved it. You've stirred the fire to keep her warm. Yes, but how did you put down the poker? Has that, you ask, anything to do with it? Yes"—one of his great big explosives, Yeses—"Who then can live?" Here there was a long pause, and at last the preacher answered his question and ended his sermon by saying, "Very few."

—Henry Tuckley.

Information Bureau Walton Park, 25 Sixth street S; open day and evenings. Call and learn all about the big auction sale of 240 lots July 20, 1901.

New Hutchinson Train via "The Milwaukee."

On and after June 17 an additional passenger train will be put on via C. M. & St. P. Ry. between the twin cities and Hutchinson (daily except Sunday).

New train leaves Hutchinson 7:30 a. m., Glencoe, 8 a. m.; Plato, 8.09 a. m.; Norwood, 8:18 a. m.; Cologne, 8:30 a. m.; and arrives Minneapolis, 9:45 a. m.; St. Paul, 10:20 a. m.

Returning leaves St. Paul, 4 p. m.; Minneapolis, 4:40 p. m.; and arrives Glencoe 6:30 p. m., and Hutchinson, 7 p. m.

I. O. O. F. Excursion.

The Minneapolis Odd Fellows have changed their route to Northfield for July 20, and will use the Chicago Great Western railway. Trains leave at 7:40 a. m., 8:30 a. m. and 9 a. m., from Chicago Great Western railway depot, Tenth avenue S and Washington. Procure tickets of committee.

$45 to North Pacific Coast and Return $45.
Via Soo-Pacific, the Scenic Route.
Until and including July 13 the Soo Line will sell round trip tickets at $45 to Vancouver, Victoria, Seattle, Tacoma and Portland, limited to Aug. 31, and permitting of stop-overs in either direction. Get particulars at ticket office, 119 Third street S.

Elk's Special Train

And Journal Band to Milwaukee will leave Minneapolis Union Depot 8:30 p. m., July 22d, via the Wisconsin Central Ry. Reserve your sleepers early by calling on V. C. Russell, C. P. & T. A., 230 Nicollet Ave. Telephone Main 1936.

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A DISQUIETING QUESTION.

Flowry Fields—Willie, hev you noticed any signs uv mental decay about me lately?