

The "China and the Allies." HENRY SAVAGE LANDOR'S BOOK ON THE CHINESE SITUATION, PAST AND PRESENT.

China and the Allies." by A. Henry Savage Landor, is a work of 678 pages, 320 illustrations. That should be enough to alarm almost any reader, but when you have read these two volumes you will regret that they are not even longer.

Mr. Landor was in China long before the recent trouble with the Boxers began. He reads and speaks Chinese, is familiar with the country, and has written books before. He had had similar experiences with the Buddhist Lamas in Tibet, so of all the men in China at that time he was probably best qualified to do the work he has undertaken.

There is nothing like a description first-hand. Therein lies the great value of "China and the Allies." Landor writes of what he has seen with his own eyes, and he writes of it in a way that may be a little prosaic at times, but for one interested in the subject these minute details are an eye-opening on the right side.

Mr. Landor has so much to say that he wastes no time with long preambles of introductions or prefaces. He begins by challenging the accepted meaning of the word "Boxer."

Another mistake he points out is the short-sightedness of Sir Claude in not seeing long before he did that the Chinese Government was in perfect sympathy with the Boxer movement.

Mr. Landor sounds a note of warning in this connection that is worth some thought. In the imperial palace—although Sir Claude reported to the contrary—there existed, even before that time, not fear but encouragement and friendliness toward the Boxers, the Empress Dowager, with Prince Tuan and a number of other high officials, were all so firmly convinced that the moment had come when the Chinese could at last either kill or drive into the sea every foreign devil.

It all ended in a hearty laugh, and no one seemed any the worse for a good ducking. One of the most interesting parts of the book is Mr. Landor's description of the looting of Tientsin after its capture by the allies. There was the Englishman with his eye open for a present for his girl at home, the Frenchman whose feelings were especially appealed to by the discovery of some savory delicacies to vary his military diet, the Japanese who handled with reverent care the priceless works of art and the Russian and American missionaries.

The advance of the relief column on Peking, the sufferings of the besieged, the attack and final capture of the city by the allies—all this is given in careful detail and illuminated by valuable photographs taken by the author himself.

These who have read with enjoyment the few novels written by Harrison Robertson will welcome his latest work, "The Inlander." It is a story of the South, the hero, Paul Rodman, has been brought to the attention of Judge Rodman, in a quiet town in Middle Tennessee. Judge Rodman, having lost his wife, has had the exclusive care of his son, and has given him a training which has served to inculcate in Paul social manners and ideas which, a generation ago, would have been regarded as belonging to a gentleman of the old school.

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mens of humanity are generally considered good enough to do missionary work in China, and this he considers the greatest mistake of all, for the field is a hard one and requires men and women of the greatest ability. He also deplores the sending of young girls to interior posts far from the protection of foreign guns. The idea of missionaries aping the Chinese in their dress appeals to the author as ridiculous, and he tells us that it affects the Chinese in the same way.

The majority of British and American missionaries of the stronger sex seem to possess fair or red hair, which they match more or less accurately by a long, fat pigtail of braided golden or glowing auburn tints, according to circumstances, which hangs (from a seam in the cap, instead of from the scalp, as it should do according to the laws of nature) down the back to the heels over their silk dresses.

Next to his attention to business, which he transacts as we have seen above, comes his intense interest in firearms. It was, therefore, lucky that it fell to the lot of the Americans to be set on guard on the large arsenal inside the city wall, close to the south gate.

There is a party of Russians and Germans had landed on the south side on a reconnaissance. The Germans, on foot, were left to guard a bridge. While the Russians, on horseback, continued their reconnaissance, the Germans were waiting for some hours, faithfully holding the bridge, but not perceiving the Russians, concluded that they were not coming back, so duty

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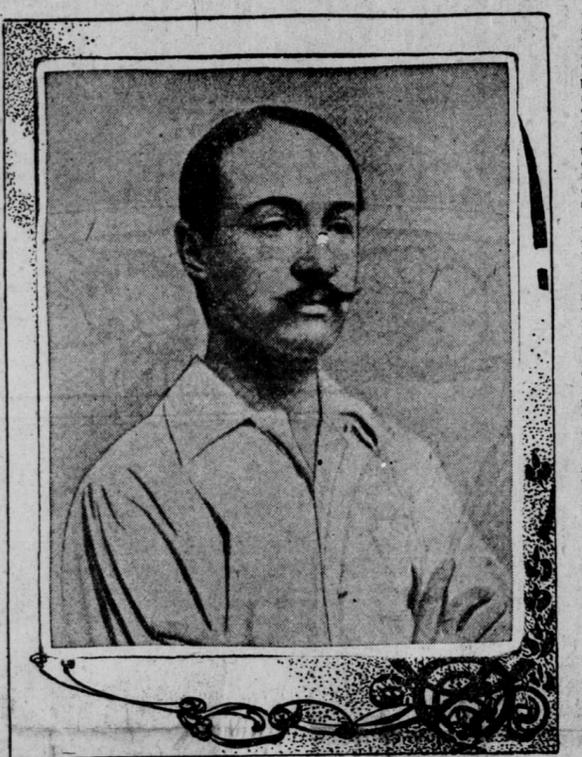
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Foundation Rites. One of the most comprehensive works of its kind is "Foundation Rites," by Lewis Dayton Burdick. Mr. Burdick has evidently made an exhaustive study of his subject, as is shown by the number of books given in a list at the end of his volume, to which reference has been made in brief. "Foundation Rites" is devoted to a careful history of the beliefs, customs and legends connected with buildings, locations and landmarks and a detailed account of the various ceremonies at foundations from the earliest times to the present day. The evolution of these ceremonies makes a very interesting study. At first they were marked by human sacrifices, then by the slaughter of animals and later by the substitution of vegetable products. The chapters on relics, images, symbols and writings will also appeal to the student of such matters. (Published by The Abbey Press, New York. Price \$1.50.)

A Birthday Book. Zoe Proctor has gathered selections from the writings of John Oliver Hobbes, (Mrs. Craigie), and has made of them a birthday book. The result is not entirely satisfactory. Mrs. Craigie is undoubtedly clever, but her observations are so startling rather than attractive. Her ingeniously worded epigrams are usually of cynical tone. Coming in the course of a story, as observations upon particular people, or used in definite connection with longer explanations, they are amusing. But as they are so full of quotations themselves happily to the uses of quotations when occurring in quick succession apart from their context.

Still, an enthusiastic admirer of Mrs. Craigie's work can find in this birthday book a plenitude of witty sayings. (Published by John Lane, New York.)

Literary Notes. Lafcadio Hearn, author of "Shadowings," "Exotics and Retrospectives," "In Ghostly Japan," etc., has been made an honorary member of the London Japan Society.

Pere Didon's remarkable "Life of Christ," with an introduction by Cardinal Gibbons, is to be issued in a new and more compact edition for subscription sale by the publishers, D. Appleton & Co.

An unpublished diary by Francis Parkman, the great historian, will appear in the July Scribner's. It is his account of a journey made through and around Lake George in 1822. The diary will be introduced to the American public by D. Appleton & Co.

The four issues of the Youth's Companion to be published in June will contain nearly twenty stories, one of these, "The Great Scoop," by Molly Elliot Sewall, being a serial story of life in a newspaper office. Among the contributors of these stories will be Harriet Prescott Spofford, Charles Follen Jackson, Parker Bartlett, John D. Sherman, Sophie Webster, R. S. Van Dyke and Will Allen Dromgole.

If a curious tale can attract the attention of the public, "Anting-Anting" (The Seal of Silence) by A. S. Conder, is the new English success. He says that the author had a genuine gift for comedy and achieved "an astounding success" in reconciling the reader to the marvelous. "The Seal of Silence" is the first and last novel of the author, who will be introduced to the American public by D. Appleton & Co.

Wonderful and varied are the phenomena and the inhabitants of the Philippines. Pirates, half-naked natives, pearls, man-apes, towering volcanoes about whose summits clouds and unearthly traditions float together, strange animals and birds, and a host of other things, betwixt ropes stained with human blood, feathering palm trees now fanned by soft breezes and now crushed to the ground by tornadoes—on no mimic stage was ever a more wonderful scene set for such a compact of actors. That such stories as Mr. Kayme gives us do not exaggerate the realities of this strange life can be easily seen by any one who has read the letters from press correspondents, our soldiers or the more formal books of travel.

The longest, perhaps, of all these possibilities for fiction is the anti-antique, at once a mysterious power and a possession and the outward symbol of the protection. No more curious fetiche can be found in the history of folklore. A button, a coin, a bit of paper with unthoughtful words scribbled upon it, a bone, a stone, a garment, anything, almost, often a thing of no intrinsic value—its owner has been known to walk up to the muzzle of a loaded musket or rush upon the point of a bayonet with a confidence so sublime as to silence ridicule and to command admiration if not respect.

Books Received. EZRA CAINE—By Joseph Sharts. Herbert S. Stone & Co., Chicago.

OUR SCHOOL DAYS—By Andrew James Miller. The Abbey Press, New York. \$1.

THE COUNCIL OF THREE—By Charles A. Seltzer. The Abbey Press, New York. \$1.

A FLOW OF THE TROPICS—By Warren P. Sutton. The Abbey Press, New York. \$1.

ON THE CHARLESTON—By Irene Wildermer Harit. The Abbey Press, New York. \$1.

A SLAVEHOLDER'S DAUGHTER—By John Jaymes. The Abbey Press, New York. \$1.

AND THE WILDERNESS BLOSSOMED—By Almon Dexter. H. W. Fisher & Co., Philadelphia. \$2.

A HEART OF FLAME—By Charles Fleming Embree. The Bowen-Merrill Company, Indianapolis. \$1.50.

THE DRUMMERS' LATEST—Completed and arranged by J. H. The Bowen-Merrill Company, Indianapolis. \$1.50.

THEY THAT TOOK THE SWORD—By Nathaniel Stephenson. John Lane, New York. \$1.

THE ANGLICAN REVIEW—Vol. VIII. March, 1907. Edited by Rev. R. C. Knickerbocker. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. \$1.

The Books Reviewed ON THIS PAGE Can Be Obtained at ROBERTSON'S, 126 POST STREET, SAN FRANCISCO. Prices are always in the Reading Notices. A. M. ROBERTSON.