

# Books of the Sunday Call

Conducted by  
**UNA H. H. COOL**

## BOOKS REVIEWED

- "Senator Stewart's Memories," edited by George Rothwell Brown.
- "The Five Knots," by Fred M. White.
- "In Korea With Marquis Ito," by George Trumbull Ladd.
- "My Life and My Lectures," by Lamar Fontaine, C. E., Ph. D.
- "The Strenuous Career," by Madison C. Peters.
- "An Open Letter to Cardinal Gibbons," by Paul Sabatier.
- "White Race and Indian," by George Wharton James.
- "The Common Sense of Socialism," by John Spargo.

### Senator Stewart's Memories

Edited by George Rothwell Brown. Published by the Neale company, New York and Washington. Price \$2.

SENATOR STEWART'S life has been one of adventure, of danger, of color and dash; he has lived among frontiersmen, Indians, ranchmen, miners, judges, statesmen; he has helped to build a great western state; he has made laws, interpreted them and executed them; he has made and lost a dozen fortunes; he has made \$500,000 in fees in the famous Comstock litigation; he was offered a place on the bench of the supreme court of the United States, an honor that he declined; he sat in the senate for 29 years; he was a friend of Lincoln, a force in the great war senate, a leader among his colleagues throughout his public service, and now, at 82 years of age, from the rich and varied storeroom of his memory he writes the story of his life.

Here, indeed, is a life worth recording, a manhood worth revealing, a story worth telling. This man has been interested in big things; he has done big things; in fact, he is a big man. Whether on shipboard, making his way to the gold fields of California; whether on a mountain trail, endeavoring to retrieve his fortune, lost in a night, whether he is presiding over a Nevada court of justice, or in the senate of the United States building laws for a people's guidance, he stands the typical American. The heart of the book lies there—it is American from the first page to the last. In no other country was such a career possible; in no other country could such a career win so much honor. From the "poor farm boy" to a seat in the war senate, from the wood chopper to the position of confidential friend of Abraham Lincoln, William M. Stewart has been a master of fortune, a master of himself and of events; a maker of history. One must search far for a record so rich in history and in the revelation of personality, so varied in scope and in material.

Stewart was the last man to call upon Lincoln, and to him the president addressed the last lines he ever penned, a little note written before he left the White House for Ford's theater. Stewart was one of the three men who aroused Vice President Johnson from a drunken sleep, and made him fit to receive the oath of office as president of the United States. A devoted friend of the south, Stewart deflected the force bill, and he now tells how he did it; he wrote the fifteenth amendment to the constitution, and he tells the story of its inception and of Grant's interest in it.

He tells, too, how Charles Sumner was dismissed in disgrace from the chairmanship of an important senate committee, and the plan proposed to reconcile the veterans of Lee and Grant, no less a plan than to unite them in an invasion against Canada, to be re-venge upon Great Britain, "an hereditary enemy."

And there is the story of how Mark Twain, then the senator's private secretary, wrote "The Innocents Abroad" in the senator's home.

It is a good story, the senator's Mark Twain story, and leaves nothing to be said—unless the author of "The Innocents Abroad" desires to add something. The author with which the distinguished senator writes of Mark Twain is characteristic of the book. He is entirely correct. He is telling a story of prominent men who are dead now, but he is not intimidated. We may be shocked to learn some of these new things, but one admires the man who does not shrink from the past, and who tells himself and his public. As Senator Stewart saw things, men, motives, causes, events, so they are written.

These reminiscences abound in portraits and character sketches of men famous in American history. Stewart knew intimately such men as Hannibal Hamlin, Buckalew, Cowan, Foote, Reverdy Johnson, John P. Hale, John Sherman, Benjamin F. Wade, William P. Fessenden, Andrew Johnson, Grant, Chase, Sumner, Greeley, Farragut, Sheridan—to mention but a few.

At 82 Senator Stewart's physical and mental strength is unabated. Since he left the senate in 1906 he has built up another fortune and written the story of his life—works which he has accomplished with apparent ease. George Rothwell Brown, who edited the book, is well known as a newspaperman and also as a writer of fiction. He has done his part in the present work with much sympathy.

### "The Five Knots"

By Fred M. White, author of "The Slave of Silence," etc. Published by Little, Brown & Co., Boston. Price \$1.50.

One can scarce speak of Fred M. White and not use the most extravagant superlatives. In his latest story of his, "The Five Knots," he has surpassed himself. Are there plots and counterplots? Well, rather! We are taken from the far east—northern Borneo—to London, and from London to a fascinating country place, Malidon Grange; we are introduced to weird Malay avengers, to curious low class Londoners, to rich men, to poor men, good, bad and indifferent men, and to one woman. She is a distinct improvement on the nobby-pamby woman one usually meets in a tale of adventure. She has faint glimmers of sense occasionally.

Some years before this story opens Samuel Flower, now a rich and prosperous ship owner, had had many rather shady transactions in Borneo. He was suspected of sending out "coffee" in his ships which had been condemned as unseaworthy, and laying up a colossal fortune on his ill gotten insurance moneys. One fenshish piece of work, which involved the blowing up of a dam and the destruction of a large and populous city, was the climax of his wickedness. He fancied every inhabitant was destroyed and he fled to England with untold wealth and treasures from the ruined city. Two Malay survivors, however, appear to be self-constituted avengers. A brother of the ruler of the lost people turns up and he is bent on recovering his government's treasures. A certain old Dutch chemist, who had assisted the ship owner in many of his nefarious schemes and had blown up the dam, also appears on the scene. He wants his share of the plunder.

The various good people of the book have no time to sleep; their energy is amazing. Dr. Mercer, in love with Flower's niece, doesn't go to bed once during the whole narrative. He does half drop into a doze in his chair once or twice toward the end of the story, and one can scarcely blame him, but he nearly gets into a serious tangle in consequence, so he is careful not to repeat his indiscretion.

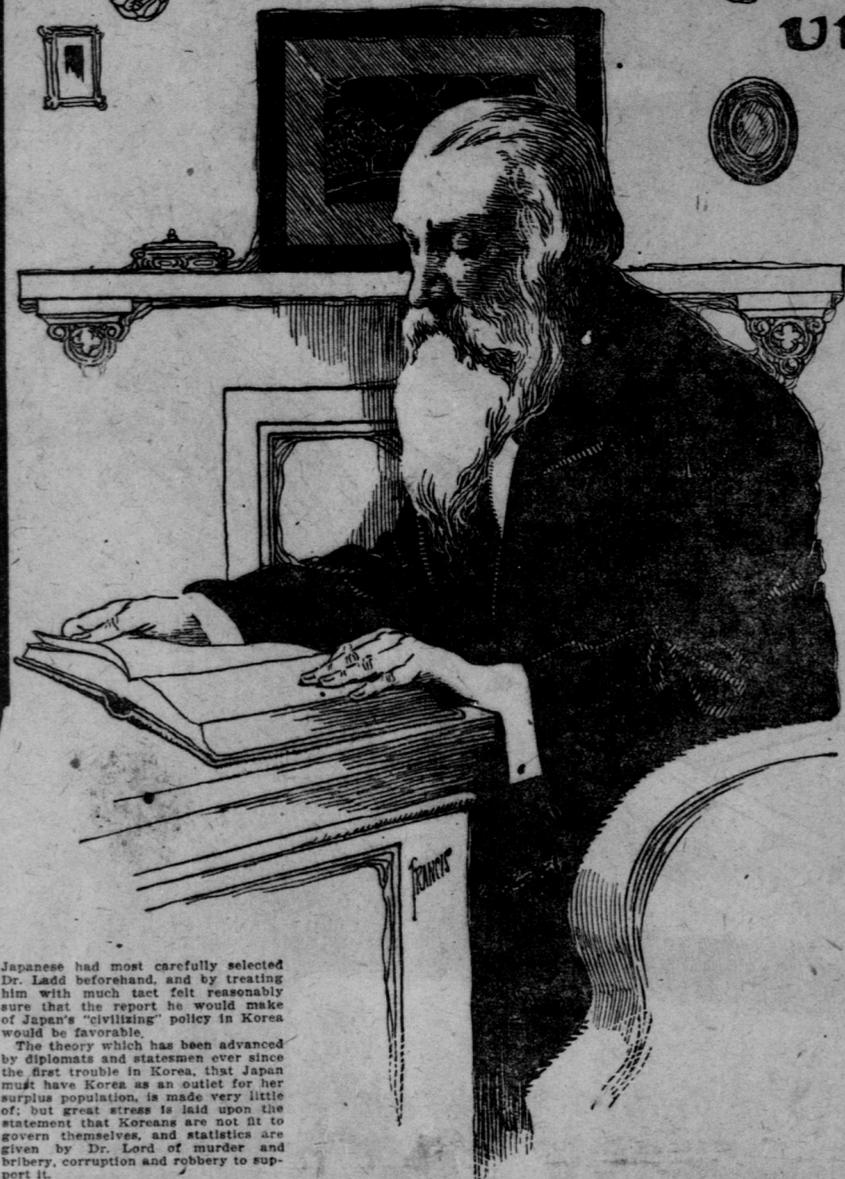
"The Five Knots" is a piece of string with five knots in it. Each one of the characters turns pale and sick at sight of it, but the reader is only slowly led into the mystery, one knot at a time, as the incidents are related. It is as if one could well imagine and could not be invented by the wily oriental of the far east. The Malay avengers send out a rolling ball of blue flame into the room of the victim; a curious aroma is instantly diffused throughout the apartment and the victim becomes unconscious. Then the string with the five knots is tied tightly around his head and a wet bandage firmly fixed over it. As it dries the bandage shrinks and presses the knots into the head in such a way that concussion of the brain results and no doctor can discover the cause of death.

Every chapter—no, every page—reveals a new mystery, and wild and improbable as the plot may seem, it is told that one creeps with horror whenever the villain appears and sighs with relief when Mercer or Russell or Uzall enters. Everything comes out right in the end. The love story is slight but satisfactory.

### "In Korea With Marquis Ito"

By George Trumbull Ladd. Published by Scribner's Sons, New York. Price \$2.50.

The majority of American citizens take their views of the Japanese occupation of Korea from the newspapers, but when an opportunity is afforded them to read a scholarly account of the conditions existing "over there," as this book will prove to be, it is not to be neglected. In 1906 Dr. George Trumbull Ladd of Yale university left this country for his third visit to Japan to give a series of lectures in Tokyo and at the Imperial university of Kyoto. He had been there but a short time when he received an invitation from Marquis Ito, the Japanese resident general in Korea, asking Dr. Ladd to become his guest. In that way it happened that Dr. Ladd spent much time last year in the Hermit Kingdom; and this book contains the results of his observations. The visit to Marquis Ito, and the subsequent account of his realization that in all foreign countries, and particularly America, there would be much discussion and endless criticism of the Japanese attitude; therefore he wished an intelligent expert—and such he considered Dr. Ladd—to get an insight into conditions in Korea which the average traveler would not see. The book is intensely interesting, and the writer has much charm of style, but one can scarcely overstate the feeling that the wily



Japanese had most carefully selected Dr. Ladd beforehand, and by treating him with much tact felt reasonably sure that the report he would make of Japan's "civilizing" policy in Korea would be favorable.

The theory which has been advanced by diplomats and statesmen ever since the first troubles in Korea, that Japan must have Korea as an outlet for her surplus population, is made very little of; but great stress is laid upon the statement that Koreans are not fit to govern themselves, and statistics are given by Dr. Lord of murder and bribery, corruption and robbery to support it.

The book is divided into two parts. The first, a narrative of personal experiences which, while most entertaining, serves only to give a pleasant picture of the country. The second half of the book Dr. Ladd calls "A Critical and Historical Inquiry." It contains nearly twice as much material as the first half and is interesting, though it does appear as if the author had been hypnotized by Marquis Ito, of whom Lafcadio Hearn said, "He is the wisest statesman in the far east."

While the book comprises 463 closely printed pages it reads like a novel and one lays the book aside with regret.

On the next to the last page the author shows what seems to be the real reason for writing the book. It is a paragraph well worth quoting, as it embodies the ideas of many others besides the author:

There is no essential reason why Japanese and Koreans should not become one nation in Korea. Whether this nation will be called Korea or Japan time alone can tell. That it will be a happier, more prosperous, more national and truly religious people than the present Korean people there is sufficient reason to predict. Indeed, considering the brief time which has elapsed since the convention of November 17, 1905, the improvement already accomplished under the control of the Japanese residency general, if not all that could be wished, has been all that could reasonably have been expected. The two peoples have learned to live peacefully and happily together in certain places, both of Japan and of Korea in past times. The conditions favoring their union, and indeed amalgamation, in Korea itself are today incomparably better than they ever were in any large way before. Marquis Ito and his sympathetic, effective supporters at home and in the residency general can be sustained for five years and yet be succeeded for a generation by those of like purpose and character, then the problem of the relations of Japan and Korea will have been solved."

### "My Life and My Lectures"

By Lamar Fontaine, C. E., Ph. D. Published by the Neale company, New York and Washington. Price \$3.

A man of remarkable experience is Lamar Fontaine, whose life story reads like the pages of some enchanted romance. From his birth in a tent on Laramie Prairie, in what is now Washington county, Texas, on October 10, 1829, he has been a soldier of strange fortunes. His early training was in the hands of a learned old Polish exile, a German baron who was banished from Europe for the part he took in the Polish rebellion. When he was 10 years old Fontaine was captured by Comanche Indians, living with them for nearly five years. After his escape from the Indians he went to sea, a boy of 15, eager to see "life."

alry. He was wounded 67 times and lay in an iron frame suspended from the ceiling for 21 days, that his broken bones might knit and heal. He was one of the immortal 500 Morris Island prisoners, "the survivors of 85 days of rotten cornmeal and pickles," and he was the best marksman in the army of northern Virginia. General Robert E. Lee once wrote that "60 men fell from Lamar Fontaine's single rifle in one hour's time at Waterloo bridge in August, 1862."

Captive, hunter, explorer, traveler, soldier—is it not a wonderful collection of material for romance? And as interesting as romance Mr. Fontaine has made this account of his own life and studies of life in his book, "My Life and My Lectures." For under every sun, in every clime, among red men and brown men and yellow men, in the zone or in the frigid, well or wounded, fed or starved, captive or free, Lamar Fontaine was always an observer, a thinker, a student of men and manners and governments.

The personality of the author shows plainly in his work, charming, buoyant, earnest, many sided. In his lecture, "America, the Old World," he discusses the probability and proof of America's having been the first home of the human race, and proves himself to be a close thinker, scientist and student; in the narrative of his life he proves a fascinating story teller, natural, clever and witty. It is a very remarkable book.

### "The Strenuous Career"

By Madison C. Peters, author of "Justice to the Jew," etc. Published by Laird & Lee. Price \$1.

"The Strenuous Career" or "Short Step to Success" is an old fashioned book of good advice, or rather "nuggets of wisdom," offered by Rev. Madison C. Peters. It does not seem possible that this author can be the same who wrote the powerful book, "Justice to the Jew." This work may be of an earlier period, but the dedication shows that the author still admires success as much as he did in his other work. This book is "To Oscar, Isidor and Nathan, scientists and noble, three noble brothers, who have not only made money by square dealing, but have found time to spend their energies as well as their fortunes in varied and multiplied labors in the noble cause of humanity and who have made their names honored throughout the land; to these fine examples of good success this book is dedicated." The book contains a volume of wisdom, and the youngster of today who starts out believing he can live in the business world by the golden rule is going to receive some hard shocks. However, Rev. Mr. Peters has many bits of real wisdom, of good and much encouraging advice.

### "An Open Letter to Cardinal Gibbons"

By Paul Sabatier. Translated by John Richard Statter. Published by Sherman, French & Co., Boston. Price 50 cents.

Any one desiring information on the controversy between France and the Vatican cannot do better than to read this succinct and instructive little volume by a writer who is intimately informed of Catholic affairs in France, and who, as a Frenchman, speaks from direct personal knowledge and observation and from the point of view of one who is deeply concerned for the ultimate welfare of the Catholic church. It is a response to Cardinal Gibbons' extended interview, as published in the Baltimore Sun, apropos of the separation of church and state in France, this interview having been widely circulated in Europe. In meeting the charges that the separation act was in-

of both subjects, as it makes an earnest plea for the sane natural life.

Dr. James has associated with the red man for 25 years and one cannot read this book without feeling that it was written out of experience and that the author had a real message clamoring to be delivered. Dr. James is so much in sympathy with the Indian and has lived so long among them that he has become a convert to many of their health and happiness the Indian is superior to the white man. The book is divided into 23 chapters, the first two being a short history of the white race and its treatment of the Indian and his civilization.

Then follows a list of subjects, as practiced by the Indian, from "Nasal and Deep Breathing," "Sleeping Out of Doors," "Diet," "Education," "Sex Questions," "The Sanctity of Nudity," "Self Restraint," "Art Work," "Religious Worship" and "Immortality."

It is a voluminous work, but cannot fail to interest every American. The value of the book is enhanced by 34 illustrations of Indian subjects from photographs by the author.

While in no sense a text book, it is so carefully arranged that it might well be added to the list of necessary books to read in connection with American history.

### "The Common Sense of Socialism"

By John Spargo. Published by Charles W. Scribner's Sons, New York. Price \$1.50.

"The Common Sense of Socialism," by John Spargo, is in reality a socialistic primer or tract designed to set forth in simple manner the claims which are made for socialism and the arguments by which these claims are supported. It is written in the form of letters to a workman of Pittsburg, answering the supposed questions of this workman, who represents the first ignorance concerning socialism of those not within its ranks, and later the arguments which study of the subject brings against the doctrine. Mr. Spargo is not one of those who hesitates at the thought of stirring up class dissension. His "common sense" is full of impassioned outcry against the wrongs of the workingman, such extracts as the following being printed in italics: "And yet, my friend, the horses in the stables of the rich men of the country and the dogs in their kennels have all these things, and more." An appendix gives a suggested course of reading on socialism. One may add that there is "socialism" in plenty in the book, but not much "common sense."

### New Books Briefly Noted

"Barham Beach," by Julia Ditt Young of Buffalo, is a long "poem" and deals with President Roosevelt and calls him an archangel and a prince. An appendix is given from a letter by some member of the author's family is printed as a sort of introduction or dedication. The writer says that this book "will give you a place in English literature in the line of the work of the centuries who have written immortal words, words which the world will not let die until the world itself dies and goes darkling out in space, a perished planet."

"Letters to a Business Girl" by Florence W. Saunders (Laird & Lee, Chicago) purports to be the letters of a mother, an experienced business woman, to her daughter just entering the commercial life. The book is filled with advice on all the problems that confront the young woman who becomes stenographer, book keeper or office assistant.

When it is known that "Smiling Round the World" is by Marshall F. Wilde (Funk & Wagnall company, New York) one knows at once that the travels are the least part of the book. They are only a peg on which to hang his unflinching good humor and his cheerful way of looking on life. It may be said in passing, however, that travels never before were so enjoyable. The book is illustrated from photographs.

Those who are hunting for a suitable girl's story will be glad to hear of "The Doctor's Little Girl" by Marion Ames Taggart. (L. C. Page & Co., Boston.) The little heroine, Nancy Porter, is a quaint and lovable sort of old fashioned girl whom every reader will love. The other characters, especially lame Rick, are all interesting. It is an unusually good girl's story.

"Voices and Visions" by Clinton Scollard is the first extended collection of his verse since 1904. The delicate and imaginative word pictures give voice with true poetic sympathy to the varied moods and perceptions of a nature open to a wide range of impressions and observations. Altogether Mr. Scollard's new book is a splendid volume of fresh and original verse. (Sherman, French & Co., Boston. Price \$1.00.)

The plan of the Maury physical

geography, involving a comprehensive and accurate treatment of the subject, combined with clearness and simplicity, has met with the approval of a generation of teachers. Professor Simonds has modernized the book and rewritten much of it. The illustrations are from photographs and are well chosen. The book will now be known as "The Maury-Simonds Physical Geography" and is published by the American book company, New York. Price \$1.25.

"The Romance of the Roadster" by Herbert N. Casson is really an industrial epic. It is a history of the development of agriculture during the last 40 years and shows the results which have been accomplished by labor saving machinery. The book also tells how a great industry has grown up in the United States and how it is that Americans can make the best machines and sell them cheaper than any other country. The use of American machinery in Europe forms an interesting chapter. (Doubleday, Page & Co., New York.)

If "Emily Bellefontaine" were a better written novel it would not be so offensive for the tale itself is mildly interesting, though nothing of startling originality is developed. A young girl of Missouri, partly French, is a clever amateur artist and through her work finds a rich and successful artist relative in New York, who takes her under his wing and finally marries her and she is badly illustrated. (W. B. Conkey & Co., Chicago.)

"The Last of the Houghtons" is not worth the paper it is printed on. If the public will take the reviewer's word for it the book will be read only by the reviewers (they are paid for it). The tale is melodramatic to a degree, the characters are weird and unnatural and the style throughout is awful. The story is of the south by Richard Wallace Buckley and published by the Neale company of New York and Washington.

The old familiar story from the Apocrypha is the tale which Walter Jasper has used as a theme for a five act drama, "Susanna." It cannot be considered very seriously, as it is so bad it is funny. The little volume is well printed and bound in excellent taste by the Mayhew publishing company of Boston.

### Gossip of Books and People Who Make Them

Myrtle Reed (Mrs. J. S. McCullough) has just finished a manuscript which will be published early this autumn. The manuscript is a romance bearing the title "Flower of the Dusk."

F. Marion Crawford has written the third novel of his latest trilogy, "Fair Margaret," "The Prima Donna" and "The Diva's Ruby." It probably will appear before the end of the year.

Havelock Ellis, author of "The Soul of Spain," just published, has made frequent trips to Spain during the last 20 years. He is general editor of the Contemporary Review, and has also appeared his "Man and Woman" and "The Criminal." He also edited the Mermaid series of the Old Dramatists.

After many years of literary rest the author of "Ships That Pass in the Night" has written another book, Miss Beatrice Harraden's new story to be called "The Interplay," a title taken from a phrase employed by an old English writer: "And there was playe and interplaye of musch diverse instruments acting on each other in curious fashions."

Following the publication of "The Golden Ladder," Margaret Potter (Mrs. John Donald Black of Chicago) sailed from New York for Italy, where she will pass the summer. Mrs. Black declares herself most interested in what she calls the "great American comedy," and will devote herself for a while to portraying phases of contemporary American life.

Readers of Mrs. Clara Louise Burnham's recent novel, "The Opened Shutters," may be interested to know that the old tide mill, Harpswell, which figured so prominently in the outcome of the story, and from which it got its title, was blown down by one of the storms of last winter. Mrs. Burnham has almost finished a new book, the scene of which is laid very largely in California.

It was to the fine taste and enthusiasm of Sir John Simeon that the world is indebted for Tennyson's "Maud." Tennyson accepted Simeon's suggestion to make a story out of a lovely lyric which first appeared in the Tribute for 1857 and is now incorporated into "Maud."

Oh, that 'twere possible, After long grief and pain, To find the arms of my true love Round me once again.

### White Race and Indian

By George Wharton James, author of "The Wonders of the Colorado Desert," etc. Published by Forbes & Co., Chicago. Price \$1.50.

"What the White Race May Learn From the Indian" is a book of intense interest by an eminent authority on the American Indian. From the standpoint of ethics and of health it is an important contribution to the literature.

The plan of the Maury physical

# The

# Chaperon

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