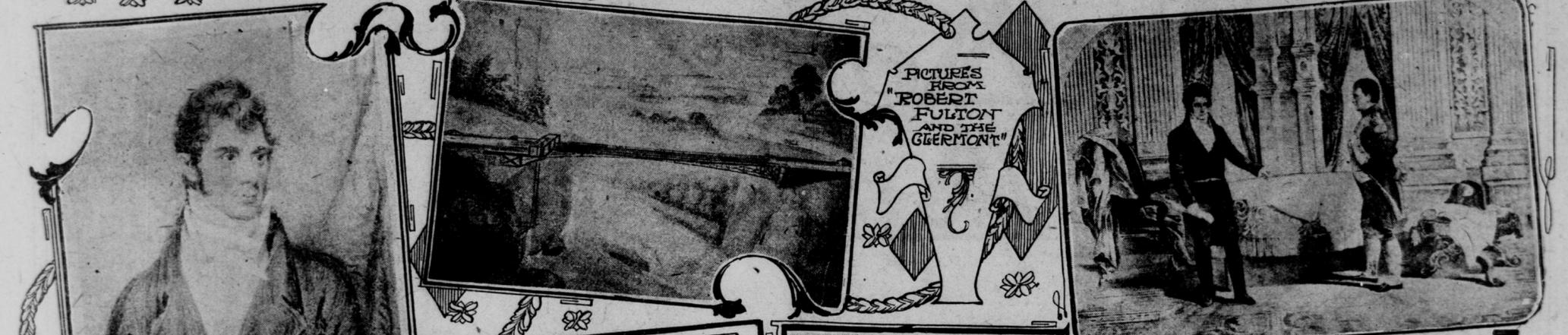


Robert Fulton and the Clermont

The 100th Anniversary of the Invention of the Steamboat

BOOK PAGE OF THE SUNDAY CALL CONDUCTED BY UNA H. H. COOL



"Go Forward"

By J. R. Miller. Published by Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., New York. Price 50 cents.

"While we live we must be moving on. When we stop, we begin to die. Rest is necessary, but only to renew our strength that we may press on again. An anchor is needful for a ship, but anchoring is not a ship's business; it is built for sailing. A man is made for struggle and effort, not for ease and loitering."

This is the foreword of Dr. Miller's annual gift book, "Go Forward," and also the keynote to the whole book. It is a plea for progress, an incentive to renewed effort, which the author believes to be at the bottom of all true manhood. The lesson is taken from the wanderings of the Israelites in the desert. For forty years they had been drifting here and there without any clear perspective. For some time they had been in the region of Mount Seir, and seem to have been going round and round the mountain.

"They were constantly in motion and yet were making no progress, were not getting any nearer the promised land. It was a fruitless kind of journeying. At last came the message, 'Turn you northward.' This command to go forward, says the author, is a daily message to every life.

It is a tasteful little book, with daily covers, attractive type, and containing a series of unusually pleasing pictures in full color by Warwick Goble.

"Wendell Philips: Orator and Agitator"

By Lorenzo Sears, L. H. D. Published by Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. Price \$1.50.

It is eminently fitting that in the Lincoln centenary year there should be issued a biography of Wendell Phillips, one of the greatest, if not the very greatest agitators of the cause of abolition. Doctor Lorenzo Sears enjoyed the privilege of hearing this remarkable orator speak on several occasions and therefore felt an almost personal acquaintance with his subject, which materially added to his sympathetic writing of the biography.

The author has made an exhaustive study of his subject and is therefore able to present a more complete study of the great man than has been offered before.

"The Music Lover"

By Henry Van Dyke. Published by Moffat, Yard & Co., New York.

This is a dainty and satisfactory gift book, as can be imagined. This edition is new and contains a frontispiece by Sigismund de Ivanowski. Those who have yet the pleasure in store for them of reading this charming pastime are almost to be envied, though one enjoys it nearly as much at the second and even the third reading. (Moffat, Yard & Co., New York.)

"Robert Fulton and the Clermont"

By Alice Cray Sutcliffe. Published by the Century Company, New York. Price \$1.20.

The author of this book is Alice Cray Sutcliffe, a great-granddaughter of the inventor, and if more excuse than that need be made for the book it is found in her preface. She speaks of many of the best known biographies of Fulton and gives full credit to the authors for much interesting material to be found in each, but claims to have a full quota of Robert Fulton's own descriptive plans for his inventions which have not before been made public. She has extended her research over a period of three years and has been able to transcribe many of Fulton's original and unique records and to secure reproductions of interesting portraits of or by him. These data she secured from relatives and friends and gives a long list of persons who have in this way assisted her in the production of her book. She then says:

"The Light Beyond the Shadows"

By Hope Lawrence. Published by Moffat, Yard & Co., New York.

"The Light Beyond the Shadows" is a little Christmas booklet written by Hope Lawrence, author of "A Letter of Hope." It is introduced to the reading public by a foreword written by the bishop of Vermont, the Rt. Rev. A. C. A. Hall, which will doubtless add much to its value in the eyes of some readers.

The paper was written, without the least idea of publication, to be read at the annual conference of a society of devout women, several of whose members are invalids. Many who heard it wished that more were able to so in

"The Garden Week by Week"

By Walter P. Wright. Published by Doubleday, Page & Co., New York.

This is a very interesting and useful book, containing a series of articles on gardening, arranged in a form that is both practical and artistic. It is a book that every gardener should have on his shelves. (Doubleday, Page & Co., New York.)

"The American Jewish Yearbook, 1910"

Published by the American Jewish Publication Society of America, Philadelphia.

This is a valuable and interesting book, containing a series of articles on the Jewish community in America. It is a book that every student of Jewish history and culture should have on his shelves. (American Jewish Publication Society of America, Philadelphia.)

"He was an artist with unbounded delight in the glories of color and form; he was an engineer and inventor, with patience developing a knowledge of unknown powers awaiting human control; he was, through all, an American statesman who, although he lived for years amidst the civilization and advanced intellectual attainment of France and England, was glad to return to his native land to demonstrate the truth of his final discovery in science and to launch his first steamboat upon the waters of the new world."

The author goes on to say that, if it has been said, Fulton lived 100 years too soon, this year, the centennial of his achievement, is a fitting time to celebrate in his honor. These papers are therefore a sort of memorial. The book is divided into four parts—his early life, Robert Fulton in France, the trial boat on the Seine, the Clermont. Each is full of anecdote never read before and the many illustrations add wonderfully to the interest of the text. The author writes most sympathetically of her distinguished ancestor and the book will take its place at the very head of Fulton literature. The appendix is filled with interesting matter, private letters, his treatise on canal navigation and the like and in itself reads like a romance. The book can not be praised too much.

"Christmas Builders"

By Charles E. Jefferson, D. D. Published by Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., New York. Price 50 cents.

The good old fashion, inaugurated by Dickens, of bringing out a little book especially for Christmas, has been persisted in by some writers of today with pleasing results. Take, for example, the present little book by a New York clergyman and writer. Its whole suggestion, aided by unusually skillful typography, is of holly and the Christmas season. And this happy dress but bears out the message of the text itself. It is a Christmas sermon, a vigorous protest against the present day spirit which seeks to burden this holiday under a constantly increasing mass of care and commercialism, and a plea for a return to the old time ideals and spirit.

"Ballads of a Cheechako"

By Robert W. Service. Published by Edward Stern & Co., Philadelphia. Price \$1.

These "Ballads of a Cheechako" are as strong as the first collection by this author, "The Spell of the Yukon," for which he received the title, "The Canadian Kipling." After once being likened to Kipling, and his verse is Kiplinglike to a degree in place it is difficult to get away from it, though

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Brief Reviews of New Books

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A Scotchman's Impressions of America and Americans

(From the Springfield Republican)

ALEXANDER FRANCIS, whose "Americans: an impression," has just been published by D. Appleton & Co., is a Scotchman who has spent a year in this country under conditions that made it possible not only to study American private life, but to hear the frank comments made on social problems by Americans of varied types. A traveler of rather wide experience, he is in a position to draw intelligent comparisons between America and several other countries, and his disposition seems eminently friendly. His experience has been unlike that of some visitors in that he concluded that in America "bragging is in danger of becoming a lost art." Two Oxford professors, one in New England and one in California, told him that they had not heard one single brag. Francis was not quite so unfortunate, but he found fewer brags than under the British flag: "Of a certain condescension I saw nothing at all." Is not Lowell's happy phrase, by the way, misapplied here? The certain condescension alluded to is "in," not "toward," foreigners. But it is interesting to note this traveler's impression that "Americans are less disposed than the Englishmen to dwell on and exaggerate their own national virtues." Possibly this may be due to the very bigness of the country, which is the chief cause of such American boasting as may be left. It is so big and so varied that it holds something of everything and does not offer so compact a body of customs and prejudices as a basis for contempt toward foreigners.

Francis comes presently to the vexed question of American speech, and as a Scot who has studied many branches of the English speaking race, he should be able to hold the scales impartially. "When, in an American school, a child is uncorrected for saying 'he done it' my ear is certainly offended; but not more than when, in an English school, there is no challenge of 'he had got,' in which no less than in the American phrase preterit and past participle are confused." This is loyal certainly, to the Scottish usage—in America as in England "he had got" is blameless, though "had gotten" is perhaps more common with writers who have more fear of the grammarian than knowledge of literature. Mr. Francis is free to say that "in neither England nor America is the mother tongue as well spoken as in Germany or France." Perhaps the trouble is that English is too easy; "The minutiae of the complicated grammar of their respective languages are and must be carefully drilled into French and German children in the schools; and between those who have, and those who lack, the mastery of these languages speech makes a gulf which is necessarily greater and more fixed than that which separates educated from uneducated among a people whose language, like the English, has few grammatical changes. Absolute accuracy of speech is rare in both England and America; by reason of the very ease with which relative correctness may be gained in the English tongue."

Yet in spite of American slang, which he learned to understand but not to enjoy, and American democracy in the use of language, the author was surprised to find the average speech in America not less accurate than in England. It is misleading to compare, as is often done, average American speech with that of a cultured section of English society. Mr. Francis decides that "the American voice differs from, and to the undoubted advantage of the English, in inflection and pitch." The judgment might advantageously have been amplified, for some observers complain that the American pitch is lower than the English, others that it is higher. Clearly both can not be right. In distinctness Mr. Francis gives the superiority to American speech: "The superior distinctness of the American is due, I suppose, to conscious effort as the English, others that it is higher. The superior distinction of the Englishman is due to habitual and unconscious ease, in conforming, each in his measure, to the standard which educated persons in both countries accept. He finds that the number of foreign

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- "Wendell Phillips: Orator and Agitator," by Lorenzo Sears, L. H. D.
- "Go Forward," by J. R. Miller.
- "The Light Beyond the Shadows," by Hope Lawrence.

BOOKS RECEIVED

- "Anne of Arvonlea," by L. M. Montgomery; L. C. Page & Co., Boston.
- "Guatemala and Her People of Today," by Neville O. Winters; L. C. Page & Co., Boston.
- "Salt and Sincerity," by Arthur L. Humphrey; Dodge publishing company, New York.
- "Stories of Children," by Charles Welsh; Dodge publishing company, New York.
- "The Story of King Lear," by Mary Macleod; Dodge publishing company, New York.
- "Cheer," by Katherine M. Gates; A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago.
- "Billy Tomorrow," by Sarah Pratt Carr; A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago.
- "The Boy of Famous Liberty," by Tuller Jenks; Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., New York.
- "Trepass," by Henry Dudeney; Small, Maynard & Co., Boston.
- "Webster's New Standard Dictionary (students' common school edition); Laird & Lee, Chicago.
- "The American Humorous" compiled by Wallace Irwin; Dodge publishing company, New York.
- "The American Newspaper," by James E. Rogers; the University of Chicago press, Chicago.
- "Along the Way," by William W. Campbell; R. F. Fenno & Co., New York.
- "The Silver Horde," by Rex Beach; Harper & Bros., New York.
- "The American Education: The Care and Training of Backward Children," by Dr. B. Maennel; Doubleday, Page & Co., New York.
- "The Boy of Famous Liberty," by Tuller Jenks; Doubleday, Page & Co., New York.
- "Thoughts on the 'Commons' of Congress," by Marcus Aurelius; Dodge publishing company, New York.
- "The Book of the Page," by G. I. Whitman; Dodge publishing company, New York.
- "Scholasticism," by Joseph Ricahy, S. J.; Dodge publishing company, New York.
- "Go Forward," by J. R. Miller; Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., New York.
- "Christmas Builders," by Charles E. Jefferson; Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., New York.
- "Wendell Phillips, Orator and Agitator," by Lorenzo Sears; Doubleday, Page & Co., New York.
- "The Garden Week by Week," by Walter P. Wright; Doubleday, Page & Co., New York.
- "The Life of Mirabeau," by S. G. Halliwell; Moffat, Yard & Co., New York.
- "The Music Lover," by Henry Van Dyke; Moffat, Yard & Co., New York.
- "The Light Beyond the Shadows," by Hope Lawrence; Moffat, Yard & Co., New York.
- "Ballads of a Cheechako," by Robert W. Service; Edward Stern & Co., Philadelphia.
- "India," by J. Kier Hardie; B. W. Huebsch & Co., New York.
- "The American Jewish Yearbook, 1910," by Herbert Friedenwald; the Jewish Publication Society of America, Philadelphia.
- "The Bill Toppers," by Andre Castaigne; the Bobbs-Merrill company, Indianapolis.
- "Dante and Collected Verse," by George Lansing Raymond; G. P. Putnam & Sons, New York.
- "Who's Who," by Nixon T. Fleckenstein; H. M. Caldwell company, Boston.
- "A Guide to the Country Home," by Edward Doubleday; the Orling publishing company, New York.
- "Zandfio," by Marian Edwards Richards; the Century publishing company, New York.
- "Little Songs for Two," by Edouard Vanecko; Dodge publishing company, New York.
- "Plato," by A. E. Taylor; Dodge publishing company, New York.



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