

On the Choosing of Holiday Books—Effect of the Busy Book Season—Two Famous Bachelors—A Notable Book About Audubon.

By Herbert Brewster. The Christmas time heralds the quest of the wise men, and among the wisest men who are seeking the best in books have no single guiding star to direct them. Amid the hubbub and clamor of those who cry their wares in public places, there are a few who shout with honest earnestness in the confusion of the multitude anxious to dispose of their printed merchandise.

As a matter of fact, to more than one class of people the present season is a most difficult one. The publishers are well-nigh exhausted from their labors, the book sellers are working night and day to supply the demands of their customers and probably the purchasers themselves will be glad when the year is over and they may, as they always do, stop buying books and begin to enjoy reading them. For it is the dead of winter that books are most appreciated. The fireside and the old favorites, the copy of one who is a good book, these are the elements of magic to drive away everything but solid enjoyment. Prof. Flinders Petrie, a well-known scientist, once remarked in a lecture that the happiest people are those that cannot read, but who will believe that? Mankind, a good share of mankind at least, has always wanted to read and Prof. Petrie has gone far to prove that in his archeological explorations, by turning up manuscripts and records made centuries before the first Christmas, we must have books, that is one certain fact we live by.

There have recently been published several volumes especially designed to satisfy the curiosity regarding writers, "Authors of the Day in Their Homes" is a collection of notes, taken during the past ten years, which makes some of the sketches somewhat out of date, though, of course, the publisher is of the opinion that the more the better. The sketches are of the following: "Stories of Authors' Loves," by Miss Clara Laughlin, gotten out in two well-illustrated and pointed volumes. Only the classic authors have been dealt with, but a great deal of very interesting biographical matter has been thus collected together.

"Interest in the heart affairs of men and women who wrote," says Miss Laughlin, in large part, they created the traditions of romance, these men and women; their written ideals of love have set the standard for the majority, have sent young blood and oftentimes blood not so young, coursing through veins in a swifter current, have filled young hearts with desire to love, to be loved, to bear and to bear grief and forgive in love's name. It is only natural that the young hearts and hearts that once were young should wish to know in what manner these men and women realized their own ideals. It is because their ideals and standards have become, in large part, our ideals and standards, that we have a curiosity to know what befell these men and women who wrote. In this spirit, and in this spirit only, are we pardonable for inquiring into their sacred relations.

THE CLEANSING AND HEALING CURE FOR CATARRH. Ely's Cream Balm. A POPULAR CALENDAR. The "Omaha" Road's Useful Calendar now ready for distribution.

Poked Fun at the Ready-Made Advance Notices Sent Out by Publishers of Some of the Books of the Year—Book Reviews.

The Bookman has recently been making fun of advance notices sent out by enterprising publishers with their wares. It was Harper's "young man" books that were the target. Bookman gave the blue ribbon for fulsome and ridiculous exaggeration, but surely he could not have exaggerated the fulsome and ridiculous literature which accompanies the volumes issued by F. Tennyson Neely. One book which has been written on a typewriter behind prison bars. The little notice which accompanied the other delightful things it exploits says: "We shall be surprised if its extraordinary character and fascinating style do not make it the literary sensation of the year; it is as thrilling as 'The Three Musketeers.'"

Another book treating of authors from an entirely different point of view, called "Stories of Authors' Lives," has been published by B. Lippincott, and was written by Miss Clara E. Laughlin. The writer is the author of "The Interior," a Chicago publication which she has edited for nearly a dozen years, and is also a contributor to prominent magazines. Miss Laughlin was born in New York, but has lived in Chicago for many years and has held responsible positions with publishing houses. Her subjects are the lives of authors and a very beautiful piece of bookmaking, the whole illustrated by photographs. Among other things in her new book she tells of the following interesting question: "Who was the Rosie who played so important a part in the life of John Ruskin, and for whom he wrote the 'The House of the Medici'?"

Another exquisite thing was three volumes of "The Letters of the Countess de Pliskin, with gold clasps and maples and ivy ornaments. These are, of course, gift books for rare occasions and are most beautiful. The entire series are wonderful specimens of what women have done in book binding. Miss Kipling has much praised for her work as a writer and as an artist.

Another poem by Kipling. Among interesting items of W. L. Alden from England is the report that Kipling has written a patriotic poem called "The Cavalry." But the story is a sequel to "Kim," that strange and wonderful book. Miss Rhoda Broughton, the author of "The Cavalry," has a little thimble because it tries to cover so much ground, at the same time entering into the lives of the soldiers.

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Information concerning their health. We are not mistaken that Dr. Gould is the editor of a well-known medical journal published in Philadelphia, and was one of the most prominent and successful visitors to St. Paul two years ago when the American Medical Association met in the city.

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Good white paper is put to such an evil use. The glorification of a thief and bigamy is the claim to be called a study in psychology.

There is much literature pertaining to the famous persons who made the first half of the nineteenth century memorable in Boston and Concord, but no record is more interesting and complete than this volume of Miss Whittier's just published. She gives an entertaining account of that period in the life of the poetess, and her husband, and of those who so much as she said, but manages to tell us something new or at least something that has not been said in an original way—and we get her better view of her life and work than anything yet written. The volume is notable for its tribute to Philip Brooks giving an insight into the deep spirituality of his nature, and a comprehension of the love felt by him by all classes and creeds. It describes his funeral, the closing of the Boston shops to do him honor and the great grief all kinds of masses because of his untimely taking off. To those who have not this book will be for those who have not, this book will be for those who have not, and particularly for those persons who are interested in the literature and its leading lights in the nineteenth century. The volume is illustrated by photographs of notable places in Boston and Concord.

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Thoroughbred—By W. A. Fraser. McClure, Phillips & Co., New York, publishers.

The lovers of horses and racing, this book should be by all rights, prove irresistibly interesting and exciting. It concerns John Dixon and his daughter Ailsa who is as much of a horse lover as her father. She is a great horse breeder, and rides Lausanne to victory with a great name. Her father's stables and his name are running through it, which ends happily in the marriage of Ailsa to a very rich man who does not care a farthing for a merry-go-round, but who takes Ailsa, her horse and her father's stables to get her. There is an entirely happy ending. The volume is illustrated by photographs of race courses, jockeys and hangers-on of race courses. The story ought to have a large sale among the lovers of horses. As a piece of book making the volume is very fine and well illustrated with characteristic pictures.

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STORE OPEN EVERY EVENING UNTIL XMAS. Prompt Mail Order Service. Silk Headquarters of the Northwest. Mannheimer. Sixth and Robert Streets, St. Paul, Minn. The Recognized Fashion Leaders in Cloaks and Costumes. Gift Buying. Now at its height—the three days only now remaining will be days of even greater activity at the Mannheimer store.

SPECIAL ON SALE FROM 7 TO 9 P. M. ONLY. Carpet Department. Stationery. Millinery. Perfumery. Silverware. With the Dolls. Petticoats. Jewelry. Ready-to-Wear. Dress Goods. Novelty Waist Patterns. Art Department. China Tea Set. Rock Island System. California Tourist Car. Home-seekers' Excursions. Lehigh Valley Calendar for 1903. Christmas and New Year's Holiday Rates. Through Tourist Car. SPECIAL CANADIAN EXCURSION. Buffalo and return. Albany and return. Montreal and return. Boston and return. Quebec and return. St. John's, N. B., and return. On sale Dec. 12 to Dec. 17. Sill lower rates Dec. 17-22. Return limit, 15 days. Ticket office, 365 Robert St. W. B. Dixon, N.-W. P. A.

ANNOUNCEMENTS. THE MEMBERS OF ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE, No. 100 and Exchange street, (this Monday) afternoon at 2 o'clock. GEORGE C. KNISPEL, W. M. DIED. WEED—In St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 21, 1902, at family residence, No. 2385 Pym st. (St. Anthony Park), Ellen I. wife of the late George W. Weed, aged 89 years. Funeral services today at 9 p. m. Interment at Spring Valley, Minn. BORDEN—In St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 21, 1902, at family residence, No. 2385 Pym st. (St. Anthony Park), Ellen I. wife of the late George W. Weed, aged 89 years. Funeral services today at 9 p. m. Interment at Spring Valley, Minn. AMUSEMENTS. METROPOLITAN. Klaw & Erlanger's Stupendous Production of Gen. Lew Wallace's BEN HUR. All New Year's Week. THE PRINCE OF PILSEN. CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. YALE Glee, Banjo and Mandolin Clubs. GRAND JACOB LITT PROPRIETOR. Special Funny George Sidney Matinee and 45 Singing Comedians. "BUSY IZZY."

ST. AR MATINEES DAILY. THEATRE. Evening 8:15. All week Xmas Matinee. SAM DEVER'S BIG COMPANY. Ladies' matinee every Friday. Next week "BOWERY BURGERS." Next week "THE EVIL EYE."