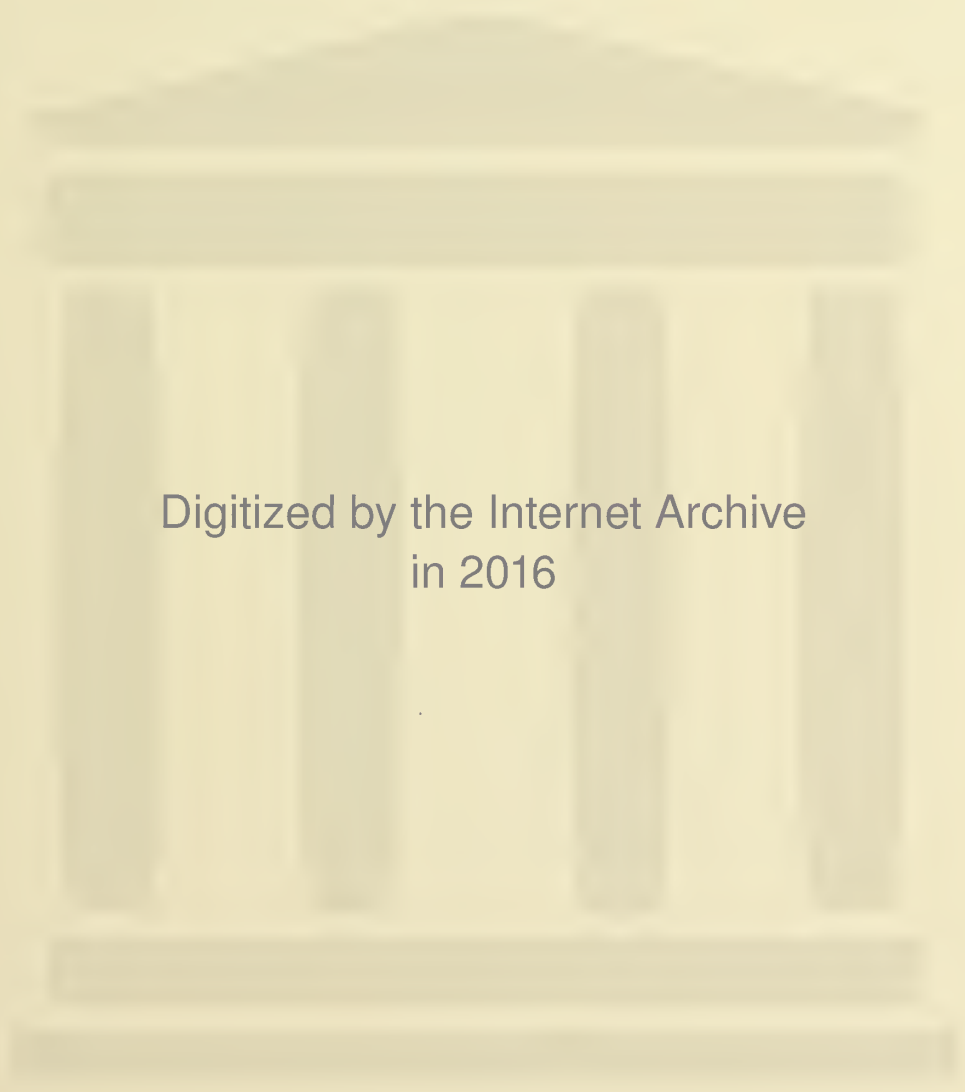


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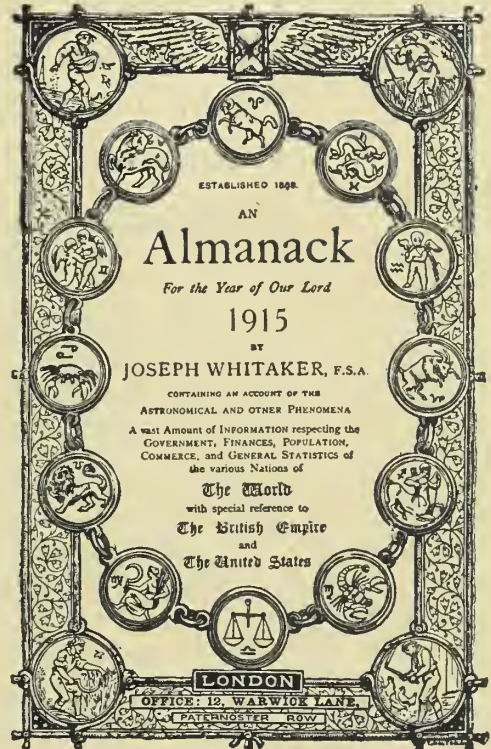


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Trade and Literary Gossip.

The Belgian Book Trade Relief Fund. In consequence of the Christmas holidays we are holding over to our next issue the list of subscriptions.

For King and Country.—The following has been received since our last:—

MESSRS. W. H. SMITH & SON (Seventeenth List).—W. J. Keech, Finsbury Rifles; J. Hicks, Liverpool Regiment; J. Peile, East Surrey; W. P. Marshment, Queen's Westminsters; C. G. Harrison, King Edward's Horse; L. Poucher, R.A.M.C.; H. Goddard, Royal Fusiliers; Wm. G. Gray, Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

Mr. George Brady, 22, London Road, Manchester, has joined the 20th Service Battalion of the Manchester Regiment.

Mr. H. A. Selden, of the firm of Selden & Peddie, antiquarian booksellers, 18, Sicilian Avenue, W.C., has joined the Inns of Court Officers' Training Corps. Mr. R. A. Peddie will carry on the business during Mr. Selden's absence.

The "Poetry Review," edited by Stephen Phillips, and published for the Poetry Society by Mr. Erskine MacDonald, beginning with the January number, will be enlarged to 112 pages, and during 1915 will be published bi-monthly at 1s. net, with a complete poetic play as a feature of each issue. The January-February number, now ready, contains a three-act drama by Mr. B. L. Bowhay, which the Editor considers a very fine work. The "Poetry Review" is now thoroughly established, and its present development should secure for it a large number of new subscribers.

The Result of Messrs. Cassell's Christmas Window Display Competition has been announced as follows:—First prize, Mr. Sydney Hunt, 16, The Broadway, Ealing, dressed by Mr. Claude White; second prize, Messrs. Frank Bentall, Kingston-on-Thames; third prize, Mr. W. B. Darley, Burton-on-Trent; special prize, Mr. W. Church, High Street, Ilfracombe.

Messrs. Whitcombe & Tombs, of New Zealand, have purchased the business of Messrs. Fergusson & Mitchell, publishers, printers, and manufacturing stationers, Dunedin, established some fifty years ago by the late Mr. John Mitchell. Mr. F. W. Mitchell will remain for some little time as consulting manager. Messrs. Whitcombe & Tombs intend to erect immediately a new building on the present frontage in keeping with their shops in Wellington and Christchurch.

Mr. W. A. Sifton, of the firm Sifton, Praed & Co., Ltd., has been gazetted to the 8th Service Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment, as Second Lieutenant.

Our contemporary, "The Clique," is now to be known as "The Clique, the Antiquarian Booksellers' Weekly." The Editor remarks that it is now nearly a quarter of a century since the journal first appeared, and since then it has faithfully adhered to the interests of the antiquarian section of the trade.

I.A.A.B.—A Committee Meeting will be held next Monday, January 4th, at which the Annual Report will be considered.

The **S.P.C.K.** has gratuitously distributed throughout the United Kingdom 125,000 copies of "A Call to Prayer," at a cost of £620. They have also supplied to our sailors and soldiers free grants of books to the value of £921 13s. 2d., representing a total of 125,973 separate publications from August 1 to December 3.

Mr. W. H. Matthews, of Messrs. Matthews & Brooke, booksellers, Bradford, who is well known to many members of the book trade as an attractive lecturer on various topics and in particular on "Prehistoric Times," has been actively engaged since September in giving lantern lectures on "Belgium and its Frontiers." He is desirous of raising £250 for the Lord Mayor of Bradford's War Relief Fund, and he has already reached about £200. In addition to his lecture, which covers a wider range than the title suggests, he includes patriotic songs and other items which are contributed by his daughter, Miss M. A. Matthews, and Miss M. Brooke, daughter of his partner. In addition, Corporal H. Newsholme (of the Bradford "Pals") does good service as the lanternist, while Miss Matthews as accompanist, Miss A. Brooke as elocutionist, and Mr. H. Matthews as a soloist materially contribute to the complete success of a very attractive and enjoyable entertainment. All the members of the party are connected with the book trade, and all booksellers will congratulate Mr. Matthews very heartily on the success of his undertaking.

Trade reports from Australia vary considerably. Some are frankly pessimistic, saying that "trade has been dead since the outbreak of the war, and there are few signs of recovery. Christmas orders have been much reduced, and the season will be a poor one." Others are more hopeful. Trade, they think, "may be dull on general lines, but it is more than compensated for by the extraordinary demand for war literature, maps, and illustrated papers." Another report is to much the same effect: "Business is keeping up pretty well to normal, though on different lines"; there are steady sales of fiction in cheap editions at 9d. and 1s. 3d., with a fair sprinkling at 3s. 6d. From another we learn that "business all round is dull, but this is as much due to the abnormally dry season as to the ambitions of Potsdam." Novels at 1s. 3d. are in good demand, with a marked effect on the sales of three-and-sixpennies—so much so that, in the opinion of one bookseller, new novels of the ordinary kind will have to be published in the shilling editions very shortly after their first appearance. There is also some expectation that prices may be raised—the regular sixpennies will go up to sevenpence and sixpenny odd lines to ninepence. The general outlook for the Christmas trade anticipates a reduced volume at lower prices, while it is suggested at the same time that the courageous buyer (in moderation) seems likely to fare better than the timid one.

Princess Catherine Radziwill, whose "Memories of Forty Years" has been so extensively reviewed, has just concluded an arrangement with Messrs. Cassell to write a series of articles on Royalties for "The Saturday Journal." The Princess belongs to a Russian family which has enjoyed the friendship of Emperors and Kings, and has interwoven itself into the histories of Courts of Europe, to which the Princess has had the entrée.

Messrs. D. Wyllie & Son, the well-known booksellers of 247, Union Street, Aberdeen, have just reached the centenary of the founding of the firm, which they have celebrated by the issue of a very interesting booklet (illustrated with excellent portraits of the founder and the two following heads of the firm), which gives some account of the founder of the business, and of its conduct during the hundred years it has been in existence. David Wyllie was born in 1777, the only son of one David Wyllie, a well-known merchant tailor in Aberdeen, where he was familiarly known as Deacon Wyllie, from his unbroken connection with the Incorporated Trades. David Wyllie the younger, at the age of fourteen, became in 1791 an apprentice to Alexander Brown, who had only six years before founded the bookselling business still known as that of Messrs. A. Brown & Company. He remained with Mr. Brown for twenty-four years, and in 1814, on the death of Mr. Alexander Leslie, a bookseller near Crown Court, Union Street, he started business for himself in the year that saw the publication of "Waverley," and his first apprentice was a very young boy, Lewis Smith, who later held a very important position in the civic life of Aberdeen. In 1824 Mr. Wyllie, in association with others, started that indispensable annual, "The Aberdeen Directory," and in 1833 the firm issued the first part of their circulating library catalogue. It contained some 2,235 items, of which about half were novels, and later a supplement was added, bringing the number of items up to 4,225. In 1844 Mr. Wyllie died quite suddenly at the age of 67. He was succeeded in the management of the business by his second son, James Wyllie, who was born in 1809, and long held the position of the leading bookseller in Aberdeen. He was for a time a member of the Aberdeen Town Council, and was asked to take the position of Dean of Guild, but declined the honour. His nephew, Charles David Wyllie, born in 1857, became a partner in the firm, and carried on the management till his death in 1896, at a comparatively early age. During his rule the firm published a large number of interesting books of historical interest. Associated with him as a partner was Mr. Edward Young, who died just before him, while Mr. Patrick Singer, a connection of the Wyllie family, was also for some time a partner. The various premises in which the business has been carried on are the following: It was commenced by the founder at 43, Union Street; in 1834 it was removed to 51, Union Street, in 1847 to 111, Union Street, in 1867 to 167-9, Union Street and 1, Bridge Street. In 1891 the present premises at 247, Union Street were taken, and it has remained there ever since. The firm have been, it may be added, booksellers to the Aberdeen University Library since the union of the colleges in 1860, and prior to that date they had been for twenty years booksellers to the library at King's College. Mr. R. M. Lawrance, who has written the brochure, has put together a great many facts of interest concerning the heads of the firm, and he may be very heartily congratulated on the complete success with which he has carried out a record of which the firm may be justifiably proud.

Messrs. E. Marlborough & Co. have published a brief "Soldiers' Language Manual in English and French," which will no doubt prove very useful to our soldiers at the front.

Printing Machinery as used in England is largely, it has been said, manufactured in America and Germany, but it would seem that when put to it English machine makers can at least hold their own. As an example, we may note that the Christmas number of the *Illustrated London News* was entirely printed on a new rotary duplex intaglio machine which was constructed by Messrs. Pickup & Knowles, of Pendleton, Manchester, from the designs of the *Illustrated London News*, with a running speed of no less than 5,000 to 6,000 sheets per hour. The machine was made in five weeks, and was delivered, erected, and running within eight weeks from the date of the order, an achievement which cannot, we think, have been often surpassed.

"**Young England**," the popular monthly magazine for young people published by the Pilgrim Press, reaches with its January issue its 400th monthly number, an achievement on which its conductors may be very heartily congratulated. To attain this result in these days of change and uncertainty means a great deal, and evidences a permanent vitality which is very gratifying. The January number fully maintains the high level of excellence at which the magazine always aims, and all the articles and stories are full of interest and attraction.

Messrs. Vinton & Co. have published as usual the "Live Stock Journal Almanack for 1915." It has long earned an established reputation, and the information it provides is as useful and as well arranged as ever. Articles on "Maintaining Horse Supplies After the War," "The Future of Horse Breeding," and "The Future Supply of Horses" will be read just now with special interest, and deserve the careful attention of all horse owners and horse breeders.

Messrs. Williams & Norgate have just published "Examination of Lubricating Oils," by Thos. B. Stillman, M.Sc., Ph.D.; "Soil Bacteriology Laboratory Manual," by Paul S. Burgess, M.Sc.; "Metallurgy: A Condensed Treatise for the use of College Students," by Henry Wysor, B.Sc., second edition; "Popular Treatise on the Colloids in the Industrial Arts," by Prof. Dr. Kurt Arndt; "Practical Handbook for Beet Sugar Chemists," by Werner Moeller-Krause; "Leavening Agents: Yeast Leaven, Baking Powder, Aerated Bread, &c.," by Richard N. Hart, B.Sc.

Mr. T. Fisher Unwin has just issued a popular shilling edition of "The Red Laugh," a story of war by the Russian novelist Leonidas Andreief; also new impressions of the following volumes in the "Story of the Nations" series, which have a particular bearing on the present war: "Modern France," by André Lebon; "Russia" and "Poland," by the late W. R. Morfill; "The Balkans," by William Miller; "Germany," by S. Baring Gould; "Turkey," by Stanley Lane Poole; "Austria," by Sidney Whitman; and "Hungary," by Arminius Vambéry.

Messrs. Holbrook & Son, Ltd., of 154, Queen Street, Portsmouth, have published a very useful little brochure by F. J. Johnston-Smith, LL.D., entitled, "The Union Jack, What It Is and What It Means," with a coloured diagram and twelve lyrics. The information it gives is very useful, and some of the lyrics, which were originally written as a souvenir of the First Imperial Council, have the ring of true poetry.

English readers will no doubt be interested to know that Mr. H. H. Bancroft, the eminent American historian, is also the proprietor of the San Francisco house of H. H. Bancroft & Co., one of the most extensive book, stationery, and publishing establishments west of New York, with a reputation and trade in the Old World which rivals that of the largest Eastern houses. Mr. Bancroft, who was born in 1832, and is consequently now eighty-two years of age, is still writing. He has recently revised and extended his famous "History of Mexico," and he has just completed an entirely new work, "Retrospection." He tells us that G. H. Derby & Co. were booksellers in Buffalo towards the middle of the last century, and in 1852, when the gold fever was at its height, they determined to start a branch book store at San Francisco under their two clerks, H. H. Bancroft and G. L. Kenney. Mr. Derby soon died and the goods had to be sold, but Mr. Bancroft started a business for himself, from which has grown the immense San Francisco concern. The management Mr. Bancroft has now turned over to his brother, but though it was built up entirely by Mr. Bancroft's own enterprise and sagacity, his fame with posterity will not be that of the successful business man, but of the historian, for his work in this field will be valued as long as the American nation lives.

The Rev. L. MacLean Watt, B.D., the author of "Britannia's Answer" and other war poems, is the well-known minister of St. Stephen's, Edinburgh, one of the great city churches. He was born in Skye, and graduated at Edinburgh



University. He accompanied the King of Denmark in Iceland as correspondent of the *Times*, *Scotsman*, and *Manchester Guardian*, in 1907, and is the author of a number of books on devotional and literary subjects. The publishers, Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston & Co., report that Mr. Watt, after passing the proofs for press, left early this week for service at the front.

Obituary.

Sharratt.—December 24, aged 42, Mr. G. E. Sharratt, who for many years has been well known in the book trade. He was for some time with Messrs. Reeves & Turner, and later with Sotheby's. Subsequently he was for thirteen years head porter at Messrs. Hodgson's. Illness compelled him to leave, and he tried to start a small business for himself, but disease made headway and he had to enter a hospital, where he passed away, leaving a widow and three young children.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—As I “take up my pen” to address you for the first time in 1915, my predominant thought is that the date of this present letter is New Year’s Day. Even in normal times one must need a tolerably sluggish imagination to date one’s letters “January the First” without a kind of subconscious feeling that the act marks the beginning of a new voyage upon the uncharted waters of the future, the opening of a fresh chapter in the book of the great unknown. But here we are, to-day, on the threshold of a year critical beyond any that the oldest among us have seen, and big with the fate of nations and empires. Who shall say what further testing experiences may be in store for us, as a people and as individuals, before New Year’s Day comes round again? Apart from our patriotic anxiety about the fortunes of the war, and the heavy and unceasing strain upon the minds and hearts of those whose loved ones are helping to fight the battles of their country, there is, of course, for so many of us, the inevitable worry caused by the blighting effects of this world-struggle upon the particular interests and avocations on which our material welfare more or less depends. What, for instance, is to be the experience of the book trade, already so hard hit by the war, in the course of the year upon which we are now entering? As to that, everything obviously hangs upon the duration of the conflict—in other words (since no other conclusion is possible or thinkable) upon the further length of time that it will take the Allies to beat Prussian militarism to its knees, and to complete the rescue of Europe from the curse which has so long overshadowed it. Is there not at least ground for hope that this happy consummation may be reached before the bells ring in the birth of another year?

Meanwhile, in view of the encouraging military prospect with which we enter upon the present fateful year of grace, we surely need not fear, here at home, any weakening of that spirit of resolute enterprise which enabled things to be kept going with such a surprising degree of success during the never-to-be-forgotten latter part of 1914. We may be confident that the book world, at any rate, has learnt its lesson from that experience, and that everything possible will be done to make the spring season as active and as productive as the conditions will allow. If the news from the front—or rather, the fronts—should be as favourable within the next few weeks as there seems good reason to hope, the process of general recovery from the effects of the war-blight may have visibly begun even by the time the earliest of the spring issues appear. But, in any case, and whatever the immediate course of events, we may safely look to the publishers, and all others concerned, to continue to maintain that courageous policy which recent experience has shown to be the wise and the safe one.

It may be said of the prophets, as Sheridan said of the critics, that “when they do agree, their unanimity is wonderful.” They are certainly unanimous enough with regard to the great question of the time; for, of all the various seers and soothsayers who have undertaken to reveal the future course and result of the war, not one seems to have ventured to predict the victory of Germany. This, I think, is a fact from which even the most sceptical may derive satisfaction, since our up-to-date prophets, who are apt to combine their powers of divination with a keen eye to business, are quite shrewd enough to avoid the mistake of putting their money, so to speak, upon the wrong horse. I see, by the way, that the famous Madame de Thèbes foretells the end of the war for some date between March and July. She thus allows herself, no doubt, a fairly wide margin; but, even so, there seems at the moment to be a touch of rashness in the prediction.

Even if the book trade were to keep a tame prophet of its own, I am afraid he would have a tough job to

forecast with any exactness what is in store for it in the course of this exceptional New Year. Almost the only thing certain about it is that it will be, before all else, a great year for war literature. Fairly numerous as the books relating to the great conflict have already been, they have been merely the pioneers of the avalanche that is certain to descend upon us during the coming twelve months. For the rest, practically everything will depend, as I have said, upon the nature of the news from the theatres of war and its effect upon the public spirits. The leading London bookseller was doubtless quite right who told an interviewer, the other day, that “there will be room in the spring for bright, cheerful novels, especially if the tide is running strongly in our favour.” But in that happy case there will also be “room” for plenty of new issues of other kinds as well.

That curious strain of childish pettiness which blends so oddly with other elements of the modern German character is once more exemplified in the comments of a Munich paper upon the alleged action of certain London publishers in notifying foreign customers that orders for English books must in all cases be accompanied by a written guarantee that the books are not destined for enemy countries. This is denounced as a proof that England is set upon compassing Germany’s “intellectual starvation,” and the Munich journal makes the fatuous remark that its country “can truly dispense with the colourless products of English literature,” and “will be happy if the English keep their so-called literature to themselves.” Alas! it is to be feared that Germany’s “intellectual starvation” was set on foot by her militarist seducers long before the war broke out.

One wonders, by the way, whether the Germans are nowadays professing to find the literature of their great Eastern foe equally contemptible. It is quite possible, since one could hardly expect the modern Teutonic mind to appreciate the spirituality and the high ideals of the great Russian writers. Here in England we are fortunately under no such disability; and everyone in this country who has read, even in translation, any of the masterpieces of Muscovite literature must have rejoiced at the glowing tribute recently addressed “to our colleagues in Russia” by a representative body of distinguished British authors. It is worth noting that Mr. H. G. Wells, one of the signatories, is contributing an introductory chapter to a volume by Mr. Denis Garstin, entitled “Friendly Russia,” which is about to be issued by Mr. Fisher Unwin, and in which the advantages of the new *entente* between the two great peoples will doubtless be emphasised.

As for that other and older *entente* to which we are happily parties, we have a peculiarly interesting example of its literary fruits in the fact that a translation of “Alice in Wonderland” is now being read by French children. To have rendered the unique humours of “Lewis Carroll’s” nursery classic into a foreign tongue must indeed have been an exacting task; but I have no doubt that the little French boys and girls for whom the work has been accomplished will find in the result abundant cause for gratitude to the translator.

Among my Christmas presents I was lucky enough to receive a copy of Sir James Barrie’s “Half Hours,” published by Hodder & Stoughton. Not only do the four miniature plays make delightful reading, but their effect—even for those who have seen them in the theatre—is greatly enhanced by the quaint passages of humorous description and comment which the author, acting as a kind of chorus, has interpolated at various points. I have found the little book, from end to end, an absolute joy.

War or no war, I am not going to close this New Year’s Day letter without offering to you, and to all who read these lines, sincere wishes for the largest measure of happiness and prosperity that may be attainable in 1915.

JACOB OMNIUM.

January 1.

Notices of Books.

Sketches in Poland. Written and Painted by Frances Delaney Little. With an Historical Postscript. (Andrew Melrose, Ltd.)—At the present moment Poland possesses an especial interest for all English readers, and any book which gives a true account or description of the country and its people, or even any useful information, is sure of a very hearty welcome. Miss Frances Little's book has indeed the added advantage that it was finished in the spring of this year, before the outbreak of the war, and nothing has since been added or changed. It is, therefore, the report of a witness who is entirely apart from any influences that might have been exerted on either side of the war. She tells us frankly that whatever value her book "may have lies in this, that it is a truthful record of what I have seen with my own eyes and heard with my own ears, descriptions of the places that I visited, the people whom I met, and the impressions that they made on me; sketches, in fact, written as I have painted them with no other motive than that strange human craving we all have that others should see the things that we saw and be saddened by the thing that has made us sorry." When we note that Cracow, Lwow, Warsaw occupy a large amount of space, the immediate interest of the book is sufficiently guaranteed. Miss Little has a vivid and picturesque style of writing, and she places before her readers the scenes and incidents she has seen and the persons she has met with realistic and artistic effect. All that she has to say about the treatment of the Poles by the Germans must make everyone wish more earnestly than ever for the victory of Russia in the present conflict, and she specially notes that the feelings of the Poles towards Russia are rapidly changing. The whole book through, probably quite without any definite intention, is a very forcible plea for the restitution of Polish nationality, and she makes it quite clear that the Poles are now prepared to trust the new attitude of the Czar, particularly as they believe it will be supported by the powerful influence of France and England. The Historical Postscript is full of helpful information. It sets forth shortly the existing almost unbearable conditions which the Poles have to endure from their present oppressors, a brief indication of which may be found in the remark that "it is difficult to enumerate the many forms of petty tyranny exercised in Posnana (a part of Prussian Poland) to-day." A word of commendation must be added for Miss Little's pleasant and attractive colour drawings, which add very materially to the value of her most timely and informing book.

Argentina: Physical Features, National Resources, Means of Communication, Manufactures and Industrial Development. By George J. Miles. With Introduction by W. H. Koebel.

Chile. By the Same. With Introduction by the Same. (Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons.)

This useful series of South American Handbooks, which is now in course of publication, is making excellent progress, and these two latest volumes will probably prove as popular and successful as the volumes which have already appeared. As to the general plan of the series, we need only note that the books are intended to supply trustworthy information on the natural resources, the climate, industrial development and finance of the various countries dealt with. The commercial aspects of the countries and of the peoples receive special attention and the industrial information is more than usually full and carefully compiled. As regards Argentina, its importance in the employment of English capital and English energy is too well known to need any emphasis. It was, indeed, the first of all the Spanish-American States to assert

its intrinsic commercial importance, not only in Europe but in the United States, and its present prosperity is no doubt very largely due to that noteworthy fact. It provides for immigrants, if only they are of Latin nationality, a most favourable opportunity, and the race for wealth in Argentina has now become exceptionally keen. The special advantage is the fact that the Government has now for many years been comparatively stable, a condition the value of which for the success of trade and commerce is at once apparent. Chile, if not at present as important commercially as Argentina, affords various features of more than ordinary interest and is steadily growing in progress and importance. It depends very largely on the great chain of the Andes, so much so that it may almost be said that it contains two territories, that of the Andes and that which is not of the Andes. It is the Andes that provide the mineral wealth which is the greatest asset of the country. At the same time, the native of Chile is one of the most energetic and vigorous in South America, so much so indeed that he has been termed the Englishman of that vast continent. As regards her pastoral and agricultural possibilities, she is perhaps a little overshadowed by her neighbour State, the Argentine, but any deficiency here is more than made up by her mineral treasures. The likenesses and differences of the two countries are very carefully brought out, and the various points in which each offers a field for British trade enterprise and commercial initiative are carefully set forth. Each book, indeed, is of the greatest value to all who have, or who contemplate having, anything to do with these two countries, and each may be confidently commended.

The British Navy: Its Making and Its Meaning. By Ernest Protheroe. With Eight Full-Page Plates in Colour and 289 Illustrations in the Text. (G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd.)—Though one does not hear very much about the British Navy, we are all conscious of its supreme importance, both as our first line of defence against invasion and as assuring for us the command of the seas against our enemies. We may therefore very heartily thank Mr. Protheroe for this most useful and informing account of what our Navy is to-day and how it has become what it is. Nor is the value of the book one whit the less because it is primarily intended for young readers. He has already proved himself an expert in expounding such matters to boy readers, and the more popular the plan and intention of such a book as this the greater its value for the instruction and information of the English reading public. As the writer well points out, a complete treatment of the subject must include shipbuilding, exploration, Empire building, and all these matters are carefully and satisfactorily handled. Mr. Protheroe commences his story at the very beginning—the early ships of the early races. Thence he comes to the Viking and the Saxon ships. The bold exploits and courageous deeds in the spacious times of Queen Elizabeth are fully described and all the great achievements of our wooden walls to the time of the Napoleonic wars and the crowning victory of Trafalgar. The progress and changes of the past hundred years, though quite different, make equally interesting and, from some points of view, romantic reading. Indeed, the whole book is absorbingly attractive from the first page to the last. The appendix, which gives particulars of the Fleet to-day, is very useful. The coloured plates are admirable, while the numerous black-and-white illustrations are all that can be desired. They not only help to explain the story, but they impress upon the memory the salient points and matters with which the book has to deal.

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- STRAND Magazine (The) Vol. 48, July to December. Royal 8vo. *Venues* 6/6
- UNIVERSITY Correspondent and University Correspondent College Magazine. Vol. XXIV., 1914. 4to, pp. 194. *Univ. Tut. P.* net 2/6
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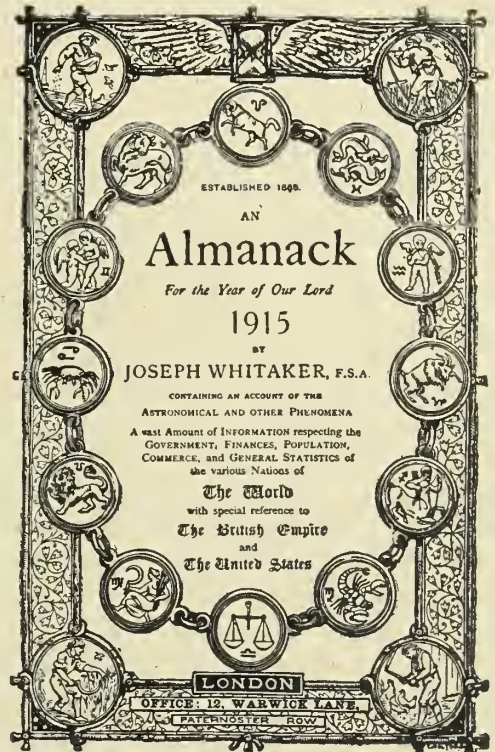


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Norwich.—Mr. W. P. Flavell has moved to
larger and more convenient premises at No. 8,
St. Gregory's Alley.

Stamford.—The two bookselling, news, sta-
tionery, and fancy businesses carried on by
Messrs. Evans & Co. at 53, High Street, and 58,
High Street, Stamford, have been purchased by
Messrs. Greaves & Co. The sale was effected by
Messrs. F. T. Evans & Co., the trade valuers, of
Cathedral House, Paternoster Row, E.C.

Messrs. Raphael Tuck & Son on Christmas Day
presented a copy of the Nation's Christmas Card
to every wounded British soldier throughout the
United Kingdom, the lists having been kindly
furnished by the War Office.

Messrs. Longmans & Co. inform us that it has
been decided by Cardinal Bourne and Mr. A. C.
Benson, as representatives of the late Monsignor
R. H. Benson, that an authorised biography shall
be issued covering the whole period of his life.
The representatives would be much indebted to
any persons who have letters from Monsignor
Benson if they would kindly lend them. They
could be sent either to Mr. A. C. Benson, at the
Old Lodge, Magdalene College, Cambridge; or
to His Eminence Cardinal Bourne, at Archbishop's
House, Westminster, S.W.; or to the publishers,
Messrs. Longmans, Green & Co., 39, Paternoster
Row, London, E.C., and will be returned as soon
as possible to their owners. No letters will be
printed without the consent of the sender.

It is stated that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and
Mr. Hilaire Belloc are each engaged in writing
a history of the war, both of which may be
expected to take permanent rank as standard
military histories. Sir Conan Doyle, it will
be remembered, wrote what has been recognised
as the most important history of the Boer War,
and Mr. Hilaire Belloc's weekly reviews of the
military situation are everywhere admitted to be
of exceptional interest and value.

Messrs. Methuen & Co. have just published
"Percy—and Others," a collection of some of the
best of Mr. F. Anstey's contributions to *Punch*
during the last few years; also a volume of stories
by Mr. Pett Ridge, entitled "Book Here."

The House of Cassell held its Annual Travellers' Luncheon on New Year's Day at De Keyser's Hotel, under the chairmanship of the General Manager, Mr. Arthur Spurgeon, J.P., who was supported by all the editors and managers. Mr. Thomas Young, who proposed "The House of Cassell," said they had emerged from 1914 chastened but triumphant, and, in his opinion, it reflected the greatest credit upon their General Manager, who so skilfully piloted the business through a most anxious and critical period. Up to the time war was declared they had hoped that the figures of 1914 would prove a record, but the war dashed those hopes to the ground. The outlook was pretty black in the early days of August, but thanks to the able guidance of their chief, and the hearty co-operation of every worker in the House, they had victoriously come through the grave crisis. They would remember during the first week of the war the editors and managers had met and unanimously resolved to ask the Directors to accept from the staff a voluntary offer of a reduction in salary until the war was over. He knew that, from the moment those present had so generously decided to give up part of their income, Mr. Spurgeon was planning and scheming to give it back to them again, and at the end of only two months the embargo was removed. It said much for the stability of the business that last week the Directors returned to every man and woman the amount which in the early stages of the war they had voluntarily and cheerfully surrendered. There had been many men who had played the part of Father Christmas, but none had ever proved him to be such a reality as Mr. Spurgeon did by this kindly act. Undoubtedly there were difficult times ahead, because a great war necessarily meant disorganisation in a hundred different ways, but he was confident that the House of Cassell was stronger to-day than it had been at any time since the Company was formed. In responding to the toast, Mr. Arthur Spurgeon made special reference to the spirit of good comradeship which prevailed at the Yard. It could not have been more effectively demonstrated than it was in August last. They had come through the crisis splendidly, and he had high hopes for the coming year. The toast of "The Travellers" was proposed by Mr. Arthur Watson, the Book Manager, in most appreciative terms, and Mr. W. J. Raison, the senior traveller, responded. On behalf of his colleagues and himself he expressed sincere gratitude to the General Manager for the delightful letter which accompanied the cheque to which reference had been made by Mr. Young. The cheque had been spent, but he should retain the letter as a very precious possession. The "Friends of the House" was proposed by Dr. Eric Bayley, to which Mr. Frederick Morris, solicitor, and son of Sir Malcolm Morris, felicitously replied.

The "Service Kipling" which Messrs. Macmillan & Co. are now publishing should certainly prove very popular "for general use under present conditions." The volumes are of a handy and convenient pocket size, they are neatly bound, and very well printed. At present the following have appeared: "Plain Tales from the Hills," two volumes; "Soldiers Three," two volumes; "Wee Willie Winkie," two volumes; "From Sea to Sea," four volumes. Each volume is published at half-a-crown net.

Mr. R. B. Marston will publish in the *Fishing Gazette*, to be issued to-morrow, a very helpful and suggestive article on "The Outlook for our Daily Bread in 1915," in which he makes an effective appeal to the Government to reconsider its decision of last October not to hold out any special inducements to our farmers to increase their acreage of wheat, barley, oats, &c., for the next harvest. The subject is one which Mr. Marston has already taken up with much energy, and his article certainly provides many convincing arguments for the increase of our home grown supply of corn in view of the rising price of bread and the certain shortage of over-seas supplies due to the war. We hope that Mr. Marston's arguments may this time prove effective, and that the Government may be induced to follow the wise advice he gives them in this admirable article.

Messrs. Cassell's "Book Talk" for January contains a very interesting account of the systematic method by which the French bookseller is trained for his vocation. Seven years ago the Cercle de Librairie of Paris—which is organised by the Syndicate of Publishers, the Chambre Syndicale of the Libraries of France, and the Association of Commis Libraries and is subventioned by the Ministry of Commerce—started training courses extending over two years. The article gives details of the different courses, and is well worth the attention of those who would wish to see something on similar lines established in England.

The first annual volume of the "Bairns' Magazine," edited by Miss Estelle W. Stead, daughter of the famous journalist, provides the young readers for whom it is prepared, with an excellent budget of interesting and instructive reading. As Miss Stead explains in her Introductory Note, for the first six months it was called "Books for the Bairns," and was intended to take the place of the well-known little pink books, "Books for the Bairns," which Mr. Stead had brought out for some time. The many bairns concerned did not quite like the new arrangement. They liked the new venture very much, but they also wanted the little books to which they had been accustomed, and consequently, after six months, the issue of the original books was resumed and the magazine was rechristened with its present title. We can only give Miss Stead our most hearty congratulations, and feel sure that the more it is known the better it will be liked.

The first number of "The Bible School," a quarterly magazine for all Bible students, which is apparently the organ of the Bible Study League, has just been published from 74, Strand, W.C. It incorporates the *Bible Study League Quarterly*, and is edited by the Rev. David Catt, a member of the Society of Biblical Archaeology.

Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons wish to express their acknowledgment to Messrs. B. Feldman & Co., of 2, 3, and 4, Arthur Street, New Oxford Street, London, W.C., for their kind permission to quote an extract from the words and music of "Tipperary" on the title-page of Mrs. Florence Barclay's new patriotic story, entitled "My Heart's Right There."

Messrs. T. Werner Laurie, Ltd., have issued an attractive and well-arranged Illustrated Catalogue of Gift-Books, which contains particulars of many important and popular books.

"**Burke's Peerage**," which is edited by Mr. Ashworth P. Burke, and published, as usual, by Messrs. Harrison & Sons, 45, Pall Mall, now reaches its seventy-seventh annual volume, and once more provides the information for which it has long been so well known concerning the Peerage, Baronetage, the Privy Council, Knightage, and Companionage in the usual complete and trustworthy manner. It is, as far as we have been able to check it, accurate and up to date, and it fully maintains its established position among the standard works of reference to which it belongs. The preface points out that three Peers and eight baronets have been killed on service, and that in three cases the succession has passed twice during the year, which is, the Editor thinks, without parallel. Owing to the war the number of changes to be recorded has been quite abnormal, and the work of the Editor has been, as he informs us, at least doubled in consequence.

Sir Rider Haggard's story, "Marie," which forms the first love-story of the immortal Allan Quatermain, has just been added to Cassell's Sixpenny Novels list. The story includes a thrilling account of the massacre of Commandant Retief and his sixty followers by Dingaan, the Zulu King.

Mr. John Lane has just published "An Emperor in the Dock," the story of an unrecorded incident in the present war, by Mr. Willem de Veer, a Dutch writer.

"**Nat Gould's Annual**" for 1914, which, as usual, is published by Messrs. John Long, Ltd., is a complete story which deals with the racing career of a wonderful "flyer," "Juggler," who of course wins the important race for his owner and thus confounds his owner's enemies. The story is lively and vigorous, and naturally has a pleasant love yarn interwoven. It is sure to be popular and will no doubt find wide appreciation among the author's many admirers.

Mr. Maurice Hewlett's new novel, "A Lovers' Tale," which is now appearing serially in "The Windsor Magazine," is said to be comparable to the author's famous "The Forest Lovers." It will be issued in volume form by Messrs. Ward, Lock & Co., Ltd., very shortly.

Messrs. T. Werner Laurie, Ltd., inform us that a second and revised edition of "An Unfinished Story," by Mrs. Ghosal, the sister of Rahindra Nath Tagore, which they recently issued, is in the press and will be ready very shortly.

Messrs. Stanley Paul & Co. have issued a helpful sevenpenny manual, entitled "Short Cuts to First Aid," by a Metropolitan Police Surgeon now attached to the R.A.M.C. The author writes very clearly, and tells us what every soldier, sailor, special constable, and layman ought to know on this now important subject. It is specially intended for those who have no time for lengthy study, and everyone will find many useful hints in its instructive pages.

Messrs. George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., will publish early this month "The Africander Rebellion," by Mr. J. K. O'Connor, which contains some remarkable disclosures of the German intrigues with the rebel element in South Africa. The author has for some time past been employed by the Union Government as an Intelligence Officer in German South-West Africa, and has had exceptional opportunities for obtaining the information which he gives.

Mr. Cecil Palmer, the Lecture Secretary of the London Branch of the National Book Trade Provident Society, writes to us as follows:—"On behalf of the Lecture Committee of the National Book Trade Provident Society (London Branch) I have pleasure in announcing (by the courtesy of the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER, who has kindly given me space in this journal to do so) that for the coming spring the trade lectures and socials, which have been so successful in the past, will be resumed. The first of these will be held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, on Friday, January 22, when, under the musical directorship of Mr. G. A. Morgan, a Bohemian Concert has been arranged. Mr. Morgan's reputation for obtaining the assistance of first-class artists is sufficient guarantee of an excellent programme. Price of admission is 6d., and all members of the trade and their friends (either sex) are invited. The chairman will be Mr. Frank Hanson, President of the London Branch. The second fixture will be held at Stationers' Hall, on Friday, February 26, when Mr. W. L. George, author of 'Making of an Englishman,' 'A Bed of Roses,' and 'The Second Blooming,' will open a discussion on 'Author and Bookseller.' The subject is of great interest and importance to the trade generally, and Mr. George may be relied upon to provide material for an interesting, as well as profitable, discussion. Discussion is both invited and encouraged. On Friday, March 26, at Stationers' Hall, Mr. H. J. Dent will give a lantern lecture on 'Colour Printing,' at which particularly it is hoped that members of the trade will make a point of attending, as the opportunities for obtaining a deeper knowledge of the technical side of our trade are rare. The last of the Social Evenings for the spring session will be held at Stationers' Hall on Friday, April 30, when Mr. Walter Raymond, the well-known novelist, will give a dramatic lecture recital entitled 'Folk Lore.' Members of the trade who were fortunate enough to be present at Mr. Raymond's recital last spring will have pleasant recollections of the treat he provided in his excellent recital dealing with 'Wit and Humour of Country Life.' In making these announcements it cannot be too strongly emphasised that the object of the Social Evenings arranged is two-fold. In the first place, it is felt that opportunities of bringing members of the trade together socially are all to the good. And secondly, the increase of membership of the N.B.T.P.S. tends to a better status individually and collectively of every member of the trade. The committee in the past have been discouraged to some extent by the fact that the Social Evenings for the most part have been supported by the general public rather than booksellers' and publishers' assistants. Any suggestion from any member of the trade for making more useful such meetings will be carefully considered by the committee, and the committee urgently and earnestly hope that every individual member of the trade will do his or her utmost to further the work of the Society."

Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston & Co. announce that in future the 1s., 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., and 12s. 6d. editions of Will Carleton's works will be at net prices instead of subject to discount, but no difference will be made in the terms to the trade until March 31, after which date the ordinary net terms will obtain.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—Now that we have had time to consider in detail the publication statistics for 1914 presented in last week's issue of *THE BOOKSELLER*, it will be generally agreed, I think, that the results revealed are, in the circumstances, not only encouraging but, in the favourable sense, surprising. That upwards of eight thousand new books should have been published in this country during such a year as that lately ended is surely a fact that in itself "speaks volumes"—if you will allow me to say so—for the high courage and indomitable spirit with which the publishers, as a body, have so far "carried on" in defiance of conditions infinitely more difficult and menacing than any that the most experienced among them has ever before been called upon to face. The total, as a matter of fact, falls not so very far short of the normal; and though the great demand for war literature in the later months of the year had no doubt some share in bringing about this result, it must be recognised that the figures, as they stand, give a very practical rebuke to the craven croakers who could see nothing but all-round stagnation and ruin ahead when the war-cloud burst upon us last August. And I think we may go further, and claim that these statistics entitle the book trade to the credit of having done its utmost loyally to interpret the national watchword, "Business as usual," and to combat with all possible pluck and enterprise the malign influence of the war, which brought it, and all connected with it, into the threatening shadow of complete disaster.

We must not forget, of course, that a mere record of the number of works published affords no criterion of the year's prosperity, or otherwise, from a business point of view. On that important aspect of the matter we expect no statistics, and should not get them if we did; but we do not need any precise figures to tell us that the sales of books of all kinds, other than *à propos* works of specially attractive quality, are of necessity affected more or less severely by such conditions as those in which we have been living during the past few months. For authors, for publishers, and for booksellers alike, the circumstances have been, and are, those of a strenuous up-hill fight against adversity. Only when "the war-drum throbs no longer" can we expect things to be again as they have been in the peaceful world of books; but meanwhile it is heartening to have definite evidence that the struggle is being so pluckily waged.

As might have been expected, the largest deficit in the number of last year's books, as compared with those of its immediate predecessor, was registered in the department of fiction. But, even so, the falling-off was not a very large one, amounting to something less than three hundred and fifty; and the surprising thing is that such a year as that with which we have just parted should have seen the birth of no fewer than one thousand nine hundred and forty-one novels. Considering that, before the war broke out, we were all worrying about the nuisance of superfluous fiction, I really do not see how the 1914 figures under this head can be regarded as giving any cause for lamentation. Very interesting and significant has been the marked increase in the output of works of the "serious" order, both religious and secular. Theological books may be said—if the expression is not deemed irreverent in such a connection—to have "boomed" during the past twelve months, and works dealing with education and with political economy, as well as those concerned with legal and Parliamentary matters, have also improved their position in these strenuous times, though, on the other hand, "poetry and the drama" have quite unexpectedly shown themselves slightly on the upward grade. But, needless to say, the super-"boom" of last year was achieved by books on naval and military subjects, which more than trebled their numbers as compared with those recorded in the preceding year's table. And it needs

no gift of divination to predict that the present year's figures under this head are destined to be a good deal larger still.

Taking the statistics as a whole, and making a general survey of last year's operations and of the results achieved under conditions of exceptional difficulty, we seem justified in drawing a fairly encouraging moral for the time that lies immediately ahead. We may remember for our comfort that, since the first shock of the nation's plunge into war is now past, the public, familiarised by hard usage with the existing condition of things, are less likely to be distracted from their ordinary literary interests than they necessarily were in the opening stages of the great conflict. As we all hope and believe, the present year will not have wholly lost its youth before we are cheered by good news of a vital character from both theatres of war. So we may enter with good heart upon the new season's activities, well assured that a continuance of the same bold policy which brought us through the critical months of last autumn will not fail to command its due reward.

But if the publishers are prepared to make ventures of faith by advertising their spring issues on something approaching the usual scale, it seems only fair to appeal to the newspapers to do their part by devoting a more adequate amount of space and attention to new books than—with a very few exceptions—they have given at any time during the past few months. There can be no doubt that the sales of books during the autumn season were adversely affected by the scant notice which, as a rule, they received from the papers; and, even making all due allowance for the paramount claims of the war, it ought surely not to be impossible for some improvement to be made in this respect. Editors may be quite sure that their readers would be far from resenting such agreeable respite from the great obsession of the time as a fuller consideration of the newest books would afford.

One hardly knows whether to be more amused or disgusted by the maliciously perverse ingenuity of the German essayist who has been elaborately demonstrating, in the columns of a leading journal of the Fatherland, that the cruelty, dishonesty, corruption, and general depravity of the hated English can be proved from the pages of one of their own greatest novelists. He does this by the charmingly simple method of quoting at large from Dickens's attacks upon certain social and administrative abuses of last century—all of which have long since been remedied—and by affecting to take as serious portraits the consciously burlesque caricatures of persons in official positions which "Boz" perpetrated in his more wildly humorous moments. I suppose that the Germans will henceforth be prepared to accept the famous breach-of-promise trial in "Pickwick" as a faithful representation of the procedure of an English court of justice. It would be quite characteristic both of their malevolent credulity and of their disastrous lack of humour.

Well would it be, however, if the modern Huns' ill-treatment of literature had taken no worse form than this. Dr. J. C. Cox has been giving us, in *The Antiquary*, the evidence of several Belgians who were present at the wanton destruction of the University Library of Louvain, and who bear witness that they saw soldiers "carrying bundles of straw on pitchforks, which were heaped within and without the library, and augmented by several wainloads from the country, and the whole set on fire, so that in a very short time this vast and invaluable store of literature was reduced to a heap of ashes." And yet the Germans complain that their *kultur* does not appeal to civilised nations!

From the announcement of a recently issued pamphlet entitled "The Terrible War," I gather that its author rejoices in the name of Goodwillie. This is a little odd, seeing that—as Mr. W. K. Haselden amusingly reminds us every morning—it is to a certain *bad* "Willie" that the authorship of the "terrible war" itself is attributable.

JACOB OMNIUM.

January 8.

Mr. Leopold B. Hill has just published a very useful sixpenny "English-Flemish Phrase Book," a selection of words and sentences for daily use with Flemish residents in England, and a short list of military terms in English-Flemish and Flemish-English; also a corresponding Flemish-English phrase book, "Dagelyksche Hulp voer Belgen in Engeland." They have both been compiled by Mr. E. V. Bisschop, and will be found very useful both by our Belgian guests and those who are now entertaining them.

Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co. have published a topical work on the war by Mr. Scotland Liddell, entitled "The Track of the War." One very interesting chapter deals with the saving of the famous Rubens and Van Dyck masterpieces from Malines, which were rescued and put in a place of safety by Mr. Liddell's friend and companion, Captain Albert de Keersmaecker.

Messrs. Luzac & Co., of 44, Great Russell Street, W.C., have just published the third and final volume of "Village Folk Tales of Ceylon," collected and translated by H. Parker, late of the Irrigation Department.

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. have added to their popular Globe Library the well-known translation of "The Iliad of Homer," by Messrs. Andrew Lang, Walter Leaf, and Ernest Myers. The great merits of the translation have always been recognised, and since the first appearance of the book in 1882 it has now been reprinted seventeen times, a sufficient testimony to the high reputation it enjoys. In this cheaper and more popular form it will no doubt make an effective appeal to a still wider circle of readers. Messrs. Macmillan have also sent us the fifth and penultimate volume of their Illustrated Edition of Macaulay's "History of England from the Accession of James the Second," edited by Mr. C. H. Firth, Regius Professor of Modern History at Oxford. The volume fully maintains the high reputation of its predecessors, the illustrations have been chosen with wide knowledge and consummate judgment, and the whole forms a most attractive work of the highest value in every respect.

Messrs. Duckworth & Co. will publish shortly "With the Allies," Richard Harding Davis's account of his European experiences. The book describes the bombardment of Rheims Cathedral, of which he was an eye-witness, the burning of Louvain, the entrance of the Germans into Brussels, the Battle of Soissons, and also Mr. Davis's arrest on the charge of being an English spy. The book will be illustrated with a number of photographs.

Messrs. C. A. Pearson, Ltd., have published a popular shilling biography of Lord Roberts, by Mr. Roy Vickers. The last chapter gives a short account of his death at the front, and the whole book forms an excellent account of his distinguished career.

Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston & Co. have issued a very handsome illustrated edition of the popular American romance, "Ramona," by Helen Hunt Jackson, of which some three-quarters of a million have already been sold. Mr. Henry Sandham has furnished a number of excellent illustrations, and Mr. Shirley B. Jevons a commendatory introduction, in which he compares the story with "Lorna Doone," Blackmore's well-known Exmoor romance.

Mr. T. Fisher Unwin's List of Announcements displays very satisfactory publishing activity, and is an excellent example in a practical fashion of the popular motto, "Business as Usual." The List contains many items of special importance, and a list of "The Best War Books" should prove particularly helpful.

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. G. BELL & SONS will publish at once "Chess Strategy," by Mr. Eduard Lasker, authorised translation by Mr. J. du Mont.

MESSRS. J. & J. BENNETT will publish next week "Pro Patria et Rege," poems on war, its characteristics and results, selected from British and American sources, issued in aid of the Belgian Relief Fund, and dedicated to Lord Roberts, with a preface by Professor Knight.

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co. will issue at once "Cross Fires," by Miss Florence Warden; "Charity Corner," a new novel by Mr. Andrew Soutar.

MESSRS. T. WERNER LAURIE, LTD., are publishing at once "A Manual of Training for Jungle and River Warfare," by Major H. Gordon Casserly, author of "Life in an Indian Outpost"; "The Balkan Cock-pit," a story of Macedonian strife, by Mr. W. H. Crawford Price, *Times* Correspondent; "The Enemies of England," a new story by Ranger Gull; and "The Secret Flat," by Gertie de S. Wentworth James, author of "The Wild Widow."

MESSRS. LONGMANS & Co. announce "A History of the Royal Dublin Society," by Henry F. Berry, I.S.O., Litt.D.; "My Priesthood: A Manual for the Clergy and for those looking towards Holy Orders," by the Rev. Walter J. Carey, M.A., Pusey House, Oxford; "Canadian Essays and Addresses," by W. Peterson, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of McGill University; "Shower and Shine," being some Little Tragedies, Little Comedies, and Little Farces," by Guy Fleming; and "Anti-Christian Socialism," by the Rev. C. L. Drawbridge.

MESSRS. JOHN LONG, LTD., will publish shortly "Lord Quare's Visitor," a new novel by Florence Warden, author of "Why She Left Him," &c.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. announce "An Introduction to Field Archaeology as Illustrated by Hampshire," by Dr. J. P. Williams-Freeman, with plans and illustrations; also a new edition, revised by Mr. N. H. Dole, with special reference to the work of recent writers, of Mr. John Bartlett's well-known "Familiar Quotations."

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & Co. will publish shortly "The Early Diagnosis of Heart Failure, and Other Essays on the Heart and Circulation," by Dr. T. Stacey Wilson, Senior Physician to the General Hospital, Birmingham, illustrated by over 130 original diagrams showing the results of auscultation and of percussion of the heart and liver in cases of cardiac inefficiency, and thirty figures showing cardiac tracings; also a new book by Mr. Hartley Withers, entitled "War and Lombard Street."

Mr. T. FISHER UNWIN will publish next week "The Pretender," a new novel by Mr. Robert W. Service, author of "Songs of a Sourdough" and "Ballads of a Chochochako," who is known in Canada as the "Canadian Kipling."

Obituary.

Cazenove.—January 4, aged 44, Mr. Charles Francis Cazenove, of the firm of Messrs. C. D. Cazenove & Son, export booksellers, 11, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden.

Notices of Books.

Satires of Circumstance, Lyrics and Reveries, With Miscellaneous Pieces. By Thomas Hardy. (Macmillan & Co.)—With the exception of Sir Walter Scott, we can call to mind no novelist of the first eminence who has taken really high rank as a poet—and, indeed, there are some who would be inclined to say that even Sir Walter was not really an exception. One is therefore in doubt whether or not to congratulate Mr. Hardy on his persistent attempts to make another exception. We think there is general agreement that his first effort, "The Dynasts," cannot be placed in the same high rank as his best novels, and that the poetry of that remarkable drama is not equal in quality to most of the novels on which, in the main, his reputation must rest. As regards the present volume, it is not easy to reach any very satisfactory judgment or criticism. There is, of course, a good deal of force and vigour in the several pieces here included, but they are to some extent rugged and incoherent, and do not always possess that indefinable quality which poetry of the highest class must always possess. It is perhaps only a small matter, but we do not quite understand why the fifteen poems entitled "Satires of Circumstance," which have been selected to give the title to the book, and which the author may therefore be supposed to consider the best, have been, as it were, thrust into the midst of the "Lyrics and Reveries," which occupy the previous fifty-five pages and the fifteen pages which follow. These fifteen pieces certainly emphasise some of those incidents which may be described as "Life's Little Ironies," but the reader rather feels that the point in each case would have been more effectively illustrated if each had been made the theme of a short story by such a master of fiction as Mr. Hardy certainly is in his own department. Besides the "Lyrics and Reveries" we have several other "Poems of 1912-13," with a collection of miscellaneous pieces, many of which have a certain style and individuality of their own, but which somehow or other seem to lack the real charm and effective attraction which the reader expects from such an author. If we were content to compare Mr. Hardy's volume with the average output of the average minor poet we should place it very high, but when we apply the standard he has taught us to expect by his novels, we can only wish that he would confine himself to the fiction in which he is, by common consent, the greatest living master.

Queen Elizabeth's Gentlewomen, and Other Sketches. By Sybil Cust.

A Green Englishman, and Other Stories of Canada. By S. Macnaughtan. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

Though these two volumes deal with very different subjects, and handle them in very different fashions, we may not inappropriately place them together, at any rate on the ground that both are collections and that both may be taken as characteristic productions of the respective writers. The Hon. Mrs. Lionel Cust has already given the English reading public a similar little volume of essays; "From a Little Town Garden," and it is because she has been encouraged by the favourable reception it has met with that she offers a second collection of the same kind. The first, which gives its name to the book, is a pleasant appreciation of a great lady in the Elizabethan period, Mistress Blanche Parry, who for many years was a trusted and faithful servant of the great queen, and Mrs. Cust has very notably succeeded in placing her personality before the reader, and also in reproducing the characteristic atmosphere and surroundings of the times in which she lived. The last three, dealing with times much nearer our own, are perhaps even more attractive. The pleasant account we have of an old country house and its occupants in the first half of the last century, some useful hints as to furnishing and bringing such a house up to modern requirements, and a most sug-

gestive description of Bryanston Square when the author was in her early teens make extremely interesting and delightful reading.—Miss Macnaughtan, as we all know, possesses in a notable degree the story-telling faculty, and the tales she has to tell of Canada and of some Englishmen out there are valuable quite as much by reason of the way in which they are told as on account of the actual tales themselves. Miss Macnaughtan is able, probably from personal experience, to describe with realistic insight and picturesque effect the experiences of some Englishmen who have gone to Canada in the hope of making their fortunes. The story of "The Man Who Succeeded" is very effectively set forth, though we rather think that it was the man's wife who had most to do with the success, while the contrast which immediately follows, of "The Man Who Failed," is an equally powerful and vigorous sketch. The tale of "The Green Englishman" and how he eventually wooed and won the heiress, together with the love story of Rose Cumberland and Nathaniel Hastings, sufficiently prove that Miss Macnaughtan knows well that a well-conceived and well-constructed love story is always welcome.

An Unholy Alliance. By Violet Tweeddale. (John Long, Ltd.)—A publisher's note informs the reader that Mrs. Violet Tweeddale's latest novel "deals with an unusual subject, namely, Satanism, a cult which is making great headway in Europe." This notification would of itself naturally excite interest in the story, particularly as Mrs. Tweeddale has long been a member of the Theosophical Society and a believer in Madame Blavatsky, facts which, together with her expert skill in story-telling, might be expected to raise more than ordinary anticipation. Into this view of the story we need not enter in any detail. It will be enough to say that, quite apart from this aspect of the tale, it is one which must at once excite the reader's eager interest, while the skilful elaboration of the plot holds attention right up to the end. When, at the very beginning of the tale, we find that the chief character is a fashionable cleric who is content for his own mother to live with him merely as his paid house-keeper, we are, of course, prepared for almost anything, and without going into any particulars the reader may easily be assured that the plot and incidents will be something quite out of the common. The characters are most vividly and effectively drawn, and though much is most improbable, there is at the same time a great deal that is clearly taken from actual life. It is, indeed, a powerful piece of work which is quite certain to attain wide popularity.

A Drop in Infinity. By Gerald Grogan. (John Lane.)—We cannot pretend to understand the meaning and purpose of this very extraordinary and original novel. We are not sure whether it is merely an exercise in whimsical imagination, whether it has any allegorical intention, or whether it is merely a *tour de force* in romantic impossibility. But it is the less necessary to decide as the reader, as soon as he makes himself acquainted with the curious conditions of the tale, finds himself absorbingly interested, and though he feels a vague uncertainty and incoherence as to what is going to happen, at the same time feels himself compelled to read on till the tale reaches its destined end. Jack, the chief character, is a curious and original conception, while that of the insane visitor, who names himself "Poor Hubble-Bubble," is picturesquely sketched, and Miss Marjorie, to whom Jack so suddenly finds himself engaged, is a most delightful and attractive young person. Mr. Grogan certainly possesses a vivid and active imagination, and also a real gift of story-telling even under the most unlikely and, indeed, impossible circumstances, two qualities which the reader has at once to recognise, and which go far to win success for a story which is unlike anything we have before met with, and which in its own way stands quite outside the ordinary run of popular novels.

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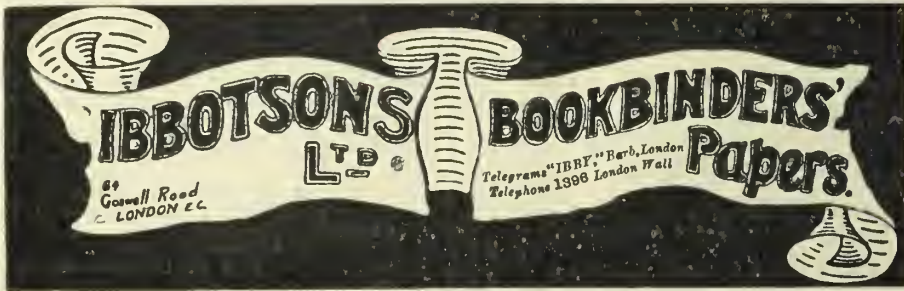
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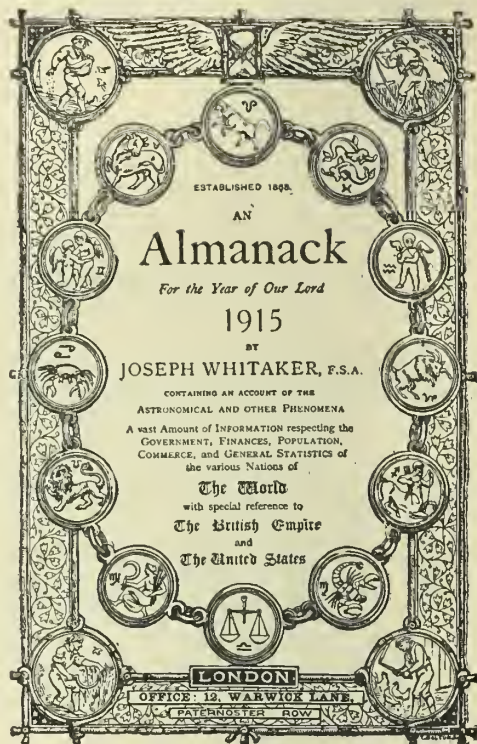


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Trade and Literary Gossip.

For King and Country.—The following has been received since our last list:—

MESSRS. W. H. SMITH & SON (Twentieth List).—Fisher, C., Seaforth Highlanders; Longley, H., Notts and Derby Sherwood Foresters; Colson, H., 5th Middlesex.

I.A.A.B.—The Annual General Meeting will be held at Anderton's Hotel, 162, Fleet Street, E.C., on Thursday next, the 21st, at 7 p.m., when the Annual Report will be presented and other business transacted, including the election of President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Windsor.—Messrs. Holmes & Son, Valuers, 33, Paternoster Row, London, E.C., have received instructions from the executors of the late Mr. Robert Brodie, Stationer, 49, High Street, to value the whole of the stock-in-trade and other effects of the business for probate purposes.

The firm of Bell & Cockburn, of Toronto, have been compelled to make an assignment, and it is announced that Mr. W. C. Bell, the principal partner, and his senior traveller, Mr. Henry, have joined the staff of the Canadian branch of the Oxford University Press. The Oxford Press will also take over most of the British and American publications hitherto handled in Canada by Messrs. Bell & Cockburn.

The Queen of Spain has accepted a copy of "Grumbling Thumbs," the little new Nonsense Story, witty, charming, and original, the profits of which will be given to the War Relief Funds. It may be obtained from the printers, Murray & Co., 180, Brompton Road, S.W.

The importation of books from the United Kingdom into the United States in August last showed a very considerable diminution from the total of the previous August—about £40,000, as against £62,000. In September there was a marked recovery, the falling off being only some 12 per cent.—about £61,000, as compared with £70,000.

Messrs. Nelson are about to publish a "History of the War" in monthly shilling volumes, the first volume of which will appear on February 3. The work is intended to give in direct narrative form the story of the campaigns, and every effort will be made to give only expert views and authoritative details. A large number of plans, maps, and sketches will enable the reader to grasp the nature of the fighting. It will be written by Mr. John Buchan, and the first volume will contain a preface by Lord Rosebery.

Mr. Heinemann has just published "How Belgium Saved Europe," by Dr. Charles Sarolea, who has done so much to place the case of Belgium before the world. His new book is exceedingly interesting, and must, we think, be quite convincing to all impartial persons. Count Goblet d'Alviella, Belgian Secretary of State, contributes a commendatory Introduction, in which he expresses his certain opinion that "no one can read these tragic pages without becoming more than ever confirmed in his conviction that we are fighting in the cause of right, of liberty, and of civilisation."

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. announce the following forthcoming Educational Books:—*English Literature for Secondary Schools*—“The Isle of Gramarye,” or Tales of Old Britain, Parts I. and II., by E. P. Roberts; “British Orators,” passages selected and arranged by J. H. Fowler. “The Progress to Literature,” edited by Richard Wilson, B.A., in six stages. “The Progress to Reading,” edited by Richard Wilson, B.A. *Macmillan's Conversation Pictures*—“Teacher's Handbook,” Part I.; “The Picture Book”; “Teacher's Handbook,” Part II.; “The First Primer”; “Teacher's Handbook,” Part III.; “The Second Primer”; “Teacher's Handbook,” Part IV.; “The Infant Reader”; “The Preparatory Reader”; “Teacher's Handbook,” Part V.; “Teacher's Handbook,” containing the above five Parts, complete. “Middle English Reader,” by O. F. Emerson, Ph.D., new edition. “Conspicuous, or Latin at Sight,” an Introduction to Sight Translation, by Hedley V. Taylor, M.A. “Stories from Nature,” by J. A. Fletcher. *First Books of Science*—“A First Book of School Gardening,” by A. Logan; “A First Geography of the British Isles,” by W. M. Carey, M.A. “The Progress to Geography,” edited by Richard Wilson, B.A., in stages. “Here and There Stories,” Illustrated Readers in Geography—*Junior*, No. 4, “By Land and Sea”; *Intermediate*, No. 9, “Here and There in Europe”; No. 10, “Here and There in Scotland and Ireland”; *Senior*, No. 15, “Here and There in Australasia.” “How and Why Stories,” Illustrated Readers in Science and Nature Study, *Junior*, No. 3, “Flower Stories”; *Intermediate*, No. 10, “Curious Facts about Animals”; *Senior*, No. 15, “Insect Life.” “Then and Now Stories,” Illustrated Readers in History and Civics, *Junior*, No. 2, “Teachers of Then and Now,” No. 5, “Heroes of Then and Now”; *Intermediate*, No. 9, “Three Crosses—One Flag”; *Senior*, No. 15, “The British Empire.” “The Pupils' Class Book of English History,” by Ed. J. S. Lay, in 4 Parts. “The Progress to History,” edited by Richard Wilson, B.A., in 6 stages.” “Macmillan's Reform Arithmetic for Rural Schools,” by Pollard Wilkinson, B.A., and F. W. Cook, A.C.P., Teachers' Book. “Mathematical Papers for Admission into the Royal Military Academy and the Royal Military College,” 1905-1914, edited by R. M. Milne, M.A.; also for Sept.-Nov., 1914.

Messrs. Chatto & Windus are issuing a new series of standard and popular novels under the appropriate title of the “Khaki Library.” The books, which are clearly printed and strongly bound in cloth, include copyright novels by such favourite writers as Ouida, Sir Walter Besant, Wilkie Collins, &c. The price is one shilling net.

Messrs. T. Nelson & Sons have just added to their Shilling Library “15,000 Miles in a Ketch,” by Captain Raymond Rallier du Baty; to their Sevenpenny Copyright Novels “The Velvet Glove,” by H. Seton Merriman; and to the “Collection Nelson” “Les Amants de Pise,” par Péladan.

Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co. have just published a cheap shilling edition of that popular book “Nor'ard of the Dogger,” by E. J. Mather, with a new commendatory Introduction by the Bishop of Durham.

Mr. William Heinemann will publish next week “The Home of the Blizzard,” Sir Douglas Mawson's story of the Australasian Antarctic Expedition (1911-1914). As a record of thrilling adventure and physical endurance under terrible conditions, the story of this Expedition is probably unique in the world's history, and there is nothing in imaginative fiction which is more enthralling than the explorer's account of his awful sledge journey through the driving winds and drifting snows of the Antarctic solitudes. After the death of his two companions, Lieut. Ninnis in a crevasse and Dr. Mertz through exposure and starvation, the leader struggled on alone for thirty-one days and nights, half dead with fatigue and hunger, his feet raw and bleeding, escaping death time after time by what seemed a miracle, until he arrived at the base just in time to see the ship that should have carried him off clear the pack ice and depart. The scientific results of the Expedition, which are very important, are clearly set down, and the book is lavishly illustrated with a large number of remarkable photographs. A particularly attractive feature are some fine colour-plates taken direct from Nature, in which the dazzling colours of sea and sky in the Antarctic are given for the first time in their actual tints.

The Year Book of Social Progress, 1914-15, which now appears for the third time, has already won for itself an established position, and we are exceedingly glad that Messrs. Nelson have been able to bring it out as usual in spite of the European crisis. The contents cover the period between the appearance of the previous volume, at the end of September, 1913, down to the beginning of August last—the outbreak of the present war, which, as the preface rightly points out, forms an obvious landmark. The sections dealing with the Land Question, Labour and Wages, Education, National Insurance, and Pauperism are exceptionally informing and comprehensive, and bring together a mass of facts and details which are almost indispensable for any careful and systematic study of these important problems. The increasing number of those who are actively interested in these matters will find in this extremely useful volume an amount of carefully arranged, lucid, and trustworthy information which otherwise would have to be laboriously collected from many different sources. We may therefore very warmly congratulate both editor and publishers, not only on their wise courage in issuing the book, but on the completeness and wide range of the information here collected.

The Cambridge University Press will shortly publish a third and thoroughly revised edition of “Shipley and Macbride's Zoology.” The science of Zoology has made such advances in the eleven years which have elapsed since the publication of the second edition of this text-book that it has become necessary to re-write considerable portions. The newer discoveries in the laws of inheritance are dealt with in the Introduction, the chapter on “Protozoa” has been radically changed, a chapter on “Gephyrea” has been added, the chapter on “Arthropoda” has been largely re-written, and many changes have been made in the section dealing with “Vertebrata.” There are many new illustrations.

Messrs. Methuen & Co. are issuing a very interesting List of Announcements of Forthcoming Books for the First Half of the Year 1915, which includes several important books. "A Volume of Poems," by Maurice Maeterlinck, translated into English Verse by Bernard Miall; "My Life," by Sir Hiram S. Maxim; "A History of France," in three volumes, by J. R. Moreton Macdonald, M.A.; "The Schools of Medieval England," by Arthur F. Leach; a new volume of the "Antiquary's Books"; "Diversions of a Naturalist," by Sir E. Ray Lankester; a selection from his weekly articles in the *Daily Telegraph*; "The South Americans," by W. H. Koebel; "Brazil and the Brazilians," by G. J. Bruce; "Bealby," a new novel, by H. G. Wells; "Whom God Hath Joined," by Arnold Bennett, a new edition; "The Carnival of Florence: being the Story of Aprilis," and "Mr. Washington," by Marjorie Bowen; "Tipperary Tommy: a novel of the War," by Joseph Keating; and several other books by equally popular and well-known writers.

Messrs. Williams & Norgate have published "War and the Empire: The Principles of Imperial Defence," by Colonel Hubert Foster, R.E., who argues that Imperial Defence includes the defence of the British Isles as well as of the outlying Dominions. He explains how the principles for which he contends have developed from the experience we have gained during the wars of the past three centuries. He defines the "Defence of the Empire" to mean not only "defending the material frame of the Empire, the native soil and the homes of all British folk wherever they may lie," but also "safeguarding British property in war, maintaining unimpeded the flow of commerce, and keeping up continuous communication throughout it by mail and cable . . . and in a wider sense as the defence of British interests the whole world over, internal peace throughout the Empire, protection of British subjects and their rights abroad, security for their trading in foreign lands, and the maintenance of British credit as the corner-stone of commerce." Colonel Foster is Director of Military Science in the University of Sydney, he has been Quartermaster-General in Canada and Military Attaché in the United States, so that he writes from the results of wide experience and has peculiar claims to an attentive hearing. The publishers note that it was intended that the book should have been published earlier, but its appearance just now makes its teachings particularly timely and opportune.

Messrs. Cassell & Co.'s List of Forthcoming Spring Publications contains particulars of several important and attractive works. It includes "Court Life from Within," by the Infanta Eulalia of Spain, a sister of the late King of Spain and aunt of the present Sovereign; "Through Central Africa from East to West," by Cherry Kearton and James Barnes; "The Berlin Court under William II.," by Count Axel von Schwering; "Nelson's Legacy: Lady Hamilton, Her Story and Tragedy," by Frank Danby; "Reminiscences and Letters of Sir Robert Ball," edited by W. Valentine Ball; "A History of our Fighting Services," by Field-Marshal Sir Evelyn Wood; and many others of hardly less interest. The List is attractively illustrated and will be forwarded to anyone on application.

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"Prussianism and its Destruction," by Norman Angell, the author of "The Great Illusion," is intended to provide an answer to the question, "Shall this war end the militarism that provokes it?" In a somewhat lengthy Introduction, Mr. Angell controverts the contention that the present war has falsified the doctrines laid down in his previous book, and with that intention he has had reprinted Part II., "The Human Nature and Morals of the Case," of "The Great Illusion." The Appendix, discussing "What we should do?" and, indeed, the whole book, which is published by Mr. Heinemann, will no doubt arouse considerable interest.

Messrs. Methuen & Co. have just published "A Mixed Pack," a collection of Irish sporting stories by Dorothea Conyers; "A People's Man," a new book by Mr. E. Phillips Oppenheim; "The British Navy in War," by Mr. L. G. Carr Laughton; a shilling edition of "The Substance of Faith," by Sir Oliver Lodge.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING.—There was a cynic once who wasted an epigram by describing prophecy as "the most gratuitous form of error." I say that his epigram was wasted, because it is certain that no ridicule or rebuke will ever deter men from giving a ready ear to those who claim to forecast the future, and to enjoy a prevision of the hidden things that it has in store. Already, though to all appearance the end of the war is still, unhappily, a long way off, we have prophets lifting up their voices to tell us, with more or less of confident precision, what is to happen after it is all over, and what are to be its resulting effects upon this, that, and the other department of our national life and activity. The predictions of all these soothsayers, we may be sure, are being noted by attentive and eager audiences; so we may as well put ourselves in the fashion by considering for a moment the pronouncements of those seers who have taken as their special "line" the immediate future of English literature as influenced by the great crisis through which we are passing. They promise us a wide extension of the public interest in books dealing with subjects of serious importance, resulting from the more sober and strenuous outlook upon life which the application of this awful war will have engendered, and a corresponding decline in the demand for vapid fiction and frivolous and futile literature in general. "The world," to quote the words of one of these diviners from a recent issue of an evening paper, "will become harder, and hard people will want books written with power about important things."

Well, it seems quite probable that, within limits, this particular prophecy may be verified; for already there are a good many indications which point to the fact that the new spirit which the war has evoked is influencing the minds of the hitherto more or less "unthinking" man and woman, and is causing them to take at any rate some amount of interest in serious matters which, six months ago, would have bored them to distraction. If you want a single instance of this, you have it in the significant circumstance that the French Yellow Book, issued at a penny, is reported to have had quite a large sale in the streets. But since it takes, as we know, "all sorts to make a world," I confess to having my doubts whether the lighter and more frivolous forms of literature are destined to be quite so completely eliminated as the prophet I have quoted would have us expect; and, moreover, it is devoutly to be hoped that even the hardness of his "hard people" will not be wholly proof against the softening influence of wholesome humour and honest laughter. If the after-influence of the war were to make our literature utterly and uncompromisingly grim, "improving," and severe, we should soon have to realise that the reaction from excessive frivolity had been bought at a regrettably heavy price.

But there will be no such reason to lament the wholesale "scrapping"—which I believe to be inevitable—of that decadent literature of flashy cynicism and perverted paradox which deliberately aims at making a mock of everything that commands the reverence and respect of normal-minded people. This war and its consequences have brought us up against stern realities, and there is going to be scant patience in future with the meretricious brilliancy of the school of writers—whether novelists or dramatists—who seem, like Pooh-Bah, to have been "born sneering," and who claim attention by jeering epigrammatically at everything in life that is "lovely and of good report." The vogue of the arch-offender of this type, who has lately added anti-patriotism to his other engaging attributes, is visibly on the wane already, and the whole mentally unhealthy brood of his disciples may expect little enough encouragement in the days that lie ahead.

It seems more than probable that the conditions of the immediate future will indirectly tend to the creation of a new and large demand for works of technical instruction in various arts, crafts, and sciences. England, there is reason to hope, is at last becoming

really awake to the vital necessity and importance of relying upon her own resources for the production and manufacture of innumerable things for which she has hitherto allowed herself to be dependent, wholly or in part, upon more enterprising neighbours; and it is therefore reasonable to expect that books of the kind I have indicated will have a much wider field of usefulness than has hitherto been the case. I see, by the way, that the house of Cassell, with praiseworthy foresight, is already making a speciality of such works, and the example will no doubt be followed by other publishers who are alive to the signs of the times.

Those who are old enough to recall the days of Gladstone will remember how useful that eminent statesman and omnivorous reader used to be to various authors and publishers, since a few words of commendation from him—and they were forthcoming pretty frequently—sufficed to work wonders for the sale of any book to which they were applied. Among the works of fiction thus favoured was a clever and striking story entitled "Mademoiselle Ixe," by a lady who wrote under the pseudonym of "Lanoe Falconer," and whose name was Mary Elizabeth Hawker. Helped by the Gladstonian testimonial, the story was one of the big successes of its year (1890), and its author sprang into a celebrity which hardly survived the appearance of one or two subsequent books of mediocre quality from her pen. After her death it was found that she had left behind her diaries and correspondence of very considerable interest, and it appears that in these Miss March Phillipps has found material for a memoir of this literary "comet of a season," which the firm of Nisbet will shortly publish. There is no man of eminence nowadays who volunteers to fill Gladstone's old rôle of self-appointed book-taster to the nation, though there are several—Lord Rosebery, for one—who are well qualified to undertake the office.

My recent reference to a French rendering of "Alice in Wonderland" has brought me a very interesting letter from Mr. J. Stead, of the *Review of Reviews*, who informs me that the translation is no novelty, but has been a favourite with French children for years. "As the outcome," he adds, "of our work for the *Entente*, and the exchange of letters between French and English scholars, a French schoolmaster deplored the lack of cheap and good books for French children such as our 'Books for the Bairns,' and suggested translations. It was at first a work of love and difficulty. Now, working in conjunction with the well-known firm 'Larousse,' of Paris, the French 'Bairns' books are steadily making their way, and over one hundred and thirty little volumes have appeared. As you will see from the enclosed, 'Alice' was an early number." Having read Mr. Stead's letter, I found "the enclosed" to be two dainty paper-covered and well-illustrated booklets, containing "Lewis Carroll's" immortal work in a surprisingly clever and facile translation, the difficulties presented by the verses, in particular, being surmounted with really wonderful ingenuity. It is a pleasure to know that French boys and girls can already claim "Alice" and her delightful *entourage* as old acquaintances.

None but a pro-German, I am sure, could refuse a request to write his name against the appropriate date in "The Patriot's Birthday Book," an attractively produced little volume just issued by the firm of Murby. The compiler, Mr. C. E. Thomas, has culled his quotations for every day of the year from the speeches and writings of representative leaders both of thought and action since the outbreak of the war, and the selections are in all cases well-chosen and stimulating ones. Such a "birthday book," with its companion issue, "The Patriot's Calendar," should form a much-prized souvenir of the Great War in years to come.

Mr. John Lane, I observe, is advertising "An Emperor in the Dock." That suggests a gratifying vision of the future; but before we get the Emperor in the dock we shall have to get his fleet out of the harbour.

JACOB OMNIUM.

January 15.

"What is Wrong with Germany?" is the title of a new book by Mr. W. Harbutt Dawson which Messrs. Longmans & Co. hope to issue during this month. The author, who has for a quarter of a century made a special study of German affairs, traces the tendencies of German national thought and policy which have for some years been making irrevocably for war. He claims that there are three responsibilities—of the Emperor, of the Chauvinists and war-makers, and of the German nation as a whole—and he endeavours to show clearly the parts played by these several factors in bringing upon the world the present catastrophe.

Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston & Co., Ltd., have just issued two useful little books by Fred T. Jane, entitled *Naval Recognition Books*—"How to Identify British and German Warships at Sea" (silhouettes). These are designed to be of assistance to officers and men in the Navy and Army and to sailors of all ranks in the Mercantile Marine. They are also of interest to the general public, especially the section that resides on or near the coast. The publishers have also sent us "Warships at a Glance," silhouettes of the world's fighting ships, by the same author. Every class of vessel in the navies of the world is shown in something like 750 silhouettes. The publishers have issued it in pocket-book form, with pocket and flap, both in cloth and in rixine. The latter, it is said, cannot be spoiled by contact with water.

Mr. Eustace Miles, of 40, Chandos Street, W.C., the well-known food reformer and health specialist, has just published a book which he has written, in collaboration with Mr. C. H. Collings, on "The Uric Acid Fetish." It attacks the popular theory as to uric acid, and, while not pretending that it is harmless, Mr. Miles argues that it is not the important factor in most cases of gout, rheumatism, eczema, and other so-called uric acid troubles.

"The Catholic Directory," the seventy-eighth annual issue of which has just been published by Messrs. Burns & Oates, maintains its reputation as the recognised authority as to the official information and statistics of the Roman Catholic communion in the United Kingdom and the British Empire. The Editor notes with natural satisfaction that in many dioceses the year shows a considerable advance upon last year, and indicates that even if the totals are matters of dispute, the gradual increase can scarcely be so. For the present issue the list of English-speaking confessors abroad has been for obvious reasons omitted, but it will be reintroduced next year—a straw, perhaps, which shows which way the wind blows as regards the possible ending of the war.

Mr. Elkin Mathews has published an interesting and suggestive little book entitled "Ernest Dowson, 1888-1897, Reminiscences, Unpublished Letters, and Marginalia," by Victor Plarr, which will be full of interest to the admirers of the poet. Though he hardly rose out of the ranks of the minor poets, his poetry always possessed a certain individuality and vigour of its own, and some of his work must always receive attention in any careful survey of recent poetry. The appended Bibliography of his work compiled by Mr. Guy Harrison will be very useful.

The "Medical Annual" for 1915, which aims at being a complete record of recent work in every department of medicine, surgery, and therapeutics, is now in active preparation. It will contain a large number of special articles on matters of interest to the profession, including a new section on Naval and Military Surgery, by experts. It will be printed in a new and very legible type. The publishers, Messrs. J. Wright & Sons, Ltd., of Bristol, also hope to issue early this year the third volume of the "Medical Annual Synoptical Index," embracing the contents of the last ten volumes, 1905-1914.

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS will shortly publish "Belgium in War," by Mr. J. H. Whitehouse, M.P., a record of the author's recent experiences during his tour through Belgium, with Introduction by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

MR. JOHN LANE will publish next week "Lost Sheep," a story of life in the French Foreign Legion, by Vere Shortt, who served in it for five years and has recently been given a captain's commission in His Majesty's forces.

MESSRS. METHUEN will publish next week a new novel by an anonymous writer, entitled "From Beyond the Pale." It is a little volume of letters from a woman who has left her husband and child, and the tranquil, sheltered life of her English home, for that other life "beyond the pale" with the man she loves; "Wings of Wax," by Miss Yelva Burnett, the story of a romantic idealist; also, at a popular price, "The German Army in War," by Mr. A. Hilliard Atteridge, giving an intelligent idea of the spirit which inspires the German army and of its strength in war; in their Shilling Library a new edition of Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest," which has been called the wittiest play since Sheridan.

MESSRS. STANLEY PAUL & Co. will publish this month "Kultur Cartoons" (twenty cartoons mounted separately so that they can be detached for framing), by Will Dyson, with a Foreword by H. G. Wells; "German Spies in England," by Wm. Le Queux; and "Stories of the Kaiser and His Ancestors," by Clare Jerrold, with eight illustrations.

MESSRS. C. A. PEARSON, LTD., will publish immediately "Is the Kaiser Insane?" by Mr. Arnold White; also a "Short Life of Admiral Sir John Jellicoe," by Mr. Arthur Applin, who has received considerable assistance from Lady Jellicoe.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & Co. will publish this month their first three novels of the spring season: "They Who Question," from the pen of a well-known writer who prefers to remain anonymous; "The Full Price," by Lady Charnwood; and "A Free-Lance in Kashmir: A Tale of the Great Anarchy," an Indian historical romance by Lieut.-Col. G. F. MacMunn, D.S.O., placed in the days of Lord Lake, when the Afghans ruled Kashmir.

THE UNIVERSITY TUTORIAL PRESS will shortly publish "Shakespeare: King John" (Tutorial Shakespeare), by A. J. F. Collins, M.A.; "The Laws of Algebra," by A. G. Cracknell, M.A., B.Sc.; "Junior Algebra," by A. G. Cracknell, M.A., B.Sc., and A. Barraclough, M.A.

MR. T. FISHER UNWIN will publish next week "Quick Rifle Training for National Defence," by Mr. Eustace H. Stone; "Friendly Russia," by Mr. Denis Garstin, with Introduction by Mr. H. G. Wells; "The Waiting Woman," a new volume of verse by Mr. Herbert Kaufman, author of "The Song of the Guns."

Notices of Books.

Sir Penywern's Wife. By Florence Warden. (Ward, Lock & Co.)

Cross-Fires. By the same. (Cassell & Co.)

It is not often that two new novels by a popular author are published simultaneously, but Miss Florence Warden has always been a very ready writer, and the novel reading public usually have a very hearty welcome for all the tales she is good enough to give them. Ever since the famous story that first made her reputation she has been known as exceptionally skilful in the construction of an absorbingly exciting plot, and in the picturesque realism with which the different people who move through the various scenes are delineated. In the two tales we have now bracketed together for notice these very important characteristics are as marked and as evident as ever. In "Sir Penywern's Wife" we find Sir Penywern Tradescant marrying pretty little Miss Daphne Silcott, the adopted daughter of a country vicar, somewhat hastily, and soon after the marriage has been happily accomplished we come to an amazing scene where the dead body of a murdered man is found hidden behind the sofa, on which Daphne was sitting in such a position that she must have seen him, and still she entirely keeps silence while the mystery is presently deepened by the inexplicable disappearance of the body, with certain indications that Daphne was cognisant of it. A mystery such as this described with Miss Warden's practised skill, and its unravelling in due course, naturally holds the interested attention of the reader, while the various incidents and scenes of the story are all made to do their proper part towards the destined *dénouement*. Miss Warden has given us many exciting stories, but we think that this one may take its place among her very best. In the second novel we have a plot which, while equally exciting, is altogether different. Young Lord Hindhead has a rather disreputable brother, Vincent, whom he suddenly meets under rather suspicious circumstances, when he explains that he is now the private secretary of a typical American millionaire, one Mr. Bowkett. Before very long we find that Mr. Bowkett is the leader of a gang of jewel thieves, and that Vincent has become his tool. How the truth is at length discovered we must leave the reader to discover for himself. He will find the story full of interest and excitement. When he comes across Miss Olwen Mar, Mr. Bowkett's step-daughter, and her meeting with Lord Hindhead, he will at once guess that the two will fall in love, marry, and be happy ever after in spite of the very dubious surroundings in which Olwen has to live. This story, in common with the preceding, is an excellent example of the always attractive sensationalism in fiction of which Miss Warden is so successful a practitioner. Those who have read and thoroughly enjoyed the one may be heartily commended to read the other, and they will hardly know which of the two they would rank the higher. Each is in its own way a very notable story, in which mystery, romance, and forceful characterisation are most effectively combined.

Cairo: A Novel. By Percy White. (Constable & Co.)—The cosmopolitan life and society of Cairo during the last few years, the varieties of political and financial intrigue, the effective control of British authority—all these provide the capable novelist with ample materials for an effective and successful story. Mr. Percy White, as his many previous books have amply testified, possesses in an eminent degree all the chief qualifications of the expert novelist, and the tale he has to tell us is from the first exceptionally well conceived and skilfully carried on to its destined conclusion. It is quite clear from the beginning that Mr. White is personally familiar with the many phases of life in Cairo, and it is a well-grounded inference that some of the chief characters to whom we are introduced are sketched from actual life, and that some at least of

the more salient scenes and incidents took place pretty much as they are here described. The hero and the heroine, if we may so describe them, are very successfully portrayed—Mr. Addington, the owner of the Radical organ, *The Oracle*, the dilettante Radical politician who goes to Egypt with vague wishes and hopes for its emancipation; and Mrs. Donne, who in the end becomes his wife, a woman with a past, but who possesses a remarkable personality and the power of safely ignoring all reports and prejudices against her, both arouse the reader's interest and sympathy. Then we have Abdul Sayed the Egyptian politician who has been to Oxford, who poses as a national reformer and yet is thoroughly untrustworthy and double-faced; Mr. Colquhoun Kepple, an excellent specimen of the clever, intriguing, shady advocate; Mr. Whalley, the English Public School-boy who has gone wrong, who swindles the bank of which he is manager; Lady Shoreham, the typical Mrs. Grundy of Cairo society, and other less important persons, all set before the reader with a picturesque realism which makes the whole story most effective and interesting. Both as a vigorous story, as a manifestly accurate picture of Cairo society in some of its phases, and as a study of careful characterisation Mr. White's story is sure to attract widespread notice.

The Woman in the Bazaar. By Alice Perrin. (Cassell & Co.)—The many admirers of Mrs. Perrin's stories of Anglo-Indian life and character will welcome with much expectation the latest story that she has given us. The central incident is perhaps rather unpleasant, and, though possible, is, we may hope, somewhat improbable. At the same time the tale has some special merits of its own, and it certainly holds the reader's interest from beginning to end. An Indian Officer, Captain Coventry, falls in love with the pretty, unsophisticated, inexperienced daughter of a country vicar and takes her out to India, where she finds conditions wholly different, allows herself to flirt with other officers, and almost to compromise herself with one who is really bad. Her husband loses patience, there is a quarrel, and she elopes with her deceiver. A divorce follows; the poor girl, more sinned against than sinning, is repudiated by her tempter, and apparently goes from bad to worse until she becomes a "woman in the Bazaar." Captain Coventry, after some years, marries again, a young wife of much the same careless and irresponsible character. She, too, is foolish in the same way, and at the critical moment, when her husband has almost decided to cast her off, he recognises for a moment in the woman in the Bazaar his former wife. He realises what might happen again, and at once restrains his anger. There are mutual explanations, which show that, while there has been folly and wilfulness, there has been nothing worse; husband and wife find a new love for each other, and, understanding each other better, live happily ever after. The general atmosphere and surroundings of Anglo-Indian life are very accurately and vividly reproduced, and the tale is one which should prove exceedingly popular, particularly to Anglo-Indian readers.

The Enemies of England. By Ranger Gull. (T. Werner Laurie.)—This is not, as perhaps its title might denote, a book about Germany, but deals with the machinations of a powerful secret society located at a West End hotel, with headquarters at an isolated house at Hampstead. The villainess is a beautiful red-haired actress with the ferocious characteristics of a tigress. The account of the capture of the hero and his fiancée and the gruesome death prepared for them, in which an alligator is appointed executioner, is sensational to the last degree, as is the rescue effected by the aid of an aeroplane. We can promise the reader of this novel plenty of excitement during its perusal.

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Short Notices.

From Messrs. Blackie & Son.

Birds and their Ways. By R. Cadwaladr Smith.

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These two interesting and useful volumes of the publishers' shilling series of "Rambler Nature Books" should prove very acceptable. Though not formally school books, they are books which may helpfully be used in teaching children that study of Nature which has been so notably developed of late years. The books are simply and clearly written, and the illustrations and explanations have been made more than usually attractive. The pictures are well chosen and well arranged, and the little books are in every way most commendable.

From Messrs. G. W. Bacon & Co.

The Map and its Story, an entirely new Physical and Commercial Atlas.—The particular feature of this new publication is the fact that descriptive letterpress occupies a portion of each page of the atlas, so that the important features of the map are explained with some care and detail, and thus the exact meaning and intention of the map are made clear to the student. These descriptive notes have been excellently done, and the new idea is one which should make a very effective appeal to all teachers of geography.

Bacon's Sixpenny Contour Atlas: South-East England Edition.—The importance of this new atlas is mainly seen in the arrangement which gives four special maps of South-Eastern England, showing the Contours, the Geology, the Vegetation, and the Communications of that area, in addition to the ordinary general maps of the atlas. It is intended to encourage the teaching of local geography at the same time as

that of ordinary geography. The idea seems quite excellent, and will no doubt give the atlas a decided preference over others in the minds of all teachers who wish their scholars to possess accurate ideas as to the topography of the district in which they live. Editions dealing with South Scotland and South Wales are in active preparation, while others on the same lines will follow in due course.

From Messrs. Constable & Co.

The Acute Abdomen. By William Henry Battle.—As this excellent medical text-book has been some time out of print, the appearance of this new and revised edition will be warmly welcomed. The improvements now made have added considerably to the value of a work the merits of which were at once recognised, and in its present form it will be even more appreciated by all students and practitioners.

Rudolf Eucken. By W. Tudor Jones.—German philosophers and German philosophy at the present moment are naturally rather at a discount in England. The present addition to the publishers' useful shilling series of "Philosophies Ancient and Modern" was written before the war, and in normal times would have attracted some attention. The value of Eucken's teaching, as the author rightly points out, lies in the attempt which he has made to liberate the spirit of man from the bondage of Naturalism and Intellectualism in their various forms, and to show that man's spirit possesses a self-subsistence of its own. Viewing the subject from this standpoint, Mr. Tudor Jones has given us an admirable estimate of Prof. Eucken's work, which will be better appreciated when the present troubles have ended.

From Messrs. Wells Gardner, Darton & Co.

Josefa in Spain. By Etta Blaisdell McDonald and Julia Dalrymple. Illustrated.—The popular series, "Little People Everywhere," is intended to describe in simple and easy language for the benefit of young readers the chief characteristics of children and child life in the various countries of the world. The present instalment deals with the children of Spain, and Josefa, the lively and attractive little Spanish maiden whose doings are here chronicled, may well be taken as a characteristic example of Spanish children generally. The book is throughout written in a very interesting and pleasant fashion, the illustrations are numerous and well selected, and altogether the volume may be warmly commended.

From Messrs. Macmillan & Co.

A Guide to the Study of English. By F. J. Rowe, M.A., and W. T. Webb, M.A.—The present is not entirely a new book, but in its main lines was published by the authors, who at that time were professors of English in Indian colleges, under the title of "Hints on the Study of English," in 1874, and since then it has been very largely used in the Indian schools and colleges for which it was originally prepared. It has now been carefully remodelled and re-written for the use of English schools, and the fact of its great success in India is at least a presumption that it is equally well fitted for general use in England. The revision has been satisfactorily carried through by Mr. Webb, as Mr. Rowe died some five years ago. The indexes, a very important matter in a book of this character, have been carefully made, and the whole work deserves the very careful attention of all teachers of English.

Matriculation English Course. In Three Parts: Part I., Essay-Writing, Précis-Writing, and Paraphrasing; Part II., Studies and Exercises subsidiary to Composition; Part III., Figures of Speech, Prosody or Style. By J. C. Nesfield.—The author points out that the title he has given to his book does not fully describe its scope, as it is intended not only for Matriculation Examinations, but also for the University Local Examinations, those of the Universities' Joint Board, the College of Preceptors, and others. He has quite rightly, as we think, given special importance to the question of English Composition, a matter which is sometimes inadequately treated in works of this character. The whole of this part has been excellently done, and if for this reason alone the book should receive very careful attention. The other parts show great knowledge of the needs of schoolboys and schoolgirls, and the methods adopted are invariably admirable.

Book-keeping for Evening Classes. By F. Oliver Thornton.—We are not quite sure that there is much need for another addition to the numerous manuals on book-keeping that are already available, but however that may be, Mr. Thornton's book is certainly very well and methodically arranged. It embodies the practical experience of many years' actual teaching, and the examination papers collected at the end are exceptionally helpful and suggestive.

A First Book of Geology. By Albert Wilmore, D.Sc.—The new volume of the publishers' excellent series of "First Books of Science" fully maintains the high standard and reproduces the characteristic features of the preceding volumes. Geology is a very interesting science, and Dr. Wilmore's handling at once excites the interest and arouses the attention of the schoolboys for whom the book has been prepared.

Macmillan's Geographical Exercise Books: I., The British Isles; II., Europe. With Questions by B. C. Wallis, B.Sc.—These geographical exercise books have been most carefully and helpfully compiled, and the practice of filling in blank maps is certainly one which should be more generally practised than is usually the case at present. Mr. Wallis has already given us some excellent elementary geographical text-books, and these exercises should prove a very valuable supplement.

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These four volumes are instalments of the series of "Prose Texts for Junior Forms," edited by Mr. Thomson, which have already met with considerable favour from teachers of English. The books chosen are well known and full of interest, the introductions are very helpful, and altogether the series is distinctly strengthened by the addition of these new volumes.

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Geological Excursions Round London. By George MacDonald Davies, F.G.S.—The practical geologist can find much to interest him within easy reach of London; and the South-East portion of England, including the London Basin, the Kentish Weald, and the country beyond the Chilterns, with which Mr. Davies is more immediately concerned, provide many extremely interesting and suggestive excursions. He has outlined some twenty-six in all, and he has very carefully emphasised the particular points of interest and attraction in each of them. The geological map of South-Eastern England, which is prefixed, is excellently done, and this little volume should prove a valuable help to all who desire a closer knowledge of the geological conditions of this part of England.

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London University Guide and University Correspondence Calendar, 1915.—This well-known and useful educational annual again makes its appearance. It provides the usual particulars of the examinations of London University and of the various classes which the University Correspondence College provides for students who wish to be candidates.

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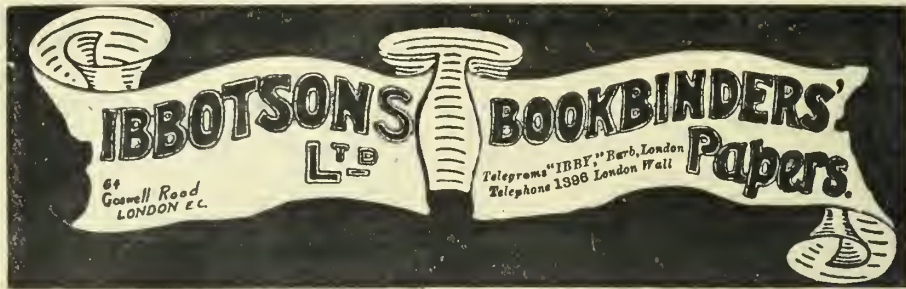
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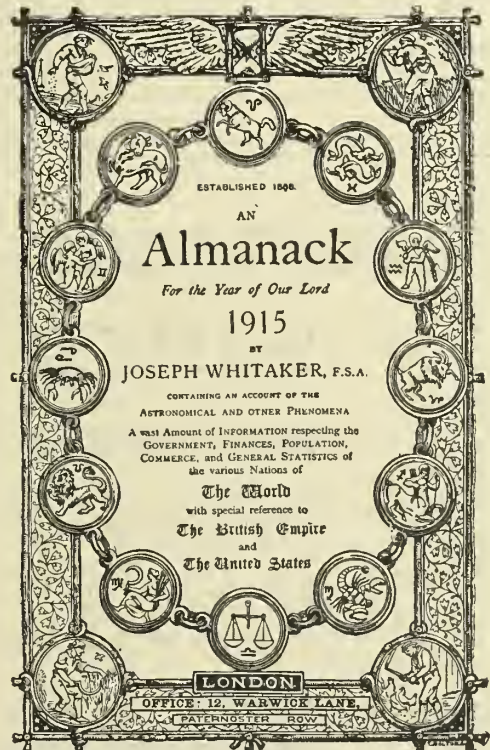


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Trade and Literary Gossip.

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Messrs. W. H. SMITH & SON (Twenty-first List).—Jones, A. E., 4th Welsh; Lindsay, H., A.O.C.; Anderson, G. E., Royal Berks; Harpham, P., 4th Yorks. and Lancs.; Bennett, G., Bendig, F., Suggitt, G., Gandy, J., 6th West Yorks; Dredge, C. G., R.F.A.; Hicks, H. F., East Surrey, Lawrence, J. E., 11th County of London; Howe, Geo., R.F.A.; Ruskin, H. A., King's Royal Rifles; Thomas, H. R., Middlesex; Rogers, F., 4th Welsh; Longley, H., Notts and Derby; Sibley, C. W., Royal Engineers.

National Book Trade Provident Society.—At the last meeting of the Committee of Management of the above Society the trustees reported that War Loan Stock to the face value of £500 had been allotted to the Society, and on £300 thereof the whole of the allotment, application money, and calls had been paid. Five applications for membership in the Insurance Division were passed and one in the General Division. The receipt of the following donations was reported: Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton & Co., Ltd. £25; Mr. William Archer, £2 2s. (special). An application for temporary relief from a member in the North of England was granted. The Secretary reported that another member had received the advantage of free advice from one of the Society's specialists, and that during the past year the members had obtained increasing benefits from this branch of the Society's activity.

Messrs. Gay & Hancock have arranged with Messrs. Geo. Bell & Sons that the latter's traveller, Mr. Edward Carney, shall carry their samples during the next six months, as both their regular travellers, Mr. James F. Gay and Mr. W. H. Anderson, are with the Forces.

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. have just added to their attractive "Service Edition of Kipling's Works" "Life's Handicap" and "The Light that Failed," each in two volumes.

Messrs. Longmans, Green & Co. notify the trade that as from the 1st of February the complete list of publications of the Manchester University Press will be published by them. The full catalogue, with prices, is included in Messrs. Longmans' Trade Catalogue for 1915. Several important new books from the Manchester University Press will be issued during February.

The Rev. Fr. C. C. Martindale, S.J., has accepted the invitation of Cardinal Bourne and Mr. A. C. Benson to write the authorised Life of Monsignor R. Hugh Benson. He will be glad to receive letters written by Monsignor Benson from any who are kind enough to lend them. They may be sent to him at Stonyhurst College, Blackburn, and will in all cases be returned. No other biography will be authorised by Monsignor Benson's representatives. Father Martindale, it may be added, as an Undergraduate at Oxford, gained quite exceptional distinction as a classical scholar.

In the *List of Royal Tradesmen*, published in the *London Gazette*, we note the following: Charpentier & Co., Booksellers, Portsmouth; Harrison & Sons, Booksellers; Joseph Zahnsdorf, Bookbinder and Bookseller; Hatchard & Co., Booksellers; Kelly's Directories, Ltd.; H. Wise & Co., Post Office Directories, Australia and New Zealand; John & E. Bumpus, Ltd., Booksellers; James Maclehoze & Sons, Publishers and Booksellers, Glasgow; George New, Bookbinder, Eton; Riviere & Son, Bookbinders; Peter Rolandi, Foreign Librarian; Skeffington & Son, Publishers; Sotheran & Co., Booksellers and Bookbinders; Thacker, Spink & Co., Booksellers, Calcutta; John Fazakerley, Bookbinder, Liverpool; H. & M. Massey, Bookbinders; Abel & Sons, Booksellers, Northampton; Butterworth & Co., Law Publishers; Galt & Co., Booksellers, Manchester; Griffin & Co., Booksellers, Portsmouth; W. J. Gubbins, Bookseller, Cowes, Isle of Wight; Haydon Hare, Publisher, Scarborough; Henderson & Bissett, Bookbinders, Edinburgh; Miss M. Jones, Bookseller, Cowes; H. Paton & Sons, Publishers, Edinburgh; August Siegle, Bookseller; Lewis Smith & Son, Booksellers, Aberdeen; George Gregory, Bookseller, Bath; A. F. Host & Son, Librarians, Copenhagen.

The "Poetry Review" in its enlarged form has made an excellent impression and achieved a remarkable success. Within a week of publication the January-February number had to be reprinted, and so great has been the demand for the second impression that the issue is virtually out of print, and the price for separate copies will be raised from March 1st to 2s. 6d., annual subscriptions excepted. Mr. B. L. Bowhay's play, "The State Supreme," will be followed by a complete drama by Mrs. Ernest Radford in the March-April number, to be published at the end of next month.

Sixty-five years in the book business is necessarily a very rare experience, and it is therefore of interest to learn that Mr. E. S. R. Butler, founder and senior partner of the E. S. R. Butler Company, of Wilmington, Delaware, U.S.A., who is now 88 years of age, lately celebrated his sixty-fifth anniversary as a bookseller, having started his present store on December 15th, 1849.

Messrs. Longmans & Co. this year instead of the usual number of "Hermathena" will issue an Index number. It will contain full references to the authorship and contents of all numbers of "Hermathena," which has been issued annually by the members of Trinity College, Dublin, since 1873. After the issue of the Index, "Hermathena" will continue to appear as before annually.

Mr. W. Heinemann has just published a popular six shilling edition of the well known "Political History of Contemporary Europe since 1814," by Professor Charles Seignobos, of the University of Paris. It will be found particularly useful to those students of history who study the political evolution of Europe preceding and leading up to the present crisis. It is intended to be essentially an explanatory history, the main purpose of the author being to explain the organisation of the nations, governments, and parties, the political questions which have arisen in the course of the century.

I.A.A.B.—The Annual Meeting was held yesterday (Thursday) evening at Anderton's Hotel, and we hope to give some account of the proceedings in our next issue. The following are the chief points in the Annual Report which was submitted to the members:—During the year nineteen new members were elected, making the total numbers 109 London, 104 country, and 65 foreign. Since the last report the Association has lost by death Mr. Bertram Dobell, Mr. G. Hess, Munich; Mr. Frederick Hockliffe, Bedford; Mr. A. Earnshaw Smith (Deighton, Bell & Co.), Cambridge; and Mr. W. H. Tickell, Lewisham, and in each case membership has been continued by the successors. The effect of the war was at first very serious, but recently there has been some signs of improvement, which it is hoped will continue; but two of the principal firms of London book auctioneers have not yet held any sales since the outbreak of hostilities, an experience unknown within living memory. The committee gladly accepted the invitation to co-operate in the movement for a Belgian Book Trade Relief Fund. Mr. H. D. Vincent (J. & E. Bumpus) joined the committee as representative of the Association. The sum of £25 was voted, and a considerable number of members also sent donations. The Annual Dinner on January 22 last year was most successful, but in consequence of the war it has been decided not to hold the Annual Dinner this year. At last year's Annual Meeting Mr. Robert Bowes, of Cambridge, was unanimously elected President, and it has been greatly to his regret that the unusual conditions now prevailing have precluded him from taking as active a part as he hoped when he accepted nomination to the office last January.

The Book Trade in America during the past eventful twelve months, we are glad to learn from the New York *Publishers' Weekly*, "has been good." Trade naturally has not reached the level of former years, but for this there were the best of reasons, and not a single store has been discouraged by the actual result. There have been "a greater number of sales; smaller individual purchases; a marked decrease in sales of rare books and expensive sets; a marked increase in the sale of the cheaper gift books, postcards, toy books, leather bound reprint series, and the like. This is obviously really a healthy development, for the rare book buyers will come back into the market as soon as the clarification in general business has proceeded a little further, and of the new book buyers brought down to books by stress of economy many will remain book buyers." As to the outlook for the future, opinions naturally differ. "On the one side is foreseen a continuance of dull business, so long as the war lasts, and for the two or three years of world reconstruction thereafter. On the other side is prophesied an approaching business boom due to the domestic reflex of our enormously increasing foreign trade, our good crops, and our relatively secure and prosperous condition." The general conclusion of our contemporary is that the truth lies somewhere between these two opinions. "Almost certainly nothing worse than 1914 lies ahead, and almost certainly something better . . ."

Messrs. John Long, Ltd., have published "Bush Songs and Oversea Voices, including Songs of the South Sea Islands, Australia, &c.," by A. Safroni-Middleton, a writer who has had a very varied career and many strange experiences in the South Sea Islands, Tonga, Fiji, Tahiti, Samoa, and elsewhere. He is entirely self-taught, and his verses have a rough vigour, a picturesque force, and an effective purpose which go far to justify the claim that he is one of the few really original British Colonial poets. The book is well worth attention, and the reader will indirectly learn a good deal about the characteristic scenes, incidents, and atmosphere of the Southern Seas, which Mr. Safroni-Middleton knows so well and describes so effectively.

The "New Poems" by Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett Browning, recently published by Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co., give to the world twenty-nine poems by the Brownings which will be new to all the editions of their works except the Centenary Edition, in which ten of them were published. Many, we may note, came to light for the first time at the sale of the Browning collections, and the volume contains all the unpublished poems by Robert Browning that are known to exist. Sir Frederic Kenyon, the Principal Librarian of the British Museum, has edited the volume with his usual skill and judgment. Many, perhaps most, will be inclined to agree with him in regretting that it was not possible to avoid the public sale of the Browning collections, and in the wish that "the unpublished verses of both poets had been destroyed by them out of hand when once the decision had been taken not to publish them." "Such waifs and strays," he goes on to remark, "are a permanent difficulty to editors. If the author is sufficiently eminent, publication of everything of his that remains above ground is eventually inevitable, and an editor is torn between the natural desire to make his edition complete and his equally natural reluctance to print matter which is not worthy of its author and which the author himself did not consider worthy of publication."

Messrs. Cassell & Co., in reply to the recent protest of the German Provincial Board of the Society of Jesus against Father Bernard Vaughan's lately published volume "What of To-day," point out that it bears the imprimatur of the English Society of Jesus, and is therefore from the Church point of view a perfectly authorised declaration. They add that it is being sold for the benefit of the Belgian Refugees.

Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co. have just published "The English Catholic Revival in the 19th Century," a translation into English of the great work "La Renaissance Catholique en Angleterre" by the late M. Thureau-Dangin, Perpetual Secretary of the French Academy, a work which has passed through six editions in France; also a brief "Life of General Joffre," by a French Gunner; "War Time Cookery," a little book dedicated to Queen Alexandra; and "The Battle," by Lieut. Haldane Macfall, who therein describes the purpose and being of Units, Battalions, Brigades, and Army Corps.

Mr. Erskine Macdonald is now reprinting Mr. Bernard Moore's "Cornish Catches," the first edition having been completely exhausted.

Messrs. P. J. & A. E. Dobell, who are continuing the business of their late father, Mr. Bertram Dobell, at 77 & 54, Charing Cross Road, W.C., have just issued the last catalogue which he prepared and which was printed and ready for distribution when Mr. Dobell died on the 14th of last month. Mr. Percy Dobell also sends a very interesting "In Memoriam" of his father, from which we make the following quotations, which will, we are sure, be interesting to all our readers. "An omnivorous reader," says Mr. Percy Dobell of his father, "from boyhood blessed with a retentive memory, and untrammelled by scholastic training or the influence of any set educational system, he developed a critical faculty which seldom led him astray, and which enabled him with unerring instinct to recognise merit instantly. I might almost say that his feeling for style and his critical ability were the foundation of his literary reputation, for, long before he had published any original work, his name was known to the World of Letters as the discoverer of James Thomson, and it was owing to his efforts that the now famous 'City of Dreadful Night' was published in book form. . . . It was in 1901 that the first privately printed edition of 'Rosemary and Pansies' appeared, followed by its publication with alterations and additions in 1904. 'Sidelights on Charles Lamb' was published in 1903, and 'A Century of Sonnets' in 1910. During August of last year the Rowfant Club, of Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A., set up in type a sonnet sequence, 'A Lover's Moods.' The proof sheets of this book were corrected and returned, but my father did not live to see a completed copy. . . . He had an indomitable spirit, energy, perseverance, and a bull-dog determination. To leave behind a name which would be remembered in the World of Letters was the cherished ambition of all his days, and to the attainment of this end he was ready to sacrifice almost all that the average man regards as essential to happiness. . . . Throughout life his interest in music and the stage never deserted him, and he had a large fund of information relative to the leading actors, actresses, and operatic performers of the Nineteenth Century. . . . His correspondence with men of letters extended over a long period. George Julian Harvey, the Chartist, during the last few years of his life, was a familiar correspondent and an intimate friend. Edmund Gosse and Austin Dobson were always ready with words of help and encouragement in all his literary efforts. And amongst his friends and helpers in both his literary and business career I must not omit to mention Mr. G. Thorn Drury, K.C., Mr. E. V. Lucas, Sir A. T. Quiller Couch, Mr. A. H. Bullen, Mr. A. Buxton Forman, the Right Hon. John Burns, M.P., Mr. Thos. J. Wise, Madame Hamelius-Wilcox, the late Professor Dowden, and the late Colonel W. F. Prideaux. . . . Much that he has done I feel sure will endure. May his spirit rest in peace."

Mr. Humphrey Milford, of the Oxford University Press, has just issued "Spending in War Time," by E. J. Urwick, M.A., the fourteenth of "The Papers for War Time." The pamphlet has been written with considerable practical experience of social and economic questions, and what is here said is well worth very careful attention.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—In the latter half of January, as a rule, we are scanning the publishers' early announcements with interest and curiosity in order to get some advance indication of what are likely to be the leading features and characteristics of the coming book season. But in this abnormal year there is little enough room for question or speculation on the subject. The Great Obsession which holds the whole world in thrall is going to assert as complete a domination of our current literature as of all other interests, and already we may as well take it for granted that something not far removed from an "all-war" book season is what the spring has in store for us. There will be, of course, a certain proportion of books on subjects wholly remote from the great overmastering topic of the time; but we must make our account with the certainty that, of the new issues that will "count" during the next few months, very few indeed will be unconcerned with the present tremendous struggle of nations, or with subjects closely related to it, and deriving from it their immediate importance. So far as the spring announcements are already available, one recognises it as a case of "Eclipse first, and the rest nowhere"; while every fresh list that appears only serves to increase the overwhelming predominance of the war-interest in the literature of various orders which the publishers are preparing to put forth. Not merely military, naval, and political experts, but philosophers, biographers, novelists, poets, sensational fictionists, humorous writers—one and all have their minds turned to-day in the same direction, and their pens working under the influence of the same irresistible spell.

The mind boggles, indeed, at the anticipation of the gigantic mass of literature of all sorts which this war of wars is destined to inspire, not only during its progress, but for years after it has reached that end which we all pray, rather than hope, may be soon. Even up to now the *à propos* books of one kind and another must amount to quite a formidable total; and though the avalanche has, in reality, only just begun, I see that a bibliography of war-books and war-pamphlets is already in course of compilation by Mr. F. W. T. Lenge, the librarian of the St. Bride Foundation, who is certainly taking time by the forelock in starting thus early upon a task to which "Finis" can only be written at some time in the indefinite future. In its successive stages, however, such a bibliography will be extremely useful; and as it is to be published shortly, as far as it goes, it will furnish us with a valuable conspectus of the literary products of "Armageddon" during its first six months or thereabouts. Though the record, thus far, will no doubt impress and even astonish us by its length, it is as certain as anything can be that the ratio of production, as regards all kinds of literature relating to the war, will be greater in the immediate future than it has been up to the present time.

Of military chronicles of the great struggle we may expect—in fact, we are already getting—an almost embarrassing profusion, although their authors are rather severely handicapped by the unprecedented rigour of the censorship. For the restrictions of secrecy and silence nowadays imposed upon military Press representatives and others the surrounding conditions of up-to-date warfare no doubt afford ample justification; but, as their inevitable result, we shall have to wait, perhaps till the end of the war, for a good many of those human and personal details of experiences in "the imminent deadly breach" which used to give life and thrill to the dispatches of the old-style war correspondents. Meanwhile, the expert writers, both at home and at the theatres of war, are piling up records and commentaries voluminous enough to become almost the despair even of the most conscientious student of the great conflict in time to come.

There is no resisting the peculiar interest which attaches to the "personal equation," and consequently no class of war-books is likely to have a wider popularity than those which deal with the character and personality of the man who is the responsible author of all this hideous welter of strife and bloodshed. If the Kaiser Wilhelm resembles the great Napoleon in little else but his overweening ambition and his criminal ruthlessness as a disturber of the world's peace, he may yet come to rival him in respect of the number of "personal" books which he has inspired; and it is hardly surprising that the character and conduct of the justly execrated "War Lord" should be attracting the special attention of students of mental aberration. One forthcoming book, I observe, is to exhibit him as an unhappy victim of heredity, by tracing his sinister peculiarities to the influence of various ancestors; while another, from the vigorous pen of Mr. Arnold White, will bluntly propound by its title the question which all the world is compelled to ask—"Is the Kaiser Insane?" If the correct answer is in the affirmative—and of that there can be little doubt—it can only be said that no one man's madness, since the world began, has ever before brought a tithes of such misery and suffering upon humanity. In that respect at least the Kaiser is, and let us hope will ever remain, unique.

As yet there has hardly been time for the influence of the war upon current fiction to make itself fully manifest, though among the early lists we may note the promise of a certain number of novels of a more or less pronounced military cast. As time goes on, we may look to see the effect of our present national experience revealing itself not merely in the multiplication of stories in which warfare plays a prominent part, but in the reflection, visible in the work of our novelists, of those higher ideals of duty and service and patriotic sacrifice which command allegiance in this time of trial. There are great themes for our writers of fiction nowadays, and golden opportunities for any who are capable of handling them greatly.

The poets, too, should find in our present circumstances an inexhaustible source of inspiration, though, curiously enough, they seem already to be growing less vocal than they were in the early days of the war. Thus far, it must be admitted, their achievements on the whole have been rather disappointing, and have included very little, if anything, that has an assured claim to live. But it may be that there are better things in store, and of notable interest is the announcement of a forthcoming poetic play by Mr. Alfred Noyes, the scene of which is understood to be laid in the devastated and Hun-ridden Belgium of to-day.

As might have been expected, the war-spirit is beginning to impress itself visibly upon the cheap editions, and it will be welcome news that Mr. Dent is adding to his popular "Wayfarers' Library" a series of volumes each of which will record the history and deeds of some famous British regiment, including its achievements, thus far, in the present war. This is an excellent idea, and the name of Mr. Cope Cornford as the writer of the volumes is a sufficient guarantee that it will be effectively carried out.

By issuing another of its wonderfully informing and comprehensive Russian Supplements last week the *Times* gave us one more reminder of the severity of the competition which *à propos* literature has to meet in these days at the hands of enterprising journalism. Any one of these Supplements contains almost the material of a small volume in itself; yet it is given away, if not "with a pound of tea," at any rate with the ordinary daily issue of the paper. Hard *Times*, indeed, for the topical book-producer!

A really worrying "poser" has been set by the editor of a well-known work of reference, who wants to know what is to be the official name of a war which has already extended to ten nations and four continents. I do not pretend to suggest an answer; but if only it could be accurately described as "The Last War" we should all be well enough content.

January 22.

JACOB OMNIUM.

Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton have just issued a new batch of the excellent *Daily Telegraph* War Books. We have "Submarines, Mines, and Torpedoes in the War," by Charles W. Domville-Fife, a book of special interest just now; "From Heligoland to Keeling Island: One Hundred Days of War," by Archibald Hurd and H. C. Bywater, a sequel to Mr. Hurd's previous book, "The Fleets at War"; "The Campaign in Russian Poland," by Percy Cross Standing; "The Slav Nations," by Srgjan Pl. Tucic, translated into English by Fanny S. Copeland, which gives an authoritative and first-hand view of the various Slav peoples; "The Battle of the Rivers," by Edmund Dane, dealing with the famous war operations in the Western theatre; "With the Scottish Regiments at the Front," by E. C. Vivian, in which the historic regiments of Scotland, which have gained for themselves so ample a reputation, are picturesquely and attractively described. Each book, it will be seen, deals with a matter of special importance, and gives the reader the best short, authoritative information. The books are handy and convenient in size, and very well worth the shilling at which they are published.

In "England's Arch-Enemy," which he rightly describes as "a collection of essays forming an indictment of German policy during the last sixteen years," Mr. Demetrius C. Boulger gives us a very useful and pregnant volume. He claims, and with some justice, that "no other public writer has tracked with the same persistency the development of German policy." We can quite understand that he did not find the task easy or one that was much encouraged, and that the most obstinate and deep-rooted prejudice he encountered was the general and widespread belief, diligently promoted by the most influential Germans resident among us, in the personal friendship of the Emperor and in his pacific disposition. Now that the Emperor's acts have shown him up in his true colours, Mr. Boulger's essays assume a new importance. An article by him on the "German Plan of Campaign Against France," which appeared in the *Fortnightly Review* for September, 1911, shows that the course he forecasted has been realised almost to the letter. But the whole volume is now of immediate and surpassing interest, and the first paper in the book, on "The British Distrust of Germany," should be carefully read and pondered by everyone. Mr. Boulger, it should be added, is publishing the book himself at 12, Bloomsbury Square, W.C.

Messrs. A. & C. Black have issued as a penny pamphlet "Origins of the Great War, or The British Case," by John Kirkpatrick, M.A., LL.D., Emeritus Professor of History at Edinburgh. It is a short and forcible statement, and rightly describes the causes of the German war delirium as "ambition, vanity, jealousy, and cupidity, exploited by the Government for its own ends, and utterly unrestrained by moral principle or common sense."

Messrs. Methuen will issue immediately a two shilling edition of "The Adventures of Dr. Whitty," by G. A. Birmingham; and in their shilling series a cheap edition of Mr. Hilaire Belloc's diverting story "A Change in the Cabinet."

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co. will publish immediately "Nelson's Legacy," by Frank Danby, an authentic account of the birth, life and death of Emma Lyon Lady Hamilton, illustrated with photogravures of the most famous pictures and engravings inspired by her; "The Great White Army," a new romance by Mr. Max Pemberton, dealing with Napoleon's Invasion of Russia.

MESSRS. CHATTO AND WINDUS announce for immediate publication a new novel by Mrs. F. E. Penny, "Love in a Palace," a romance of the Deccan.

MESSRS. J. M. DENT & Co. announce "Pro Patria," an anthology of patriotic verse, compiled by Mr. Wilfrid J. Halliday.

MESSRS. GAY & HANCOCK announce that they will publish next week three new novels which have been kept back on account of the war. "Hell's Playground," by I. V. Simonton; "The Maid of the Whispering Hills," by V. E. Roe; "Precious Waters," by A. M. Chisholm.

MESSRS. HARPER BROTHERS will issue at once "The Lone Star Ranger," by Zane Grey, a story of adventure on the Texas border; "The Great Mirage," by James L. Ford, describing the working of a great newspaper office; "The Ladder," a novel by Philip Curtiss.

MR. WILLIAM HEINEMANN will publish next week "The Lonely Nietzsche," the second and concluding volume of the authorised life of Friedrich Nietzsche, written by his sister, Mrs. Forster-Nietzsche. The first volume, "The Young Nietzsche," dealt with the years of childhood and adolescence of the philosopher; the present book recounts the later and most vital half of his career.

MR. JOHN LANE will publish next week "A Pilgrim's Scrip," by R. Campbell Thompson. With 32 Illustrations and Map; also "The Titan," a new novel by Theodore Dreiser, a realistic study of the career of a great financial magnate.

MESSRS. LONGMANS & Co. will shortly publish "Footfalls of Indian History," a new book by the late Sister Nivedita, which will be fully illustrated, and include reproductions in Colour from Water-colours by Abanindra Nath Tagore, the first of living Indian artists, and two other members of his artistic school.

MESSRS. METHUEN will publish next week "The Carnival of Florence," a new novel by Miss Marjorie Bowen; "Little Mrs. Lee," by Miss Margaret Hope; "Edgar Chirrup," a new novel by Miss Peggy Webling.

MR. ELLIOT STOCK announces for immediate publication a volume of "Short Studies on Bible Subjects," by William Dale, F.S.A., F.G.S.; also "Plain and Practical Lessons for Confirmation Candidates and Others," by the Rev. G. A. Tindall, B.A., a complete course of instruction on the essential principles of Baptism, Confirmation, and Communion.

Obituary.

Constable.—Recently, aged 72, Mr. Archibald David Constable, one of the partners in the well-known printing and publishing firm of Messrs. T. & A. Constable, Edinburgh. He was born in Edinburgh, and in 1865 he joined his father, Mr. Thomas Constable, as joint Queen's Printer for Scotland. He counted among his personal friends many well-known authors, and he himself edited and translated for the Scottish History Society Major's "History of Scotland." His loss will be greatly felt.

Notices of Books.

The Home of the Blizzard: Being the Story of the Australasian Antarctic Expedition, 1911-1914. By Sir Douglas Mawson, D.Sc. Illustrated in Colour and Black-and-White, also with Maps. Two volumes. (W. Heinemann).—Of late years there has been exceptional interest in Arctic and Antarctic exploration, and in the work Englishmen have taken a very prominent part. In 1901 the late Captain Scott and the Expedition in the *Discovery* passed two winters at the southern extremity of Ross Sea. Six years later Sir Ernest Shackleton's Expedition made an attempt to gain the South Geographical Pole, eventually attaining to some 97 miles short of their goal. In 1910 Captain Scott started on his last and fatal expedition, reaching the Pole soon after the Norwegian Amundsen, and in the years 1911-1914 Sir Douglas Mawson led the Australasian Expedition to the Antarctic, of which we now have the complete official chronicle in these two handsome and substantial volumes. He has, with good reason, entitled the record "The Home of the Blizzard," for Antarctica possesses the lowest mean temperature and the highest wind velocity of any land existing. "Picture," writes the explorer, "drifts so dense that daylight comes through dully, though may be the sun shines in a cloudless sky; the drift is hurled screaming through space at a hundred miles an hour, and the temperature is below zero Fahrenheit. You have then the bare rough facts concerning the worst blizzard of Adelie Land." One can only wonder that human endurance can exist for any length of time under such severe conditions, and marvel at the resolution and determination which can rise superior to such almost insuperable obstacles. For these conditions at certain seasons were not exceptional, but almost permanent, and in spite of them all the explorers were able to carry on their work. It is indeed a high testimony to the excellent management of the expedition that only two lost their lives—one, Lieut. Ninnis, by an accidental fall through a hidden crevasse, and the other, Xavier Mertz, through inability to endure the terrible strain, the "toil and tribulation" in crossing King George V. Land. The first volume contains the main account of the expedition by Sir Douglas Mawson himself. The second provides the reader with certain subsidiary narratives hardly less interesting and important. Captain J. K. Davis, in command of the ship, tells us "The Ship's Story"; Mr. F. Wild recounts the story of the party which worked at the Western base, and Mr. G. F. Ainsworth gives us three extremely interesting chapters on the life and work on Macquaire Island, which may perhaps be termed the outside base of the expedition, where its communications with Australia were maintained. The entire chronicle is a wonderful record of courageous endurance, and the completeness with which the story is told adds very much to its interest. The many vivid details, the scenes and incidents which took place are most realistically pictured; the graphic and effective fashion in which the whole is set before the reader scarcely allows him to put the book down till he reaches the end. The introductory chapter, which sets out the problem of the expedition and the preparations made for it, is particularly instructive, and the author makes it quite clear that the main purpose of the expedition was not so much to reach the South Pole as to increase the present scientific knowledge of the great Antarctic continent. In this respect, at any rate, the results of the expedition have been extremely valuable. The various appendices are full of practical information, and the numerous illustrations add to the interest and usefulness of the work, which must always hold a permanent place among the most notable records of Arctic exploration and discovery.

The Mutiny of the Elsinore: By Jack London. (Mills & Boon).—The *Elsinore* was a sailing ship bound from Baltimore to Seattle with a cargo of coal, and Mr. Pathurst, a wealthy American, with his Japanese servant Wada, for no very clear reason arranged to go on the voyage really as a passenger, but nominally as third mate. Mr. Jack London, we believe, has had a very varied experience, and we think it is quite likely that in describing the very eventful passage of the ship from Baltimore round Cape Horn to Valparaiso, where the story, though not the voyage, ends, he is drawing very largely on his own experience. We hardly think any writer would have imagined such a crew of rascals and degenerates unless he had actually seen something like them. Again, the portraits of Captain West, who is clearly master of his business and master of his men, though he always seems to be doing nothing; of the first mate, Mr. Pike, with his immense strength and brutal, domineering rule over the depraved scamps who are under his orders; and of Mr. Mellaire, the second mate, with his evil looks and his manifestly suspected past, are probably drawn from real life, and they are portrayed with all the realistic and effective vigour which make the writer's books so absorbingly attractive. The time of the story is definitely fixed as in 1913, otherwise one would almost have thought that it belonged to some bygone age. We are not quite sure that the writer has not given his readers rather too much, the details are too fully narrated, and the interest is somehow rather allowed to drag. If the book were half the length we think it would perhaps have been more exciting, but at the same time it is in some ways almost a *tour de force*, and illustrates in a very noticeable fashion the careful detail, the vivid realism, and the grim and gruesome excitement which the author is so well able to portray. We must not omit the fact that the passenger and the captain's daughter get on very well together. When the mutiny breaks out on the captain's death he and she take command, and manage in the long run to defeat the mutineers. It is undoubtedly an extremely powerful and characteristic novel which only Mr. Jack London could have produced.

An Emperor in the Dock. By William de Veer. (John Lane).—Though the war is hardly six months old, war novels are already making their appearance, and we think that the one now under notice will attract a good deal of attention. It is frankly improbable, almost indeed impossible, but this hardly lessens its interest and attraction. Two Englishmen are holiday-making in Norway when the war suddenly breaks out. They are naturally eager to get home, and their Norwegian host arranges for them a passage to Amsterdam in the motor boat of a Dutch gentleman. Before they start from Christiania, where they are joined by an American who wishes to enlist in the French Army, spies are already at work. After some adventures a German ship, which they are passing, is suddenly blown up by a mine. Two half-drowning Germans are saved by the Dutch, and it presently turns out that they are the Kaiser and a member of his suite, Count Hederborn. When they come to themselves they ask to be set on shore at Emden, but their host naturally refuses in view of the two Englishmen he has on board. Thereupon the Kaiser and his friend try to rush the boat, but fail, and the Kaiser is placed under arrest. The owner and the Englishmen then sit over him in court martial and the German views of morality and decency in war are very interestingly illustrated. The victors threaten to hand the Kaiser over to the British Fleet, and why they do not we can hardly understand, though the alleged reason is that he may be reserved for the more ignominious fate which awaits him at the end of the war. As a sort of *jeu d'esprit*, or perhaps a parable, the story is exceedingly clever, the proceedings at the court martial are very divertingly reproduced.

Publications of the Week.

Religion and Theology.

- BUCKELL (A. C.) *The Prodigal Son. A Drama in Five Acts; Sermons.* 12mo, pp. 96. *Skeffington* ... net 1/6
- CHIMES for Life's Journey. By the author of "The Six Maries," &c. 12mo, pp. 180. *Skeffington* ... net 2/
- CLEMENTS (M. E.) *Missionary Stories of the Olden Time. Incidents in the Evangelization of Great Britain and Ireland.* Cr. 8vo, pp. 100. *Skeffington* ... net 1/6
- CRAFER (T. W.) *The Men of the Passion. Being a series of Holy Week Addresses.* 12mo, pp. 106. *Skeffington* ... net 1/6
- LENTEN *Lights and Shadows.* By the author of "The Six Maries," &c. 12mo, pp. 216. *Skeffington*, net 2/6
- LODGE (Sir Oliver) *The Substance of Faith Allied with Science. A Catechism for Parents and Teachers.* Popular ed. 12mo, pp. 143. *Methuen* ... net 1/
- MANUAL (D. G.) *A Gladdening River. 25 years' Guild Influence among the Himalayas.* Illustrated. 8vo, pp. 284. *Black* ... net 1/
- MELLOR (Stanley A.) "Which Gospel Do You Accept?" Five Addresses in Time of War. 8vo, swd. *Liverpool Booksellers' Co.* ... net 6d
- MONCRIEFF (C. E. Scott-) *The Consciousness of the Spiritual. A Study in the Philosophy of Religion.* Cr. 8vo, pp. 202. *Skeffington* ... net 3/6
- PRAYER in the Home: An Example and a Plea. On card. *R.T.S.* ... 2d
- SMALL Hymn Book (The) *The Word-Book of the Yattendon Hymnal.* Edited by Robert Bridges. 12mo, swd. *B. H. Blackwell* ... net 2/6
- WITH the Colours: For God, King, and Country. Psalms and Hymns for Soldiers in the Field. With Welsh Supplement. 32mo, swd. *T. & A. Constable* ... net 1d

Annuals and Serials.

- ALMANACK Hachette, 1915. 12mo, pp. 432. *Hachette* 1/6
- BREWERS' Almanack and Wine & Spirit Trade Annual for 1915. 8vo, pp. 421. *Revier Press* ... net 5/
- CARLISLE Diocesan Calendar, Clergy List, and Church Almanack (The), 1915. Cr. 8vo, swd. *Simpkin* ... 1/
- KINEMATOGRAPH Year-Book, Diary & Directory, 1915 (Cr. 8vo, pp. 532. *Kinematograph & Lantern Weekly, Ltd.*
- PUNCH, Vol. CXLVII. 4to. *Office* ... 8/6
- SOUTHWELL Diocesan Calendar, Clergy List, and General Almanack (The), 1915. Cr. 8vo, swd. *T. Foran* ... 1/6
- UNION Jack Club Calendar, 1915. Ed. by Major H. F. Wilkinson. 12mo, pp. 116. *The Club* ... 6d
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Catherall, J., & Co. (Lizzie Plummer, Geo. Hy. Plummer, and Thos. Barnfather), Hexham. Newspaper Proprietors and Printers. December 31. Debts due to and owing by the said late firm will be received and paid by the said Lizzie Plummer and Geo. Hy. Plummer, who will carry on the said business at the same place under the same style.

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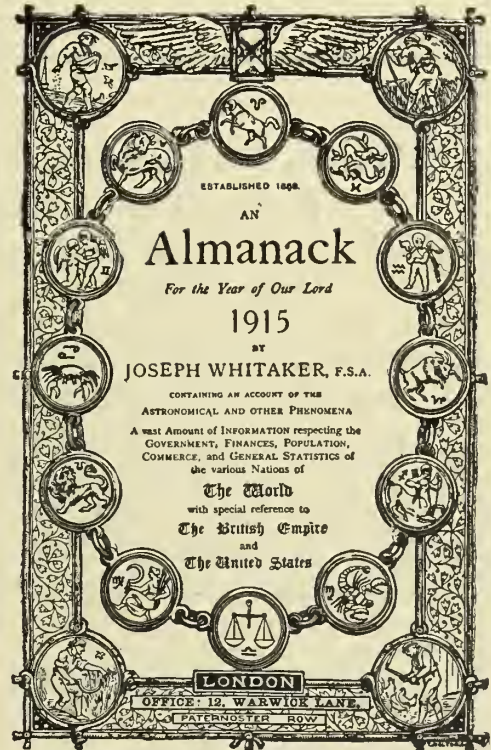


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Trade and Literary Gossip.

Booksellers' Provident Institution.—At the last monthly meeting of the Board of Directors, Mr. C. J. Longman presiding, the sum of £111 4s. was granted for the relief of members and widows of members, and the receipt of the following donations was announced: Mr. J. C. Francis, £5 5s.; Mr. James Abel, £1 1s.; Messrs. George Philip & Son, Ltd., £2 2s.; Messrs. S. W. Partridge & Co., Ltd., £2 2s.; Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, Ltd., £2 2s.; *Printers' Pie* Trust, through Mr. W. H. Spottiswoode, £13 17s. 1d.; Mr. Humphrey Milford, £2 2s.; Mr. H. C. Sotheran, £1 1s. One new member was elected, and the Secretary reported the receipt of several letters of thanks, the writers of which expressed their appreciation of the assistance rendered them by the Institution and their gratitude for Christmas gifts. The date of the Annual General Meeting, when Sir Henry Newbolt will address the members, was fixed for Wednesday, March 10. The death was reported of a widow whose husband had received assistance to the amount of £28 17s. 6d., and who had herself been granted the sum of £259 13s. 6d. The amount of the husband's subscription was £42. The directors present at the meeting were:—Messrs. J. R. Blade, L. Carrdus, J. Clark, J. Cooper, J. Foster, J. W. Harden, C. H. Hollingsworth, F. J. James, W. H. Jelpke, G. H. Johnson, W. A. Kelk, C. T. Langford, A. S. Lewis, W. Longman, A. W. Mills, A. W. Nott, A. J. Sabin, E. Shallis, G. C. Sole, J. E. Stroulger, R. E. Taylor.

For King and Country.—The following has been received since our last list:—

MESSRS. W. H. SMITH & SON (Twenty-second List).—Jones, A. E., 4th Welsh; Sibley, C. W., Royal Engineers; Humphreys, A., A.S.C.; Pollard, W., Grenadier Guards; Smythe, 13th London (Princess Louise); Rowe, W.R., R.F.A.; Walsh, H. F. W., A.S.C.; Vines, B., Royal Gloucester Hussars Yeomanry; Carter, H. J., East Surrey; Lewry, W., 13th Kensington; Bull, F., Bagley, E., R.F.A.; Thomas, F. R., Army Pay Corps.

We would call the special attention of our readers to the article on "Organisation in the Book Trade," which appears on another page in this issue. It has been sent by a correspondent who is well known in the trade, and we shall be glad to have any opinions of our readers on the important suggestions he makes.

The King has accepted a copy of "Right against Might," by Bella Sidney Woolf, lately published by Messrs. W. Heffer & Sons, Ltd., Cambridge.

A Correspondent would be glad to know who is the author of a poem commencing, "Our England is a Garden all set with Stately Views." Perhaps some of our readers can send us the information.

Mr. Murray has just published a shilling edition of Professor Cramb's "Germany and England," together with a new edition of the same author's work, "The Origins and Destiny of Imperial Britain," which for some time past has been out of print.

I.A.A.B.—The Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday evening in last week, at Anderton's Hotel, when a large number of members were present. Mr. George Gregory, the well-known bookseller of Bath, was elected President for the ensuing year with unanimous enthusiasm, and under his guidance the work of the Association will, we are sure, be carried on with vigour and activity. Mr. Robert Bowes, of Cambridge, the retiring President, in vacating the chair, expressed his thanks for the assistance he had received from the Secretary and the Vice-President during his year of office. He much regretted that owing to ill-health he had not been able to be present as much as he would have wished at the monthly meetings. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. Karlake, and the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Thos. Chatto, were unanimously re-elected and heartily thanked for their helpful services to the Association. The Report, of which a short summary appeared in our last issue, was submitted and duly adopted.

Messrs. W. & G. Foyle gave their 5th annual concert and dance to the staff and friends on Wednesday in last week. During the evening Mr. L. R. Bayley, in a few well chosen words, proposed a vote of thanks to the Messrs. Foyle, which was heartily given. In reply Mr. W. A. Foyle reminded all present of the grave crisis through which we are passing, thanking the staff for their loyalty in the past, and concluding by wishing them all happiness and prosperity in 1915. Mr. G. Foyle later gave a toast to the absent friends who had responded to their country's call. Among the visitors special mention may be made of Mr. C. Halkett, who for some years guided the dispatch department to its present state of efficiency. Mr. Halkett left London the following day to join his regiment. He takes with him the good wishes of all. Songs and music were rendered by the Misses Wardrope and Hughes, and Messrs. Bradley, D. Wesson, G. Foyle, Macnamara, Willington, Halkett, Leah, and A. Nimz, the last-named receiving such an ovation that he had to give two encores; the dramatic part of the programme being provided by Messrs. Ellis, Dowsett and West in "The Tipster," and Messrs. Clifford, Renton and G. Foyle in monologues. Miss Rosenberg recited "The Culprit." A vote of thanks to the artists and organisers was given by Miss Veitch, and suitably responded to by Mr. J. Ellis. The piano was presided over by Mr. J. Wesson, who also provided the music, with the assistance of Mr. D. Wesson with the violin, for the dancing which followed. Great credit is due to Messrs. H. C. Perrin and W. H. Ure, who officiated as stage manager and dancing M.C. respectively, for a very enjoyable evening.

Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. have published "War and Lombard Street," by Mr. Hartley Withers, in which he endeavours to give a clear account of what happened in the City at the beginning of last August. They have also published "They Who Question," a novel by a well-known writer, who prefers to remain anonymous; and "A Freelance in Kashmir: A Tale of the Great Anarchy," an Indian historical romance, by Lieut.-Colonel G. F. McMunn, D.S.O., author of "The Armies of India."

"**The Publisher's Weekly**" emphasises an important matter when it points out that the idea that cutting prices can secure any competitive advantage is wholly fallacious. Students of economics and advertising alike have, it explains, "clearly shown that any 'competitive advantage' gained by this sort of advertising is not only very temporary in its direct effect, but indirectly of a boomerang nature. One dealer cuts; his competitor cuts to meet him; both of them discard the unprofitable line in disgust; the manufacturer cuts down the dealer's discount to discourage similar price cutting elsewhere—was there ever a more vicious circle of economic loss without a single compensatory gain? Both price-cutting dealers lose money; the public loses opportunity to buy; the manufacturer loses retail outlets; all other dealers lose a portion of their profits! Price-cutting never pays." If the warning is needed in America it is equally necessary on this side of the Atlantic, and we hope that the trade will read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the very lucid and conclusive reasoning of our contemporary.

Messrs. F. W. T. Lange and W. T. Berry, of the St. Bride Foundation Libraries, have just published, through Messrs. Grafton & Co., a very useful "Annotated Bibliography of Literature issued during the European Conflict," entitled "Books on the Great War." It gives the bibliographical particulars of some 500 books and pamphlets issued during the first five months of the war, from August to December. Mr. R. A. Peddie, in a commendatory preface, tells us that very few English titles have been omitted, and he points out that no complete list exists anywhere of the contemporary literature issued in England at the time of the Napoleonic Wars, which must have been, comparatively speaking, very small in quantity. Thanks to Messrs. Lange and Berry the future historians of the present war will be in a much more favourable position, and all will hope that, in Mr. Peddie's words, they "may be able to continue their task until the last word has been spoken on the European War."

To the "Daily Telegraph War Books" there has just been added a "Manual of Military French" by George E. Pitt. It is described as a concise manual for the use of officers and non-commissioned officers in the Expeditionary Forces, containing essential information as to French Army ranks, money, weights and measures, railways, motoring terms, Red Cross work, countries of Europe, with a selection of practical conversational expressions. The author has been actively engaged in teaching military French to a large number of Territorial officers. His book is evidently based upon practical experiences, and will no doubt be found extremely useful by those for whom it is specially intended.

Messrs. George G. Harrap & Co. have just published a useful sixpenny "Soldiers' Word and Phrase Book," intended for the soldier who, knowing only his mother tongue, finds himself in France or Germany; also "America's Arraignment of Germany," by Dr. J. William White, Trustee of the University of Pennsylvania, exposing the hollowness of Germany's claim that she is not the aggressor, and showing the mind of America concerning the war.

Mr. George Gregory, the newly-elected President of the International Association of Antiquarian Booksellers, is a well-known bookseller at Bath, where he was born rather more than 60 years ago. His father, the late Mr. William Gregory, carried on an important book-binding business in the city for many years, and here Mr. Gregory had his first commercial experiences. Early in the eighties he commenced business for himself in his present premises, 5, Argyle Street, as a bookseller. Here he has built up a large and steadily extending concern, with connections and clientèle all over the world. Among his many customers he counts the late King Edward VII., Queen Alexandra, and the Empress Eugénie, and he holds by special appointment the position of bookseller in ordinary to Her Majesty Queen Alexandra. Of recent years Mr. Gregory has added a department for rare prints and engravings, of which catalogues are periodically issued. Mr. Gregory has also issued many important local books and pamphlets, including Mr. Mowbray Green's monumental work, "The Eighteenth Century Architecture of Bath."

In Lord Cromer's "Modern Egypt" the history of Egyptian reform was brought down to the spring of 1907, but the narrative of the principal political events which occurred in Egypt stopped on January 7th, 1892, the date of Tewfik Pasha's death. The deposition of Abbas II. has now rendered it unnecessary to preserve reticence in respect to the events which occurred immediately after his accession. The story has, therefore, now been fully told for the first time in a volume entitled "Abbas II.," by Lord Cromer, which will shortly be published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. No attempt has been made to write a complete history of Egyptian affairs from the date of Lord Cromer's departure from Cairo, in May, 1907, up to the present time, but in a brief preface he states his personal opinion as regards the larger aspects of the phases through which Egypt has passed during this period.

The Editor of the "British Review" having been given access, by the kindness of the owner, to a private collection of hitherto unpublished water-colours, chalk studies, and other drawings by eminent Old Masters, proposes to publish a selection of them in facsimile as supplements. The first of the series will be a pastel portrait by Sir Joshua Reynolds, reproduced by a new process on a rough surface paper to match the text, and it will form the Supplement to the *Review* for February next. The Editor is prepared to consider etchings, pen or pencil drawings, and similar works by modern artists, with a view to their reproduction from time to time during the course of this series.

"The World's Work" for February will contain special articles of vital interest on the war. These consist of statements by Sir Edward Grey, by Count Okuma, the Premier of Japan, and by Doctor von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German Chancellor. The pronouncement of the last is replied to and refuted by Mr. Henry Cust, Chairman of the Central Committee of National Patriotic Organisations. An illustrated article on "Kitchener's Army in the Making" is also included.

BELGIAN BOOK TRADE RELIEF FUND.

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NINTH LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	1,183	2	1
Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent & Co., Ltd.	10	10	0
The Manchester & District Booksellers' and Stationers' Association	7	12	9
Messrs. Thomas Nelson & Sons	5	5	0
Mr. David Nutt	5	0	0
Staff of Messrs. W. H. England & Co. (Hull)	2	0	0
A Devon Bookseller	1	1	0
Mr. H. Rawlings (Cheltenham)	10	6	0
Mr. Edwin J. Galloway (Vancouver) (\$2)	8	2	0
Mr. D. Webster (Leeds)	5	0	0
	£1,215	14	6

The volume of "Kultur Cartoons" by that rising cartoonist, Will Dyson, which Messrs. Stanley Paul & Co. have just sent us, will no doubt introduce to a wider public his remarkable gifts as a caricaturist. They show a very wonderful originality and individuality of style, a definiteness of conception, and a vivid imagination, together with exceptional powers of draughtsmanship. Mr. H. G. Wells in a characteristic commendatory foreword emphasises the artist's purpose and intention. Mr. Dyson, he remarks, "takes a figure based on the Kaiser, but essentially a symbol on which to concentrate his hatred of the foolish assumptions, the cruel vanities, the vile waste of opportunity, the perversion and destruction which is his case against Militant Monarchy. . . and supporting the Dysonised Kaiser is a German figure of fat foolishness."

Messrs. T. C. & E. C. Jack announce that they will issue very shortly a cheap edition of Dr. Sarolea's now famous book, "The Anglo-German Problem." This volume has come to be accepted as giving the most lucid exposition of the international situation.

Sir J. G. Frazer, author of "The Golden Bough," has made a selection from the Essays of Joseph Addison, and has provided them with a preface and a few notes. The work is to form a couple of volumes of Messrs. Macmillan & Co.'s well-known Eversley Series, and is to be published next month. Messrs. Macmillan & Co. will also publish very shortly, at the price of sixpence, a booklet by Mr. Rudyard Kipling, entitled "The New Army in Training."

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—“Blessed are they who expect nothing; for verily, they shall not be disappointed.” I caught myself repeating this fragment of mocking philosophy the other day, while reading in a weekly paper an account of an interview with Mr. J. H. Blackwood, worthy representative of a great House of Letters and reigning President of the Publishers' Association, on the literary outlook as affected by the war. It was not that Mr. Blackwood invited us to “expect nothing” as regards the material prospects of the book-trade in the immediate future; on the contrary, he discussed those prospects with a reasoned hopefulness that was wholly encouraging. His cold douche was reserved for those sanguine people who have been vaguely promising us some wonderful kind of literary renaissance as the direct result of the experiences through which we are passing. Any such expectation he dismisses with the quiet assertion that “war, as such, has never been the direct cause of renewed literary or artistic merit”; and he shows himself ready and able to defend that postulate in relation to any individual instances which may seem, on the surface, to suggest a contrary conclusion. But though he warns us against the mistake of looking for a literary “new heaven and new earth” as an outcome of the present unprecedented clash of arms, Mr. Blackwood is not behindhand in recognising that literature and art cannot fail to be indirectly affected by this time of trial, and that such influence must needs be good in the case of a nation which, like our own, is fighting and enduring in a just cause. I take him to mean, in short, that though war cannot produce literary genius, it can at least inspire current literature with higher ideals. In that sense, then, we need not quite “expect nothing,” after all.

The prevalence in this country of the idea that a period of great military achievement tends to produce a corresponding period of brilliancy in letters is not, when one comes to think about it, difficult to understand. For it has so happened that each of the greatest epochs in the history of English literature has either coincided with or closely followed upon a time in which the country, vitally menaced by foreign foes, has emerged triumphantly from the ordeal and added undying lustre to her arms. But when it comes to the implied suggestion that the giants of Elizabethan letters would have been less gigantic but for the exploits of Drake, Hawkins, and Frobisher, or that the great writers of a later era were indebted for their greatness to the Napoleonic wars, one fails to find any such proposition convincing. Doubtless, the work of writers of genius may be influenced and coloured by the patriotic sacrifices and valorous achievements of the country whose sons and daughters they are. But genius itself, like the wind, “bloweth where it listeth,” and is not to be originated by any external circumstances, however heroic or inspiring those circumstances may be.

Not to many authors, known or unknown, is it given to be the begetter of such a “boom” as has been created by the anonymous “English Governess” whose spirited account of her experiences and observations in the household of a German Prince is probably being more widely read and discussed among us at this moment than anything that Nietzsche, von Treitschke, or von Bernhardt ever wrote. So far, the secret of the writer's identity has been successfully kept, and there are certainly better practical reasons for preserving it than is the case with most literary mysteries of the kind. The book is so effectively and vivaciously written that one is tempted to wonder whether the “Governess” has had any previous experience of authorship. As for its revelations, they are of real value, apart from their purely personal interest, for the fresh evidence they afford, not only of the spiteful hatred of England long cherished by the “great friendly country” to which one of our Ministers

referred less than a year ago in terms of such obsequious admiration, but also of the fixed determination of the leaders of that country to attack us at the earliest opportunity. It may occur to readers of the book to wish that its author had found means, at the time, of acquainting responsible persons in England with the details of the toy Zeppelin game, invented by von Bernhardt and played by the children of the German Prince's household; though even that might have failed to open eyes which did not want to see. In making good her escape to her native land, the “Governess” proved herself plucky as well as lucky; and let us devoutly hope that the air-raiding Huns will not succeed in discovering her present address.

A German “behind-the-scenes” book of a different order, written by a highly-placed native of the Fatherland, is promised us, in an English translation, by the house of Cassell, whose preliminary announcement leads us to expect some interesting, not to say startling, disclosures. Its author is one Count Axel von Schwering—whose name, to English ears, distinctly suggests vigour of expression—and its purport is to present a candid picture, from the inside, of “The Berlin Court under William II.” Since the Count is understood to disapprove emphatically of the policy and aims of the Kaiser and the Prussian militarist party, and to reveal past happenings and criticise individuals with uncompromising frankness, it seems quite possible that the anticipated “sensation” will be duly achieved.

From the same firm, by the way, we are presently to have another book of Court secrets, this time of the Spanish variety. Its author is no less exalted a personage than King Alfonso's aunt, the Infanta Eulalia, who, it seems, has not only grown weary of the ceremonies and restraints of Court life and “escaped, soul and body, from her gilded cage,” but has felt it incumbent upon her to write a book and tell the world all about it. A prince or princess who, so to speak, kicks over the Royal traces, and adopts a critical attitude towards Court life in general and the life of his or her own family and surroundings in particular, may be safely trusted to produce at any rate a readable book; so, despite the present absorption of the world in matters unconnected with Spain or its Court, I have little doubt that the “escaped” Infanta's work will have a satisfactory success of curiosity.

Sir Frederic Kenyon's remarks as editor of the newly published Browning poems, quoted in last week's issue of THE BOOKSELLER, revive the vexed question whether, in the case of an author of high eminence, it is justifiable to publish after his death fragments of his work which during his life he has deliberately withheld from publication as unworthy of his reputation and powers. It may be argued, no doubt, that anything from the pen of such an author must necessarily be of general interest, and that the fact of his having left certain manuscripts undestroyed may be regarded, in these circumstances, as sufficient justification for giving them to the world. But I must confess that my own view inclines strongly in favour of respecting the author's own wishes and intentions; and when it is known that he has definitely rejected certain items of his work as unworthy to take their place among his published writings, it seems to me to be taking something like an unfair advantage to defeat his wishes on the subject after his death. The mere fact that a manuscript has been allowed, perhaps by accident, to escape destruction is surely no adequate excuse for making it public in opposition to the known desire and intention of its author.

A character in a certain new novel is being quaintly advertised, I see, as “the most engaging curate ever met in fiction.” It must be owned that the general run of novelists' curates are not particularly engaging; though, curiously enough, we almost invariably find them, sooner or later, engaged. JACOB OMNIUM.

January 29.

ORGANISATION IN THE BOOK TRADE.

From a Correspondent.

ONE of the lessons of the past six months, and one which must not be forgotten when the war has been brought to a triumphant conclusion, is the value of being ready. For it was being ready, when we were not, that gave Germany her initial successes, and the Allies some very uncomfortable months. And though it may be asked how this can concern the book trade, its significance will be seen when it is remembered that the means adopted to attain that readiness was organisation.

Is our trade organisation as good as it might be, and are we ready to meet the new conditions and new problems that will arise after the war?

If we are not—and we think no one will claim perfection for our organisation—now is the time to think things out, when business is slack, and we can secure occasional half-hours to review our trade as a whole and plan improvements for the future.

First of all we must remind ourselves that the book trade, like all the rest of our social machinery, is dependent on public support, and can only flourish if it is rendering a service to at least some considerable part of the community. Trade organisation, if it is to be of permanent value, should, therefore, not only benefit the members of the trade itself, but also improve the service which that trade is rendering to the public. At any rate, it must not attempt merely to exploit the public for the benefit of the trade, without offering something in exchange.

Having stated this fundamental principle, we can discuss the questions which concern us more immediately, and the first question to consider is:—

“What should be the object of book trade organisation?” And it may be answered thus:—

- (1) *To increase the sale of books on terms that are profitable to all those who are interested in their production; or,*
- (2) *To make the terms on which books are sold more profitable to those interested in their production; or,*
- (3) *To do both.*

The next question is:—

“Who are interested in the production of books?”

And the answer to that is for our purposes:—

- (1) The author;
- (2) The publisher; and
- (3) The bookseller.

Increased sales of books on profitable terms are so obviously in the interest of the publisher and bookseller that we need not enlarge on the subject.

The author's interest is more indirect, but since his remuneration—the terms he gets from his publisher—is dependent on what the publisher and bookseller can do in the way of sales, improved organisation must be to his advantage, for larger sales, or sales more easily effected must mean more profit to him in the long run.

But on the whole the author is outside book-trade organisation, and we will confine ourselves to considering the positions of publishers and booksellers.

It is a debatable point whether after the war, when taxes are high and incomes have not recovered their pre-war level, it will be possible to increase the actual quantity of books sold, so for practical purposes we had better deal now with the second of the objects of trade organisation given above, and go into the question of how to make the sale more profitable to those interested.

If all those interested, author, publisher, and bookseller, are to get more, or if even only one of the three is to get more without taking from the other two—and to do that would be contrary to our idea of the object of trade organisation—the extra profit must be taken from somewhere else, the saving must be made from the portion of the expenses of producing

and selling books which is spent outside the book trade proper.

To a publisher the cost of publishing a book may be divided roughly into three categories:—

- (1) Payment to the author.
- (2) The cost of production.
- (3) The cost of selling.

The form which the payment to the author takes is immaterial, and as long as we remember that he must eventually benefit by the trade organisation we can leave him out of consideration. We can also leave cost of production aside, for that, too, lies outside our immediate subject of book trade organisation, besides being well looked after by individuals, and we can concentrate our attention on the cost of selling, which is the category to be most affected by trade organisation, and is the field in which the publisher and bookseller can best work hand in hand.

The cost of selling can be roughly divided into three categories:—

- (1) Trade discounts.
- (2) Advertising.
- (3) Establishment charges.

The portion of establishment charges which more particularly concern the cost of selling is travelling, and it is questionable whether it can be materially reduced unless the organisation of the book trade reaches a perfection which at present seems too Utopian to be considered, but we must remember that travelling is an expensive item, and it should be the ultimate object of trade organisation to reduce it. Advertising is one of the publisher's chief means of bringing his wares to the knowledge of the buyers, and is a heavy item. It includes, besides advertisements in the periodical press, the cost of producing and distributing circulars and catalogues, posters and competitions when these are used, and any other devices adopted to draw a prospective buyer's attention to the wares that are for sale.

As for trade discounts, we all know what they are, but let us consider them further, always bearing in mind that the object of trade organisation is to produce more sales at terms more profitable than hitherto for everyone interested in the sale of books.

We have seen that trade discounts are part of the cost of selling. If they are increased the cost of selling is increased for the publisher, and therefore the chief object of trade organisation is thwarted as regards him, unless he can recover that extra cost from some other source, or at least see such an increase in his sales that the extra cost will be covered by the profit on greater production, if that is possible.

We can safely assume that the author will not be prepared to yield up any of his royalty to help the poor bookseller, and therefore there remain establishment charges and advertising to draw on. We have already ruled out establishment charges from practical consideration for the present, and are left with only advertising from which to take any increase in trade discounts. We are faced by the following questions:—

- (1) Bearing in mind that curtailment of reviews would be the almost certain result of a marked reduction in the advertising revenue of a paper, can advertising be reduced without seriously affecting the sales of books?
- (2) Will the increased activities of the bookseller alone more than make up for the reduced advertisements and reviews?
- (3) Can book trade organisation be brought to such a point that the trade will be practically independent of the Press for its sales and itself provide everything that can be required for the sale of its goods?

We have expressed our doubts as to the possibility of any immediate increase in the actual numbers of

books sold, and, further, we think we can safely say that, in the future, the volume of advertisement needed to effect sales will be rather increased than reduced, so that the first of the above questions must be answered in the negative.

It will, we fear, be many a long day before the trade is organised to such a pitch that reviews and Press advertisements can be dispensed with altogether, so we are left with the result that unless the activities of the booksellers are so increased that in spite of decreased expenditure on advertisements there is no loss of sales to the publishers, there is no inducement to the latter to increase trade discounts.

Therefore, the co-operation between publisher and bookseller in reducing the cost of advertisements should be one of the chief problems to be solved by book trade organisation.

Having arrived at this conclusion let us consider exactly what a "bookseller" is—*i.e.*, who it is who shall be entitled to demand from a publisher trade terms, and on whom the publisher must rely for the increased sales which are to justify a possible increase in trade discounts.

When considering this question it must be remembered that anything that will tend to restrict the number of persons occupying themselves with the sales of books, or to decrease their efficiency, must be to the detriment of both author and publisher, while anything that can increase the number and efficiency of these persons must be to their (*i.e.*, authors' and publishers') advantage. So that a definition of a bookseller, which is to be acceptable to the trade as a whole, must not attempt the exclusion of anyone who is prepared to join the ranks of the bookselling fraternity, provided he will work on recognised lines. The final definitions must, of course, be the result of consultation between the different branches of the trade, but the following suggestion may be useful:—

A bookseller—*i.e.*, someone who is entitled to trade discounts—must

- (1) Purchase the books for *bonâ fide* re-sale at a profit.
- (2) He must occupy himself regularly, though not necessarily exclusively or continuously, with the sale of books.
- (3) He must carry on his business in a shop or a place that is regularly accessible to the public.
- (4) He must recognise and observe trade regulations, such as the net book agreement, but need not necessarily be a member of any book trade association.

If the definition on these lines of a bookseller were adopted, certain institutions and Government offices which now get trade terms would be excluded, and it is possible that business connected with the supply of schoolbooks might be diverted from its present channels. But we doubt whether this would be a drawback. It seems rather anomalous that the supply of school books, the one sort of book that cannot be dispensed with, should be taken out of the hands of the regular bookseller to the extent that it is, instead of providing him with a certain profit towards his expenses.

But the definition would not exclude businesses which cannot carry on a book department all the year round, but can do a large and satisfactory business at certain seasons of the year, generally with a class of book which, excellent as it is in its way, would not be much missed in a good general bookseller's shop; though probably in course of time the public would get accustomed to purchase almost all their books at the regular booksellers'.

We have now dealt with two points which the book trade would do well to settle, and others will arise in the process of that settlement. For instance, the system of "sale or return" would be certain to come under discussion when considering the question of co-operation between publisher and bookseller. It is a question of real importance, and does not deserve the general hostility it now enjoys, while at the same

time there are good reasons against its promiscuous application.

There remains to be considered the machinery needed to settle the problems raised.

That they must be thoroughly thrashed out, and that the solution arrived at must be acceptable to at least the great majority of the trade, is evident, for otherwise the settlement will be of no permanent value, and will fail as soon as it has to withstand any strain, such as that which was applied to the "net book agreement" at the time of the Times Book Club war.

Can the existing book trade associations deal effectively with these problems? There is no question that they can do so as far as these affect the different branches of the trade represented by the various associations. In fact, no one could deal better with them from the publishers' point of view than the Publishers' Association, or from the booksellers' point of view than the various Booksellers' Associations. The difficulties will arise when the endeavour is made to bring the different points of view into harmony. Then the delegates from the various associations who meet will be, we fear, rather advocates of the views of their association, empowered to support only the decisions of their fellows, than men with the good of the whole trade at heart, ready to "give and take" in order to arrive at a satisfactory result. Or are there half a dozen men in the book trade who command such general confidence that any decisions they arrive at would be cordially adopted by, say, 90 per cent. of their fellow publishers and booksellers, and who will give the time and trouble to thrash these questions out?

Failing this ideal half a dozen men, recourse might be had to a general book trade association, not to take the place of the existing associations, but to supplement them and to provide the machinery for dealing with such questions as those we are considering.

Anyone who is either a publisher or a bookseller would be eligible for such an association. Its officers would be elected solely for the purpose of dealing with questions affecting the trade as a whole, and might be assisted by a council formed partly of delegates appointed by the various other associations, so that no branch of the trade would be unrepresented on it.

But if such an association is to be a success it must, of course, be managed with absolute impartiality and with the whole-hearted intention of putting the welfare of the whole trade before that of any part of it or of any individual.

If this could be done it would be difficult to imagine any bounds to the association's usefulness, but is it possible?

Mr. R. L. Hobson, B.A., of the Department of British and Mediæval Antiquities and Ethnology, British Museum, has for some time been engaged upon the task of bringing the latest discoveries in connection with Chinese pottery into line, and as the result of his labours "Chinese Pottery and Porcelain," a two volume work, will be published by Messrs. Cassell early in March. Much that has hitherto been published and accepted by connoisseurs in relation to the work of Chinese potters and their methods and products has in the light of recent research had to be revised. The great collections of the Continent and America have been laid under toll for the illustration of their rarer pieces. A feature of the volumes will be the inclusion of forty natural colour photographs of the pieces chosen, and no expense has been spared in the effort to obtain absolute verisimilitude, as many as seven colours being employed in the reproduction of some of the colour plates. Ninety-six half-tone photographs of rare pieces are also included.

The Oxford University Press has issued a further section of the great English Dictionary, comprising the words "su"—"subterraneous." It has been prepared by Mr. C. T. Onions, and contains a total of 1,853 words, nearly double the number in the "Century Dictionary." The great majority of the words are compounds formed with the Latin prefix "sub-," and the article on the prefix itself occupies nearly six pages, and is the longest article of the kind which has yet appeared in the Dictionary. Among the more interesting and important words, we may note "subject," "sublime," "subscribe," "subsist," and "substance," and it includes several words which have a special importance in philosophy, theology, and law. The number of quotations given is no fewer than 7,686, a total which effectively illustrates the immense care and attention with which the Dictionary is being compiled.

Penrose's Annual for 1915 now reaches its twentieth issue, and the editor, Mr. W. Gamble, may be very heartily congratulated that, in spite of the difficulties caused by the war, he has produced a year book which is well up to the standard of its predecessors. It reviews the illustrative arts, both from the artistic and the technical standpoints, with judgment and knowledge, and it sets before those who are interested full particulars of the latest accomplishments in photo-mechanical processes. The technical articles and the various samples of photogravures, multi-colour plates, two- and three-colour prints and half-tones are all of the highest interest and value.

Mr. Murray has just published "The German War Book," translated by Professor J. H. Morgan, the official work issued by the Great General Staff of the German Army for the use of their officers in the field. Its determined cruelty and flagrant cynicism are only of a piece with the practices which have caused the Prussian war-machine to out-do Attila and out-Moloch Moloch.

Willing's Press Guide for 1915 again makes its annual appearance and provides, as usual, a concise and comprehensive Index to the Press of the United Kingdom, together with some particulars of the leading Colonial and Foreign journals. The present issue, the forty-second, retains all its accustomed features, and the conductors have taken care that the information given shall throughout be complete and trustworthy.

Mr. St. John Irvine's recent novel, "Mrs. Martin's Man," published by Messrs. Maunsel & Co., is meeting with very considerable success; it reached a second edition soon after publication, and a third edition is now in the press. Mr. H. G. Wells has written to the author: "Your 'Mrs. Martin's Man' is most amazingly good. I can't resist the impulse to tell you so. It's real and live and feeling all through. You had bad luck to publish it in the midst of this war confusion, but even that won't drown so fine a thing as yours." Messrs. Maunsel inform us that they hope to publish Mr. Irvine's second novel, "Alice and a Family," in the spring.

Mr. A. M. B. Meakin has published, through Messrs. George Routledge & Son, "Enlistment or Conscription?" in which he sets forth very effectively the arguments on the conscriptionist side.

Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. have just published Lady Charnwood's first book, "The Full Price." It is a story of love and politics, written in that milieu of statesmanship and literature which has always been familiarly known to the author.

In Preparation.

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co. will publish next week the latest edition of "Cassell's Illustrated Shakespeare," with sixty-five full-page illustrations of recent London Shakespearean productions; also, "The Thirty Days," the latest novel by Mr. Hubert Wales.

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS announce the immediate publication of a new novel by Mr. Richard Marsh, entitled "His Love of His Life." Messrs. Chatto & Windus also announce that they will shortly publish, in conjunction with the Fine Art Society, "The Sad Experiences of Big and Little Willie," being 36 Cartoons by Mr. W. K. Haselden, reprinted, in an enlarged form, from the *Daily Mirror*.

MESSRS. J. M. DENT & SONS announce "The Interpretation of History," by Mr. Cecil Jane, which suggests that the trend of recent history indicated both the imminence and the inevitability of a general European war; "Nationality and the War," by Mr. Arnold Toynbee, arguing that the problem of nationality is the underlying cause of the present war.

MR. HERBERT JENKINS will publish next month "Forty Years in Canada," by Major-General S. B. Steele, C.B., M.V.O. Lord Strathcona had intended to write an Introduction, but his death made this impossible.

MESSRS. T. WERNER LAURIE, LTD., are just publishing a novel entitled "Brother In Law to Potts," by Parry Truscott, the author of "Catharine" and "Letters to Myself"; "Paris War Days," by Dr. Innan C. Barnard, of the *New York Tribune*; "Something Like," a novel by Sir Francis E. Vincent, it includes a gambler's vicissitudes, card-playing, and the earthquake in the West Indies, racing in this country, glimpses of Bohemian life, and a sprinkling of love affairs; "Motion Picture Making and Exhibiting," by John B. Rathbun. A comprehensive illustrated volume treating of the principles of Motography.

MESSRS. LONGMANS will shortly publish "Our Comradeship with the Blessed Dead," some Addresses given by the Bishop of Kensington at St. Martin's, Trafalgar Square, in an endeavour to provide grounds of hope and comfort for those to whom the war has entailed pain and bereavement; they will also publish for the Manchester University Press "Germany in the Nineteenth Century," a Series of Lectures, edited by C. H. Herford; "Britain's Case against Germany: An Examination of the Historical Background of the German Action in 1914," by Ramsay Muir, Professor of Modern History in the University of Manchester; "Catalogue of Christie Collection," comprising the Printed Books and Manuscripts bequeathed to the University of Manchester by the late Richard Copley Christie, LL.D., compiled under the direction of Charles W. E. Leigh, Librarian of the University of Manchester; "A Pocket Synopsis of the Families of British Flowering Plants (based upon the system of Engler)" by W. B. Grove, M.A., Lecturer in Botany at the Birmingham Municipal Technical School.

MESSRS. METHUEN & Co. will publish next week "In Other Days," a new novel by Mrs. Sidgwick; also, "The Voice of the Turtle," by Mr. Frederick Watson, son of "Ian Maclaren," and "Lily Louisa," by Mrs. Stanley French.

MR. ELLIOT STOCK will publish immediately a new volume of sermons by Archdeacon Wilberforce, entitled "Seeing God."

MR. T. FISHER UNWIN will publish next week Mr. Silas Hocking's new novel, "The Great Hazard," which deals incidentally with the problem of Divorce.

Notices of Books.

Delia Blanchflower: A Novel. By Mrs. Humphry Ward. (Ward, Lock & Co.)—It will always be matter for argument how far the novel with a purpose is capable of being a complete artistic success, and the decision is not made much easier when it is not quite possible to say with absolute certainty that the novel in question is a novel written with a purpose. It may well be that Mrs. Humphry Ward would deny the soft impeachment. Many people, however, think that some of her most successful books may fairly be so described, "Robert Elsmere," for example, or "Daphne" or the present, her latest effort. However this may be, it is fairly certain that if "*Delia Blanchflower*" is not actually intended to emphasise the wrongheadedness and unwisdom of the militant suffragist movement as it was in active working before the outbreak of the war, it gains its chief interest from the scenes and incidents it describes which are clearly borrowed from that movement. That active organisation, "The Daughters of Revolt," is clearly enough the counterpart of the Women's Social and Political Union. Miss Gertrude Marvell, the purposeful and determined leader of the agitation, is manifestly a character sketch drawn very much from the life of some one or other of the most prominent militant suffragists. The arguments on both sides, which are freely set forth, are given with considerable ingenuity and effect, but Mrs. Humphry Ward, in common with most of those that share her views, seems quite unable to appreciate the real purposes and intention for which the suffragists are so enthusiastically eager to have the vote. What we may perhaps style the final dénouement of the story, the burning down of the fine historic treasure-house of Monks Lawrence, is at any rate rather an exaggeration of anything that has actually been done, and we gravely doubt whether in real life Miss Gertrude Marvell would really have given up her life to carry it out. Nor are we altogether convinced that when the heroine, Delia, eventually is brought to see the error of her ways and marries the guardian against whose interference she has so long protested, Mrs. Humphry Ward follows the most probable sequence of events. We should rather have thought that two such strong personalities would at least have agreed to differ, or, if not, that the man would have given way to the woman he loved. However, we need not speculate on such points. We may willingly agree that Mrs. Humphry Ward here once more shows her wonderful skill in novel writing, and has given an absorbing story which many of her admirers will no doubt rank among the very best of her works.

Behind the Scenes in the Terror. By Hector Fleischmann. Translated by Henry Blanchamp. (Greening & Co.)—The terrible events of the great French Revolution have often been described, and Mr. Fleischmann does not attempt in this extremely interesting volume to retell them. He only brings together from various sources a number of illustrative documents, and a collection of information sometimes new regarding some of the best known scenes and the most celebrated actors in that awful drama. The first and longest section furnishes much information respecting the condition of the prisons in which the unfortunates were confined—a description of the last hours of the Princess de Lamballe, Marie Antoinette, Fouquier de Tinville, the ruthless Public Prosecutor of the Revolutionary Tribunal, the end of the Dantonists, and other well-known scenes. Next we have some illuminating notes on the life and character of Maximilian de Robespierre, and how he met his fate. A short sketch of the author of the War March of the Revolution, the Marseillaise, is extremely interesting, while accounts of Madame Tallien and her strange experiences; of Marat and his murder by Charlotte Corday, throw new light upon these leading figures as they pass across the stage.

The Great White Army. By Max Pemberton. (Cassell & Co.)—A story dealing with the terrible experiences of the retreat of Napoleon's grand army from Moscow in 1812 is always sure of a hearty welcome, but it has a special appropriateness just now in view of the German invasion of Russia, and the very considerable probability that in due time the defeat of the invaders to-day will be as pronounced and definite as the destruction of their predecessors rather more than a hundred years ago. As Mr. Max Pemberton rightly says, the retreat from Moscow is the greatest military tragedy in history. In the present tale he "sets before his readers the story of one Surgeon-Major Constant, a veteran who accompanied Napoleon to Moscow, and was one of the survivors who returned ultimately to Paris." He had, it seems, fled from Paris at the beginning of the French Revolution in the year 1792. His nephew, Captain Léon de Courcelles, was one of the famous *Vélites* of the Guard, and it is with the exploits of this young soldier that the older man's narrative is often concerned. We do not clearly gather whether these two characters were real persons or whether they are only creations of the writer's vivid imagination. This point, however, is of the less consequence, as the story with its many scenes and adventures is certainly wonderfully realistic and accurate, and Mr. Max Pemberton has at any rate made use of some contemporaneous descriptions of the famous retreat. He has, as always, constructed a very ingenious and lively plot. The only fault, if it is a fault, is that at the many critical moments something or someone always turns up just in time to save the situation, a piece of good fortune which is naturally more frequent in fiction than in actual fact. Still, as we have hinted, this hardly qualifies the complete success of the story, for Mr. Max Pemberton, as we all know, possesses to the full that essential quality of the story-teller which enables him to tell his tale with so much vividness and effect that the reader has no time to criticise on the minor points, but is compelled to read with eager interest on to the very end. The salient matters in the great retreat are most realistically reproduced, and the various scenes and incidents managed with picturesque skill and ingenuity.

Love in a Palace. By F. E. Penny. (Chatto & Windus.)—Among those novel writers who have made a speciality of Indian life and character Mrs. Penny, by her many successful tales, has won for herself a leading position, and every new story she gives us still further increases her reputation. Her present book is described, and quite correctly, as a romance of the Deccan, dealing with the social customs of the higher class Mohammedans and the conflict of Eastern and Western ideas. Such a subject in such hands as Mrs. Penny's manifestly provides ample opportunities, and of those she has made excellent use. The chief character is one Captain Hassan ud Deen, A.D.C., and Private Secretary H.H. the Nizam of Hyderabad. He has been educated at Eton and Oxford, and when we are introduced to him he is returning to India in the same ship with a party of Anglo-Indians, including Kenneth Derwent, the Assistant-Resident at that place, who was at Eton and Oxford with him. A large part of the story is occupied with Hassan's marriage, and here the contrast between the ideas and habits of the East and the West is very definitely and graphically illustrated. For Kenneth is also engaged to an English girl, and the different points of view between the husband and the wife, the lover and the fiancée, are vividly brought out. It is sufficiently clear throughout that Mrs. Penny is thoroughly familiar with the various scenes and incidents through which the story is carried, and the different personalities and characters are very effectively pictured and portrayed. The everyday English novel reader, and particularly those with Anglo-Indian interests, will find the tale absorbingly attractive.

Publications of the Week.

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- ANTONY (C. M.) *Paradise Terrestre.* Cr. 8vo, pp. 246. *Washbourne* net 3/6
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 PAGET (Right, Rev. H. L.) *In the Day of Battle.* With an Introduction by the Bishop of London. Cr. 8vo, pp. 157. *Longmans* net 2/6
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 TINDALL (G. A.) *Plain and Practical Lessons for Confirmation Candidates and Others.* Cr. 8vo. *E. Stock.* net 2/6
 WARD (J. E.) *A Child's Book of Prayer.* 12mo. *E. Stock* net 1/; swd., net 6d
 WATKINSON (W. L.) *Moral Paradoxes of St. Paul.* Cheaper ed. Cr. 8vo, swd. *R.T.S.* net 2/

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 CLERGY Directory (The), 1915. Cr. 8vo. *J. S. Phillips.* net 4/6
 CONGREGATIONAL Year Book (The), 1915. 8vo. *Congregational Union* net 3/6; bds., net 2/6
 DURHAM Diocesan Calendar, Clergy List, and Church Almanack, 1915. Cr. 8vo, swd. *Simpkin* 1/
 EMPIRE Review (The), Vol. 28. Royal 8vo. *Macmillan.* net 7/6
 LICENSED Victuallers' Year Book for 1915. 8vo. *Office.* 1/
 WAKEFIELD Diocesan Church Calendar, Clergy List and Church Almanack, 1915. Cr. 8vo, swd. *Simpkin.* net 1/
 WALFORD'S County Families of the United Kingdom, 1915. Royal 8vo. *Spottiswoode* 50/
 Y.M. British Empire, Y.M.C.A. Weekly. No. 1, Vol. 1. Folio. *Office* 1d

Archaeology.

- POEBEL (Arno) *Historical and Grammatical Texts.* lxxv. plates. (Univ. of Pennsylvania Mus. Publication of the Babylonian Section, Vol. 5.) Royal 8vo. *University Museum* (Philadelphia).

Art and Architecture.

- DYSON (Will) *Kultur Cartoons.* Foreword by H. G. Wells. 4to, swd. *S. Paul* net 2/
 SCHOOLS of Illumination. Reproductions from MSS. in the British Museum. Part I. Hiberno-Saxon and Early English Schools, A.D. 700-1000. Folio. *H. Milford.* net 17/6

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- LANGE (F. W. T.) and Berry (W. T.) *Books on the Great War.* An Annotated Bibliography of Literature issued during the European Conflict. Preface by R. A. Peddie. 8vo, pp. 55. *Grafton* net 2/6

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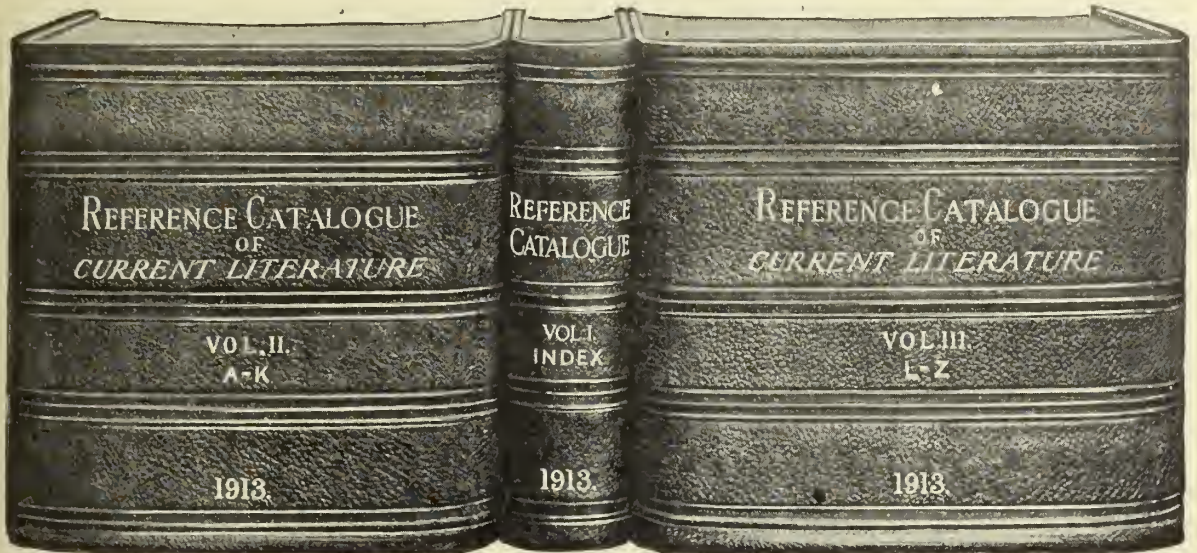
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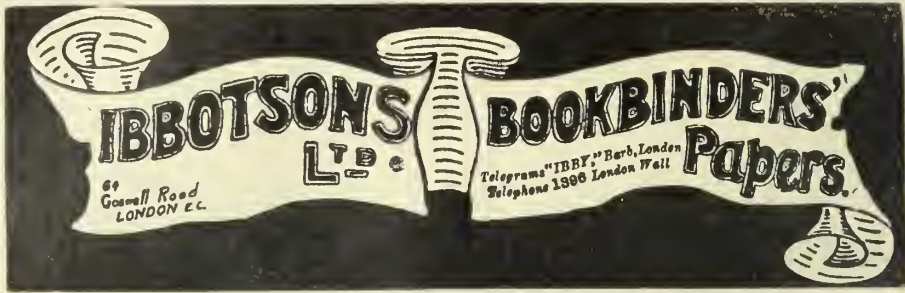
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Trade and Literary Gossip.

Mrs. Macquoid, the popular novelist, entered on her ninety-second year at the end of January at her home in Tooting, where she is now busy on a short story. It is interesting to note that her first book appeared as long ago as 1859 and a long novel as late as 1911. Between those years her pen has been very prolific and the list of her books is a long one. Many of them were most successful, and her reputation among the novelists of her time has always been considerable. Her husband, the late Mr. Thomas R. Macquoid, the artist, died in 1912.

Mr. William Pudney has resigned his position with Messrs. Seeley & Co. as their principal traveller after twenty years' connection. He followed the late Mr. Joseph Brougham, who is still well remembered by older members of the trade. He wishes to thank many friends for kind letters and offers of commissions, &c., which he is glad to accept. His address is Woodbury, Stoneleigh Drive, Worcester Park, Surrey.

Mr. Kenneth Weeks, whose book "Science, Sentiments and Senses" was recently published by George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., has been fighting for the last six weeks in the trenches with the French Foreign Legion.

Messrs. Longmans will publish at once as a pamphlet Prof. A. F. Pollard's lecture on "The War: Its History and Morals." Prof. Pollard had to repeat the lecture several times in London, and also in various provincial towns.

For King and Country.—The following have been received since our last list:—

RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY. Third List.—Collins, Frederick Arthur, Army Pay Corps; Wilton, Frederick William, 3rd Battalion, R.A.M.C.

MESSRS. W. H. SMITH & SON. Twenty-third List.—Davies, W. G., Royal Naval Reserves; Jones, E. T., R.F.A.; Bartlett, F., R.F.A.; Coker, H., R.A.M.C.; Burrows, E., R.A.M.C.; Banan, C., Royal Engineers; Vaughan, J., Duke of Cornwall's L.I.; Smith, A., Royal Engineers; Goldstone, T. C., R.A.M.C.; Cawood, S., R.F.A.

Making total to date, 580.

Correction.—The publishers of the Stock Exchange Year Book desire to say that the statement contained in the 1915 edition of the Year Book that the firm of Bradbury, Agnew & Co., Ltd., has been dissolved is incorrect. Bradbury, Agnew & Co., Ltd., are the proprietors of *Punch*, and there is no foundation whatever for the statement referred to.

Mr. G. H. Locke, Chief Librarian of the Toronto Public Libraries, writes to us as follows:

"The library and book community of Toronto were greatly shocked at a letter received to-day (January 20th) from London with the news of the death of Mr. C. F. Cazenove. There were many of us who had done business for over a quarter of a century with the firm, and to some of us 'C. F.' was a dear friend, than whom nobody was more welcome as a visitor from the Old Land. He was in this city only two days, but in that time he made some very 'remembering' friends, who to-day were greatly shocked at the news."

Organisation in the Book Trade.—We have received from Mr. Horner Mayne, the well-known Belfast bookseller, the following letter, in which he suggests his view of the proposals made in the article we published last week. We shall be glad if other members of the trade will take part in the discussion. Mr. Mayne writes as follows:—

Will you allow me to thank "A Correspondent" for the thoughtful article contributed to your pages last week under the above heading, even although his plea for organisation of the book trade suggests such a futile thing as Publishers and Booksellers "taking counsel together"? Does he not know that for years past the Booksellers have been asking Publishers that such a thing might be made possible? The following taken from the pages of a recent number of *Punch* surely sums up the situation most pertinently. Instead of the word "Recruit" insert "Publishers":—

NERVOUS SUBALTERN (trying to explain mysteries of drill): Form fours. When the squad wishes to form fours the even numbers take—

SERGEANT-MAJOR: As you were! A squad of recruits never wishes to do nothing, Sir!

The Publishers at present represent the head and body of the book trade organisation. What part then the Bookseller, and what position? Does he form a happy, flourishing spectacle, or is he tucked securely under the body and pressed down on the mat?

Is anyone surprised when this calm, judicious writer defines what, in his opinion, "A Bookseller Is"? It would have caused greater surprise in some quarters if he had given a definition of "What a Bookseller Is Not!" For surely I do not overstate cold facts when I place before you what seems to be the Publishers' ideal twentieth century Bookseller:—

"One in trade who sells petticoats, pots and pans, sweets, patent medicines"; or,

"A corporation whose capital is augmented by the local Booksellers, whose bread it is taking with both hands," &c., &c.

My principal thought in writing to you is to urge that the Booksellers themselves learn the lesson of the past six months—"The value of being ready," which "A Correspondent" puts before him. Their organisation will, I think, bear the strain of a trifle more strenuous effort. Effort by each individual member of the Council showing real singleness of heart for the general good. The Booksellers' Association requires more recruits, and still more recruits—(I would query what is being done by it to secure these?)—so that when those who might be expected to act in conjunction with them for the betterment of the trade and trade organisation block the way, then the Booksellers would be able to effectually clear up matters by giving these reactionaries a little of the new British explosive with which our Tommies (once more, Mr. *Punch*) have so bewildered our enemies, namely:—

"Give 'em wot 4, not ½!"

The Association (mind you, composed of Publishers and Booksellers), which "A Correspondent" states is a necessity if it is to be a success, "must be managed with absolute impartiality," makes me tired, for I feel that he is looking forward to the time when St. Peter has opened the gate, allowing the Blackwoods, the Macmillans, the Hodder & Stoughtons, the Dennys, Barwicks, Trusloves, and Hansons to pass through to a fairer world, and I had hoped that there, at least, I would meet no P..b..s..rs.

"Under the Blue Cross" is a story of two horses in the War, which gives the reader some idea of the usefulness of the Blue Cross organisation for the care of horses at the front. Mr. C. W. Forward, the author, tells his tale effectively, and Lady Smith-Dorrien contributes a short commendatory preface. It is published by Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton.

Our contemporary "The Clique" prints the following interesting letter from a captain in the trenches "somewhere in France" to a subscriber:—"I hope you are fit and trade active. I sometimes long for a catalogue, and think of jolly evenings amongst your books whilst in the trenches. Will you please send me yours? Do send a back number or two as well."

The Encyclopædia of Religion and Ethics, in course of publication by Messrs. T. & T. Clark, has now reached a further stage in the issue of the seventh volume, containing the articles from "Hymns" to "Liberty." Dr. James Hastings, the editor, with Dr. J. A. Selbie, of Aberdeen, and Dr. Louis H. Gray, of Columbia University, New York, the two assistant editors, maintain the present volume at the same level as its predecessors, and they have enlisted the help of a remarkably able and learned band of contributors, which includes many of the first authority in the various subjects dealt with. The Encyclopædia stands apart from similar publications by the width of its range and the magnitude of its scale, and it admirably fulfils its purpose of providing a complete account of Religion and Ethics throughout the world. Its scope includes all the questions which are so keenly debated in Psychology and Socialism, and it aims at embracing the whole range of Theology and Philosophy. Among the most notable articles, in some cases almost a series of articles, we may mention "Law," to which about eighty-three pages have been devoted, and which explains the various systems of law in almost all the nations upon earth. Two other subjects handled at considerable length are "Hymns" in various countries, a series of articles totalling fifty-eight pages, with "Images and Idols" coming very near with fifty pages. "Jesus Christ" naturally receives very great attention, and forty-five pages are assigned to an exposition of the subject in its various aspects. To Judaism twenty-eight pages are assigned, twenty-four to the subject of "King," twenty-three to that of "Inheritance," and twenty-two to "Infallibility." Among other matters treated with special fulness we have "The Incarnation," "Insanity," "Inspiration," "Israel," "Lake-Dwellings"—to this latter eleven pages are devoted, while the theory of the "Kenosis" and the value of Josephus as a competent historian are also expounded in some detail. Throughout the book the sense of due proportion has been admirably maintained, and while the more important questions have been, as already indicated, expounded with great fulness, the editors have throughout been specially careful that the articles on ordinary subjects shall be, while always adequate, as brief and concise as possible. Each volume, as it appears, affords fresh testimony of the unique importance and value of this monumental publishing undertaking, and all who are in any way concerned, whether as casual inquirers or as careful students, can at once recognise the value of the well-nigh inexhaustible storehouse of learning, information, and scholarship which the Encyclopædia provides for their service. The enterprise has already fully established its position with scholars of all grades, and each succeeding volume only illustrates anew its complete success.

Messrs. T. Nelson & Sons have published the first volume of "Nelson's History of the War," by John Buchan, covering the period from the Beginning of the War to the Fall of Namur. Mr. Buchan, we need hardly remind our readers, is a distinguished graduate of Oxford, who has already made for himself a considerable reputation as an author, and we may be sure that the publishers' description of the work as "the Story of the War told in a readable narrative, good reading for the present time, and an authoritative record for the future," is perfectly correct. Mr. Buchan has also been fortunate to obtain a commendatory and characteristic preface from Lord Rosebery, which in itself is well worth particular attention. After indicating the wide comprehensiveness of the naval and military operations, Lord Rosebery rightly says that "the writer who can disentangle this vast labyrinth of armaments and assist his contemporaries to comprehend the theatre of conflict, undertakes a heroic task, and will be entitled to the gratitude of his country, though the definite history of these simultaneous and colossal wars must still be remote." That Mr. Buchan has done his work well is clear on the most cursory perusal, and we have no doubt that the history when concluded will long enjoy a permanent reputation as one of the standard and authoritative accounts of this terrible international conflagration.

Messrs. Duckworth & Co. have published "The New Map of Europe," by Dr. Herbert A. Gibbons, Professor of History in Robert College, Constantinople. It is described as a study of contemporary national movements, and is intended to show how competition for "spheres of influence" and political "ascendency" has brought about the present crisis. It is "a general indictment of the foreign policies of the European nations."

Messrs. Ibbotsons, Ltd., of 64, Goswell Road, inform us that they are now able to supply several varieties of coloured fancy papers, which prior to the war could only be obtained from foreign sources. They have prepared some very effective papers to take the place of the cheap foreign marble papers used for covering invoices and letter files. They have further introduced British-made transfer blocking foils, in white, colours, gold and silver, also plain and fancy gelatine papers, all of which are meeting with much acceptance.

Messrs. Hachette & Co. have already issued a second edition of the "Vade Mecum for the Use of Officers and Interpreters in the Present Campaign," by M. Eugène Plumon, which was first published last November. It has been thoroughly revised and its favourable reception is the best testimony to its value and usefulness. To the new edition chapters have been added on Supply, Billeting, the French Ordnance Map, &c.

"Austria and the Austrian People" has now been added to the useful "Nations of the War" Series, edited by Mr. L. G. Redmond-Howard, and published by Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co. Austria as a factor in the present war is now arousing exceptional interest, and the useful information here collected deserves careful attention from all who are concerned with the ultimate issue of the present crisis.

In the Chinese Empire during the last twenty years what may be almost termed a national newspaper press has been developed of which we in the Western world know very little. In 1895 there were only nineteen native newspapers. To-day there are nearly 3,000. Of these, seventy-three are published in Shanghai, forty-nine in Peking, thirty-nine in Canton, and thirty-five in Tientsin. But though the number of newspapers in China has until late years been very limited, the Empire has always been able to boast that it possesses the oldest newspaper in the world, the *Kin Bo*, or *Metropolitan Reporter*, usually termed the *Pekin Gazette*, which has appeared regularly for more than a thousand years. It is published with the special object of supplying the people with news as to the acts of the Government, Imperial decrees, reports from provincial governors-general, promotions and removals in the Government service, the results of official examinations, and the like. It is published and managed by the Board of War in the Chinese capital. An average issue consists of ten or twelve leaves of thin brownish paper, $7\frac{1}{2}$ by $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches, contained in a bright yellow paper wrapper. The pages are crudely stitched by two short twists of tough rice paper, rolled like twine, the ends passing through holes punched in the rear margins of the sheets and loosely twisted together. The title of the paper is stamped in red on the left-hand top corner of the wrapper. The inside leaves, each folded double, as in all Chinese books, give twenty or twenty-four small pages, each divided by red lines into seven columns. Every column has fourteen characters from top to bottom. The Chinese written language consists of word symbols, not letters. Its essence is the collection of the 214 radicals, or mother-words, upon the significant stroke combination of each of which a great family of words is grown. So the type founts, like the dictionary of the tongue, are arranged according to families. The mother-word for finger, for instance, gives birth to nail, joint, and scores of less closely related words. From the water symbol come those for bank, sea, river, lake, drown, &c. The nearer their relationship the nearer they are kept to the mother-word.

"A History of Persia," by Lieut.-Col. P. M. Sykes, is announced for publication by Messrs. Macmillan & Co., in two volumes, very elaborately illustrated. In the long interval of a century which has elapsed since the appearance of Sir John Malcolm's well-known history, many important discoveries have been made in Persia, but no single work, embodying as a whole the rich fruits of modern research, has hitherto appeared. Colonel Sykes has in the present work attempted to fill this gap. He is peculiarly fitted for the task, for he has lived long and travelled much in Persia, and is already known as the author of "Ten Thousand Miles in Persia" and "The Glory of the Shia World"—two extremely interesting works on the country which marked their author as a writer of great knowledge and enthusiasm for his subject. They also have in preparation for early publication an essay on "The Gospel Miracles," by the Rev. Dr. J. R. Illingworth, with two Appendices, consisting of papers on the subject read at a recent Birmingham Convention.

MR. GEORGE HAVEN PUTNAM ON AMERICA'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE WAR.

MR. KARL W. HIERSMANN, the well-known publisher of Leipsic, has written to Mr. G. H. Putnam a reply to the letter on the war which appeared in a previous issue of *THE BOOKSELLER*. Mr. Putnam has written to him the following rejoinder, which he sends to us for publication, in the hope that if the original fails to pass the German Censor Mr. Hiersmann may read it in our columns. Apart from this, Mr. Putnam's letter is of such importance that we are sure all our readers will be glad to have it.

MY DEAR SIR,—I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your favour of December 24th, and report as follows in regard to the matters in question:—

1. I am appreciative of the friendly tone of your letter. It is evident that we are very far apart in our opinions and convictions in regard to the great issue of the present European contest, but it also appears that you have a friendly memory of my old time relations with Germany, and particularly with the German book trade, and that you are prepared to believe that I would not knowingly put on record any conclusions in regard to German motives or German actions that I did not believe to be well founded.

2. Our friends in Germany evidently do not realise the status of public opinion in the United States; and in so far as they have been told that this opinion is unfavourable to the cause of Germany—is, in fact, increasingly indignant at German policy and German official action and utterances—they are not able to understand how this result should have come about.

3. The American people were at the time the war began, and are still, in a better position than any other people to arrive at an impartial judgment in regard to the matters at issue. We have in our population a larger German element than is possessed by any other nation outside of Germany; we have had in our hands, both through direct correspondence with Germany and through the comprehensive and very persistent efforts of the German publication committee in the United States, an enormous mass of material presenting the German side of the case; the defence for German actions that have been criticised; the intentions and the ideals of the German Empire, and of the people back of the Empire. No attempt has been made by any one of the other parties to the contest to influence public opinion as has been done by Germany, and it is necessary to report that, as far as is concerned the opinion of Americans who are not German by birth or by heritage, the attempt to secure American approval for German action has utterly failed. It has, in fact, failed with not a few of the more important of the German-Americans themselves—the two or three survivors of the men of '48 and the children of the forty-eighters. In addition to this special mass of German material, the Americans have had in their hands, and have examined intelligently and impartially, the official documents or books, Yellow Books, Grey Books, &c., of England, France, and Belgium; and also the official book of Germany, which, unfortunately, contains some very serious gaps, more particularly regarding the correspondence with Austria. They will be interested in examining the official book of Austria, whenever such book may be brought into print.

After a careful examination of the evidence, the Americans have convinced themselves, *first*, that the responsibility for initiating this desolating and abominable war rests with Germany and with Austria, and primarily with Germany, which controlled the action of Austria.

Second. That the war had long been prepared for by Germany. The aggressive policy that the Empire had in view is clearly set forth by Bernhardt, and the steps that have been taken and the new methods of action brought into the warfare are directly in line with the counsel and the teachings of Bernhardt.

Third. That the larger or ultimate purpose of the struggle is the breaking up of the British Empire, of large portions of which Germany hopes to become the inheritor.

In sojourns in England during the past fifty years I never read or heard an English utterance expressing desire for anything that belonged to Germany. In Germany, and among German-Americans outside of Germany, I have repeatedly heard the prophecy that the English Empire must be broken up, and that its Colonial power must be transferred to Germany. It is my belief that there has been during the years since 1871 a persistent concoction of mis-statements and malicious statements about England which have had for their purpose the arousing of German antagonism. I have heard many German references to "English perfidy" and "treachery," but I have never yet been given a single bit of evidence in regard to such treachery. England *has* been fearful of German invasion and of German aggression upon Belgium, for the safety of which she made herself responsible, but there could, in fact, never have been any interest on the part of England in making aggression against German territory or German power.

It is the American belief that Germany has introduced into this war practices, some of which in connection with the new mechanism of warfare establish barbarous and indefensible precedents for acts of a character never before known in civilised warfare.

The unwarranted invasion of Belgium, for the criminality of which there are various evidences, including the frank admissions of von Bethmann-Hollweg and von Jagow; the burning by order of Belgian cities; the taking of hostages and making these hostages responsible for individual acts (which were entirely out of their control), the shooting of these hostages; the armies' appropriation for their use of the great stores of food collected in Antwerp and elsewhere, so that the communities were left in a state of starvation, and that people, who are now under the claim of Berlin, subjects to Germany, have to be saved from death by the charity of the United States; and the imposition upon these devastated communities, in some cases after the formal annexation, of crushing indemnities; all constitute new and bad precedents in warfare.

In addition to these, the readiness to assail, whether by warships or by Zeppelins, women and children—measures that could in no way influence the course of campaigns—are filling Americans with indignation.

A large number of us here are now strongly in favour of our Government taking part with other neutral states, such as Italy and Scandinavia, to protest against what can only be described as futile barbarism. I have before me an article written by the son of an old German forty-eighter, who is now the owner and editor of a great paper, headed "Savage and Futile Warfare."

This article takes the ground that the latest German air raid must fall under "the heaviest condemnation of civilised men." It is "pure savagery and without warrant in international law." The Americans have convinced themselves further that the only hope of future continued peace is in the success of the Allies. The success of Germany must mean the continuance of conditions that make for war.

Old soldiers like myself can feel a full measure of respect and admiration for the magnificent fighting power shown by the German armies, but no intelligent man would permit his appreciation of the fighting qualities of the soldiers to confuse his judgment of the cause for which the fighting was done.

Half a century ago, we soldiers of the North had reason to respect the magnificent fighting done by General Lee and the armies of the South, but the success of those armies would have meant the permanence of slavery, the breaking up of the Republic, and great loss to the civilisation of the world. France and England are fighting for existence. I have before me a German utterance brought into print early in the war, which takes the ground that France standing in the way of Germany, that is to say, between Germany and England, "must be so crushed that she would never again stand in the way of Germany." Americans feel that Belgium, absolutely innocent of any wrong of aggression, has made a plucky fight for its liberties, and must have those liberties restored.

I am interested that you should think my letter would prove of sufficient interest to German readers to cause it to be brought into print in the *Borsenblatt*. I have been interested in borrowing a copy of the paper in order to read the editorial comments. The paragraph that was omitted from this letter was intended to point out that Bismarck could not have approved of the diplomatic management, or lack of management, which at the outset of the war brought upon Germany unnecessary enemies.

If Germany had restrained itself from invading Belgian territory, which it had sworn to protect, and had allowed France to become, in form at least, the aggressor, the position of England and of Italy would have been very difficult. England (although the fight would in the end have been for her own existence) would at the outset at least have had no technical ground for interference, while the support of Italy for Germany might have been claimed under the terms of the alliance. Italy's decision that the war was one of "German aggression" was itself an important factor in shaping American opinions.

It is difficult to see how with any termination of the war there can, within the lifetime of a man of my years, be a healing of the great cleavages that have come up between whole nations and between the individuals of those nations who have had friendly relations with each other.

With many friends in Germany and German friends on this side of the Atlantic, I can only still hope that when this craze for German domination has passed away (and it is, of course, perfectly natural that the citizens of a nation at war should have their judgment clouded in regard to the rightfulness of the actions of their Government) the people of Germany may themselves be prepared to do their part towards bringing about such federation of the nations of Europe as to insure continued peace.

With best hope, and with cordial personal regards.
—I am, yours faithfully, GEORGE HAVEN PUTNAM.

Herr Karl W. Hiersemann,
Königstr., No. 29,
Leipzig, Germany.

2, 4, & 6, West 5th Street, New York.
January 21, 1915.

Messrs. T. Werner Laurie, Ltd., have just published "Thou Art the Man," by Mr. Sidney Dark, the first of their War Books to be issued in conjunction with the *Daily Express*; also "Love Letters to a Soldier," by May Aldington, author of "Love Letters that Caused a Divorce"; and "Dew Ponds: History, Observation, and Experiment," by Mr. Edward A. Martin.

"Is the Kaiser Insane?" is an interesting shilling brochure by Mr. Arnold White, which Messrs. C. A. Pearson have just published. In 1902 Mr. White sought an audience of the Emperor, and from what then took place he formed the conviction that he meant mischief to this country. We need hardly say that Mr. White discusses his subject with much ability and effect, and what he has to say deserves very careful attention. He expresses the view that "every world-ruler entrusted with the power of making war should be medically examined every five years." He omits to say what would happen to the examiner who gave a truthful and unflattering report.

Messrs. T. C. & E. C. Jack announce another six volumes in the People's Books Series. All these volumes have a very special interest at the present time, and should secure a large circulation. They are as follows:—"The Hohenzollerns," by A. D. Innes; "Treitschke," by M. A. Mugge; "The British Army," by Captain A. H. Atteridge; "Germany," by W. T. Waugh, M.A.; "Belgium," by Frank Maclean; "A French Self-Tutor," by W. M. Conacher.

Lockwood's *Builder's and Contractor's Price Book*, 1915, again makes its annual appearance, and provides the information for which it has so long been a standard work of reference. The editor in his preface naturally declines to predict the position of the Building Trades for the next twelve months, but he suggests that the most noticeable effect of the war will probably be seen in the increased price of wood goods, particularly in the class used for the construction of buildings and deal for best joiner's work. It is certainly reassuring to be told that "in other trades—coal, bricks, iron, steel, and lead—no great increase in the cost of material is noticeable," and "the actual cost of building is not materially greater in the country." Suggested model clauses of contract "dealing with prices of materials or cost of labour arising from the state of war now affecting the British Isles" are given, and will, no doubt, be found exceedingly helpful.

Book-Prices Current.—The new part, the first of the new volume, covers the period from October to December last year, and is necessarily very much smaller than usual, as there were only seven sales, realising a gross total of £4,574. For the first time Messrs. Sotheby are entirely absent, Messrs. Puttick & Simpson have two sales, and Messrs. Hodgson the others. One satisfactory point may perhaps be noted, that the prices of the rarest books show no falling off and are sometimes higher than at previous sales.

Messrs. Cassell & Co. have now included in their "Shilling Net Cloth Bound Novels" Mr. Max Pemberton's well-known book, "Millionaire's Island"; and in their Sixpenny Series Mr. Warwick Deeping's "Red Saint," by common consent one of his most effective tales. They have also permanently enlarged the *Penny Magazine* to 64 pages, and the issue ready next Monday will contain several articles dealing with the war and with Germany that are of exceptional interest. The publishers note as a sign of returning public confidence the satisfactory fact that each recent issue of "The Storyteller" has gone out of print a few days after publication, although extra quantities were printed each time.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—Though the advocates of the bold policy of "keeping on" may claim to have been fully justified by the experience of the past six months, none of them would be so foolishly optimistic as to deny that the condition of things created by the war has of necessity increased the difficulties and handicapped the prosperity of the book trade. And since a period of special stress obviously calls for special efforts to fight against and minimise its ill effects, it will be strange indeed if nothing practical should be allowed to come of the thoughtful and timely suggestions for better organisation in the trade which were put forward by an expert correspondent in *THE BOOKSELLER* of last week. Long before the war-cloud descended upon us the need for a wise handling of the problems involved had been pretty generally admitted; it remains to be seen whether the increased anxieties of the time will not stimulate the trade to prompt and well-considered efforts towards setting its house in order.

It is not for the mere sympathetic onlooker to express any opinion upon the detailed suggestions of a more or less technical nature broached in the article to which I have referred. But since the looker-on is proverbially credited with seeing most of the game, I may at least recall that the writer's outstanding plea was broadly one for closer co-operation, greater mutual consideration, and more harmonious striving for the common welfare between publishers and booksellers. This is a theme which, as we all remember, has been enlarged upon on many previous occasions; and it is perhaps asking a good deal of poor human nature to expect the publisher and the bookseller, at points where their respective interests clearly diverge, to forgo their individual and immediate advantage out of solicitude for each other's well-being, or even the ultimate good of the trade as a whole. Far be it from me to deprecate such advice as a mere counsel of perfection; but it may be that only lessons learnt in the stern school of adversity can avail to convince those concerned of the absolute need of "hanging together," as the one and only alternative to "hanging separately."

If I may revert for a moment to one other point in the same article, I should like to applaud and emphasise the writer's opinion as to the unwisdom of attempting to effect economy in working expenses by cutting down advertisements. Such a policy, as he suggested, would be doubly fatal, since, in addition to the immediate loss of publicity involved, it would result in a proportionate contraction of reviewing-space on the part of the papers that found their advertising revenue injuriously affected. In the newspaper press of a modern Utopia, no doubt, the reviewing of books would be regulated exclusively in accordance with their intrinsic interest and importance, and without the slightest regard to the amount of advertising business secured from their respective publishers. But I am afraid that it is even more of a "long, long way" to Utopia than to Tipperary.

That sturdy and delightfully explosive patriot Mr. Arnold White, in a recent fulmination prompted by some remarks of Mr. H. G. Wells, expressed his thankfulness that, in the regenerate England which will emerge from the war, we shall no longer allow ourselves to be directed in our national affairs by novelists. Personally, I doubt very much whether our novelists, in their favourite pose of political and social philosophers, have ever been taken half as seriously by the public as they have taken themselves. And I must own that I was more amused than impressed by finding the best part of a column of the *Westminster Gazette* devoted, a few evenings ago, to a solemn pronouncement by Mr. Jerome K. Jerome under the pontifical heading "Why I Object to Conscription." To be quite frank, it did not seem to me to matter a great deal to the country at large whether Mr. Jerome approves of conscription or not; nor did

it appear from his remarks that he had any special qualification as a leader of opinion on such a question. In view of the notorious fact that our possession of a great army for Continental service last August would have given pause to Germany, and so averted the present horrors, a writer who tells us, in effect, that to be adequately prepared for war is to encourage its outbreak cannot be regarded as particularly helpful. Needless to say, I have no desire to follow Mr. Jerome into a discussion of the ethics of conscription, even if this were the place for such an adventure. I only want to point the moral expressed in the familiar adage which reminds the cobbler of the wisdom of sticking to his last.

Our English cartoonists and caricaturists must be credited with having given a remarkably good account of themselves during these past six months of war. The artists of *Punch*, for example, have had many happy inspirations, and the original and striking work of Mr. Will Dyson has gained him a host of admirers. But there has been nothing that has appealed more irresistibly to the sense of humour of the "man in the street" than Mr. W. K. Haselden's series of merciless scarifications of "The Willies," which have provided many weeks of morning laughter in the *Daily Mirror*. Mr. Haselden's ingenuity and resourcefulness in presenting the Kaiser and his heir in a constant succession of ludicrous lights have been hardly less remarkable than the deadliness of the satire which has made these daily cartoons such blistering commentaries upon the character and conduct of the senior and junior War Lords. Very welcome is the announcement that a selection of thirty-six of them, reproduced in an enlarged form, is about to be issued by Chatto and Windus in conjunction with the Fine Art Society. One could suggest nothing more worthy of permanent preservation among the lighter artistic or literary products of the war, so far as it has gone.

Though we are growing used to the remark that it already "seems ages" since Germany turned the world upside down in the early autumn of last year, it is only by recalling in some detail the leading events and topics of the period immediately before the war that we can fully realise the width of the gulf which separates that time from this. That is why it is that one derives such a curious impression of remoteness—I had almost said, of ancient history—from the perusal of such a book as Mrs. Humphry Ward's "Delia Blanchflower." To read this partisan novel-tractate on the subject of the militant woman-suffragist campaign is to find oneself plunged into the consideration of a movement as aloof from present-day interests and concerns as the Rye House plot or the Chartist riots. One can imagine the stir that Mrs. Ward's story would have made if it had been published, say, this time last year. To-day it comes to us as a faint echo of "old, unhappy, far-off things," exciting no controversy and little interest. But at least it serves to remind us that the world-cataclysm which has silenced feminine "militancy" has not been wholly without its compensations.

Admirers of the late Monsignor Robert Hugh Benson will look forward with interest to his coming biography, though some may be surprised to find that it is to be written throughout by a priest of the communion to which he only belonged for eleven out of his forty-three years of life. But it has since been intimated that a personal memoir is also being written by Mr. A. C. Benson, than whom none is more qualified to treat of his brilliant young brother's career.

I notice with amusement that "Love Letters to a Soldier," which is on the list of "Love Letters that is announced as by the author of "Love Letters that Caused a Divorce." If the epistolary nature of the amatory correspondence prove to be a reason to thank their recipient may perhaps have of the trenches. Providence for the comparative safety of OMNIUM.

NEW AUSTRALIAN TARIFF.

Items of Trade Interest.

Division XIII.—PAPER AND STATIONERY.

Tariff Items.	Produce or Manufacture of U.K.	General Tariff.		
334. Paper,* viz.:—				
(a) Pulp, for manufacturing paper ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
(b) Paper shavings and waste paper for papermaking, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
(c) Printing (glazed, unglazed, mill-glazed or coated), in rolls or sheets not less than 20 by 25 inches or its equivalent, and not ruled or printed in any way, ad val.	Free	10 p.c.		
(d) Copying, manifold copying, tissue, and tissue cap paper and paper for paper patterns, in sheets or rolls, weight not to exceed 9lb. for 500 sheets, 20 x 30 inches, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
(e) Monotype paper, for use in the monotype machine, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
(f) (1) Writing and typewriting paper (plain), in sheets not less than 16 x 13 inches, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
(2) Writing paper in sizes less than 16 x 13 inches, ad val.	25 p.c.	30 p.c.		
(g) (1) Wrapping of all colours (glazed, unglazed, or mill-glazed), browns, caps not elsewhere specified, casings, sealings, nature or ochre browns, sulphites, sugars, and all other bag papers, candle carton paper, paper felt, and carpet felt paper, per cwt.	5/6	6/6		
(2) Apple wrapping as prescribed by departmental bylaws, ad val.	Free	10 p.c.		
(3) Bags, n.e.i., per cwt.	9/6	10/6		
(h) True vegetable parchment, in sheets not less than 8 x 38 inches, or its equivalent, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
(i) Roofing, sheathing, and insulating paper, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
(k) Cartridge paper of all colours (glazed, mill-glazed, rough or smooth), and blotting paper; irrespective of weight, per cwt.	5/6	6/6		
(l) Surface coated paper, plain or embossed, also marble and foil paper, ad val.	Free	10 p.c.		
(2) Gummed paper, n.e.i., ad val.	20 p.c.	25 p.c.		
(m) Emery paper, emery cloth; flint paper (being glass paper); flint cloth; flint paper; litmus paper, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
(n) Waxed, stencil paper, and carbon paper in packets or otherwise	Free	5 p.c.		
(p) N.E.I., boards, n.e.i., lined or unlined, cover paper, pressings, paperhangings, or wall papers, ad val.	15 p.c.	20 p.c.		
(q) Paper and boards specially prepared for coating with photographic emulsions; Lichtpause Rohpapier, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
(r) Millboard; cardboard; pasteboard; greyboard; leatherboard; woodboard; and Manillaboard, ad val.	20 p.c.	25 p.c.		
(u) Coated boards, ad val.	20 p.c.	25 p.c.		
(1) Strawboard, per cwt.	2/-	2/6		
(2) Strawboard, corrugated, ad val.	25 p.c.	30 p.c.		
(y) Cards, playing, in sheet or cut, per dozen packs	3/-	4/-		
335. Fashion plates and books, ad val.	Free	10 p.c.		
336. (a) Parchment, cut and uncut, ad val.	10 p.c.	15 p.c.		
(b) Parchment, printed, ad val.	30 p.c.	35 p.c.		
337. (a) Transfers, ceramic, for pottery, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
(b) Transfers, n.e.i., ad val.	30 p.c.	35 p.c.		
338. Paper, viz.:—				
(a) Manufactures of, or articles partly manufactured of, framed (including the weight of the frame), or unframed, having advertisements thereon; price lists; catalogues;				
prospectuses; show cards; all printed, photographed, or lithographed matter, pictures, n.e.i., and posters of all kinds used or intended to be used for advertising purposes; all printed or embossed bags or containers; calendars, almanacs, and diaries; Australian directories, guides, time-tables; paper patterns, music (bound or in sheets); labels of all kinds; printed railway, tramway, or other tickets; billheads, memorandum forms, circulars, and all other printed, ruled, or engraved forms of paper, n.e.i.; also printed wrapping paper, and printed surface-coated paper, per lb. or ad val.			/8	/10
whichever rate returns the higher duty,			35 p.c.	40 p.c.
(b) Printed matter and photographs the property of any public institution, and intended for deposit or exhibition therein	Free	Free		
339. Books, n.e.i.	Free	Free		
340. (A) Stationery, manufactured; including all bill files and letter clips; papers ruled or bordered by water-line or otherwise; date cases and cards; albums, of all kinds; cards and booklets, viz., printers' menu, Christmas, and similar kinds; scraps; ink bottles; ink wells; ink stands; paper knives; memo. slates and tablets; sealing and bottling wax; postcards, n.e.i., book-markers; writing desks (not being furniture); writing cases; stationery cases; paper binders; card hangers; pen racks; bookbinders' staples, ad val.	30 p.c.	35 p.c.		
(B) Books, viz.:—Account, betting, cheque, copy, copying, drawing, exercise, guard, letter, memo., pocket, receipt, sketch, and the like, ad val.	30 p.c.	35 p.c.		
(C) Manufactures of paper, n.e.i., and paper and board in the form of discs, ovals, small squares, and other small shapes for all purposes when not elsewhere dutiable at a higher rate, ad val.	30 p.c.	35 p.c.		
341. Writing ink and ink powders, ad val.	30 p.c.	35 p.c.		
342. Printing ink, invoiced at 4d. and under per lb., and in packages containing not less than 1cwt., ad val.	30 p.c.	35 p.c.		
343. Printing and stencilling inks, n.e.i., per lb. or ad val.			/8	/10
whichever rate returns the higher duty			30 p.c.	35 p.c.
344. (A) Maps, except those of Australia, or any part thereof; and charts, n.e.i., ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
345. Globes, geographical, topographical, and astronomical, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
346. (A) Pencils of wood, including pencils with metal or other clamps or attachment, also pencil-handles of wood (including metal attachments for nibs), ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
(B) Penholders other than of wood, not being partly or wholly of gold or silver, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
(C) School pen and pencil sets and boxes, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
(D) School pencil sets and boxes, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
(E) Fancy pencils, ad val.	25 p.c.	30 p.c.		
(F) Pencil cases partly or wholly of gold, silver, aluminium, or nickel; pen and pencil sets and penholders, n.e.i., ad val.	25 p.c.	30 p.c.		
(G) Fountain pens, pencils, n.e.i., and rulers—				
(1) When in fancy boxes, ad val.	25 p.c.	30 p.c.		
(2) When not in fancy boxes, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
(H) Pens, n.e.i., without holders or not including holders—				
(1) When in fancy boxes, ad val.	25 p.c.	30 p.c.		
(2) When not in fancy boxes, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
347. Paint boxes of all kinds when completely fitted, ad val.	Free	10 p.c.		
348. School and drawing slates; slate pencils, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		
349. Kindergarten materials prescribed by departmental bylaws, ad val.	Free	5 p.c.		

* "Board when applied to paper, means a paper which, at the size of 20 by 25 inches, or its equivalent weight, 70lb. or over per ream of 480 sheets.

Messrs. A. & C. Black have just published "Asia in Pictures," by H. Clive Barnard, which may be described as an attractive child's story book of Asian geography, illustrated with some sixty-five pictures, half of which are in colour. Now that our Indian soldiers are fighting with our own forces at the Front, there is a special interest in the Asiatic continent from which they come. The pictures are well chosen, the technical execution is excellent, and the book should prove more than usually popular and successful.

Messrs. George Allen & Unwin have published "The Afrikaner Rebellion: South Africa To-day," by J. K. O'Connor, a very useful and instructive little book, which tells us a great deal about the state of the country, and how the German intrigues which brought about the recent ineffective rebellion were carried on. He points out that "the rebellious Dutchmen are for the most part men who have not, and in all probability never will have, an acre of land or a decent flock of sheep to their names." In almost every district there is a section of the Dutch who are anti-British, and it is on these that the Germans worked, so that it is the highest testimony to the loyal Afrikaners and to the marvellous qualities of General Botha and General Smuts that the whole of the Union is not one big battlefield of civil strife.

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co. will publish shortly "Time o' Day," a new novel by Miss Doris Egerton Jones, author of "Peter Piper."

MESSRS. J. M. DENT & SONS have nearly ready "The English Essayists," by Prof. Hugh Walker, a new volume of "The Channels of English Literature" Series; "Hermaia," by Mr. Colin McAlpin, which "endeavours to systematise the entire world of art."

MR. W. HEINEMANN will issue immediately "Marie Tarnowska," which gives the story of "the fatal countess," by Anne Vivanti Chartres, the Anglo-Italian poetess.

MR. JOHN LANE will publish next week "Grocer Greatheart," a new novel by Arthur Adams, the author of "A Touch of Fantasy" and "Galahad Jones."

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. announce "Arabia Infelix; or, The Turks in Yamen," by Mr. G. Wyman Bury, author of "The Land of Uz," with illustrations; "The British Empire," by Sir Charles P. Lucas, K.C.B.; a translation, by Mr. Rabindranath Tagore, of "One Hundred Poems of Kabir," a famous Indian mystical poet of the fifteenth century, with introduction by Miss Evelyn Underhill.

MESSRS. C. A. PEARSON, LTD., will publish shortly "My Adventures as a Spy," by Sir Robert Baden Powell, K.C.B.; also a fourth edition, brought completely up to date, of "Can Germany Win?" by an American.

MR. GRANT RICHARDS has nearly ready "More Anecdotes of Bench and Bar," by Mr. Arthur H. Engelbach, author of "Anecdotes of Bench and Bar"; "The Gentle Cultured German, the Road Hog of Europe," by Mr. J. B. Booth.

THE UNIVERSITY TUTORIAL PRESS will shortly publish "Electrical Engineering," by W. T. Maccall, M.Sc., A.M.I.E.E.; "Manual Training," by A. H. Jenkins.

Correspondence.

THE BELGIAN RELIEF FUND.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

DEAR SIR,—Many members of the trade in Auckland were glad to see your announcement in THE BOOKSELLER of 6th November that arrangements are being made to open a Belgian Relief Fund in connection with the book trade.

It was felt in the Province of Auckland that after the public had subscribed the sum of between £50,000 and £60,000 for patriotic needs, and to help in the despatch of troops, we should consider the urgent necessities of the noble Belgians who had sacrificed everything except their honour in the famous stand they made against the German hordes, a stand by which every Englishman either at home or abroad benefited so much; we felt it was our bounden duty to do everything possible to help them, and a committee of business men was formed under the presidency of the Mayor, C. J. Parr, Esq., C.M.G., and Robert Burns, Esq., the Belgian Vice-Consul, and at the time of writing, six weeks from the inauguration of this fund, I am glad to say we have been able to raise just on £35,000 in cash, and good clothing to the value of (on a very conservative estimate) £25,000. This clothing has been shipped home, and under separate cover I am sending you one or two photos, which make one realise the enormous bulk that such a mass of clothing represents. The Prime Minister gave a send-off to one of the special trains which carried this clothing to Wellington for shipment home. The other photo shows one of the trains of eighteen large trucks being despatched.

Seeing that the population of the Auckland Province is a little over 200,000, we are not ashamed of our effort, and hope to augment it considerably.—I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

ALFRED G. LUNN,

On behalf of the Belgian Relief Fund Committee.

[Mr. Lunn has also sent us some excellent photographs giving a group of those specially active in the movement, the loading of the supplies at the depôt, and scenes of the departure of the truck loads from the railway station, for which we tender him our best thanks.—ED., BOOKSELLER.]

Obituary.

Campion.—Recently, Mrs. Campion, the devoted wife of Mr. T. W. Campion, of Nottingham, who has for so many years represented Messrs. J. Simmons & Co., Ltd. His many friends in the Midlands and the North of England will sympathise with him in his bereavement.

Gotelee.—January 20, at Wokingham, aged 80, Mr. William Joseph Gotelee, for many years a well-known bookseller in that town. He was born and lived the whole of his life in the same house, and owing to ill-health he retired from active work about three years since.

Livingston.—December 24, aged 48, at Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A., Mr. Luther S. Livingston, a well-known American publisher and bibliographer. For several years he was with the firm of Dodd, Mead & Co., and in 1910 he formed the firm of Dodd & Livingston, under which style the rare book business of Dodd, Mead & Co. was continued. Last year he retired owing to ill-health. He was perhaps the foremost authority in America on first editions, Shakespereana, and rare books generally. He originated and largely compiled the standard reference work on rare editions "Book Prices Current"; he also compiled bibliographies of Kipling, George Meredith, James Russell Lowell, and many others.

Notices of Books.

What I Found Out in the House of a German Prince. By an English Governess. (Chapman & Hall.)—The publishers' note on the wrapper informs the reader that this book "contains some very remarkable revelations with regard to the attitude of the German Court towards England in years preceding the war, during which the relations between the two countries were supposed to be entirely friendly." The anonymous author is described as an English governess who went to Germany in 1909 to teach the children of a princely house. That the revelations made are remarkable is certainly quite true, but there are some matters which, at any rate, make a considerable demand on our credulity, and cause some little doubt as to whether the writer has not sometimes stretched a point or two. As some of the things reported are often of the first importance, it would have been an advantage if the publishers had asked some person of authority to read the proofs and vouch for the authenticity of the book. Apart from this possible drawback, it is certainly most illuminating. At the very beginning we find the young princes, whom the writer was engaged to teach, learning the game of destroying London and Paris and St. Petersburg with Zeppelins, expensive models to scale of the cities being provided and elaborate toy Zeppelins manœuvred over them. Again, we find Enver Pasha and Mahommed Ali meeting together in this German palace. We are also told that the sporting tour of the Crown Prince in India was really the journey of a princely spy, who was sent to learn all he could. We also have some illuminating details of an attempt, to some extent successful, of the famous German chief spy Herr Steinhauer to utilise the writer for the purposes of his department. The fact that the Germans hate the English is manifest throughout, and it also is made quite clear that the violation of Belgian neutrality had been decided on some time ago, and that the outbreak of war had been arranged some little time at any rate before it happened. There are excitingly interesting accounts of interviews with the Kaiser, Count Zeppelin, General Bernhardt, General Von Hindenburg, the Krupp family, and others now prominent. When the writer, a very short time before war broke out, necessarily almost, heard something of what was going to happen, with quite incredible imprudence she wrote direct to Sir Edward Goschen, the British Ambassador at Berlin. Of course, her letter was intercepted, and she herself was naturally confined as a sort of prisoner. However, she managed to effect her escape, and she has now given us a chronicle which is full of the most opportune interest from cover to cover.

A Pilgrim's Scrip. By R. Campbell Thompson. With Illustrations and a Map. (John Lane.)—After reading this rather unusual but exceptionally interesting and picturesque volume we can quite understand that the work of practical archæology, or, at any rate, the digging and excavation in the hope of finding relics of civilisations which have long since passed away, must be extremely fascinating, at any rate for those who are qualified for such service. As Mr. Thompson vividly phrases it, "He who would follow this trade, digging for the pot of gold beneath the rainbow, seeking the peculiar treasure of kings who, like chimney sweepers, have come to dust, plants a root with many future ramifications, now plying as a comfortable stay-in-doors mending pots, now voyaging to the uttermost ends of the earth to fossick in antique mixens. . . . It may be that in to-morrow's expectancy of years men of science shall consider the results of Archæology and its sister Anthropology to-day as more important than any other contemporary research." We can readily gather that Mr. Thompson is an enthusiast in his calling, and in the chapters he has put together he gives us, in his own quaint fashion, a pleasant and attractive account of

his archæological labours in different parts of Asia Minor and the Near East. One chapter tells us of his experiences when working at Carchemish, and the skill and pleasant humour with which he describes the many minor incidents add much to the attractiveness of what he has to say. His story of the excavations at Mosul, of his journeys from Mosul to Behistun, or from the same place to Damascus, are all told in the same characteristically individual style and the same happy combination of the serious and the lively. The most efficacious methods of dealing with the native labourers and servants, the ingenuity with which whenever possible they try to outwit and cheat their archæological employers, make most amusing and at times instructive reading. The writer has clearly acquired a very special knowledge of the languages, peoples, and countries of the Near East, which we are glad to note has found recognition in his appointment as captain on the staff of the Indian Army, and his present employment on active service probably in these very regions.

The Blind Spot. By Justus Miles Forman. (Ward, Lock & Co.)—It is not till the very end of Mr. Forman's latest story that we understand the meaning and pertinence of the title. Arthur Stone is an apparently successful public man, an effective social reformer, who thinks he wins the affections of Linda Grey, the daughter of a wealthy New York man of business. For some time she thought she had been in love with one Copley Latimer, one in the same wealthy set who seems to have been spoilt by his money and bids fair to come to moral and social wreck. At the end, however, we find the two positions somewhat reversed. Arthur Stone has made shipwreck of his opportunities and has lost—we may say deservedly lost—his expected wife; she returns to her former lover, who has now turned over a new leaf and is on the high road to success. When "Copsy" learns his good luck he thus moralises about his unsuccessful rival. "He was a great man—with a blind spot. There was one thing he never saw nor understood . . . Love . . . I wonder if he will ever understand it?" . . . "Will he come back again, Copsy," said Linda, "and begin all over again one of these days?" "I think so. He isn't done for. He isn't smashed. Not by a good deal. I think he'll come back after a year or two and put his shoulder to the wheel again." Mr. Forman's story shows quite exceptional power, and clearly stands out from the ordinary run of popular novels.

Lost Sheep. By Vere Short. (John Lane.)—The "Lost Sheep" which give the title to this vigorous and effective story are the French Foreign Legion, a regiment which is mainly the last resort of men of all grades who have come down quite on their beam ends. They engage for five years' employment in Algiers or any other colony of France with pay of one sou per diem. As the recruiting sergeant carefully pointed out, "the life is a hard one—a very hard one—in no way one to suit a man who has no natural love of soldiering under all conditions." Indeed, the ordinary person can only marvel that any one can be found to submit to such conditions however unhappy his fate. Still, the fact remains that men do join it, and Mr. Vere Short, we understand, is one of them. He certainly writes throughout with wonderful realism and effect, and we can very well believe that many of the scenes and incidents described are drawn from his own experiences. The chief character, the hero we suppose we ought to call him, is one Jim Lingard, who, after seven years in a cavalry regiment, had run through the £10,000 his father left him, and during gambling away nearly his last £100 finds himself well nigh destitute and penniless in Paris. He decides to join, and the rest of the story tells his life and his adventures in Algiers, which are sufficiently exciting until the end of the tale.

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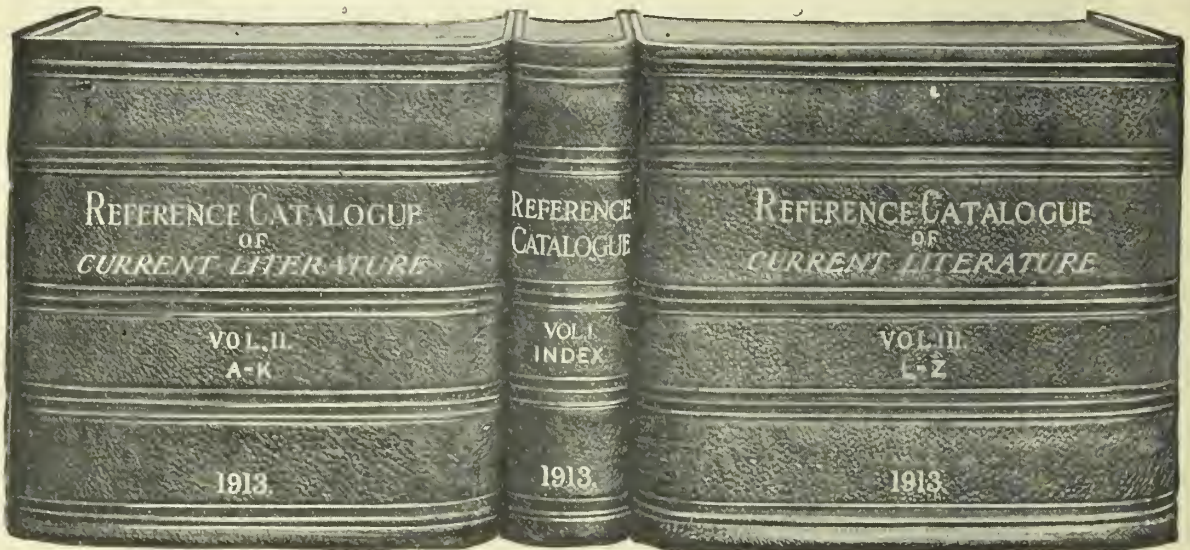
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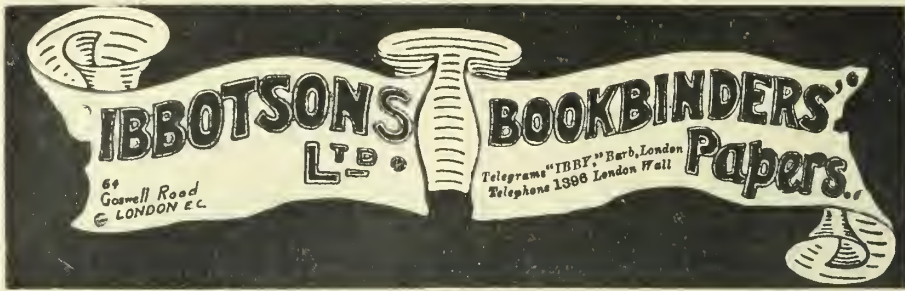
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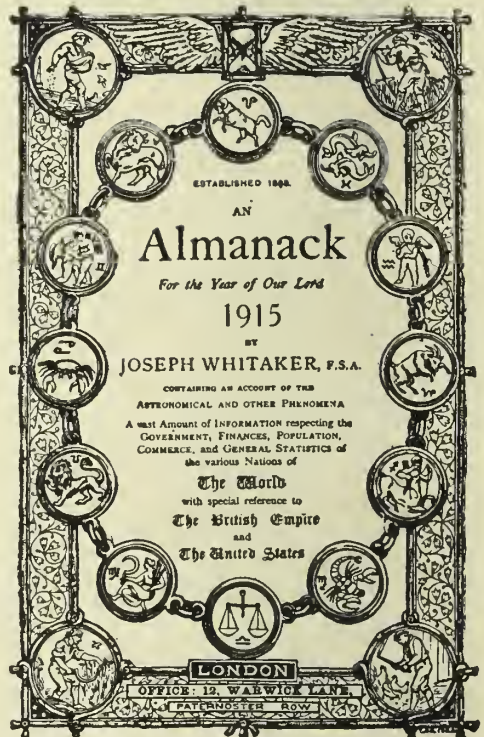


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Trade and Literary Gossip.

For King and Country.—The following have been received since our last list:—

MESSRS. BAILLIERE, TINDALE & Co.—H. S. Tindall, Inns of Court O.T.C.

MESSRS. W. H. SMITH & SON. Twenty-fourth List.—H. L. Judge, Westminster Dragoons; R. K. Robertson, North Staffs.; R. Robinson, Officers' Training Corps; H. L. Dawes, A.S.C.; Charles Edwards, Royal Welsh Fusiliers; W. Connolly, Royal Welsh Fusiliers; W. Swain, A.S.C.; S. Gawood, R.F.A.; E. Wright, Royal West Surrey; A. E. Mason, Royal Navy; A. S. Lofts, 9th County of London; J. H. Poffley, R.F.A.; H. Gill, South Wales Borderers; E. Stanford, Army Veteran Corps; W. Batty, King's Own Royal Lancasters; J. Chapman, Scottish Borderers; J. McDonough, King's Own Royal Lancasters; W. Evans, King's Own Royal Lancasters; C. Robinson, A.S.C.; J. Desborough, Royal Navy; H. F. Andrews, 20th County of London; Wm. Fountain, Hertford; Henry Wilson, Royal Scots; I. Slade, Oxford and Bucks L.I.; R. H. Clark, 5th County of London.

The Oxford University Press in London has just lost one of its staff—H. G. Wills—who enlisted as a private in the Scots Guards, and was killed in action on January 25. He was only 17 on December 28, and was held in much esteem.

Mr. Charles G. D. Roberts, the Nature story writer, has just been promoted Captain in the 16th King's Regiment. His record is curiously interesting, for he was a private in the Legion of Frontiersmen in October, a Lieutenant in the 16th King's on December 9th, and is now Captain.

Mrs. Elizabeth Thomasina Toulmin-Smith, of Oxford, well known as "L. T. Meade," the authoress, left unsettled personal estate valued at £40 4s. 11d.

Mr. Alexander Pollock Watt, of 29, Abbey Road, St. John's Wood, N.W., and of Hastings House, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C., the well-known literary agent, left estate of the gross value of £59,828, of which the net personalty amounts to £59,266. He left his MSS. by Rudyard Kipling, and a dispatch box of Wilkie Collins with its contents, to his son, Alexander Strahan Watt, and the MSS. of two songs by Robert Burns to his son, John Hansard Strahan Watt.

The S.P.C.K. is, we notice, advertising for an Editorial Secretary, not necessarily a clergyman, to fill the position vacant by the recent retirement of Canon McLure.

Mr. Herbert Clark, manager of Mr. Heine-mann's manufacturing department, has just completed his twenty-fifth year with the firm, and his friends and colleagues are entertaining him to-night (Friday) at dinner to celebrate his semi-jubilee. We would add our own congratulations, and express the hope that Mr. Clark in due course may celebrate his jubilee under equally happy auspices.

Mr. John Murray will publish shortly "America and the World War," by Ex-President Roosevelt, in which he trenchantly criticises the part which his own country is now taking.

Some well-known Belgian business men are organising an office, called "For Commerce with the Allied Nations," the temporary address of which is c/o London Chamber of Commerce, 97, Cannon Street, E.C., in preparation for trade after the war. It is, of course, expected that Belgian manufacturers and merchants will then give preference to the Allies. The aim of the undertaking is to secure for well recommended and fully qualified Belgians the agency in Belgium of British firms, and to answer enquiries from Belgian houses who are desirous of replacing foreign goods by their English equivalents.

Cassell's Saturday Journal, in its issue of next week, commences its enlarged size. It will contain an article, "The Kaiser Unmasked," which is the first of a series in which revelations by a friend of the Kaiser reveal the real story of what lay behind the war.

Messrs. Grafton & Co., of Great Russell St., Bloomsbury, have been appointed sole agents in the United Kingdom for the American Library Association. They will keep a stock of the publications of the Association, among which may be mentioned Kroeger's "Guide to Reference Books," "A.L.A. Catalogue," "A.L.A. Manual of Library Economy," and some thirty others.

Miss Ethel Sidgwick's latest novel, "Duke Jones," is now going into its second large impression, which will be issued at once by Messrs. Sidgwick & Jackson. They will also issue shortly, at sixpence net, an amusing picture-parody of Edgar Allan Poe's most famous poem under the title of "The Raving: a Ballad of Berlin," written and illustrated by Eric Stone.

Messrs. C. A. Pearson, Ltd., have published a very striking and important brochure by Ex-President Roosevelt, entitled, "Why America should join the Allies." It is an exceedingly powerful presentation of his point of view. The article is prefaced by a useful statement as to the prevailing feeling in America at the present moment, by Mr. Stanhope W. Sprigg, who was formerly New York correspondent of the *London Standard*, and followed by an appendix setting out those extracts from the Act of the Second Peace Conference at The Hague which have bearing on Mr. Roosevelt's argument.

An Oxford Letter in the *New York Nation* gives a vivid picture of Oxford University as affected by the war. "It is," says the writer, "probable that out of a normal total of 3,500 not more than 750 will be in residence, certainly not more than 1,000. And of these the number will be rapidly reduced as the pending commissions are allotted. This mere numerical fact will enable any Harvard or Yale man to picture in broad outline the extent of the change which has come over Oxford. Many of the collegcs are virtually emptied of their students. The audience of the lecturer is being reduced to vanishing point, and the falling off is in quality as well as in quantity. The best—morally, intellectually, physically—have gone."

Messrs. Methuen & Co. have published "Enter an American," by Miss Crosby-Heath; "Forlorn Adventurers," a new novel by Agnes and Egerton Castle; "Brazil and the Brazilians," by Mr. G. J. Bruce, the result of a fourteen months' tour in that country.

Stevenson MSS.—The second part of the R. L. Stevenson collection of autograph letters, original manuscripts, books, and South Sea curios, recently dispersed at the galleries of the Anderson Auction Company, New York, produced £3,824.

An Order in Council, dated February 3, but operative as from January 1, is gazetted, making the Copyright Act, 1911, including the provisions as to existing works, applicable subject to the usual reciprocity conditions: (a) to literary, dramatic, musical, and artistic works, the authors whereof were at the time of the making of the works citizens of the United States of America in like manner as if the authors had been British subjects; (b) in respect of residence in the United States of America in like manner as if such residence had been residence in the parts of His Majesty's Dominions to which the said Act extends. The Order applies to all His Majesty's Dominions, Colonies, and Possessions, with the exception of the Dominion of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand, the Union of South Africa and Newfoundland.

The Output of American Books for 1914, according to the figures given in the "New York Publishers' Weekly," shows comparatively slight falling off as compared with the previous year, the respective totals being 12,010 and 12,230, or a decline of something like two per cent. In most of the classes there is, of course, a falling off, but it is worth noting that in Philosophy, Religion and Theology, Sociology and Economics, and History there is a slight increase. In Fine Arts and in Poetry and the Drama the increase is considerable, while in Music, General Literature, and Juvenile Books the figures are practically the same. In the editorial columns it is remarked that Fiction during the year made no extraordinary showing, and while a large number of semi-standard and standard authors are represented, few of their works surpass their best and many failed to reach their usual level. The scientific books of the year, it is said, indicate no remarkable development, but the noticeable increase under the heading Poetry and the Drama marks the recognised tendency of the modern world to play-reading.

Messrs. T. C. & E. C. Jack have issued a popular eighteenpenny edition of Dr. Charles Sarolea's well-known book, "The Anglo-German Problem." It is a distinct advantage that this very effective presentation of the subject should be made available for the widest circulation. Messrs. Jack have also published, in a popular shilling edition, "At the Sign of the Sword, a Story of Love and War in Belgium," by Mr. William Le Queux, a characteristic and exciting story, written in the author's best manner, and handling very effectively some of the most notable scenes and incidents of the war.

Messrs. Hutchinson & Co. have just published "Rival Sultanas," by H. Noel Williams, a book which deals with two of King Charles II.'s mistresses, Nell Gwyn and Louise de Kerouaille, Duchess of Portsmouth. They have also issued a new novel by Mr. J. C. Snaith, "The Great Age," in which both Shakespeare and Queen Elizabeth play a part.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—Now and again, necessarily at rare intervals, we are compelled by the Fury with "the abhorred shears" to mourn the loss of some famous man or woman whose death seems to mean our farewell not merely to a personality, but to a period. So it has assuredly been with the lamented passing of Miss Braddon, which was announced just too late for comment in my last week's letter. Even for the younger fiction-readers of to-day, the veteran author of "Lady Audley's Secret" continued to the end to hold her secure place among the contemporary favourites of the bookstall and the circulating library; by their seniors she was venerated as the chief—and nearly the last—living link between the novel of the far-off mid-Victorian era and the novel of to-day. To speak of her as a "great" novelist, in the sense in which Dickens and Thackeray and Meredith and George Eliot were great, would be an absurd exaggeration which no one would have deprecated more vehemently or more sincerely than herself. She pretended to no super-subtle insight into the innermost chambers of the abnormal human mind; she worried no profound social or ethical "problems," mounted no rostrum, and flourished the scalpel over no psychological dissecting-table. The ideal which she set before herself at the outset of her career was the production of "a good story, told in an interesting way"; and for more than half-a-century she devoted her talent to the pursuit of that aim with an industry that never flagged, and with a success more evenly sustained than that of any other writer who has produced so much work and extended the output of it over so long a period of time.

Some who have written of Miss Braddon since her death have expressed doubts whether any of her work is destined to "live." Prophecy in such a matter is obviously futile; but I know that there are young people of to-day who are able to find the most famous of her earlier works as fascinating and absorbing as did their grandparents in the 'sixties—a period hardly less remote from the present in mental outlook than the days of Queen Anne. Nothing, by the way, was more remarkable about her later books than their absolute "up-to-dateness"—if you will tolerate the unlovely but convenient expression—and their freedom from any suggestion of effort in the adaptation of a style formed and matured in the middle of last century to present-day requirements. She was one of those truly conscientious artists who are "never too old to learn"; and I am quite in accord with those who have recognised among these later novels some of her strongest and best work. Personally, I never read any book of hers with keener admiration and enjoyment than "The Green Curtain," that fine story of a great actor's career which was published four years ago.

Yet, as I have suggested, there were certain respects in which this ever-fresh and ever-young veteran steadily refused to the last to compromise with the modern spirit. In particular, she had an unconquerable objection to anything that savoured of self-assertion or personal advertisement. The interviewer and the Press photographer found no welcome within her otherwise hospitable gates, and she was never among those prepared to give a public airing to her opinions on all kinds of topical subjects. I well remember the reluctance with which she was persuaded, rather more than three years ago, to write some reminiscent lines for an anniversary number of a weekly journal for which I was then responsible, though its founder and first editor had been among her oldest friends, and one of her popular works had first appeared as a serial in its columns. But she was ever kindness itself, and in the end the request produced a most charming and interesting response.

Casting my memory farther back, I "mind me," as the old country folk say, of certain summer Sunday afternoons in the delightful old garden of Lichfield House, Richmond, where this most unspoilt of

fortune's favourites and most gracious of hostesses loved to gather round her all that was notable and promising in the literary, artistic, and theatrical life of the day. Among the many personal visions which these memories recall to me are those of the inscrutable "Labby," giving forth fragments of cynical philosophy in his dry, quiet voice from the depths of a basket-chair and behind the smoke of the eternal cigarette; of Henry Irving, stalking pensively between the flower-beds with his inseparable dog at his heels; and of his faithful "Sancho Panza," J. L. Toole, full of merry quips and followed everywhere by a ripple of laughter. But there is nothing better worth remembering about these pleasant gatherings than the kindly words of interest and encouragement which the hostess never failed to keep for her younger guests, and for those who were doing what in them lay to climb the ladder of success. However long Miss Braddon's work may live, I am sure that her lovable personality will never be forgotten while any who knew her continue to survive.

A nice question of literary ethics is raised, not for the first time, by an article in one of the current reviews on "The Immorality of the Modern Burglar Story and Burglar Play." No one can deny the tendency of a certain school of popular story-writers and dramatists in these days to cast a glamour over the nefarious profession of Bill Sikes, and to invite sympathy and admiration for its criminal practitioners, on the strange and rather impudent assumption that the acts of a mean thief cease to be reprehensible if only they are performed by a person of superior education, agreeable manners, and an unlimited amount of resourceful ingenuity. In the halo of false sentiment thus bestowed upon the "gentleman burglar"—who is always a perfect marvel of skill and adroitness in his villainous calling—we have, in fact, a very ugly *reductio ad absurdum* of that foolish idolatry of mere "cleverness" for its own sake which in recent times has wrought so much mischief in many quarters, and not least in the domain of literature and art. But, granting that, I do not think there is much evidence to suggest that these housebreaker-heroes of fiction and drama are exciting much emulation among those who admirably follow their adventures in novels and on the stage. The burglar of real life is still, almost invariably, the kind of person whose conversion into the semblance of a hero would baffle even the most desperate of sensational romance-writers; from which we may pretty safely conclude that there is little danger of the sentimental super-Sikes being translated from the realm of imagination to the prosaic region of fact.

The writer of a leading article in last Saturday's *Times*, in which parents and guardians were advised to treat their children to periodical readings aloud from Dickens, deserves to be credited with the best possible intentions. But I could not help speculating, as I read the article, upon the extent of his personal experience of the up-to-date child—a young person who is wont to develop an acute critical faculty at an abnormally early age. I do not suggest that the modern juvenile would fail to appreciate the genius of Dickens; most sincerely do I hope that such would not be the case. But I very much doubt whether he, or she, would tolerate being "read to" in the family circle, after the fashion of an earlier day; and, in any case, there is terror in the thought of the pointed criticisms which the parental elocution would be almost certain to evoke. On the whole, I am inclined to think that it would be wiser and safer for the parent of to-day to encourage his children to read their Dickens for—and to—themselves.

I like the official announcement that Miss Constance Smedley's new novel, "On the Fighting Line," has "nothing to do with the war." One is naturally piqued to discover what, then, it *has* to do with? And since the arousing of curiosity is the soul of advertisement, what could be more ingeniously ingenious?

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. BUTTERWORTH & Co. are about to publish "Butterworth's Annotated Statutes, 1914"; "Stone's Justice's Manual, 1915."

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co. will publish shortly "The Case of Mortimer Fenley," a new novel by Mr. Louis Tracy; "Five Years Under the Southern Cross," by Rev. F. C. Spurr, co-Pastor of Regent's Park Chapel, a frank criticism on Australian matters.

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS announce for immediate publication a new novel by Mr. George Sandeman, entitled "Agnes." The heroine is a strangely symbolic figure, and in the story of her life a nation's destiny seems to be revealed.

MESSRS. JOHN LONG will publish immediately "The Life of His Majesty, Albert, King of the Belgians," written in a chatty and anecdotal style, by Mr. John de Courcy Mac Donnell, author of "Belgium, Her Kings, Kingdom and People." It is dedicated to Her Royal Highness Princess Marie José of Belgium and contains an important preface by Commandant Maton, Military Attaché to the Belgian Legation, London.

MESSRS. LONGMANS & Co. announce "Spiritual Letters of Monsignor Hugh Benson to one of his Converts," with Preface by A. C. Benson, and a Portrait; "The Sacramental Principle," by the Rev. Paul B. Bull, M.A., of the Community of the Resurrection; "The Work of a Great Parish by Nine Portsea Men," by Rev. Cyril F. Garbett, Vicar; "The Teaching of Christ," an attempt to appreciate the main lineaments of the Teaching of Christ in their historical proportion, by Rev. E. G. Selwyn, M.A., Warden of Radley; "The Graves at Kilmorna: a Story of '67," by the Very Rev. P. A. Canon Sheehan, D.D.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. are about to publish "Modern Philosophers: Lectures Delivered at the University of Copenhagen during the Autumn of 1902; and Lectures on Bergson: delivered in 1913," a new work by Professor Harald Höfding, translated into English by Mr. Alfred C. Mason.

MR. ANDREW MELROSE, LTD., will publish almost immediately "My Experiences as a German Prisoner," by L. J. Austin, a member of the first British Unit of the Belgian Red Cross Society; also, "The Mystery of Henri Vaudin," a story of the French Revolution, by Charles Gregory.

MESSRS. STANLEY PAUL & Co. will issue immediately "German Spies in England," by Mr. William Le Queux, who probably knows more of German espionage than any Englishman.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & Co. will publish next week "Paris Waits 1914," an inside view of life in Paris after the declaration of war till the return of the Government from Bordeaux, by Mrs. M. E. Clarke, with illustrations; "La Belle Alliance," by "Rowland Grey," experiences at school in England and later at Fontainebleau.

Correspondence.

ORGANISATION IN THE BOOK TRADE.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

SIR,—A London bookseller of 150 years ago said, "A bookseller is in general a bad judge of everything, but his stupidity shines most conspicuously in that particular branch of knowledge by which he gets his bread."

Now, can we say that booksellers as a body possess the clear, keen business knowledge which to-day is so necessary for the successful conducting of any concern? In our large cities and towns there are successful booksellers, but generally we find that most towns have but poor bookshops, and this is due partly to a

lack of general business knowledge and partly to ignorance of the special trade qualifications of a bookseller.

Unfortunately, many drift into "the trade" because it seems such a "nice, clean" business, and imagine that customers are always pining to purchase books, and only find out by bitter experience that *something more* is required than simply ordering a few nicely bound books and placing them in rows on shelves to tempt the public.

These men, naturally, cannot make the business pay, so clamour for "better terms," and very often if terms are given the extra profit disappears in further discounts or cutting of prices, and the cry again goes forth for "better terms," "living wage," &c.

A bookshop which is the rendezvous of the literary people of a district is the successful shop of to-day, and as this idea is adopted and carried out and the staff encouraged to know something of the *insides* of books, as well as of the bindings, so will the shop make friends and customers, and sales consequently increase.

Publishers are generally alive to their own interests, and may be trusted to see that they receive an adequate return for brain and energy expended in publishing, and the *live* bookseller manages that *his* transactions with the publishers also meet with some return for his labour and knowledge.

The introduction of the *net* system was an important move, and from its inception has been an undoubted help to the bookseller. The publisher may still further help to consolidate "the trade" by issuing more *net* books, and when not considered practicable to do this, then abolish the *odd copy* and charge a rate in accordance. Complex and inconsistent methods of invoicing are irritating. In addition, a discount according to the amount of business done during any given period might easily be arranged, the chief aim being *simplicity in terms and a profit on every book sold*.

By all means *organise*, but let the existing Associations deal with the matters suggested by your correspondent of January 29 last. Much has been accomplished through them, but more remains to be done.—I am, yours truly,

W. H. G.

WHAT I FOUND OUT IN THE HOUSE OF A GERMAN PRINCE.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

SIR,—Our attention has been attracted by a notice in your issue of February 5 of the book we have recently published entitled "What I Found Out in the House of a German Prince." Your reviewer states that there are matters in the book which "make a considerable demand on our credulity, and cause some little doubt as to whether the writer has not sometimes stretched a point or two." Your reviewer further adds, "it would have been an advantage if the publishers had asked some person of authority to read the proofs and vouch for the authenticity of the book." With regard to this suggestion, we must confess that we do not see how any "person of authority" could have vouched for the correctness of the details, unless he or she had been in the author's company upon every occasion recorded in the volume. As, however, the tendency of the review is obviously designed to cast a slur upon our good faith as publishers, we beg to inform you that before the book was published we received a written guarantee from the author that every word of it was true. We do not think that any publisher could do more.—Your obedient servants,

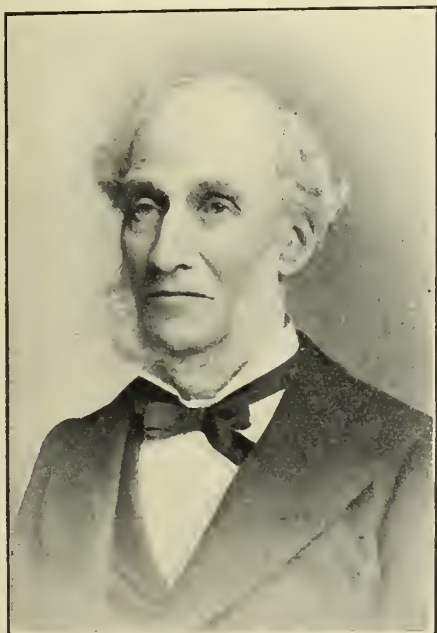
CHAPMAN & HALL, LTD.

(ARTHUR WAUGH, Managing Director.)

[We are glad to publish the above letter, and to assure Mr. Waugh that the remarks of our reviewer were in no sense intended to cast a slur on the good faith of the eminent firm he controls so ably. At the same time, in the absence of any publisher's note, such as usually accompanies anonymous books of this character, we do not think his criticism altogether unwarranted.—ED., BOOKSELLER.]

Obituary.

Boyle.—February 10. At his residence, 33, Bergholt Crescent, Stamford Hill, very suddenly, of heart failure, aged 84, Mr. William John Boyle, senior partner in the well-known firm of Messrs. Boyle, Son, & Watchurst, Printers and Stationers, of 89, Ivy Lane, Paternoster Row, E.C. Mr. Boyle, though occasionally indisposed, was in his ordinary health, and attended business as usual. He was at the office as late as six o'clock on the previous evening, and his sudden death early on Wednesday morning was quite unexpected. In our issue of July 8, 1910, in commemoration of Mr. Boyle's eightieth birthday, we were able to give his own reminiscences of his long and active life, which we now reprint, as we are sure his many friends will re-read it with renewed interest. We are requested to state that the business will be carried on exactly as hitherto, under



THE LATE MR. W. J. BOYLE.

the management of his son, Mr. W. J. Boyle, who has been for many years closely associated with its control.

"Beginning in orthodox fashion, I beg to say that I was born on 20th June, 1830, in the Parish of Shadwell, E.; my father was a master mariner, and, at that time, engaged in the timber trade to Quebec. At the age of four I, with my mother and an infant sister, were taken for the voyage to Canada. From this time until 1840 nothing occurred of moment except the advent of numerous brothers and sisters, for eventually we numbered eight. I was a pupil at a dame school, held in the basement of a house near home, then promoted to a school kept by ladies, who found in a parlour sufficient space for a few aspirants (!) after knowledge. Then came a great event in my young life. My father then had command of a vessel chartered for Sydney with Irish emigrants, and I, being, as it was supposed, in delicate health, was taken as a passenger. Leaving the London Docks on 3rd July, 1840 (the Blackwall Railway was opened on that day), we reached Plymouth on the 15th, and sailed thence for Sydney on 22nd, having on board 220 Irish emigrants, passing the east end of the breakwater, then in course of construction, calling at the Cape of Good Hope, where we stayed a week, I mostly on shore, and living in clover at the house of the harbour-master. We then proceeded to Sydney, which we did not reach until 23rd December, the voyage thus occupying nearly six months! All arrived in good health and with some additions to our human freight; not quite

without accident, for on the day previous to our arrival off Sydney Head and Botany Bay the ship was partially dismasted by a sudden squall; the hailstones were of a size I have never again seen. The harbour of Port Jackson, of that time, can be described only by the word magnificent! Entering between lofty precipitous headlands, a grand spectacle met the sight. The expanse of water reaching for miles ahead, the south shore rising gradually to a considerable eminence, clothed with primitive and luxuriant sub-tropical vegetation to the very brink, was a sight which I, a boy of tender age, viewed with delight. The many beauties of the north side were revealed thereafter, also the shady side of human nature was brought to view, 'the convict being then in the land.' So I spent my tenth Christmas day at the antipodes. No freight for the ship being obtainable at Sydney my father determined to seek a cargo in India. Sailing on 12th February, 1841, we went by way of Bass's Strait, round Cape Lewin and through the Straits of Sunda to Batavia, but no cargo being available, we sailed to Bombay, where I spent my 11th birthday on board H.M.S. *Endymion*, a guest of the officers. A cargo of cotton having been obtained, we sailed from Bombay for home 7th July, calling at St. Helena for fresh meat and vegetables. After a splendid run from the Lizard up Channel the Downs were reached 13th November. Proceeding round the North Foreland we encountered a dreadful gale, riding with two anchors, of which one was lost, and narrowly escaped being wrecked on the Nailor rocks off Margate. We arrived at the London Docks 18th November, 126 days from Bombay.

"My father, hopelessly ill on our arrival home from India, died in July following, aged 45, leaving eight children, of whom I was the eldest (and now the only survivor), to my mother's care, with no provision for our maintenance, and having had but a few months' schooling, I had to turn to and help to keep the wolf from the door, and so began my City life in October, 1842, as office boy to a solicitor in Austin Friars, Broad Street, then a secluded retreat as now, and in a quiet street, now indeed far otherwise, the railway termini at its far end being then undreamed of. Throgmorton Street, too, was little used, the railway mania being still in the future; and not even a rubber boom to enliven its solitudes. In these quiet surroundings I was occupied for nearly two years. I did not become 'learned in the law,' but I gained some useful knowledge. I also saw and noted much of the shady side of life. My duties took me often to some of the numerous debtors' prisons, now demolished, abodes of woe and squalor depicted so ably by Charles Dickens, notably, the Queen's Bench, Whitecross Street, and Giltspur Street, Compter, for some of my employer's clients had gravitated to this level, and I was usually the bearer of doles provided by friends and relatives. I more than once served a writ, being warned beforehand to beat a hasty retreat on performing my errand.

"My duties often took me to Waterlow & Sons, Law Stationers, Birchin Lane, to get parchment and legal forms. At that time the father of the late Sir Sydney H. Waterlow, and, I think, two of his sons, would serve in the shop wearing white aprons. The railway mania was then commencing, and owing to their undertaking much of the work, it incidentally brought about the great development of the firm, resulting in the prominent position now held by the family.

"In September, 1844, being over fourteen years of age, I went to Messrs. Grosvenor, Chater & Co., then of 11, Cornhill, to learn the trade of a vellum binder, and in January following was apprenticed at Stationers' Hall to Mr. George Chater, the worthy and much respected father of the present Senior Warden of the Company. I cannot say that I was happy in thus exchanging law for trade, or content with my new surroundings, but necessity, it is said, has no law. I had therefore to submit. My surroundings were not congenial, the men and boys, now my associates, were unlike my home-friends. The hours were long, eight to eight, except on Saturdays, when work ceased at six o'clock. I and a younger sister, employed in the ruling room, had a walk of two miles morning and night to our home in Stepney Causeway (the site is now occupied by part of Dr. Barnardo's Homes). Think of this, ye who can now travel the distance for one penny! However, I gradually fell into line, so that a good deal of work and some play made my lot bearable. One incident occurring about this time may amuse my friends. The boys referred to above egged on me and another apprentice to believe that each

had a grievance that could only be settled by a fight. A battle resulted, and was fought in the open space of Abchurch Yard, Cannon Street, but not to a finish, for although the police were not then so numerous or efficient as now, one did turn up in the nick of time for me, and we and the numerous spectators fled. One of those is now Deputy Alderman of the Ward of Bishopsgate. This encounter resulted next morning in a summons to the counting-house, where our respective masters, having viewed my two black eyes and his broken nose, dismissed us with a smiling warning not to do it again. My opponent and I thenceforth were and are good friends. When nearing the end of my apprenticeship, I joined classes at the City of London College, then recently instituted at Crosby Hall, striving to improve my deficient education; later on I became a teacher in a Ragged School, hoping to benefit others, but for lack of time had to abandon both efforts.

Shortly before I went to Cornhill a contract for binding for the Stationery Office was completed and not renewed; the firm had also recently lost the Bank of England work, all binding, printing, etc., being done in the building. Owing to this condition of affairs and many of the men being experts in different branches of the trade, I had good teachers and became a good all-round workman, eventually succeeding to the management of the workshops. I was in the employ of my old firm for twenty-eight years, with the exception of an interval of nine months in 1856, when I went to Leeds to seek a fortune, and it is a great satisfaction to reflect that I have no recollection of incurring censure during that long period. I may, I hope, be pardoned if I add that I consider it a valuable asset on the credit side of my life's account to have gained my old firm's respect. I have been obliged to pass over much that occurred up to now, to spare my wearied readers. I may, however, mention the repeal of the Paper Duties in 1861. This gave a great impetus to trade and literature, and freed paper-makers and stationers from an incubus—to wit, the Excise Officer.

"I have mentioned that I went to Leeds to seek fortune. This was in January, 1856. I was so far successful that I found one, who, in April, 1860, became my wife—now, alas! gone from me. For forty-five years she was my joy and solace in many a time of stress and pain. We had eleven children born to us, of whom eight are now living. In September, 1873, I became partner with a man, already in business, as stationer and printer in the house adjoining that occupied by Mr. Joseph Whitaker, projector and proprietor of the world-famous almanack. I was not fortunate in my partner, but, freeing myself with difficulty and some loss, I then went on alone and gradually regained my position. I vacated the premises—11, Warwick Lane—in March, 1887, removing to Paternoster Square. Here I had the assistance of my eldest son, and by strenuous efforts built up a good business. Some anxious times there were. One very serious trade loss checked me, but that being surmounted, all went well. Requiring more room, I removed in March, 1894, to my present quarters, and business still increasing, I, with my son and Mr. W. J. Watchurst, joined in a partnership, which has resulted in mutual benefit. In closing this prolix and unimportant relation I cannot abstain from offering my thanks to God for giving me power still to help in the work provided: next my grateful 'thanks are due and hereby given' to all my many friends in business and otherwise who so constantly and so kindly greet me. But more than this do I value the good opinion I have gained from those who are daily working around me."

Maxwell.—February 4. At her residence, Lichfield House, Richmond, Surrey, aged 78, Mrs. John Maxwell, better known by her maiden name, Miss Mary Elizabeth Braddon, the popular novelist. She was born in London, of Cornish parentage, and for many years she has been one of our most prolific and popular novel writers. Though she can hardly be placed in the highest class, she was remarkably successful in the telling of exciting and interesting romances, and equally as regards the ingenuity of her plots, her skilful characterisation, her accurate sketches from life, and her always entertaining narrative, she attracted in an exceptional degree the interest and

attention of the novel-reading public, and every new story from her pen was always assured of widespread circulation. Her first important success, "The Trail of the Serpent," was published under that title in 1860, and it is said that it had previously appeared, in serial form, in a provincial paper, under the title of "Three Times Three," for which she received the sum of £10. It is also stated that her most successful tale, "Lady Audley's Secret," which set the seal upon her reputation, was written almost by accident at the eleventh hour to take the place of a serial which was not forthcoming. She wrote, it is said, the first instalment by the next morning, and it adds something to the romance of the situation that the publisher of the magazine was Mr. Maxwell, whom she subsequently married. The list of her books is much too long to be given here, and we need only note that in addition to the two already mentioned, "Aurora Floyd," "Henry Dunbar," "Only a Clod," "London Pride," with many others, have gained for themselves a permanent popularity with the novel-reading public. It may indeed fairly be said that the noticeable extension and development of the novel during the last half century are due very largely to her work. When she first began to write the ordinary novel—not counting the comparatively few in the highest class—was inferior both in literary and artistic quality, and it was the vivid, graphic and dramatic style of story-telling, which she may almost be said to have introduced, that made the novel the important factor it is in the literary output of the present day. Mrs. Maxwell leaves behind her a son, Mr. W. B. Maxwell, who has already shown himself a novelist of exceptional calibre, and whose books "Vivian" and "The Guarded Flame," have achieved considerable success, and another son, Mr. Gerald Maxwell, who has been for some time dramatic critic of the *Daily Mail*. The late Sir Edward Braddon, for many years Agent-General Premier for Tasmania in London, and afterwards Premier of the Colony, was her brother. Mrs. Maxwell was buried at Richmond Cemetery, on Monday, and among the many present were Mr. Charles Garvice, Mrs. Florence Barclay, Mrs. Theodore Cory (Winifred Graham), and many personal friends.

Page.—February 5. At his residence, Ivy Gardens, Crouch End, aged 69, very suddenly, Mr. Jesse Page, the well-known writer on Missionary subjects, and for many years associated with the firm of Messrs. S. W. Partridge & Co., now of the Old Bailey. His latest book, "Judson, the Hero of Burma," appeared last November, and was noticed in the CHRISTMAS BOOKSELLER.

Stewart.—Recently, at Greenwich, Mr. Alexander Stewart, for many years well known in the medical book trade. For some time he was an assistant with Mr. Young J. Pentland, of Edinburgh, and subsequently he came to London as manager of the London branch. About twenty years ago he joined the staff of Messrs. Baillière, Tindall & Co., the well-known medical publishers, as manager of their retail department, retiring from that position through ill-health in November, 1907. He possessed an intimate and exceptional knowledge of every book published on medical and allied subjects, and collectors always came to him to settle any difficult queries.

Short Notices.

From Messrs. Chapman & Hall.

Armageddon and After. By W. L. Courtney.—In this interesting and instructive brochure, which he dedicates to the young idealists of this and other countries, Mr. Courtney suggests some considerations which will have to be taken into account when the present trouble has passed and new arrangements have to be made. When doctrines of right have to be established on a proper basis and International Law built up with its proper sanctions. We cannot criticise in any detail, but we may assure our readers that all Mr. Courtney says is most suggestive and is worth very careful attention.

From Messrs. Gall & Inglis.

The Martyrs and Heroes of the Scottish Covenant. By Rev. George Gilfillan. New edition. With introduction by Robert Gall.—The fact that the present edition of this well-known work is the tenth is sufficient evidence of its high reputation and widespread popularity. Mr. Gall, who prefixes a new introduction, very opportunely points out the close parallel between the German militarism of to-day and the militarism of Claverhouse as shown in his dealings with the Scottish Covenanters. He, it is here suggested, exemplifies the same character as it is now at work, "polite, cultured, but ruthless, sticking at nothing so long as the result sought is gained." Both in Scotland and on this side of the Tweed the present edition will no doubt find a hearty welcome.

From Messrs. Jordan & Sons.

Handbook on the Formation, Management, and Winding Up of Joint Stock Companies. By F. Gore Browne, M.A., K.C., and William Jordan.—The fact that the present is the thirty-third edition of this well-known handbook makes any detailed notice or commendation quite superfluous. We need only say that it has been carefully revised and brought up to date, and that a specially useful chapter on the effect of the war on commercial engagements materially adds to its value and usefulness.

From Messrs. T. Werner Laurie, Ltd.

The Secret Flat. By Gertie de S. Wentworth James.—Miss James gives us a study of a young woman brought up to independence as an accomplished pianist. After leading her own life for some years, she is suddenly brought in contact with a masterful man who by sheer force of will induces her to fall madly in love and consent to a very hasty marriage. Very shortly afterwards she regrets her decision and determines to assert her equality by earning at least as large an income as her husband and sharing expenses. It is obvious that the two strong wills thus opposed must lead to trouble, and Constance Höhne finds herself eventually, though, we are assured, quite innocently, in the divorce court, where her husband obtains his decree. It is a carefully drawn study of the disadvantages of an independent career in the case of a young and not unattractive girl.

From Messrs. Longmans & Co.

In the Day of Battle. By the Right Rev. H. L. Paget, D.D., Bishop of Stepney. With introduction by the Bishop of London.—In a short preface the Bishop of Stepney explains that this little book is an attempt to seek the guidance of the Lord's Prayer with regard to the present war. The seven chapters or sections each deals with one of the petitions of the Lord's Prayer, and the Bishop of London in his commendatory introduction expresses the opinion that "he will indeed be a dull reader who does not pray the Lord's Prayer with greater meaning after reading it . . . it gives us what ought to be our right attitude towards [the war], not complaining querulously about it, not glorying in

it, as if war were a good thing in itself, but bracing us to meet it bravely, strongly, and in the fear of God." It is satisfactory to know that the book is proving successful, and that the demand for it is already very great.

From Mr. Thomas C. Lothian, Melbourne.

The Men of To-morrow. By Edith C. Onians.—The author has, it appears, worked for some sixteen years in the endeavour to improve the condition of the newsboys of Melbourne, and she very appropriately dedicates this extremely interesting and valuable account of her experiences to "the Newsboys of Melbourne who more than I have helped them have helped me." It was in order that she might be the better equipped to carry on her work that she spent two years in study and enquiry as to the best means of helping boys and girls in England, America, and the Continent, and she has in this most careful and suggestive volume gathered together the main results of her investigations. For English readers the second part of the book, which deals immediately with the problem as it is handled in this country, will be of special interest and value, and all social workers in this particular department will find what she has to say more than usually instructive and helpful. For Miss Onians, while she necessarily possesses much sympathy and tact, is at the same time a distinctly practical person with much sound judgment and common sense. Further, the wide range and comprehensiveness of her book are among its chief merits.

From Messrs. William Rider & Son.

The Book of Talismans, Amulets and Zodiacal Gems. By William Thomas and Kate Pavitt. With coloured frontispiece.—To those who are interested in this somewhat occult and mystical subject the complete and instructive information which Mr. and Mrs. Pavitt have collected in the present volume will certainly be very welcome. It necessarily covers a long period of time and a wide comprehensiveness of subject, and we can well believe that it is the product of many years' careful study and research. The curious and quaint particulars given as to the various talismans described, whether Egyptian or Oriental, Byzantine or any others, are fully set out and the different details carefully given. The wide scope of the book may be indicated when we note that it deals with examples from Egyptian, Chinese, Japanese, Thibetan, Indian, Etruscan, Greek, Roman, Early Christian, Byzantine, and mediæval civilisations. It is manifestly a book which we cannot pretend to review in any detail; we can only say that it deserves most careful attention, while the sections dealing with the Zodiac at least show that something may be learnt from astrological science. The coloured frontispiece and illustrations materially increase the value and usefulness of the whole work.

From the University Tutorial Press.

Virgil: Æneid, Book IX. Edited by J. F. Richards.—We here have a further volume of the Æneid by the editor of previous books of that poem. It follows the lines already laid down for the series of "School Latin Classics," for which it has been prepared, and will be found very helpful for candidates for the University Local and similar examinations.

Chaucer: Prioress's Tale. Edited by C. M. Drennan, M.A.—Professor Drennan here edits another of the well-known Canterbury Tales, and the success with which he edited previous instalments is equally evident in his treatment of the present volume. His introduction is excellent, and his notes always show thorough knowledge of Chaucer's works and a full appreciation of the difficult points which need to be elucidated.

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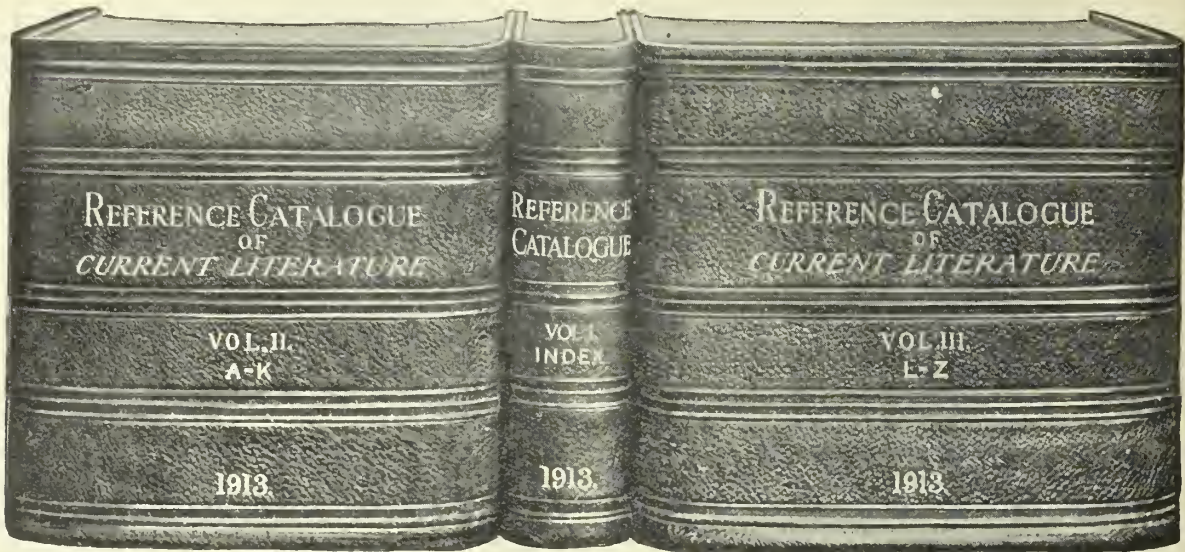
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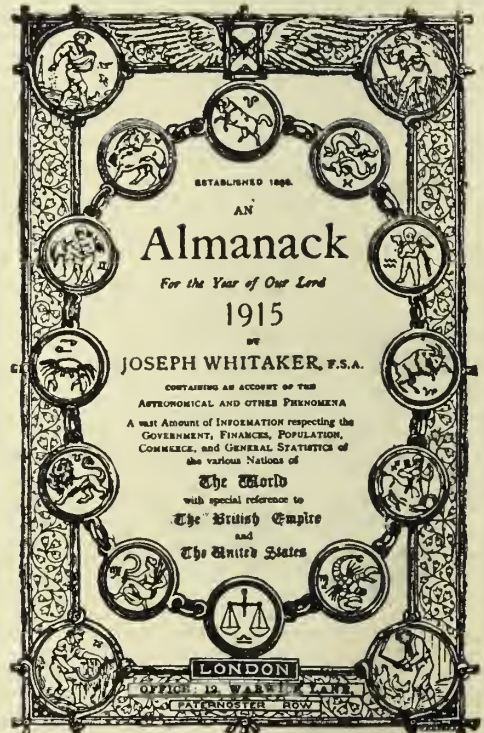


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The Announcements Lists of New Books in this issue will be made as complete as possible from the material sent us between now and February 27th. It is therefore *very important* for all Publishers to send us at the earliest possible moment lists of their announcements, giving as much data as possible for all forthcoming works.

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Trade and Literary Gossip.

National Book Trade Provident Society.—Mr. W. L. George, the well-known novelist, will open a Discussion on "Bookseller and Author," at a meeting of the London Branch at Stationers' Hall, E.C., on Friday next, Feb. 26, at 8 p.m. Mr. Joseph Shaylor will take the chair.

Teignmouth.—The old-established bookselling, stationery, news and fancy business known as The Royal Library, Teignmouth, carried on for many years by Mr. W. H. Day, has been acquired, together with the freehold premises, by Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son. Messrs. F. E. Evans & Co., the Trade Valuers, of Cathedral House, Paternoster Row, acted for the Vendor.

For King and Country.—The following have been received since our last list:—

MESSRS. HUTCHINSON & Co.—Roden S. Horton, Second Lieutenant, 5th Service Battalion Essex Regiment.

MESSRS. W. H. SMITH & SON (Twenty-fifth List).—W. Green, A.S.C.; H. C. Read, A.S.C.; G. Fallick, R.F.A.; A. Brett, St. John's Ambulance; E. Endacott, R.H.A.; F. Blatchford, R.G.A.; W. C. Smith, King's Royal Rifles.

Including those mobilized in August and those who had enlisted up to December 31, 220 men employed by the Oxford Press in Oxford, Wolvercote, and London are now with the colours.

The Upper House of Convocation of Canterbury has decided that the proposed changes in the text of the Book of Common Prayer should not be made in the text, but should be issued in a separate volume for optional use during a period to be determined.

Mr. C. R. Rivington, F.S.A., the well-known Clerk of the Stationers' Company, gave on Wednesday evening, at Stationers' Hall, under the auspices of the City Livery Club, a very interesting lecture on "The Worshipful Company of Stationers and their Hall," which was much appreciated by a large and representative company, which included the Master and Wardens of the Company and many well known representatives of other Livery Companies. Mr. Rivington has made a special study of the history and record of the Company, and drew the attention of his hearers to many curious and interesting matters; while the Plate of the Company and the early Copyright Registers were also on view.

Mr. Milford, of the Oxford University Press, has become the publisher throughout the British Empire of the volumes issued by the American Scandinavian Foundation in the United States of America. The Publications Committee of the Foundation consists of Professor W. H. Schofield, of Harvard, Professor A. H. Palmer, of Yale, and Mr. H. G. Leach.

Messrs. Hutchinson regret that it has been found impossible to publish Part 1. of "Belgium the Glorious" before Tuesday next. The demand has been larger than for any of their previous part works (including "History of the Nations," which had, and is having, such a phenomenal sale). The printing machines have been running night and day for some weeks on Part I., but it is feared that only partial deliveries can be made on the day of publication.

Miss Fanny Crosby, the blind hymn writer, the author of the well-known revivalist hymn, "Safe in the Arms of Jesus," has just passed away at the advanced age of 95. She lost her sight when a baby, and it is stated that she has written some six thousand hymns, some of which are very widely known.

Mr. John Lane recently entertained at dinner Mr. McClenahan, Dean of Princeton University, U.S.A. Among the guests were the Prime Minister and Mrs. Asquith, Lord Fisher, Miss Asquith, Sir Ian Hamilton, Mrs. George Keppel, and other distinguished persons.

Mr. Heinemann's Semi-Jubilee.—In *The Windmill* "an occasional letter to friends in the Book Trade" Mr. Heinemann refers to the fact that "it was twenty-five years on the 1st February since I issued my first publication, which from then until the present day has remained one of the most successful, namely Mr. Hall Caine's novel, 'The Bondman.' The publication of this book and the starting of my business were the occasion of a little dinner-party, which has always remained memorable to me. There were present the author of 'The Bondman'; Mr. Edmund Gosse, whose name and fame and work have become household words in England; Mr. John Cordy Jefferson, whose 'Real Lord Byron' and 'Real Shelley' were great successes in their day; my old friend Mr. Bram Stoker, the biographer of Henry Irving; my devoted helper and friend, Mr. Wolcott Balestier, collaborator with Rudyard Kipling in 'The Naulakha'; and James McNeill Whistler, the inimitable wit and *raconteur*, the amazing artist, the splendid fighter, whose 'Gentle Art of Making Enemies' will always mark an epoch, not only on account of its contents, but also on account of its typographical innovations, which have been copied into many volumes since then."

We regret to hear that Mr. H. Hardingham, of the firm of Messrs. Holden & Hardingham, has lost his daughter, Evelyn Doris, who passed away on Monday, aged 12. The funeral is at Hendon Park Cemetery to-day (Friday), at noon.

Mr. Douglas Ainslie, who has already been the means of introducing the work of Benedetto Croce to a wider British public by his English renderings of "Æsthetic as Science of Expression and General Linguistic" and "Philosophy of the Practical: Economic and Ethic," is now about to add to these a translation of the famous Italian's "What is Living and What is Dead of the Philosophy of Hegel." As in the case of the two earlier works, the volume will be published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co.

Mr. John Lane has acquired the English rights in Sir Sven Hedin's book on the war, and the English translation will be published next month. As it was commissioned by the Kaiser, it naturally takes the German point of view, but nevertheless the book is exceedingly interesting, as the author had unique facilities for seeing things behind the German lines, and the photographs alone, taken by Sir Sven Hedin himself at the front, together with his sketches, make a most valuable record from any point of view. The text, with the exception of a few passages dealing with Swedish domestic politics, will be unabridged, so will differ largely from the German edition, which has been considerably compressed.

Mr. Herbert Clark, Manager of the Manufacturing Department of Mr. William Heinemann, was given a complimentary dinner at the Coventry Hotel, Coventry Street, last Friday, in celebration of the completion of his twenty-fifth year with Mr. Heinemann, at which about fifty friends were present. Mr. Sydney S. Pawling, partner in the firm, was in the Chair, and spoke on behalf of the workers at 21, Bedford Street, in touching terms of Mr. Clark's loyalty to the firm and good fellowship with his colleagues, and his constant friendly business relations. He also read a hearty and sympathetic letter from Mr. Arthur Waugh, Managing Director of Messrs. Chapman and Hall. There was also a telegram from Mr. Heinemann, who, unfortunately, was prevented by indisposition from taking part in the celebration. He said: "Please let me join in every good wish expressed to-night for your good guest. I hope everybody is enjoying himself. I am eating gruel in bed with my head swathed in flannel, but I am with you in spirit, and I am humming to myself, 'for he's a jolly good fellow.'" Mr. Hall Caine also sent a telegram: "I join with your Staff at dinner to-night in drinking to Clark's silver wedding with the House of Heinemann. He and I were the firm's first servants, and are now its oldest ones. May he live to celebrate his jubilee, and may I be there to see." Other telegrams were from Mr. Lionel Chater (Messrs. Grosvenor, Chater), Mr. Gruneisen (Messrs. Gruneisen & Co.), Mr. Cecil Clay (Messrs. Clay & Sons), etc. A telegram also arrived from the lady members of the staff of Mr. Heinemann; and an illuminated address was presented signed by everyone present. After the telegrams and letters were read, Mr. Charles Home McCall (of Messrs. Knight's), Mr. Horace Morgan (of Messrs. James Burn), Mr. J. Stuart Pollock (of Messrs. Pollock & Sons), Mr. Ralph Hall Caine (of Messrs. Gruneisen), Mr. Charles Lowen (representing the firm of Messrs. Grosvenor, Chater), and Mr. P. House (representing Messrs. Vaus & Crampton) spoke on behalf of friends outside the firm. After dinner the company were entertained by the famous actor Mr. Nelson Jackson with humorous sketches, and Mr. Sidney Lee amused with some excellent card tricks. The whole entertainment was very successful, and it was late before the party broke up; in fact, it was the early hours of the morning before the guest of the evening said good-bye to the last of his hosts.

Messrs. A. & C. Black have issued their List of forthcoming books for the ensuing spring season. It contains particulars of several interesting and attractive books, "Bulgaria," painted by Jan V. Mrkvitchka and Noel Pooock, described by Frank Fox; "The Invasions of England," by Edward Foord and Gordon Home; "Imperialism and Patriotism and the European Crisis, 1914"; a new edition of "The Venetian Republic," by W. Carew Hazlitt; new volumes in the "Beautiful Britain," "Beautiful Europe," and "Artist Sketch-Book" series, medical and educational books.

Messrs. Methuen & Co. have added to their Sevenpenny Novels "Barbara Revell," by Mrs. Belloc Lowndes, a novel which was reprinted four times in the first year after publication.

Mr. Herbert Jenkins, in talking to a representative of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, expressed the opinion that the book trade had not suffered much—less than had been anticipated—and he was, we are glad to note, on the whole optimistic. As to the numerous war books, he said that some had sold in tens of thousands, but he thought that the great craze for war books was now dying down, and that people have become rather tired of this sort of book. Indeed, they now asked for “something to make them forget how far it is to Tipperary, or that Piccadilly is being kept as dark as the plans of the War Office.” People now wanted really good novels—good above the average—“something that will, for a time at least, take them out of themselves.” He had no doubt that one result of the war would be to make us a more serious-minded people. The war had entailed great sacrifices, and was sure to leave its stamp upon national taste and character. For the moment “the dominant note all round is one of caution. Certain classes of books are passed over alike by booksellers and publishers, and it will probably be some time before the art book, for instance, will find its way into favour.” “The Censor,” he went on to remark, “is perhaps the publishers’ and the booksellers’ one greatest friend. The less he tells us of what is happening in the area of hostilities the more people will be thrown back on books. . . . Mayfair, Suburbia, and the provinces all stay at home in the evenings, and for the same cause. Here is the opportunity of the publishers, booksellers, and libraries. I anticipate that the libraries will become increasingly busy, and later I hope the booksellers will profit. . . . These are manifest signs that things are on the mend.”

Messrs. Williams & Norgate will publish early next month the fourteenth batch of their successful undertaking, “The Home University Library.” It includes “Belgium,” by R. C. K. Ensor, a late member of the L.C.C.; “The History of Philosophy,” by Clement C. J. Webb, Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford; “Milton,” by J. Bailey, author of “Dr. Johnson and His Circle,” Chairman of the English Association; “Political Thought in England, from Spencer to the Present Day,” by Ernest Barker, a well-known Oxford Lecturer.

Messrs. Cassell & Co. are offering prizes for a Window Display of Gardening Books in the last week of this month, Monday, 22, to Saturday, 27. They also offer a prize for a photograph of the most effective Window Display of Cassell’s Nature Books, to be made throughout the week commencing March 22. They will be glad to send full particulars to anyone interested.

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. have published in an attractive sixpenny booklet the articles on “The New Army in Training” which Mr. Rudyard Kipling recently contributed to the *Daily Telegraph*. It is perhaps the most graphic and vivid account that has yet appeared of what has been accomplished in this particular department of our war activities.

Mr. T. Werner Laurie has just published a third and revised edition, making the seventh thousand, of “How to Win at Royal Auction Bridge,” by “Cut Cavendish.” The new laws of the game are given in full.

“The Year’s Art for 1915,” just published by Messrs. Hutchinson & Co., is the thirty-sixth annual issue of this well-known book of reference. The Editor, Mr. A. C. R. Carter, in his Preface says there has been but little to chronicle since the outbreak of the war. Finally he advises every artist and art worker to “keep a cheerful heart in readiness for the day when Art will be called upon again by weary men to soothe, uplift, and gladden them.”

“The War and the Parting of the Ways” is the title of an important little work announced by Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston & Co., Ltd., and written by a well-known Manchester gentleman, Mr. Charles H. Luke, A.M.S.E. It deals with the changes in our commercial system that will necessarily take place after the war. Mr. Luke is a Cornishman, and was born at Scorrer between forty and fifty years ago. After a liberal education, he spent some years in Canada and the United States, during part of which time he was mining for gold in Colorado. Returning



MR. C. H. LUKE.

to England in 1888, he was for many years Director of *The Engineering Review*. Later he devoted himself to the organisation of exhibitions of all kinds, including Shipping, Engineering, Machining, Shoe and Leather, Ironmongers, Grocery and Bakery, and Colliery. He was the joint-manager of the great Engineering Exhibition held at Olympia in 1912, and he occupies a similar position in the forthcoming Shipping, Engineering and Machining Exhibition, to be held there this year. Mr. Luke is a member of the Institute of Journalists and of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce.

Messrs. Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., have published the second edition, revised and enlarged, of “Who’s Who in Music, a Biographical Record of Contemporary Musicians.” It has been compiled and edited by Mr. H. Saxe Wyndham and Mr. Geoffrey l’Epine. In the present edition special attention has been paid to the claims of musicians working in America as well as those native born American artistes who are so well known here. The editor wisely points out that the comparative length of the notices has nothing necessarily to do with the position held in the world of music by the subject of the notice, and he admits regretfully that some notable names are still absent in spite of all efforts on his part.

Messrs. Longmans & Co.’s February List of Announcements and New Books has just been issued, and as usual deserves the careful attention of all book buyers.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—Among the members of every calling, no doubt, may be found a certain number of inveterate croakers and pessimists. But it is no use asking us to believe that the ranks of the booksellers include many such depressed and depressing Jeremiahs as that unnamed representative of the trade whose lamentations were embodied by Mr. Arthur Machen in a recent article in the *Evening News*. If Mr. Machen had cared to extend his quest for information about the present condition of bookselling to more quarters than one, he might have had a considerably less doleful story to set before his readers. As ill-luck would have it, his choice of a single informant provided him with material for such a lugubrious and despairing view of the situation that those who read his article may well have found themselves wondering how it came about that any booksellers, as such, continued to exist at all. The downhearted presiding genius of his "favourite bookshop" seems to have advised him, among other afflicting things, that war-books but a month or two old were "dead," that even popular novelists had "failed to do any good," and finally that "the war had destroyed bookselling in all its branches." Now, I make bold to say that this kind of talk is greatly to be deprecated, not merely because it exaggerates to a mischievous degree the inevitable ill-effects of the war upon the book-trade, but still more because it strikes that note of cowardly hopelessness which is more to be avoided than any other in times of stress and adversity. Whatever period of leanness the war may have produced in the world of books, things have been notoriously a good deal better than the best that it seemed possible to expect at the beginning of last August; and it appears to me that a thankful recognition of this fact, and a tone of reasoned hopefulness with regard to the prospects of the near future, are worth any amount of spiritless "grousing" over the difficulties and discouragements of the passing hour.

It is to be feared, however, that this champion "Dismal Jimmy" among booksellers found something of a kindred spirit in his interviewer; for it pleased Mr. Machen to devote the latter part of his article to a disquisition on the thesis that the war has not killed literature for the simple reason that literature "was dead already." This, as I think you will agree, is quite as extravagantly pessimistic a wail as that of his bookselling friend. It is one thing to recognise—as of course we must—that among English writers of to-day we can claim no successors to the supreme giants of the Elizabethan and Victorian eras, and quite another to sing this doleful swan-song over a literature which, by the singer's own admission, has for many years past been getting "more and more clever, more technically perfect, more accomplished in all sorts of ways," even though he finally brushes it aside as "empty of all vital force." If our current literature is as dead as Mr. Machen would have us believe, it must be admitted to be, on the whole, a fairly lively corpse; and, so far as booksellers are concerned, there is small fear that they will have to sit and twiddle their thumbs until the time comes round for a few more planets of the first order of magnitude to make their appearance upon the literary horizon. Meanwhile, there are better ways of meeting the trouble resulting from the war than by a grizzling and captious depreciation of the literature that we have.

One noticed, by the way, that the renewed vogue of the pamphlet, to which a good deal of attention has been directed of late, had a place among the grievances included in the wail of lamentation and woe to which I have referred. Pamphlets were scornfully denounced as things on which there is no profit, "and, to be sure, there is not much to be made out of a penny." I was not aware that a penny had been fixed as the regulation price of the modern

pamphlet; indeed, I seem to remember more than one recent production of the kind that commanded quite a respectable circulation at a somewhat less modest figure. But, however that may be, it is surely obvious that no one can compel booksellers, or anybody else, to sell pamphlets if they find it not worth their while to do so. Of two things, one—either our latter-day pamphleteers will have to let their winged words be offered at a price which will leave a reasonable margin of profit to the vendors, or they will have to be their own producers and distributors, finding compensation in the gratifying conviction that they are philanthropically acting as public instructors and benefactors. Assuredly, booksellers and publishers cannot be expected to make themselves the vicarious victims of this form of benevolence; and it may be taken for granted that they have not the slightest intention of accepting that position.

There is satisfaction in being able to counter a depressed bookseller with a cheery publisher, such as Mr. Herbert Jenkins showed himself to be in the comments on the present situation which he communicated to another evening paper a few days ago. So far from taking a despondent view of the trade outlook, Mr. Jenkins laid justifiable emphasis upon the point that the usual evening entertainments of the social world are at present largely suspended, adding that "here is the opportunity of the publishers, booksellers, and libraries." Moreover, facts within his personal experience had enabled him to discern "manifest signs that things are on the mend." Since it is always wiser and more helpful, as well as more agreeable, to look on the bright than on the gloomy side, it is a pleasure to record this heartening and courageous utterance, which, in existing circumstances, supplies just the kind of mental tonic that the book-trade most needs.

Mention of Mr. Herbert Jenkins reminds me of his interesting announcement that he is publishing another book by Mr. Patrick MacGill, whose singularly vivid and powerful "underworld" story, "Children of the Dead End," brought him prominently into notice a short time ago. Though still in the early twenties, Mr. MacGill has had an exceptional experience of life in some of its roughest aspects, and has turned it to account with a power and individuality which have already given him a recognised place among our young writers who "count." Since the outbreak of the war, he has temporarily exchanged the pen for the rifle, and is now with the London Irish at St. Albans. His new book, curiously entitled "The Rat Pit," is the life-story of an Irish peasant girl, and is said to be charged with the same grimly unflinching realism which arrested attention in his first prose work. To "live up to" a big initial success is always a difficult task; let us hope that this adventurous young author-warrior will duly achieve it.

It demands no small measure of courage to select for treatment as a prominent character in a new novel a famous historical personage who has lived so recently as to have been the contemporary of people who are as yet barely middle-aged. To a large section of the reading public, the figure of Bismarck is still as "actual" as that of any of our own leading statesmen of the later Victorian era, and it will be extremely interesting to see how "The Man of Iron" comes out in the novel of that name which Miss Clotilde Graves, otherwise "Richard Dehan," is just publishing with Mr. Heinemann. Unless I am much mistaken, "The Man of Blood and Iron" used to be the great German Chancellor's full *sobriquet*; but perhaps we ought to be grateful to "Richard Dehan" for modifying it so judiciously in these gory times.

We shall all be prepared to give a respectful, if surprised, greeting to "The Human German," to whom Mr. Edward Edgeworth proposes to introduce us next week in a volume from the house of Methuen. He will be a nice change, after the inhuman variety who has lately claimed our exclusive attention.

February 19.

JACOB OMNIUM.

NOTES FROM PARIS.

THE great French writer whose name—or rather whose pseudonym—I have feloniously misappropriated, says, in one of his amusing letters from England, "The necessity of saying something, the perplexity of having nothing to say, and a desire of being witty are three circumstances which alone are capable of making even the greatest writer ridiculous." *A fortiori* the absurdity would be even greater on the part of a very small writer, though the causes remain the same. A journalist must write occasionally, or dwell in dark oblivion of the public's needs—to say nothing of his own—and acquire an aptitude for making bricks without straw which would have earned him a foremanship at the building of the Pyramids, but that will avail him little in "the perplexity of having nothing to say" of which Voltaire speaks.

That Paris is getting to be somewhat of her old self again is obvious to anyone who has lived in the city throughout the six months of the war. In the early days of August three shops out of five were closed in some of the poorer quarters, and though the proportion was not so high in the main thoroughfares, there were far too many shutters down even there. The Morris columns which, inside, contain scavengers' implements and outside are pasted over with playbills, were covered with tricoloured paper, and reserved for the announcements of the military authorities—who did not use them, by the way. Cafés and restaurants closed at a time when the pleasure-seeker was beginning his evening, and social intercourse was hampered by the absence of omnibuses and the early closing of the "Metro." To visit a friend in a distant quarter of the city meant a long walk through unlighted streets, with no chance of refreshment, and the probability of getting run over by an automobile, but that was preferable to being in the "taxi-auto" when it tried to torpedo a street-refuge.

Now, however, a considerable change has been wrought. The great majority of the closed shops have re-opened; the Morris columns are once more clothed in their parti-coloured garb of theatrical posters; the streets, though not brilliantly illuminated, are no longer in Cimmerian darkness; and the last train on the Metro. does not start before you have finished dinner, but at the more reasonable hour of 11 p.m. In short, Paris is getting to be somewhat of her old self, but in a more purified and chastened frame of mind.

But though business generally has recovered in a marvellous manner, Literature and the Fine Arts are still in a parlous state. It will be necessary—unless peace should arrive within the next few weeks—to abandon all idea of holding the annual Salon, for all the young painters are in the trenches, and it would be absurd as well as unfair to expose nothing but the works of those artists who are too old or are physically incapable of going to the front. On the other hand, one sanguine, not to say sanguinary, journalist proposes that only the works of men in the fighting line should be exhibited. That is a patriotic notion, quite according to French ideas, but seems hardly practicable. Painting a picture with "Black Marias" dropping in what a comic verse writer calls "adjacent proximity," is not a condition in which an artist could do himself justice. The only subjects possible would be military ones, and a Salon made up exclusively of alarms, excursions, trumpets, and advances would be monotonous.

Literature is quite in as bad, if not a worse, condition. Authors, publishers, composers, and readers are in the trenches, and not a single book that is not unconnected with some aspect of the war has issued from the Paris presses during the last six months. Of war-books, indeed, there is no dearth, though not such a plethora as in England, I believe. They are, without exception, unsatisfactory, for so much secrecy has been observed as to the movements of troops, battles, &c., that we get no account of events till two

months or more after they have occurred, which is galling to the day-by-day historian.

In the same category may be placed the schemes of retired military men for the apportionment of Germany, when we have conquered it. In most of these schemes Great Britain is allotted a goodly slice of the German loaf. "It is no good gift," as an old chess professional I knew used to say when an amateur pounced down on his seemingly unprotected queen. It is hardly conceivable that the British nation would consent to govern any part of Germany, even after the most noisome elements of the population had been exterminated. Some of these books were even published before the war began, and were open to the objection that it was something like selling the bear's hide before the hunt began. That objection has vanished now that the savage animal is brought to bay and badly wounded, but he is but a mangy beast, and when killed will not be worth the trouble of skinning.

War-novels have also begun to appear—not in volume form, but as serials in the newspapers, but of these, and the other war-stuff, I do not propose to make any criticism, firstly because you are sufficiently afflicted in England with that kind of printed matter, and secondly because I have not perused any of them myself, and do not intend to until there is a Presidential decree enforcing their perusal under penalties. I hope that the rumour which has reached me that three of the leading publishers have agreed that they will not bring out any war-literature is true. Would that the others would follow their example, but of that I fear there is little chance. Rather do I dread the prophecy of an experienced critic, who when asked what was the outlook for the autumn publishing season, replied, "I fully expect that many new books will be published, but they will be nothing but newspaper articles altered and touched up."

The surmise is probably correct, but the prospect is not enlivening!
K. VOLTAIRE.

Messrs. Methuen & Co. have published "Red Hair," a novel by Mr. Robert Halifax; "Roger Ingram," by Margaret Westrup (Mrs. W. Sydney Stacey); "An Englishwoman in a Turkish Harem"; a two shilling edition of Mrs. Belloc Lowndes's well-known story "The Lodger"; "The Family," a new story by Miss Elinor Mordaunt; and "The Schools of Mediaeval England," by Mr. A. F. Leach, whose previous books on our English schools are well known.

"The Methodist Who's Who for 1915" now appears for the sixth time, and the lists of ministers and laymen in the various churches of (Ecumenical Methodism are much more complete than in previous editions. A useful new feature is the addition of a roll of those who have died since this work first appeared, with a reference to the last volume in which the name appeared. The information as to the various branches of Methodism, with a brief history of each church, will be found particularly helpful.

Messrs. Longmans' new Classified Catalogue for the present year makes a fairly substantial volume running to some 800 pages, the Index alone occupying over 50 pages. It is, of course, indispensable for the bookseller, and will be sent post free on application.

Messrs. John Long, Ltd., have added to their "Shilling Novels" a cheaper edition of Mr. Temple Thurston's book, "The Realist," and other stories. They have also published a popular shilling edition of "Sonnica," the successful romance of Vicenti Blasco Ibanez, in which Hannibal plays a conspicuous part.

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co. will publish next week "What a Man Wills," a new novel by Mrs. G. de Horne Vaizey; "The Street of the Seven Stars," by Mary Roberts Rinehart, a romance of Vienna's student quarter; "Russia and the World," by Mr. Stephen Graham, "an interpretative volume as to the significance of the European War from the Russian point of view.

MESSRS. HARPER BROTHERS announce "Moon-glide," a new novel by the author of "The Martyrdom of an Empress"; "The American Girl," by Miss Anne Morgan, daughter of the great financier.

MR. HEINEMANN will publish next week "The Man of Iron," a new novel by Richard Dehan, author of the "Dop Doctor," the central figure of "The Man of Iron" is Bismarck.

MESSRS. HODDER & STOUGHTON will publish shortly "The Story of a Woman's Heart," an anonymous work; also, "When Blood is their Argument: An Analysis of Prussian Culture," by Ford Madox Hueffer, dealing elaborately and exhaustively with the subject of Prussian civilisation.

MESSRS. HURST & BLACKETT will publish immediately "The Man Who Was Araid," a new novel by Mr. William Westrup, author of "The River of Dreams," &c.

MESSRS. HERBERT JENKINS, LTD., will publish next week "Lodges in the Wilderness," by W. C. Scully, author of "Reminiscences of a South African Pioneer"; also, "The Ideal Sinner: some chapters in the Life of John Scarlett, M.P."

MR. JOHN LANE will publish at once a new novel by "George Vane" (Visconde de Sarmiento), entitled "The Snare."

MESSRS. T. WERNER LAURIE, LTD., are just publishing "Seven Years on the Pacific Slope," by Mrs. Hugh Fraser.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. announce "Songs from the Clay," a volume of poems by Mr. James Stephens, author of "The Crock of Gold"; also Volume VII. of "The Papers of the British School at Rome," with contributions by the Director, the Assistant Director, Mr. A. M. Woodward, and Mr. A. H. S. Yeames.

MESSRS. METHUEN are publishing next week "The Human German," by Mr. Edward Edgeworth. Sketches, by a first-hand observer, which describe with much minuteness and humour the daily life of Berlin and the characteristics of the ordinary German.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & Co. announce "A Retrospect and Memoir of the Hon. Adelaide Drummond," by Mr. Basil Champneys; "The Tollhouse," by Evelyn St. Leger, the story of an old-fashioned English village; a fifth and greatly enlarged edition of "Modern Germany," by Mr. J. Ellis Barker, increased by nearly 100 pages.

Correspondence.

AMERICA AND THE WAR.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

DEAR SIR,—You may think it of interest to your readers to bring into print, as a curious example of the state of German feeling and of the method of German expression, the enclosed anonymous communication which reaches me to-day from Germany, and which has been passed (as if with approval) with the stamp of the German Censor. This utterance probably does not come from a member of the educated class, but the spirit of it seems to me not very different from that of old Professor Lasson, who recently wrote as follows in the *New York Times*:—

"A man who is not German knows nothing of Germany. We are morally and intellectually

superior to all—without peers. It is the same with our organisations and our institutions. . . . We are truthful. Our characteristics are humanity, gentleness, conscience, the virtue of Christianity. In a world of wickedness, we represent the love of God, who is with us."

Yours, &c.,

(Signed) GEORGE HAVEN PUTNAM.

New York,

February 1, 1915.

[ENCLOSURE.]

"To G. H. Putnam, Publisher, New York.

"The hand of a rascal like yourself, which could dare to bring into print words so unworthy of the great German people, should rot off. The statements made by you (as reprinted in the *Borsenblatt* from the *New York Times*) could only spring out of a withered, English-feeling thickhead. May God punish England, and may you, rascal, answer for your utterance. May God punish her, because England is the bloodhound of this war."

"THE DRAMATIST: OR, MEMOIRS OF THE STAGE."

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

SIR,—It may be recalled that during the years 1905, 1906, and 1908 there was some correspondence in the public Press upon the works of Ann Catherine Holbrook, *née* Jackson, to whom was also attributed the novel entitled "Rebecca, or the Victim of Duplicity," wherein many of the scenes were placed in the then "village" of Hampstead. When noticing Mrs. Holbrook's "Realities and Reflections," reference was made to "The Dramatist: or, Memoirs of the Stage, with the Life of the Authoress." Recently it was my good fortune to secure a copy of this interesting little book, and I would, by your courtesy, desire to chronicle the fact in your appropriate columns. It was printed in 1809 by Martin and Turner, of 10, Haymarket, Birmingham, and presents a graphic picture of Thespian customs of the period. Its title would seem to be somewhat of a misnomer, for the pages deal almost entirely with managers and actors, the methods of the former in relation to the members of their companies meeting with severe castigation. The authoress's unhappy experiences led to an early severance from the stage by herself and husband. The tone of the work is of a highly moral, instructive character, with a similarity of style to that of "Rebecca," which tends strongly to suggest Mrs. Holbrook as the writer of that novel also. Search for this romantic and deeply impressive book is still prosecuted with energy, more particularly for its third volume. Will any readers of THE BOOKSELLER, who may be interested in the matter, kindly join me in so attractive a quest?—Yours faithfully, CECIL CLARKE.

Junior Athenæum Club, Piccadilly.

February 6, 1915.

Obituary.

Brentano.—February 15, at Orange, New Jersey, Simon Brentano, head of the well-known bookselling and publishing firm of Brentano's, New York, Washington, and Paris.

Knight.—Recently, Mr. Francis A. Knight, the well-known writer on the Mendip country in Somersetshire. His books, "The Rambles of a Dominic," "In the West Country," "A Corner of Arcady," "The Seaboard of Mendip," are well-known to all lovers of the district, and a last work from his pen, "The Heart of Mendip," a companion volume to the one dealing with the coast, has only just been published. For many years he was a master at the well-known Quaker School at Sidcot, Winscombe, where his work was very fully appreciated.

Notices of Books.

Abbas II. By the Earl of Cromer. (Macmillan & Co.)—Now that Abbas II., the late Khedive of Egypt, has been deposed, having preferred to throw in his lot with the enemies of Great Britain, Lord Cromer is able to write a supplementary chapter to his well-known work on Modern Egypt, which at the time he was unable to make public. He does not in the least attempt to give a complete account of the events which have occurred in Egypt since he left it in 1907. He confines himself to narrating the story of the events immediately following the late Khedive's accession. He makes it quite clear "that in deposing the late ruler of Egypt His Majesty's Government has not only committed an act of political justice, but that it has also acted in the best interests of the Egyptian people." To the everyday reader Lord Cromer's illuminating book is of particular interest, not only as an authoritative record of the facts with which it deals, but as an example of the manner and methods in which our foreign policy is carried on by those responsible. The skill and tact with which this incompetent and troublesome young gentleman was allowed enough rope and no more; how he was pulled up at the right moment and compelled, like any other naughty boy, to do as he was told; the care with which Lord Cromer told the Foreign Office at home what to do, and the promptitude with which Lord Rosebery did it, provide a most instructive example of what we may call effective diplomacy. The crucial instances when he tried to appoint his own Prime Minister, and again when he attempted to damage the discipline of the army by decrying its English officers on parade, and how Lord Cromer dealt with each endeavour, are particularly well worth notice. It is interesting to learn that Lord Cromer now readily admits that the sentences against those who were condemned in the unfortunate Denshawai incident, which excited a good deal of comment at the time, were unduly severe, though, he thinks, not unjust. We are glad to note that he also tells us that what we may perhaps call the experiment of a nationalising policy was, in fact, inevitable, and that the trial was useful at least in so far as it showed that "a sudden change from tutelage to almost complete independence could not be effected without a serious dislocation of the whole political and administrative machinery of the country." Further, a special value of this exceptionally informing monograph may be found in the general principles of Egyptian policy which Lord Cromer here emphasises. In his view low taxation is essential, as it represents to the bulk of the population the material value of strict and careful government. He particularly recognises that nowadays, at any rate, a progressive policy which jogs along, "never relaxing into a walk or breaking into a gallop," must always be kept in view. Somehow, rigid economy, more public works and wider education must be carried out simultaneously if the desired progress and efficiency are to be obtained.

The Princess Mathilde Bonaparte. By Philip W. Sergeant. (Stanley Paul & Co.)—It is, of course, useless to anticipate how far French history of the last sixty years would have been modified had Princess Mathilde Bonaparte married Louis Napoleon—as she might had she chosen—instead of Eugénie Montijo. It would, perhaps, have added somewhat to the interest of Mr. Sergeant's exceedingly interesting book if he had said something on the point. For as author of a similar biography of the Empress Eugénie he would have been exceptionally qualified to have written such a chapter. Fortunately, or unfortunately, the Princess Mathilde preferred to rule in her own salon, where she was naturally supreme, rather than to reign as Empress of the French at the

Tuileries. Her salon, of which Mr. Sergeant gives a very graphic and attractive account, was the last of the long successions of literary salons for which Paris was so long celebrated. In the vivid sketch he so pleasantly draws he has, of course, made use of the memoirs of Viel-Castel and de Goncourt, while he has also found a good deal of his material in the works of M. Ernest Lavisse, M. Messon, and M. Loliée. Her unsatisfactory marriage with Prince Anatole Demidoff, from whom she was compelled by his brutal treatment to obtain a separation; her twenty years liaison with the Comte de Nieuwerkerke, Director of the French National Gallery, and later her friendship with Claude Popelin, whom it was generally said she actually married, though Mr. Sergeant thinks the story unworthy of credence, form an important part of the interest of the book. She was certainly a very notable woman, and while she no doubt owed a great deal to her birth and connections, still she was one who would have made her personality felt under any condition. Her place in the Paris of the Second Empire and after, well deserves a careful and authoritative exposition, and equally as a biography, a character study, and a reproduction of the times in which she lived Mr. Sergeant's book demands hearty commendation.

Forty Years in Canada: Reminiscences of the Great North-West, with some account of his service in South Africa. By Colonel S. B. Steele, C.B., M.V.O., late of the North-West Mounted Police and the South African Constabulary. Edited by Mollie Glenn Niblett. With an Introduction by J. G. Colmer, C.M.G., and seventeen plates. (Herbert Jenkins, Ltd.)—The present volume, we are told, was printed and bound ready for publication last August, but was postponed owing to the war, and since then Colonel Steele has been promoted to the rank of Major-General. The late Lord Strathcona had undertaken to write an introduction, partly because he had a great regard for the author, who had served as commanding officer of "Strathcona's Horse" in the South African War. Lord Strathcona's death prevented him from carrying out his promise, but at his special request Mr. J. G. Colmer, who is so well known to all Canadians, took up the duty, for which he was well qualified both by a long friendship with the author and also a close connection with the organisation of "Strathcona's Horse." Colonel Steele's exceedingly vivid and at times exciting story really commences with the Red River Rebellion in 1870, and his account of the difficulties of transport overcome by the expedition under Colonel, afterwards Field Marshal, Lord Wolseley makes very excellent reading. Another important part of the work may almost be said to chronicle the origin and development of the famous force, the North-West Mounted Police, which has had so much to do with the successful development of that part of Canada. As Mr. Colmer remarks, the Hudson Bay Company had always behaved quite fairly with the native Indians, and the Government rightly continued the same policy and made use of the Mounted Police to carry it through. The men acted throughout with excellent tact and discretion, and the confidence felt in them by the Indians is the best testimony to the success with which the delicate duty was done. A typical chapter from this point of view describes the difficult task of keeping order in the region of Klondyke when the gold rush was on. Robbery and murder were common, and desperadoes from all parts seem to have gathered together. However, in time the forces of law and order, backed by the Mounted Police, succeeded and the troubles settled down. The pictures of Canada during this period of development are vigorous and vivid, and every page provides useful and entertaining reading.

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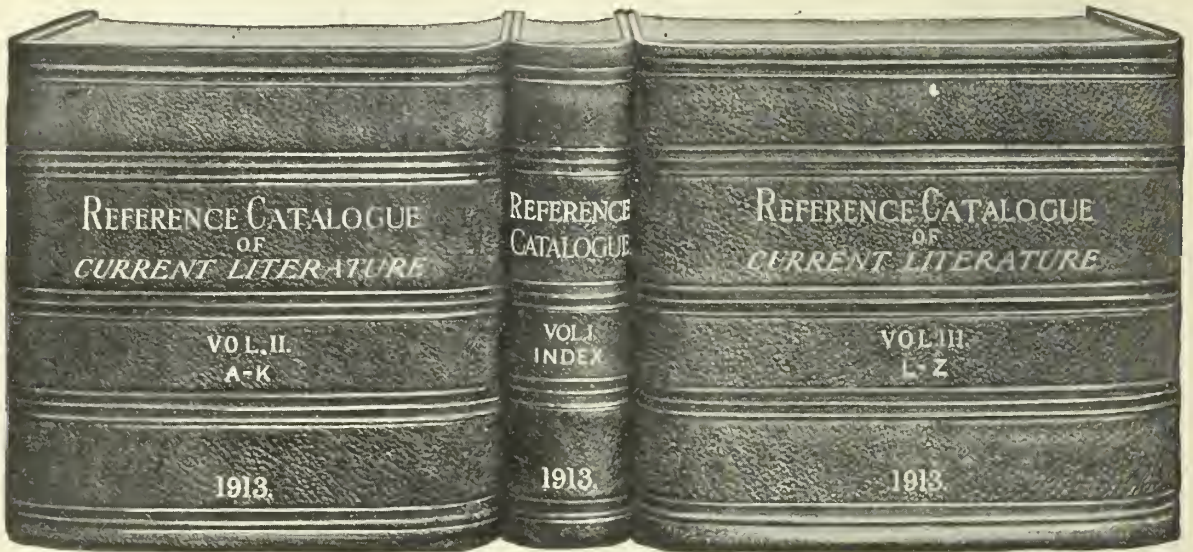
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Winding up of Public Companies, &c.

Fleet, Ltd., London, W. G. T. Meynell ceased to act as Receiver. February 3.
 Pall Mall Press, Ltd. Liq., Wellwood J. Maxwell, 56, Moorgate Street, E.C., C.A.
 Saddleworth Printing Co. Ltd., Saddleworth. D. Cooper, 4, Chapel Walk, Manchester, I.A., appointed Receiver. February 5.
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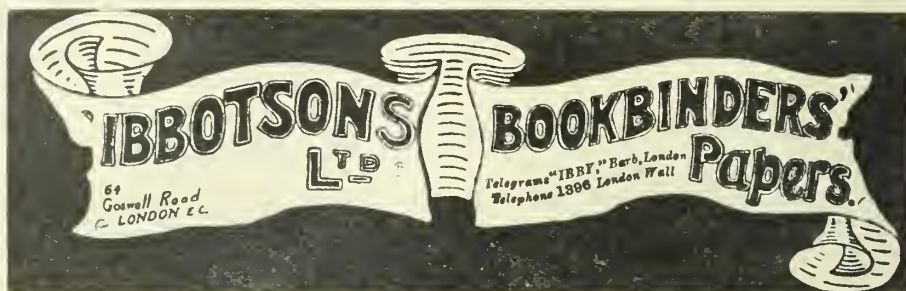
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Trade and Literary Gossip.

Shilling "Whitaker" Sold Out.—Will any bookseller having spare copies of the shilling edition please communicate with the publishers with a view to their return?

Booksellers' Provident Institution.—At the last meeting of the Board of Directors the sum of £103 12s. was granted for the relief of members and widows of members, and the receipt of the following donations was reported:—Mr. Bernard Quaritch, £2 2s.; Messrs. Everett & Co., Ltd., £1 1s.; Miss Beatrice Harraden, £1. Mr. C. J. Longman presided at the meeting, and the directors present were: Messrs. L. Carrdus, J. Clark, J. Cooper, J. Foster, J. W. Harden, C. H. Hollingsworth, F. J. James, W. H. Jelpke, G. H. Johnson, C. T. Langford, A. S. Lewis, W. Longman, J. Meade, A. W. Mills, A. J. Sabin, E. Shallis, W. H. Smith, G. C. Sole, R. E. Taylor. Much interest has been occasioned by the announcement that Sir Henry Newbolt has kindly consented to deliver an address at the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, March 10th. Tickets of admission to the meeting, which will, as usual, be followed by a concert, can be obtained from the Secretary, at the office of the Institution in Stationers' Hall Court.

Mr. W. E. Candy, M.A., who has been for many years with Mr. Edward Arnold, has been appointed Educational Manager to Messrs. J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd.

Mr. Alfred Henry Littleton, late Chairman of Messrs. Novello & Co., Ltd., the well-known music publishers, has left estate valued at £71,396.

For King and Country.—The following have been received since our last list:—

MESSRS. BLINKO & SONS (Ramsgate).—Mr. H. S. Webb and Mr. R. Gougher, Kent Cyclists' Battalion.

MESSRS. W. H. SMITH & SONS (Twenty-sixth List).—Wm. Downey, R.F.A.; J. Howard, 6th Devon Reserves; W. Brazier, A.O.C.; W. Rouse, R.F.A.; C. H. White, Royal Fusiliers; Wm. Evans, West Yorkshire; C. G. Basset, 3rd Gloucester; W. M. Montague, Sherwood Foresters; J. T. Hodge and J. S. Forrest, 13th Middlesex; C. Dawson, 6th Batt. Northamptonshire.

Some of the friends and admirers of Mr. J. P. Collins, who, after several years of notable work on the *Pall Mall Gazette*, has given up journalism to become a literary agent—in the place of the late Mr. C. F. Cazenove, of the Literary Agency of London—have decided to entertain him at dinner at the Café Monico on Monday, March 15th. Communications should be addressed to Mr. C. E. Lawrence, at 50a, Albemarle Street, W.

Mr. Alexander Gardner, the well-known bookseller and publisher, of Paisley, notifies that his son, Mr. A. A. Gardner, has been gazetted a Second Lieutenant in the 6th Battalion Princess Louise's Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, Territorial Force, and during his son's absence he has arranged to resume active oversight of the business—from which he had practically retired some years ago after more than fifty years' strenuous work—for the period of the war.

Mr. A. H. Bullen contributed to the New York "Nation," of February 11th, an interesting personal appreciation of the life and literary work of the late Mr. Bertram Dobell.

Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton will publish immediately a book entitled "The Way of the Red Cross," in which Queen Alexandra, who has written a prefatory note, takes the opportunity "to thank every individual nurse—one and all—who is nursing our brave wounded soldiers and sailors."

The Chief Scout.—In "My Adventures as a Spy," Sir R. Baden-Powell has provided a small volume crammed with interest from beginning to end. The fascination of hunting and of being hunted at the same time provides for the adventurous spirit an uncontrollable attraction, and in these pages the gallant General has set forth many of his own adventures in the matter of official spying, at the same time drawing a very strong distinction between the man who runs supreme risks for the benefit of his country and the despicable hound who is ready to sell his own friends. The volume contains a remarkable forecast of a suggested German invasion of the Midlands, which, on its first publication in the shape of a lecture, caused quite a sensation in Teutonic circles, so near was it to the real intentions of Germany at one time. The little book is bound to meet with a tremendous reception, and should prove most helpful to scouts generally. It deserves to be very widely read.

Messrs. Hutchinson & Co.'s new serial, "Belgium the Glorious: Her Country and Her People," makes an excellent beginning with the first number that has just appeared. It is rightly described as "The Story of a Brave Nation, and a Pictorial and Authoritative Record of a Fair Country ruthlessly plundered and destroyed." It is edited by Mr. Walter Hutchinson, who has gathered round him a notable body of distinguished contributors, including Belgian Cabinet Ministers. Dr. Sarolea, the well-known Belgian writer, provides a most informing and interesting Introduction, and Dr. Demetrius C. Boulger in the first chapter deals with the province of Brabant in a very pleasant and suggestive fashion. The illustrations are naturally a specially important feature in such a work, and they are supplied on a lavish and ample scale. An attractive coloured plate of the Quay Vert at Bruges forms the frontispiece, and a fine photogravure plate of the Entry of Charles V. into Antwerp is also presented free with this part.

The articles upon the War appearing in "Blackwood," under the title of "The Diary of a Subaltern," have aroused widespread attention. In high military quarters they have been described as the truest picture we have so far received from the front. In the March number of the magazine we are promised another interesting discovery, entitled "With Rawlinson in Belgium." "Blackwood" for January went out of print, and for February ran through two editions and reached its highest circulation since the seventies.

Messrs. Raphael Tuck & Sons are now reproducing their National Picture "Defenders of the Empire," in three new forms—an "Oilette" Picture, a "Zag-Zaw" Puzzle, and "Oilette" Postcards. In these new forms the picture should find a wide circulation throughout the Empire, particularly as the entire proceeds of the sale are devoted to the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund.

Mr. Robert Dodd, of New York, has issued a catalogue of "first editions and an autograph" of Swinburne. The MS. is the autograph of "A Midsummer Holiday," nine pieces written on one side of eighteen quarto sheets; the price asked for this is £200. The printed matter catalogued includes many rarities, among them the weekly magazine, *The Tatler*, from August 25 to Dec. 29, 1877, in which Swinburne's only novel, "Love's Cross Currents," appeared.

As the publication of "Le Muséon"—a Revue d'Etudes Orientales which for the last thirty years has been published at Louvain—at the ordinary time and place is now impossible, the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press have arranged with the editorial board for the publication of the first number of this quarterly journal in 1915. Orders should be sent to Mr. C. F. Clay, Cambridge University Press, Fetter Lane, London, E.C. It rests with supporters of Oriental Studies to decide whether the publication can be continued.

Messrs. Chatto & Windus have published, in conjunction with the Fine Art Society, an interesting collection of the very striking cartoons in which Mr. W. K. Haselden has pictured the first six months of the war in the *Daily Mirror*. It is issued in a shilling edition under the title of "The Sad Experiences of Big and Little Willie during the First Six Months of the Great War." The cleverness and power of Mr. Haselden's drawings are everywhere recognised, and we need only emphasise the skill and fertility of imagination which has enabled him to maintain for so many weeks so uniformly high a standard of artistic excellence. Mr. Haselden, while his satire is always pointed, is never venomous, and possesses in a wonderful degree the faculty of combining serious suggestions with vivacity and entertainment.

The March "B.O.P." has an attractive article on "V.C. Heroes of the War," while in *The Girl's Own Paper* Mary Frances Billington has a useful account of "Medical Women's Wider Work." In the *Sunday at Home* the "Religious Life of Brighton" receives special attention.

"Khaki," the first number of which has just been published from Imperial House, Kingsway, W.C., is "a monthly magazine and cabled news-sheet for the over-sea soldier bringing him as a gift news from home." The editor has enlisted the help of several popular writers, including Rudyard Kipling, J. K. Jerome, Marie Corelli, and Israel Zangwill. Lord Ronaldshay writes on Sport in India; there is an informing article on Australia and the War, and an Interview with Sir George Reid, which is worth careful attention. "The Cabled News Supplement" from different points overseas has been attractively compiled, and the magazine as a whole will no doubt be read with much interest by those for whom it has been specially prepared.

The new "Index to Periodicals" can show quite an exceptional record. Nine of the compilers, one after another, have gone to the war. It would therefore not have been surprising if this new and badly needed work of reference had succumbed, but we understand that it will be published during the next week or two for "The Librarian and Book World."

The Sydney Treasures.—The family collection of Earl Sydney, Lord Chamberlain to Queen Victoria, will be sold by auction by Messrs. Knight, Frank & Rutley early in the season, owing to the death of the Hon. Robert Marsham-Townshend. The dispersal of these works of art and the library will be the most important sale since the declaration of war, and will arouse interest both in England and America. The sale will be held in the ancient mansion of Frogmal, near Sidcup, a mile or so from Camden Place, Chislehurst, the former residence of the Empress Eugénie, and is expected to occupy about a fortnight. The books comprise a large and important library of many thousands of volumes, including illuminated Missals and Manuscripts on Vellum, Americana, Voyages, Travels, Bibliography, Biography, Memoirs, Economics, Genealogy, Heraldry, Natural History, Poetry, Drama, Rare Tracts on Trade, &c., a small but choice collection of books on the County of Kent, Portraits, Prints, County Histories, and many exceedingly rare works. Amongst the very large collection of scarce Autographs are a Menu signed by Cardinal Wolsey as Archbishop of York, and an important letter of Lord Chatham speaking of the improbability of any war between England and America. There are also Albert Dürer Etchings, Line Engravings, Mezzo-tint Portraits, and Early Coloured Prints. The Old Masters include a Bronzino head of a lady and portraits attributed to François Pourbus and Holbein. The ancestral portraits form a historical chain from Sir Peter Lely and Sir Godfrey Kneller to Sir Joshua Reynolds and Gainsborough. Examples of Angelica Kauffman, one of the 36 original members of the Royal Academy, Gardner, Hoare, and other portrait painters will be found in the catalogue, which embraces many works of the Italian, Dutch, and Early English Schools.

"War Time Cookery," by Nellie R. de Lissa, is a useful sixpenny book which tells the anxious housewife how to provide the week's meals for a family of eight at 2s. per day. Queen Alexandra has accepted the dedication, and has ordered some copies for distribution among the troops at the front. It is published by Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co.

Messrs. T. Nelson & Sons have added to their popular "Shilling Library" "Known to the Police," by Thomas Holmes, an instructive account of the experiences of a former Police Court Missionary; and to their "Sevenpenny Copyright Novels" Mr. Stanley Weyman's well-known romance, "The House of the Wolf," a story which had much to do with establishing his reputation as a popular novelist.

American Newspapers and Periodicals, it is stated, now total 24,724 publications of all sorts. The daily newspapers number 2,502, weeklies 16,323, and monthlies 2,981, in each case an increase over last year's figures. The number of towns in which newspapers are published is 11,817.

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. have added to their "Service Kipling" "Many Inventions," in two volumes, and "The Nantahka," by Rudyard Kipling and Woolcott Balestier.

The Oxford University Press has published at the popular price of threepence a reproduction reduced to 20in. by 20in. of the well-known large scale Oxford War Map of Central Europe, by B. V. Darbishire.

Messrs. Longmans have published a suggestive shilling pamphlet, "War Problems," by Mr. J. A. Balfour Browne, K.C., in which the author very trenchantly discusses some of the problems which arise out of the war. He naturally condemns any talk about peace at present; he drives home the manifest fact that Germans are not gentlemen; he points out that German plans and German policy have alike failed; and he concludes with some vigorous chapters which urge the immediate importance of active and energetic recruiting.

Messrs. C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd., have just published in a shilling volume of over 170 closely printed pages, the "Official Book of the German Atrocities, told by Victims and Eye-witnesses." It gives the complete verbatim report of the Belgian, French, and Russian Commissions of Enquiry. It is an authorised edition of the various official reports, and it is the only volume which brings together the French, Belgian, and Russian reports. It is worth notice that every fact mentioned has been authenticated and verified by trained observers, and is published on Government authority. The book provides terrible and tragic reading, and we hope will find a widespread circulation in all English-speaking and neutral nations. As a complete justification of all the charges of brutality and outrage that have been brought against the fighting forces of Germany it is and must always remain quite incontrovertible.

Messrs. Greening & Co. have just issued a list of their publications, which includes several items of particular interest. The list of the "Latin" Library, which contains translations of great French, German, Russian, Turkish, and Italian novels, otherwise unobtainable in English, is specially useful.

The next issue of "The International Journal of Ethics" (George Allen & Unwin, Ltd.) contains, among others, articles by the Hon. Bertrand Russell on "The Ethics of War"; by Mr. Arthur Ponsonby, M.P., on "International Morality"; and by Mr. W. M. Salter on "Nietzsche's Moral Aim."

Messrs. Everett & Co., Ltd., have published "Love Muti," a new South American novel by Douglas Blackburn; "Blackmailed," a new novel by Arthur Applin.

Mrs. Constance Garnett, the translator of Turgeniev and Tolstoy, has completed a new volume in the series of the novels of Dostoevsky which are being issued by Mr. Heinemann, and in which "The Brothers Karamazov," "The Idiot," "The Possessed," and "Crime and Punishment," have already appeared. The new volume is entitled "The House of the Dead," and has just been published.

"The Every Age Library," published by Mr. C. H. Kelly, now includes "Mary Barton," by Mrs. Gaskell; "The Mill on the Floss," by George Eliot; "Mark Seaworth," by W. H. G. Kingston; and "The Citizen of To-morrow," edited by S. E. Keeble, a volume of Essays originally issued by members of the Wesleyan Methodist Union for Tract Service nine years ago. We have already warmly commended the general plan and format of this excellent series, and need only say that these new additions fully maintain the high standard set by preceding volumes.

Mr. Horace Muirhead has published the third volume of that very excellent and important work, "The King's Ships," by Commander Halton Stirling Lecky, which deals with the ships from "Endymion" to "Jupiter." As the sub-title informs us, the work gives the reader "the important historical episodes connected with the successive ships of the same name from remote times, and a list of names and services of some ancient war vessels." On the appearance of the first volume we took occasion to give the book, both in its plan and execution, our very hearty commendation, and we may say that the general carrying out of the enterprise as each volume makes its appearance continues to deserve the warmest praise. The operations of the various ships in the earlier days of the present war are carefully chronicled. We have the work of the "Gloucester," which appears to be the eighth of her name, against the "Breslau," and the various operations in the Mediterranean are noted, as also the fact that the "Hogue," the second of its name, was torpedoed by the German submarine U.9 in September, though the sinkings of the "Hawke" and the "Hermes," and later of the "Indomitable," were too late for inclusion. The "Hercules," the twelfth of the name, is credited with the distinction of being the first British warship to be launched during the reign of our present King. It is of course quite impossible to review so complete and so elaborate a work as this in any detail, and any attempt would be quite superfluous. We must therefore confine ourselves to congratulating the author and the publisher on the great care with which the work has been produced, and express the hope that its publication at a time when the supreme importance of our navy is more than ever manifest may obtain for it the satisfactory and favourable reception it so thoroughly deserves. We may add that the illustrations maintain the same high standard both of excellence and profusion set in the previous volumes. The frontispiece is very appropriately an admirable photogravure portrait of King William IV., whose close interest in the Navy of his time is so well known, the five coloured plates reproducing characteristic scenes at various eras are in every way excellent, and add very materially to the attractions and value of the volume.

Messrs. Andrew Reid & Co., of Newcastle-on-Tyne, have just published an important work, "The North-Eastern Railway: Its Rise and Development," by William Weaver Tomlinson. The North-Eastern Railway, it will be remembered, with its 1,753 miles of lines and its 82 millions of capital, has grown from the Stockton and Darlington railway, the first railway made in England more than a hundred years ago.

"**The Writing on the Wall: an Indictment,**" by John Mallett, which is published by Mr. A. E. Malley, 44, Doughty Street, W.C., is a brochure in which the author denounces in vigorous verse the conduct of Germany and the German Emperor in the present war. The following verse is a fair sample of the style and spirit of the poem:—

"With you for guest Earth needs must be
A place to shudder at and scoff;
Without you, Prince of Perfidy!
Even Hell itself were better off."

In "America's Arraignment of Germany," by Dr. J. William White, of Philadelphia, which is published in this country by Messrs. G. G. Harrap & Co., we have a careful examination of the pleas which Germany and her friends in America have put forward in defence of Germany, and the writer readily comes to the conclusion that they are quite untenable. Dr. White makes excellent use of the opinions and views of representative Americans, and his presentation of the case as it appears to a cautious and unbiassed neutral is certainly worth careful consideration. After reading Dr. White's book one can quite understand how it is that German efforts to secure the support of America have proved so unsuccessful.

Messrs. Longmans have published a suggestive little book in which the Rev. C. L. Drawbridge, who is well known as a writer on Christian evidences, deals with the subject of "The War and Religious Ideals." His text may be said to be the lines from Lowell on the title-page:—

"Once to every man and nation comes the moment
to decide,
In the strife of Truth and Falsehood for the good
or evil side;
Then it is the brave man chooses while the coward
stands aside."

The last chapter on "The Christian Ideal and War" is particularly well worth reading. Messrs. Longmans have also published "Our Comradeship with the Blessed Dead," by the Right Rev. J. P. Maud, D.D., Bishop of Kensington, in which he endeavours "to provide grounds of hope and comfort for those to whom the war has entailed a grievous legacy of pain and bereavement."

The Canada Year Book for 1913 makes a somewhat belated appearance, and even the Preface is dated last August. Official publications are never too punctual, so that special criticism on this point is perhaps superfluous. The present issue has been carefully revised, and several improvements are noted in the preface, while new illustrated articles on the History and Physical Characteristics of Canada distinctly add to the value of the volume. A list of the more important Dominion Government Publications is a helpful new departure, and the enlargement of the scale on which the map of Canada is drawn is a distinct advantage.

Messrs. Wells Gardner, Darton & Co. have just published "The Challenge of the King," by the Rev. C. F. Garbett, Vicar of Portsea, addresses, mainly delivered in Portsea Parish Church, "intended to apply some of the lessons which the war seems meant to teach us, and to state the principles for which we are contending"; "St. Paul and his Gospel," by the Rev. W. S. Swaney, Vicar of St. Peter's, Cranley Gardens, S.W., which gives the reader a popular and clear analysis of St. Paul's place and teaching in the Church; "The Bible of St. Paul's," by the Rev. W. C. E. Newbolt, Canon of St. Paul's, which in short compass sets forth that "there is a Bible of St. Paul's which lies open for all to read who dwell within sight of its Dome, as well as for those who come from all parts of the world to study its dignity or its treasures of art and history." Canon Newbolt is peculiarly well qualified to explain the characteristic features and surroundings of the famous cathedral.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—The war—I am sorry, but there is no getting away from it—has introduced us to a good many new ideas in the course of the past few months; but it is still something of a shock to have that supposedly harmless literary institution, the novelist-prophet, suddenly revealed in the light of a potential danger to his country. Hitherto, we have been rather proud of any of our writers of fiction who have been able to claim, with regard to some new development, invention, or discovery, that it has been the subject of "intelligent anticipation" in one of their works. It has pleased and amused us to see fact thus limping lamely after imagination, and the modern novelist cutting a more or less impressive figure in the mantle of the seer. But the war has put a different complexion on this as on so many other matters; and the other day we were brought up short with the disquieting reminder that it is possible for the novelist who "deals in futures" to be too imaginative by half. For "well-informed Germans," we learnt, were boasting that the idea of a blockade of our shores by submarine had come to their naval authorities ready-made from England, having been suggested to them by a story entitled "Danger," from the pen of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, which appeared in the *Strand Magazine* in the summer of last year. In that story, it seems, the plan of a submarine blockade, urged upon "the King of Norland"—otherwise the Kaiser—as the one effective method of overcoming the naval might of Britain, was adopted with such smashing success that in the end "even the proud and stubborn English could not face it any longer," but were compelled ignominiously to sue for peace!

No one, in the circumstances, will have any difficulty in accepting Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's published assurance that it is very painful to him to find what he has written turned against his own country. And he may well find comfort, both for himself and for England, in the already obvious fact that the Germans will be powerless to carry his too ingenious scheme to the bitter end which he described so uncompromisingly in his story. But that, of course, is only because they fortunately do not happen, at present, to possess a sufficient number of submarines to make an effective business of the fulfilment of Sir Arthur's prophecy. Were it otherwise—as it might have been if the outbreak of the war had been delayed for two or three years—I fear that the distinguished novelist would have had still graver reason to regret the unwitting service which his "intelligent anticipation" has rendered to his country's enemies.

With manifest sincerity, the eminent author of "Danger" has explained that his object in writing the story was to warn the public of the possible peril of an attempt by an enemy to establish just such a submarine blockade of our shores as the Germans are now ineffectually endeavouring to compass. Strangely enough, it does not seem to have occurred to him that to set forth details of such a plan in the form of a story in a widely-read periodical was an excellent way of suggesting the scheme to any enemy of England who might be willing, and imagine himself able, to put it into practice. We may happily rest assured that no patriotic British author would risk playing into the hands of his country's foes for the sake of providing a sensational story for a popular magazine. But one cannot help hoping that the warning conveyed by this case will be taken to heart by those of our writers of fiction whose imagination sets before them prophetic visions of new and formidable methods of hostile attack upon their native land. In such cases they will perhaps recognise in future that they will serve their country better by privately communicating their warning inspirations, for what they are worth, to the Government, instead of giving a perhaps valuable tip to the enemy by turning them into "copy."

As some of the German misleaders of opinion seem to have just made the wonderful discovery that our

late King was the real author of the present war, Lord Esher's intimate study of "The Influence of King Edward," which has lately been issued, with other essays from the same pen, by Mr. John Murray, may be said to have appeared at the psychological moment. Lord Esher had the advantage of being one of those who enjoyed the personal friendship of Edward the Peacemaker; and though the German attack upon the late King's memory is too malignantly absurd to need any refutation, it is interesting at this moment to receive the testimony of one who had special opportunities of knowing his mind and attitude with regard to the mutual relations of England and her Continental neighbours. All that Lord Esher is able to tell us merely confirms our knowledge of King Edward's single-minded desire to promote international amity, and to preserve the peace of Europe. That the *Entente Cordiale* owed its existence to his personal efforts and sympathies no doubt constitutes the head and front of his offending in German eyes. But that he consciously did anything to promote or provoke war, either with Germany or any other country, is one of the most insane of the many delusions which vex the Teutonic mind.

Even if it be true that the ordinary war-book is in less demand than it was, there is small fear that the public will be able to resist the fascination of works descriptive of the part which is being played by aircraft in the present great struggle of nations. Our own airmen have given such an excellent account of themselves, and done such invaluable work for their country, that everyone will be eager for first-hand records of their experiences and achievements in this new and splendidly adventurous branch of our fighting forces; and there is special attraction in the announcement by Mr. Fisher Unwin of a forthcoming volume in which the redoubtable Flight-Commander Grahame-White, who so narrowly escaped personal disaster during a recent brilliant British air-raid, has collaborated with Mr. Harry Harper. "Aircraft in the Great War" is the title of their work, and one may predict with some confidence that it will rank among the most popular books that the war has produced.

In spite of her loyal devotion to her brother's memory, the sister of Nietzsche has not been able to prevent an unlovely portrait of that most pernicious philosopher from peeping out between the lines of her memoir, lately published in an English translation by Mr. Heinemann. Seeing that he was the most self-centred and intolerant of egotists, with an aggressive contempt for the intelligence of anyone whose opinions differed from his own, it is hardly surprising that he alienated all his friends and became "the lonely Nietzsche" in his later years. The astonishing thing is that he succeeded to such an extent in inoculating the once sane German people with his criminal-lunatic ideas and ideals.

The intimation that Mr. Basil Champneys' memoir of the Hon. Adelaide Drummond, which has been issued this week by Smith, Elder, is based upon the recollections which that lady wrote "to please her children and grandchildren," suggests to us the regretful thought that among the members of the present hustled and trouble-saving generation there will probably be very few who will be at the pains of making similar private records of the events of their lives, however interesting their experiences may have been. Such familiar chronicles, which are usually far more interesting and informing than any formal autobiography, were plentiful enough in more leisurely times; but they can hardly be looked for in an age in which even letter-writing has become practically a lost art.

Presumably a nice balance between the interests of war and peace is maintained by Mr. John Drinkwater in his new volume of poems, since Sidgwick and Jackson announce it under the title, "Swords and Ploughshares." The former, by the way, are doing more harrowing work than the latter in these lurid times.

"The Soldiers of the Bible," by the Rev. Prof. James Cooper, of Glasgow University, is a new volume of the well-known "Guild Text-Books," issued under the authority of the Church of Scotland, and published by Messrs. R. & R. Clark, of Edinburgh. The little book is a very opportune addition to the series, and the reputation of the writer, who is Professor of Church History at Glasgow and Hon. Chaplain of the Glasgow University Officers' Training Corps, is ample guarantee for the scholarship and historical accuracy with which the various character sketches have been written.

M. Charles Tostain, bookseller, of 44, St. Martin Street, Bayeux, Normandy, has just published complete black and coloured reproductions of the celebrated Bayeux Tapestry, which, as our readers are aware, reproduces the various scenes of the Norman Conquest, and has been preserved for more than 800 years at Bayeux. Fortunately Bayeux is quite outside the area of German operations, otherwise this artistic masterpiece might be in very serious danger.

Messrs. John Wisden & Co. again send us the always welcome "Wisden's Cricketers' Almanack" for 1915, which now reaches its fifty-second edition. The Hon. R. H. Lyttelton contributes an article on the late Mr. A. G. Steel, and Mr. E. B. Noel again deals with Public School Cricket during the year. The list of deaths in 1914 is naturally very much longer than usual owing to the many casualties caused by the war. The five cricketers whose portraits are given this year are Messrs. P. G. H. Fender, D. J. Knight, J. W. H. T. Douglas, and S. G. Smith, and Hardinge. The editor, Mr. Sydney Pardon, has done his part excellently, and the annual fully maintains its pre-eminence as the Whitaker of the cricketing world.

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. J. M. DENT & SONS will publish next week a new book by Joseph Conrad entitled, "Within the Tides," including four tales: "The Planter of Malata," "The Partner," "The Inn of the Two Witches," "Because of the Dollars."

MESSRS. EVERETT & CO., LTD., will publish shortly a new novel entitled "Man Made Morals," by G. de S. Wentworth-James; and a new historical novel entitled, "Love Lies Bleeding," by J. Bloundelle-Burton.

MESSRS. GREENING & CO. announce "The Children of Alsace" (Lotus Library), by René Bazin, also a shilling edition.

MR. HEINEMANN announces for next week a new novel by Mr. Eden Phillpotts, entitled "Brunel's Tower," in which the author returns to Devonshire.

MR. LEOPOLD B. HILL will issue next week an English Grammar for Flemings entitled "Engelsche Spraakkunst voor Scholen en Beginners," by Mr. E. V. Bisschop, the author of the Flemish Phrase Books already published by Mr. Hill, it will be uniform with this popular series.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & CO. are about to issue a second edition of Professor W. J. Sollas's "Ancient Hunters and their Modern Representatives," with many amplifications and amendments, bringing it thoroughly abreast of the most recent advances in our knowledge.

MESSRS. STANLEY PAUL & CO. announce: "Napoleon in Exile: St. Helena," two vols., by Norwood Young, with two coloured frontispieces and 100 illustrations;

"War-up-to-Date," by Charles E. Pearce; "The Prussian Terror," by Alex. Dumas, translated by R. S. Garnett with a Preface by him; "Miss Billy's Decision," by Eleanor H. Porter; "The Sails of Life," by Cecil Adair; "The Black Lake," by Sir Wm. Magnay; "The Heiress of Swallowcliffe," by E. Everett-Green; "Because," by Maud H. Yardley.

MESSRS. G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS are publishing immediately: "Christianity as Mystical Fact," by Rudolph Steiner, edited by Harry Collison; "Honest Business," by Amos K. Fiske; "The Earth: Its Life and Its Death," by A. Berget, Professor at the Institute Oceanographique, Paris; "The Law of Faith," by Joseph F. Randolph; "A Poet's Cabinet," by Professor George L. Raymond; "Alsace and Lorraine," by Ruth Putnam; "History of Old Kinderhook," by Edward A. Collier; "My Path Through Life," by Lilli Lehmann; "Fear and Conventionality," by Elsie Clews Parsons; "Sun Lore of All Ages," by William Tyler Olcott.

THE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY will publish immediately "The Little Girl's Sewing Book," an entirely new work, by Flora Klickmann.

MESSRS. SIDGWICK & JACKSON announce "Swords and Ploughshares," a new volume of poems by Mr. John Drinkwater; "Alpha and Omega," a volume of essays and studies by Miss Jane Harrison, Classical Lecturer at Newnham College, Cambridge; "The Invisible Event," a new novel by Mr. J. D. Beresford, author of "The House in Demetrius Road"; "Great Schools of Painting," by Miss Winifred Turner, with many illustrations.

MR. T. FISHER UNWIN will publish next week "The Endless Quest," a new novel by Mr. Mark Somers, author of "The Bridge"; also a popular two-shilling edition of Miss Ethel M. Dell's novel, "The Knave of Diamonds."

Correspondence.

"THE DRAMATIST; OR, MEMOIRS OF THE STAGE."

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

SIR,—I am unable to assist Mr. Cecil Clarke in his search for the third volume of "Rebecca," but he may be interested in knowing that there is an earlier edition of "The Dramatist" than that named by him. It has, however, a different title, which reads as follows: "Memoirs of an Actress, comprising a faithful narrative of her theatrical career from 1798 to the present period, giving a lively picture of the stage in general, and interspersed with a variety of anecdotes, humorous and pathetic. By Ann Catharine Holbrook, late of the New Theatre Royal, Manchester. Manchester: Printed by J. Harrop, 1807."

This is a longish title for a shilling pamphlet of thirty-five pages. The author speaks of it as being the first effort of her pen.

C. W. SUTTON.

Reference Library, Manchester.

Obituary.

Spicer.—February 22nd. At his residence, North Park, Eltham, aged 70, Mr. James Spicer, head of the well known firm of Messrs. James Spicer & Sons, Ltd., wholesale stationers, 50, Upper Thames Street, E.C.

Noble.—February 1st. At St. Margaret's-on-Thames, aged 37, Mr. Edwin George Noble, for some time town traveller for Messrs. John F. Shaw & Co., Ltd. Mr. Noble, who was a native of Somerset, joined the force of special constables at St. Margaret's, and in the execution of his duties contracted pneumonia, which proved fatal. He leaves a wife and three children who are practically unprovided for, and it is hoped that something may be done for their assistance.

Notices of Books.

The Constitutional History and Law of New Zealand. By J. Hight, Litt.D., and H. D. Bamford, LL.D. (Whitcombe & Tombs.)—It is very satisfactory that a careful, comprehensive and scientific work on the constitutional history of the Dominion of New Zealand should have been written by New Zealand writers and produced by a firm of New Zealand publishers. The facts that the colony has already reached a position in which the need of such a book is felt, and that it has been supplied within the confines of New Zealand itself, afford ground for hearty congratulation. The authors briefly indicate as their aim in writing "to give a simple account of the origin and development of the chief institutions of government in the Dominion." The special mark of the work is that particular attention has been paid to the origin and early history of the colony. As the writers rightly point out, these ancient matters are but little known by the citizens of to-day, and a knowledge of them is needed for the proper understanding of present day problems, while they afford valuable illustrations of the general principles of British political evolution. From this point alone the work is of great value. The first part of the book gives a clear and lucid account of the history of the colony from its discovery and the first beginnings of its organised colonisation down to recent times. The second part provides an excellent and indeed an authoritative description of the various parts of the government and constitution under which the administration of the colony is now carried on. The authors rightly point out that the essential feature of the present constitution is the full recognition of the principle that responsible colonies must be responsible for their own government. They draw special attention to the fact that this principle when once recognised spread rapidly since 1840. In twenty years' time five American and six Australasian colonies were self-governing. In 1872 Cape Colony, in 1890 Natal and West Australia, and in 1906 and 1907 the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony all achieved their administrative autonomy. An important factor towards this result has certainly been the extension within the empire of the federal system, and though it is at present impossible to say when it will be accomplished, all the signs indicate that some form of closer union, whether Imperial Federation or Britannic Alliance, is inevitable, and that the still somewhat serious difficulties will have somehow or other to be overcome. As an example of the British manner in contrast with German methods of successful colonial government, this effective and informing account of New Zealand and its constitution may be heartily welcomed; and will be indispensable for the serious student of New Zealand history.

The Full Price. By Lady Charnwood.

They Who Question. (Smith, Elder, & Co.)

If Lady Charnwood's novel is, as we believe, the first she has written, she may be heartily congratulated on her success, for she has proved that she possesses in a very considerable degree the art of making her readers realise effectively the conditions and atmosphere of the society to whom she introduces them. She further gives ample evidence that she can conceive and portray the persons in her story with ease and naturalness, and she at once interests her readers in them and in the part they have to play. Lord Shelford, with his love for the much younger Margaret, is vividly portrayed, and while we can quite understand that Margaret herself would care more for Roger Bamfield than for the great position Lord Shelford could give her, the skill with which Lady Charnwood makes Margaret reach her final decision is one of the chief merits of the book. To make such a decision was not easy, and the whole

situation has been most successfully worked out. The scene in which Lady Victoria gives her advice, and emphasises it by her own personal experience, is particularly good. It is perhaps a pity that Lord Shelford himself is taken from the scene before Margaret's final decision is reached, but in matters of this kind the story-teller is no doubt quite entitled to tell her story as she thinks best. In any case, Lady Charnwood's tale is sure to be widely read, not only on account of the particular love story of the heroine, but also for its vivid and graphic characterisation of those who move so pleasantly through its attractive pages. The second story, which is, we are told, from the pen of a well-known writer, who prefers to remain anonymous, is intended to illustrate "the contrasted modes in which different members of the same family—orthodox or unorthodox in their religious views—meet their share of what the world calls unmerited suffering." It may, therefore, be fairly included in the category of novels with a purpose—with the further handicap that the purpose is to some extent at least religious. It is perhaps our own fault, but we do not altogether follow the author's intention. The opening scene, when the little girl asks the always unanswered question why does God allow evil and cruelty in the world, in some degree sets the keynote of the story, but the arguments and reasonings which make up a considerable part of the book are, to our thinking, rather inconclusive; while the sermon of the Dean at the end, while excellent as a sermon, seems rather out of place in a novel which is presumably intended to entertain as well as to instruct.

Essays of Joseph Addison. Chosen and edited with a Preface and a few notes. By Sir James George Frazer. Two volumes. (Macmillan & Co.)—Addison's *Essays in the Spectator* have been perennially popular ever since their first appearance, and have been presented to the English public in many forms and many editions. We may doubt, however, whether any has been as attractive and satisfactory as the two volumes which have now been added to the delightful "Eversley" series, which is so well known to all book-lovers. Sir James Frazer, in the pleasant preface he prefixes to the *Essays*, tells us that he personally paid a visit to "the old knight's pleasant seat in Worcestershire, where the *Spectator* passed the month of July with him in rural retirement more than two hundred years ago." Sir James had come to the conclusion that certain of the papers of the *Spectator* Club had been preserved at Coverley Hall, and the present owner of the hall asked him to come and inspect them, unfortunately under the condition that he was not to make public where in the county Coverley is situated, for one would like to know where so interesting a place can be found. In the preface Sir James gives a most attractive account of the hall and of Sir Roger's various haunts, so that the preface makes one of the chief attractions of the present edition.

Britain as Germany's Vassal. By General Friedrich von Bernhardi. Translated by J. Ellis Barker. (W. Dawson & Sons.)—The present work, the translator tells us in his preface, was published a year after the appearance of the author's work "Germany and the Next War," and is, perhaps, the more important of the two. It was originally published at a popular price and so obtained a far larger circulation. Bernhardi here describes England as a decadent nation and as Germany's principal enemy, and argues that she must be made subservient to Germany. She would be compelled to give up her naval supremacy, abandon her allies, and allow Germany to dominate the world. It is notable that both as regards diplomatic and military policy Germany has carried out in the present war every one of Bernhardi's recommendations contained in the present volume.

Publications of the Week.

Religion and Theology.

- DANGIN (Paul Thureau-) The English Catholic Revival in the 19th Century. Revised and re-edited from a translation by the late Wilfred Wilberforce. 2 vols. 8vo, pp. 532, 658. *Simpkin* net 31/6
- DRAWBRIDGE (C. L.) The War and Religious Ideals. Cr. 8vo, pp. 168. *Longmans* swd., net 1/; 1/6
- HOUSEHOLD Prayers for Morning Family Use. Arranged by C. S. Cr. 8vo. *E. Stock* net 2/
- MCINTYRE (John E.) The Christian's Perplexity: Christ and the War. 8vo, swd. *Headley* 2d
- MCMAHON (E. D.) Christian Missions in Madagascar. With Preface by the Bishop of Madagascar. 12mo, pp. 179. *S.P.G.* net 2/
- MAUD (John P., Bishop) Our Comradeship with the Blessed Dead. 16mo, pp. 96. *Longmans* swd., net 1/; net 2/
- MOORE (Rev. H.) In Peace and War in Japan. 12mo, pp. 152. *S.P.G.* net 2/
- RAMSAY (Sir W. M.) The Bearing of Recent Discovery on the Trustworthiness of the New Testament. 8vo, pp. 442. *Hodder & S.* net 12/
- RANDOLPH (Joseph F.) The Law of Faith. Cr. 8vo. *Putnams* net 6/
- ROBINSON (F. Douglas) Driven by the Spirit. A Manual for Lent. 6th ed. 12mo, pp. 256. *Gardner, Darton* net 1/6
- "SO Fight I." A Soldier's Daily Thoughts. 32mo, pp. 36. *Bagster* swd., net 3d. 6d
- STONE (James S.) The Preparation for the Passion. A Study of the Incarnation and Virgin Birth of Our Lord and of His Life from Bethlehem to Cana of Galilee. Cr. 8vo, pp. 452. *Longmans* net 6/
- TOMLIN (Rev. J. W. S.) Australia's Greatest Need. 12mo, pp. 346. *S.P.G.* net 2/
- WOODS (Edward S.) "On Service." 8vo, swd. *Headley* 3d

Albums, Booklets and Calendars.

- PAGEANT of the 13th Century for the 700th Anniversary of Roger Bacon (A) Given by Columbia University. Royal 8vo. *H. Milford* ... net 2/6; limited ed., net 10/6

Annuals and Serials.

- BELGIUM the Glorious: Her Country and Her People. Part 1. With photogravure plate. 4to. *Hutchinson* net 7d
- BRADSHAW'S Railway Manual, Shareholders' Guide and Directory, 1915. Cr. 8vo. *H. Blacklock* 12/
- BRITISH Imperial Calendar (The), 1915, and Civil Service List, 1915. Cr. 8vo. *Warrington* 6/
- COTTON Year Book (The), 1915. 16mo, leather. "*Textile Mercury*" net 2/6
- HEATON'S Annual. The Commercial Handbook of Canada and Board of Trade Register, 1915. Edited by E. Heaton and others. 12mo, pp. 442. *Simpkin, Marshall* 5/
- "KIYAKI." A Monthly Magazine and Cabled News Sheet for the Over-sea Soldier Bringing Him as a Gift News from Home. 4to. *Office* net 6d
- SARUM Almanack and Diocesan Calendar (The), 1915. Cr. 8vo, swd. *Simpkin* net 1/
- SCHOOL World (The) Vol. 16. 4to. *Macmillan*, net 7/6
- STOCK Exchange Handbook (The), 1915. 12mo. *Spottiswoode* 1/
- WOMAN At Home (The) Vol. 11. New series. Aug., 1914-Jan., 1915. Royal 8vo. *Newnes* net 5/

Archaeology.

- LEACH (A. F.) The Schools of Medieval England. Illustrated. (The Antiquary's Books.) 8vo, pp. 366. *Methuen* net 7/6

Art and Architecture.

- BRITISH School at Rome. Papers. Vol. 7. 4to, bds. *Macmillan* net 21/
- PROUT (Samuel) Sketches in France, Belgium, Germany, Italy, and Switzerland. ("Studio" Special Winter No.) Folio. *Office* swd., net 5/; 7/6

Biography and History.

- BANCROFT (Hubert Howe) History of Mexico, being a Popular History of the Mexican People from the Earliest Primitive Civilization to the Present Time. Maps and illustrations. Cr. 8vo, pp. viii.—580. *Bancroft & Co.* 10/

- BULLOCH (J. M.) The Making of the West Indies. The Gordons as Colonists. 8vo, swd. *W. F. Johnston*.
- BURY (G. Wyman) Arabia Infelix; or, The Turks in Yamen. Illustrated. 8vo, pp. 224. *Macmillan*, net 7/6
- COLLIER (Edward A.) A History of Old Kinderhook. 8vo. *Putnams* net 21/
- GRAHAM (R. B. Cunninghame) Bernal Diaz del Castillo. Being some Account of Him, taken from his True History of the Conquest of New Spain. 8vo, pp. 264. *Nash* net 7/6
- LYONS (A. Neil) Robert Blatchford; The Sketch of a Personality: An Estimate of Some Achievements. Cr. 8vo, pp. 198, bds. *Clurion Press* net 1/6
- MORRIS (H. N.) Flaxman, Blake, Coleridge, and Other Men of Genius Influenced by Swedenborg. Cr. 8vo, pp. 166. *New Church Press* 2/6
- PRIVATE Papers of George, Second Earl Spencer, First Lord of the Admiralty, 1794-1801. Edited by J. S. Corbett. Vol. 2. 8vo, pp. 518. *Printed for the Navy Records Society*.
- SAINT-SIMON (Duke de) Memoirs: An abridged translation, with Notes by Francis Arkwright. In 6 vols. Vols. 1 and 2. 8vo. *S. Paul* net 21/

Botany, Horticulture and Agriculture.

- CHAPMAN (H. H.) Forest Valuation. *Chapman & Hall* net 3/6
- GARDEN (The) Vol. 78. Folio. *Newnes* net 5/
- HORWOOD (A. R.) Practical Field Botany. 12mo, pp. 193. (Scientific Text Books.) *Griffin* net 5/
- HORWOOD (A. R.) The Story of Plant Life in the British Isles: Types of the Natural Orders. With introduction, &c. Vol. 3. Cr. 8vo, pp. 530. *Churchill* net 6/6
- JOURNAL of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent. Cr. 8vo, pp. 561. *Headley* 7/6
- PROCEEDINGS of the Third International Congress of Tropical Agriculture. Held at the Imperial Institute, S.W., June 23-30, 1914. Edited by the Hon. Sec. 8vo, pp. 407. *Bale* net 10/
- TANSLEY (A. G.) International Phytogeographic Excursion (I.P.E.) in America, 1913. Royal 8vo, pp. 52. *W. Wesley* net 2/
- TROPICAL Agriculture. Proceedings of the Third International Congress, June 23rd to 30th, 1914. 8vo, swd. *Bale* net 10/

Chemistry and Physics.

- BRAGG (W. H. and W. L.) X-Rays and Crystal Structure. 8vo, pp. 238. *Bell* net 7/6
- FINDLAY (Alex.) Practical Chemistry. 3rd ed., enlarged. Cr. 8vo, pp. 344. *Longmans* net 4/6
- PARR (S. W.) and Hadley (W. F.) The Analysis of Coal with Phenol as a Solvent. (University of Illinois Bulletin.) 8vo, swd. *Chapman & Hall* net 1/3
- SMITH (J. Cruickshank) The Manufacture of Paint. 2nd revised and enlarged ed. Illustrated. 8vo, pp. 286. *Scott, Greenwood* net 10/6
- TINKLER (C. K.) and Challenger (F.) The Chemistry of Petroleum and its Substitutes. A Practical Handbook. 8vo, pp. 368. *C. Lockwood* net 10/6

Children's Books and Minor Fiction.

- BIG Soldier Book (The) Designed by Stanley L. Wood. Folio, bds. *Dean* 1/
- MORGAN (M. W.) and Doggett (H. R.) Stories of a Dream-Baby. 12mo, pp. 58. *Baker* (Clifton).
- PASLEY (L.) Diversities of Gifts and Other Stories and Readings for Mothers' Meetings. Cr. 8vo, pp. 92. *Murray & Eviden* net 1/
- PHILLIPS (Lydia) The Children of Brookfield Hall. New ed. Cr. 8vo, pp. 224. *R.T.S.* 1/
- STABLES (Gordon) From Slum to Quarter-Deck. New ed. Cr. 8vo, pp. 374. *R.T.S.* 2/

Classics and Translations.

- BRYANT (E. E.) and Lake (E. D. C.) Greek Exercises. Cr. 8vo, pp. 93. *H. Milford* 2/
- TACITUS: Histories. An English translation. With Introduction, Frontispiece, Notes, Maps, and Index by George Gilbert Ramsay. 8vo, pp. 540. *J. Murray* net 15/

Domestic Economy.

- MITCHELL (F. W. D.) A Key to Health and Long Life. Cr. 8vo, pp. 164. *C. W. Daniel* net 3/6
- SENN (C. Herman) Cookery for Invalids and the Convalescent. 6th ed. Cr. 8vo, pp. 120. *Simpkin*, net 1/6

Educational.

- BARNARD (H. Clive) Asia in Pictures. 4to, pp. 64. *Black* 1/6
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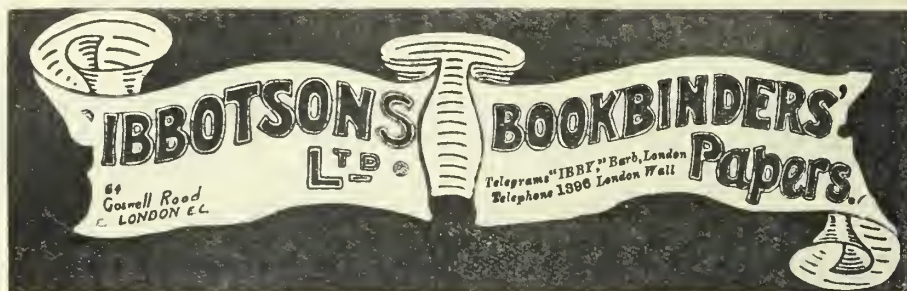
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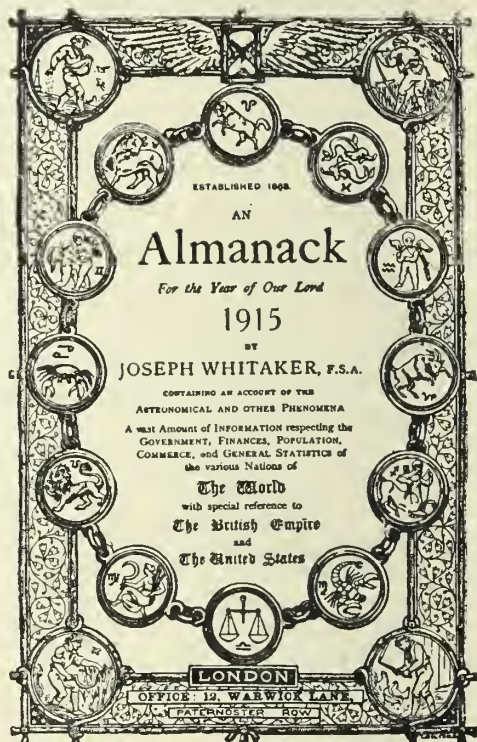


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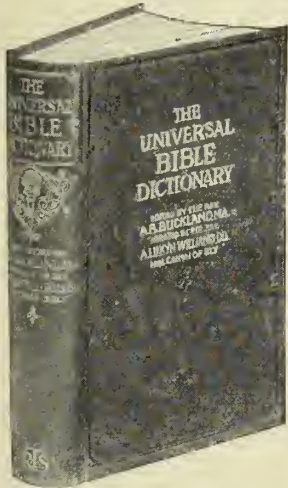
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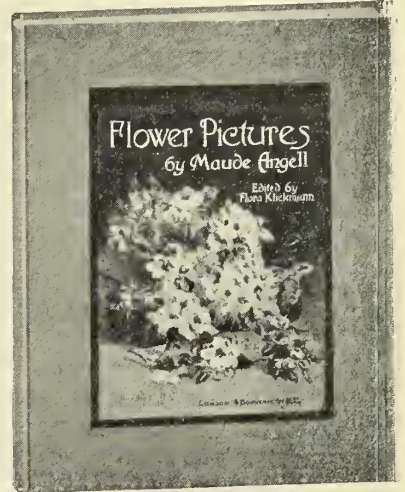
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Knight's Manufacturing Company, Ltd., The Complete Press, have removed their head office from Fleet Street to their works at Knight's Hill, West Norwood, to which address it is requested that all communications should now be sent.

Mr. Percy Howard Barringer, of Messrs. John Walker & Co., Ltd., 5, Warwick Lane, was admitted to the Freedom and Livery of the Stationers' Company on March 3rd, 1915.

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The Late Mr. Bertram Dobell, bookseller, publisher, and author, of Charing Cross Road, left estate valued at £9,045.

Messrs. John Long, Ltd., announce that "The Life of His Majesty, Albert, King of the Belgians," by John de Courcy MacDonnell, is at present in the hands of His Majesty at the front, who is himself reading and revising the proofs. In order to give effect to King Albert's valuable suggestions in the first edition, the date of publication has been postponed until March 9th or 16th. That the work may appeal to the widest public it will be issued at 1s. net, cloth bound, with illustrations.

Manchester and District Booksellers' and Stationers' Association.—At the last committee meeting the secretary reported the sum realised from the recent whist drive, and it was decided to make the amount into £5 and forward same to the Lord Mayor of Manchester's Local Relief Fund. The Annual Meeting was fixed for Friday, March 19th, when a record attendance is especially desired. Due notice to members will be given by circular, but every one should keep the evening free so that the policy, &c., of the Association during the ensuing months may be clearly defined by a majority of its members. There will, as usual, be a smoking concert.

"Every Man's Own Lawyer," that well known annual reference book on English law, appears once more in its fifty-second edition, and once more claims the favourable reception it has so long enjoyed. The book has required considerable revision, particularly as regards the new Finance Act and the new Bankruptcy Acts, while the new "British Nationality and Status of Aliens Act" has, owing to its obvious importance just now, received very special attention. The emergency legislation necessitated by the war is a new section of considerable importance, while the subjects of Army billeting and impressment, together with the legal position of the Special Constable, have been treated with adequate fulness. Many minor revisions have been made, and the book as a whole fully maintains the high reputation as a legal oracle it has enjoyed for over half a century.

The Gresham Publishing Company have in course of publication a really important history of the war entitled "The Great World War." The editor is Mr. Frank Mumby, Mr. Ernest A. Vizetelly deals with the operations on land, Mr. David Hannay with the work of the fleets, and Messrs. Grahame-White and Harry Harper with the war in the air. It is well supplied with illustrations, maps, and plans, and it will be found particularly useful for parents and teachers to explain the various operations of the war to children and younger readers. It is published in twelve serial parts, of which the first two have already appeared. It has been planned and executed with much care and judgment, and should take a prominent and permanent place among the many histories of the war now before the reading public. The work will extend to four volumes.

Messrs. Methuen & Co. have added to their many volumes of autobiography "My Life," by Sir Hiram Maxim, the record of an extremely strenuous and busy life, with many illustrations; they have also published a new novel by Mr. Joseph Keating entitled "Tipperary Tommy"; "Poems," by M. Maeterlinck; and "Dr. Fu-Manchu," an exciting story of sinister London, by Mr. Sax Rohmer, a new volume in their Two Shilling Library.

Messrs. Gay & Hancock will publish early in April, in their popular shilling series, a new volume of poems by Ella Wheeler Wilcox, including "Greater Britain," "Neutral," "Knitting," "The Peace Angel," "To the Women of Australia," &c., &c. A first edition of ten thousand copies will be printed.

"The Publishers' Weekly," of New York, notes with satisfaction that the Committee on the Maintenance of Resale Prices of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America, an organisation which is, we are told, thoroughly representative of the business interests of the country, has officially endorsed the movement for fixed prices—a decision which can hardly fail to exercise a very notable influence on this fight for net prices in the book trade of America, which has lately had something of a set-back owing to the decisions of the courts in the United States. That the campaign in America is still being carried on is evidenced by the recent resolutions of the Board of Trade of the American Booksellers' Association asking for the endorsement of the net price campaign. Here in England the battle for the net price system has practically been won, and English booksellers and publishers will watch with interest the continued endeavour of the American book trade to attain the solution of the problems for which they are putting up so strenuous a fight.

Mrs. Barclay's recent war story, "My Heart's Right There," is proving very successful, and is finding a large sale on both sides of the Atlantic. The publishers, Messrs. Putnams, have nearly ready three new novels, "On the Fighting Line," by Constance Smedley; "Patricia," a new book by Miss Edith Henrietta Fowler, author of "The World and Winstow"; and "The Jester," by Leslie Moore, a mediæval romance. "The Evidence in the Case in the Supreme Court of Civilisation as to the Moral Responsibility for the War," by James M. Beck, late Assistant Attorney-General of the United States, provides an analysis of the evidence presented in the official papers, British, German, Russian, and Belgian, in regard to the causation of the war. It has been very well received, and four large impressions have already been demanded.

Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co. have just published an interesting and instructive brochure by Captain Haldane Macfall, entitled "Battle," showing how battles are fought and the why and the wherefore. Captain Macfall has already made some reputation as an effective writer, and in this little book he describes in clear and helpful fashion all about Units, Battalions, Brigades and Army Corps, and similar matters. For the young recruit it should prove exceedingly helpful.

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. have ready a second impression of Lord Cromer's recent book, "Abbas II., ex-Khedive of Egypt"; they will also shortly publish the sixth and concluding volume of the illustrated edition of Macaulay's "History of England," edited by Professor C. H. Firth, the previous volumes of which we have commended very heartily.

Messrs. C. Arthur Pearson have published two useful war books, "Things to Know About the War," in which many of the usual questions asked are answered, and "War Time Tips for Soldiers and Civilians," which will be found equally helpful. To their popular sixpenny novels they have recently added books by C. J. Cutcliffe Hyne, Robert Hichens, H. de Vere Stacpoole, W. Le Queux, E. W. Hornung, E. F. Benson, Silas K. Hocking, and many others.

Mr. Eric Leadbitter's first novel, "Rain Before Seven," has reached a second impression within a month of publication. Mr. Leadbitter, who is only 23 years of age, is in the Public Trustee's office.

The Bancroft Company, of New York, send us "The History of Mexico, being a popular History of the Mexican people from the earliest primitive civilisation to the present time," by Hubert Howe Bancroft. It will be remembered that Mr. Bancroft has for many years enjoyed an established reputation as one of the leading historians of America. The present work, we are told, was written and printed, in part, in 1887, under the title of "A Popular History of the Mexican People," but it is now issued with the results of the careful researches and investigations made by the author since that time. It now presents a complete history of this region in all its parts, set forth in sufficient detail to meet the requirements of the scholar as well as of the general reader. As to the earlier questions involved, no new facts not here presented, the author tells us, have come to light since he first began to study the subject some sixty years ago. The exposition of the primitive conditions of the Nahua nations, the migrations of the Aztecs, and the conquest by Cortez is throughout most illuminating and instructive, while Mr. Bancroft deals in his own thorough and characteristic fashion with the wars and anarchic conditions of the country in recent years. He wisely refuses to prophesy as to the ultimate fate of the peons and mixed races in the country, merely remarking that time will determine whether it will be better "to lift them up as Porfirio Diaz would do, or to kill them off as Huerta and Villa and Zapata have done, and as a dozen others will do, foreign intervention assisting."

"The London Diocese Book for 1915" has lately been issued by the S.P.C.K., and contains all the usual official information and statistics of the London diocese. The Editors in the Preface call special attention to the particulars given of the new Board of Finance, and note that the Bishop has appointed a Board for Women's Work corresponding to the Lay Readers' Board. During the year six parish churches have been consecrated, which have cost about £100,000.

Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton has just published "The Invasion of England," by Howard D'Egville, a reprint of some articles on the subject which have appeared in the *Standard*. Lord Sydenham, of Combe, contributes a commendatory Introduction, in which he points out "that the retention in England of forces sufficiently trained to be placed in line with our gallant Allies and actually needed at the front would not be justified in the present naval situation."

Mr. James Oliver Curwood, author of that successful book "Kazan, The Wolf Dog," has a new volume entitled "God's Country—and the Woman," coming out shortly with Messrs. Cassell. As before, Mr. Curwood places his *locale* in the great North-West, where this author usually spends three to six months of each year "toughening up" and getting new material for his novels. The new story is founded on fact—and written round a living character who is known as the Florence Nightingale of the North-West.

BELGIAN BOOK TRADE RELIEF FUND.

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TENTH LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	1,215	14	6
L. D. C.	1	1	0
Staff of the Methodist Publishing House, London	7	7	0
	£1,224	2	6

Copy of letter from

The Methodist Publishing House,
25-35, City Road,
London, E.C.

26th February, 1915.

DEAR SIR,

I have much pleasure, on behalf of the Board of Management and Staff of this house, in handing to you a cheque for £7 7s. od. towards the Fund being raised for the ruined booksellers and assistants of Northern France and Belgium.

You may be interested to know that the amount sent is that usually expended on the annual tea to the staff, which they unanimously requested this year to be handed to the Relief Fund.

Believe me,

Yours faithfully,

(REVD.) J. ALFRED SHARP.

[We are very glad to print the above letter, and congratulate the Staff of the Methodist Publishing House on their public spirit. We hope that their example may have the effect of inducing others to contribute in the same manner to this very deserving Fund. ED. BOOKSELLER.]

"The Library Journal," of New York, in its current issue, has a very interesting paper on "The Imperial Library of St. Petersburg," giving its history for the last hundred years since 1814 in succession to a previous article which told the story of its founding and its formal opening in that year. Just now all matters Russian have a special interest on both sides of the Atlantic, and English readers will find the information here given about the library well worth attention. The writer is Mr. Theodore W. Koch, the Librarian of the University of Michigan.

Mr. Arthur L. Humphreys has published as a shilling pamphlet, under the title of "The Heart of Belgium," the four articles on the condition of that country which have recently been communicated to the *Times* by a neutral observer. In this separate form their importance will no doubt find still further recognition. The story told by these vivid articles is one of tragic and effective interest.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—At the risk of laying myself open to a charge of undue frivolity, I am tempted to suggest that the dominant lines of the popular song which is just now superseding "Tipperary" in the affections of our men in khaki would make no bad motto for this Spring Announcement Number of THE BOOKSELLER. Recalling the doleful vaticinations of the croakers who were warning us, last autumn, to be prepared for the total paralysis of the book trade as long as the war lasted, we could hardly find a happier or more appropriate introduction to this collected evidence of the falsity of such cowardly forecasts than is supplied by the rollicking chorus—

"Here we are,
Here we are,
Here we are again!"

For I defy anyone to study the announcements of pending spring issues set forth on adjacent pages without being impressed and gratified by the proof they give of the undaunted enterprise of our publishers in these trying times, and of the truly British spirit in which they have "come up smiling," and evinced both the will and the ability to carry on, under conditions far more anxious and difficult than any by which they have ever before been confronted. Necessarily, the lists are not quite all that they might have been if this had been a normal year, and we had still been enjoying the blessings of peace. But, taking them as they stand, they are ample and varied enough to give promise of a "live" and interesting season, and to upset the calculations of those who predicted that, even at the best, books about the war would have a practical monopoly of the field. As one can see for oneself, the publishers have taken a wider—and, as I am sure the event will prove, a wiser—view of the present requirements of the reading public.

In order to realise how much cause we have to congratulate ourselves upon the amount of activity which these spring announcements foreshadow, it is only necessary to turn our attention to the capitals of our two greatest Allies, and to remind ourselves of the state of complete literary stagnation which, in the language of our old friend Euclid, is "common to both." You will not have forgotten what "K. Voltaire" was telling us in these columns a fortnight ago about the existing condition of affairs in Paris, where, as he assured us, not a single book unconnected with some aspect of the war has been issued during the last six months. In Petrograd, according to all accounts, the book-famine is even worse, for nothing readable of any kind, apart from newspapers, is being published, or is likely to be published, as long as the war lasts. It is, by the way, eminently characteristic of German *Kultur* that one of its triumphs should be the infliction of literary starvation upon the people of other countries. But, sincerely as we sympathise with our French and Russian friends in their passing adversity, we need not omit to draw from it the obvious moral that those in this country who are interested in the production and sale of books have, in the circumstances, a very great deal for which to be thankful. I can even imagine a bookseller or publisher of Paris or Petrograd studying these spring lists of ours with a wistful envy, and flinging down the paper with an ejaculation which would be the equivalent in his own language of "Lucky devils"! Surely, then, we ought to find cause for something else besides grumbling, even though the state of our own book-trade is still a long way from normal, and is likely to remain so until peace is restored.

An amusing and, in its way, rather instructive disquisition as to the best kind of books to read at the present time has been going on of late in the correspondence columns of the *Daily Mirror*. The opinions expressed have been curiously varied; for, while some have sternly called in question the patriotism of those who even find it possible to read any but war literature at the present juncture, others

have eagerly pronounced themselves in favour of books which afford temporary respite and relief from the obsession of this most terrible and most sanguinary of all wars. As usual, I suppose, the best course lies somewhere midway between the two extremes. One would hardly be impressed with the patriotic spirit, or even with the ordinary intelligence, of any person who systematically refused to read anything in volume form dealing with the world-shaking events through which we are passing. On the other hand, the cry for books that shall provide a means of temporary escape from the afflicting mental strain imposed by the war and its constant procession of horrors is a quite comprehensible and a perfectly reasonable one. The sensible reader, I take it, is he who is able to appreciate both kinds; and, as the spring lists bear witness, the choice among either variety is going to be a tolerably wide one during the next few months.

Not even the claims of the various relief funds which are doing such good work for sufferers from the war at home and abroad can justify the principle of practising benevolence by proxy. For that reason—as well as for another to which I shall come in a moment—I find myself in full sympathy with the writer of the letter signed "A Voice from Ireland," which is to be found on another page of this issue. He calls attention to the fact that the managers of schools in some places are adopting the very questionable expedient of suspending the grant of prizes to pupils who have earned them, and devoting the money thus saved to the various relief funds, on the plea that by this means the pupils are taught the lesson of self-sacrifice. But a "self-sacrifice" that is compulsory is surely the most transparent of shams; and since it does not appear that the pupils are given any voice or choice in the matter, we have the not very agreeable spectacle of the school managers purchasing philanthropic credit for themselves and *kudos* for their schools at the expense of their involuntarily penalised scholars. Apart from that, such action is quite wrong in principle because it involves "robbing Peter to pay Paul"—by which I mean that it can only assist the relief funds by damaging the interests of a large body of wage-earners engaged in the book-trade, and so tending to add to the distress resulting from the war. Necessary as it is that the various war funds should be generously supported, it is not a whit less necessary that business should be maintained, so far as possible, "as usual" during these critical times; and it is both useless and stupid to seek to promote one of these objects by injuring the other.

One observes with pleasure that the enterprising firm of Dent has no intention of letting any "hard times" interfere with the issue of the popular "Everyman's Library," a new batch of which is announced for this month. I see that—possibly as a concession to the prevailing war-spirit—it is to include the famous "De Bello Gallico" and other Commentaries of Julius Caesar, who, in addition to being a great general, was also a great war-correspondent born before his time. His opinion of the modern War Lord's methods would be distinctly interesting. Perhaps the "spiritualists" could oblige.

Deeply to be regretted is the loss that the English book-world has sustained by the death of Mr. Frank T. Bullen, who has closed his adventurous career at the comparatively early age of fifty-eight. The compelling charm of his sea-stories lay in their wonderful vividness and "actuality"; the very spray of the clement he loved seemed to pervade his fascinating pages. It will be long, we may be sure, before his most characteristic books cease to find eager readers.

A correspondent of a morning paper, yearning to escape from the topics of the time, has desperately declared that "a good novel about Noah is the thing we all most want." Noah, no doubt, has his possibilities for the sensational novelist; but I fear that, in view of our recent weather, the story of the Ark would be only too painfully charged with topical suggestion.

March 5.

JACOB OMNIUM.

Messrs. T. Nelson & Sons have added to their Sevenpenny Copyright Novels Mr. A. Courlander's interesting story of journalism, "Mightier than the Sword," and to the Collection Nelson "Le Petit Jacques," par Jules Claretie de l'Académie Française.

Messrs. G. G. Harrap & Co. have issued "Why the Nations are at War," by Charles Morris and Lawrence H. Dawson. Mr. Eden Phillpotts contributes a concluding chapter, and the book is illustrated with 33 war pictures, mostly from photographs taken in the war areas.

The Cambridge University Press has issued a pamphlet entitled, "Belgium in War: A Record of Personal Experiences," by J. H. Whitehouse, M.P., in which he relates the story of his experiences in Belgium in the autumn of last year before and after the fall of Antwerp. In a brief Introduction Mr. Lloyd George describes it as "a record which enables the reader to realise in part what the war has meant for Belgium, for her children and women and old people as well as for her soldiers."

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. J. W. ARROWSMITH, LTD., will issue early in March "Canada and the War," by Walter Haydon, showing the part Canada is taking in the present war.

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co. will issue immediately "Chinese Pottery and Porcelain," an account of the Potter's Art in China from Primitive Times to the Present, by Mr. R. L. Hobson, B.A., of the British Museum, author of the "Catalogue of English Pottery"; "The Day of Judgment," a new novel by Mr. Joseph Hocking; "Through Central Africa from East to West," by Cherry Kearton and James Barnes, an account of a 17,000 mile tramp from one side of Africa to the other, with 160 unique illustrations from Mr. Kearton's photographs; "The Conquering Jew," by Mr. John Foster Fraser; "Modern Horse Management," by Lieut. R. S. Timmer, of the Royal Canadian Dragoons.

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS will publish immediately a book by General Joffre describing an important expedition undertaken by him some while ago in North-West Africa. It is, up to the present, the General's sole contribution to literature, and is entitled "My March to Timbuctoo," and it is accompanied by military maps, and a very interesting biographical Introduction by Ernest Dimnet, author of "France Herself Again."

MESSRS. HARPER & BROS. are just publishing: "Moonglade," by the author of "The Martyrdom of an Empress," with frontispiece; "The American Girl," by Anne Morgan, with frontispiece.

MR. HERBERT JENKINS will publish presently "Every Woman's Flower Garden," by Mary Hampden, with designs and five colour plates.

T. WERNER LAURIE, LTD., are publishing immediately "Round the World in Strange Company," by Nicholas Everitt, F.Z.S., author of "Shots from a Lawyer's Gun," fully illustrated; also a shilling edition of "Tantalus," a novel by the author of "John Johns."

MR. ERSKINE MACDONALD will publish this month "Over the Edge," a new novel by Mrs. Clement Parsons, author of "Sir Julian the Apostate"; "The Flagship," a new volume of poems by Trevor Blaxmore; a new novel by Edward Scott, author of "The Marvellous Experience of John Rydal."

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. will publish shortly "The Sword of Youth," a new novel by James Lane Allen, author of "The Choir Invisible"; also the third

volume, dealing with the Muscular and Nervous Systems, of "Human Physiology," by Professor Luigi Lueiani, translated by Miss Frances A. Welby.

MR. ANDREW MELROSE will issue immediately "Miss Bryde of England," a new novel by a new writer, Alice Rosman, a young Australian now in London.

MESSRS. MILLS & BOON will publish shortly a light-hearted and humorous novel by Lady Bell, entitled "The Good Ship Brompton Castle."

MESSRS. RIVINGTON will shortly publish the fourth and concluding volume of "A History of England and the British Empire," by Arthur D. Innes. The period treated extends from 1802 to 1914, and concludes at the point where war is declared in August last. The volume has several plain and coloured maps.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & Co. will publish shortly Miss Katharine Tynan's new novel, "The House of the Foxes," the story of modern love in an ancient Irish castle; "The System of National Finance," by Mr. E. Hilton Young, M.P., a primer of the system on which the financial business of the nation is conducted at the present time; "Lombard Street," by Walter Bagehot, a new edition with Notes by Mr. A. W. Wright, of the *Economist*, and an Introduction by Mr. Hartley Withers.

THE UNIVERSITY TUTORIAL PRESS will shortly publish "Macaulay: Horatius, Lake Regillus and Armada," edited by A. J. F. Collins, M.A.; "Dickens: Tale of Two Cities," edited by A. R. Weekes, M.A.

Correspondence.

REWARD BOOKS. RELIEF FUNDS.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

SIR,—The question which the heading of this letter raises applies very seriously to many industries in Ireland, Scotland, and England, and is worthy of considerable thought, as it applies all round to the question of diverting, at present personal buying, by those who can well afford to spend as usual, and also to support liberally relief funds.

Many schools have adopted—or are adopting—the plan of subscribing to different relief funds by handing over the money usually spent upon prizes for the most industrious pupils, the idea being that those connected with the school are thereby taught the lesson of self-sacrifice.

There are quite a number of points open to argument here. Only to mention two or three:—

How far have the children freedom of action in the giving?

If the scheme is put point-blank to the prize-winners before probably the entire school, has the individual scholar really any choice?

Is it quite fair that the school as a whole should get credit for generosity, credit purchased by penalising the most deserving and most industrious of the scholars?

Have the masters or those connected with the management or the pupils as a whole done their share?

Has the "giving" been quite equitable?

Then to just touch upon some of the possible results of such action. Consider whom it affects. Is it the individual bookseller only? Not by any means! Look beyond the distributor, who may or may not be able to weather the loss and to retain his full staff at full wages, and be mercifully prevented from falling upon relief funds. What of the women and men depending upon employment in the book binderies, the printing establishments, the publishers' warehouses, the thousands of clerks, packers, typists, travellers, &c., connected with such industries? I would ask those responsible for such movements to consider well their actions, and the possible pain and suffering which they may unwittingly bring about through very kindness of heart.

Was there not, indeed, the usual keen insight shown by Lord Kitchener when he requested those who could

not offer for actual service with the King's colours "to carry on as usual"? Does this mean to divert spending powers to relief funds, to divert the wage-earners' money to relief funds?

Who is it that is most vitally helping our Empire in what may easily prove to be a death struggle for the Empire? Is it not principally the wage-earners and sons of the wage-earners who fill the ranks? And at what cost? How many consider the drop represented in the weekly or monthly income to each household when father or sons go forth?

If advertisers would use their opportunities to secure the interest and influence of each newspaper or journal that they advertise in much might be done to avert unnecessary hardships and distress from those whom we are most anxious to spare from suffering.

A VOICE FROM IRELAND.

23rd February, 1915.

Obituary.

Bullen.—February 26. At Madeira, aged 58, Mr. Frank Thomas Bullen, the well-known writer of sea stories. We reprint from the *Daily Telegraph* the following interesting account of his career:—

Frank Bullen, born in Paddington, was the son of F. R. Bullen, of Crewkerne. Under a pious aunt his earliest years were spent, a good woman who taught him to love the Bible, which he is said to have read through twenty-five times; and in her little library he found "Paradise Lost," which he also read and re-read many a time. At nine years of age he fell into the clutches of another, and in place of the aunt's goodness there befell him "hunger, blows, and severe exhausting labour from six in the morning till eleven at night, and an atmosphere of vile language." To escape this treatment he became a street-arab, turning his hand to any job, and for a long time doing seventeen hours a day in a laundry. From this unspeakable wretchedness he escaped by shipping as cabin-boy on board an unseaworthy vessel of which his uncle was captain. By this uncle he received only unmerciful rope's-ending, which on one occasion nearly drove the crew, his "fo'castle friends," to mutiny. From this leaky hulk Bullen exchanged into a fine barque, the *Investigator*, which was totally wrecked on a voyage to Mexico. Then, getting back to London, he joined another ship, the *Brinkburn*, bound for Jamaica, and a second time his vessel became a total wreck. After various other voyages, mostly of a disheartening nature, Bullen found himself in New Zealand, and then, he says, "for the first time since my early childhood I found real, useful friends. What they did for me I can never tell. I can only say that I reached in Port Chalmers the parting of the ways, and for the first time in my life felt that perhaps there might be a future for me worth looking forward to." The turning point in Bullen's career, however, came when he joined the *Cachalot*, South Sea whaler. "That long, long voyage round the world was worth a university education to me—almost," he writes. Other seafaring adventures followed, but the *Cachalot* was Bullen's inspiration. At twenty-two he got married, and as soon as he could settled on shore, and secured a position in the Meteorological Office. At first the salary of £2 a week seemed a fortune, but as his family grew the thought occurred to him that he might increase his income by writing stories derived from his experiences. Some of these were accepted, and a real success was achieved by a paper sent to the *Cornhill Magazine* and accepted by its then editor, Mr. St. Loe Strachey. This suggested "The Cruise of the *Cachalot*." Bullen proceeded to write his notes, which he sent to Mr. Rudyard Kipling, with a request that

he would write a book from them. Mr. Kipling did something much better; he advised Bullen "to write the book himself." That book Bullen wrote, and received £100 for it. It was a success at once. Somehow this London street-arab, this poor, ill-used, half-starved lad, had the root of the matter within him. Somehow he had in life's university learned how to write, and his graphic, picturesque style had the merit of truth and nature. This book was followed by a whole library of volumes and periodical contributions of sea stories, among them being "Log of a Sea Wolf," "With Christ at Sea"—which, after "The Cruise," are, perhaps, his best works, and they were among the earliest—"Idyls of the Sea," "Men of the Merchant Service," "Deep Sea Plunderings," "A Whaleman's Wife," "Sea Puritans," "The Call of the Deep," "Heritage of the Sea," and many more. Thus it was that in 1908 Mr. Bullen was invited by the Prince and Princess of Wales (now the King and Queen) to stay at York Cottage and tell some of his stories to the Royal children. Four years later his name appeared on the Civil Pensions List, he having been awarded £100 a year in consideration of the literary merits of his writings. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle once stated that he and Mr. Bullen were the only two authors in London "who had pursued the profession of whaling." It is pleasant to add that Frank Thomas Bullen was not spoiled by success. Encouraged as he was by many of the leading authors of the day, he remained a simple, hearty sailor, keenly sensitive of the kindness that had been shown him and convinced that "the world is brimming over with good people." He leaves a widow and three daughters.

Dickie.—February 28th. At his residence, 2, St. Mary's Place, Great Western Road, Glasgow, aged 69, Mr. Robert Dickie, the Glasgow manager of Messrs. John Menzies & Co., and a director of the firm. He was born at Kincardine-on-Forth, and he began his business experience with the late Mr. Alexander Miller, bookseller, of Stirling. In 1863 he joined the staff of Messrs. John Menzies & Co. at their head office in Edinburgh. A few years later he left Edinburgh, and was with Messrs. Houlston & Co. in 1868 and 1869. Subsequently, when Messrs. Menzies & Co. opened their Glasgow branch in 1870, Mr. Dickie returned to Scotland as its manager, and ever since has been identified with its fortunes, and he has seen it develop from a small staff of three in one room to over 180 persons, and the extension and consolidation of the Glasgow business was largely due to his untiring energy, genial, courteous manner, and keen business ability. In 1906, when the firm became a limited company, Mr. Dickie was made a director with special charge of the Glasgow house and its numerous branches throughout the city. Mr. Dickie was closely connected with the Glasgow Stationers' Company, being for many years a director, and occupying the president's chair in 1893. He was a member of committee of the company and a strong advocate of the advantages to the news trade of Scotland of the Newsagents' Benevolent Institution, London, for assisting and granting pensions to the unfortunate members of the trade. In honour of his business jubilee, which was celebrated in March, 1907, Mr. Dickie entertained a few friends at dinner in the Junior Conservative Club, while he also gave a special entertainment to all the employees of the firm. The funeral, which took place on Wednesday in last week at the Glasgow Crematorium, was attended by one of the most representative gatherings of the trade seen for many years in Glasgow.

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The Man of Iron. By Richard Dehan. (W. Heinemann.)—That the successful writer who uses the *nom-de-plume* of Richard Dehan can tell a story and portray a character with vigour and effect we have already had ample evidence, and this latest story provides sufficient corroboration were confirmation needed. At the same time, we are inclined to think the present tale would have been more successful and effective if it had been considerably shortened. For unless under very exceptional circumstances a story that cannot be told in less than something over 800 pages makes too severe a call on the continued attention of the reader. It is also something of a drawback that though Bismarck is manifestly the hero of the tale he does not appear on the scene until it is about a quarter told. Indeed, the preliminary part of the story, while quite excellent, would in itself almost have provided material for a separate novel without appreciably lessening the interest of the major portion. The picture which is here drawn of the great German has certainly been drawn with much skill and care, and reproduces with life-like accuracy many of his most prominent characteristics. Whether he was really as great a talker as he is here shown is perhaps doubtful, but his talk is certainly not unworthy of his character and position. The history of the period, about 1870, in which the tale is placed is described at considerable length, and here again some curtailment of well-known facts and scenes would have been advantageous, though the contrast between the brutal effectiveness of the German with the corrupt decadence of the French nation under Napoleon III. is very clearly brought out. P. C. Breagh, round whom the story moves, is a very ingenious creation, and when rather early in the story he is found admiring his sister's friend in the convent school, the discerning reader feels fairly confident that before the tale ends the two will be married, and confidently expects the inevitable dénouement. The story, we are told, is to be read "merely as a work of fiction founded upon the rock of indisputable fact," and as to its main purport we are quite prepared to accept the statement. We should rather like to know, however, whether the incident where Bismarck is saved from death by the readiness of Juliette to extract from his throat the pin that he had nearly swallowed has any basis in fact. At any rate, her action in saving the life of her country's bitterest foe seems quite inexplicable—indeed, we should have said frankly impossible were not fiction writers particularly privileged in these matters. The story as it is, stands quite out of the rack of ordinary novels, but if its length had been halved its effectiveness would, we think, have been more than doubled.

Field Notes from the Russian Front. By Stanley Washburn. Illustrated by the Photographs of George H. Mewes. (Andrew Melrose, Ltd.)—The author, who is the Special War Correspondent of the *Times* and various leading newspapers in America with the Russian Armies, has put together these rough notes mainly from the letters which have already appeared in the papers he represents. He thinks, and we may say with good reason, that "these impressions gained at first hand of this army and of the operations of which so little is known, may be of interest and encouragement to the Allies and the sympathisers of the Allies in neutral countries" at a time when any good news from Russia must have more usefulness than finished literature published after the smoke has cleared away and the crisis is past. And that the news which Mr. Washburn has to tell is good is the main burden of his story. The keynote is set in the very first page, where we are told that there "has dawned in Russia a new era, and from the twilight of the ten years of chaos and uncertainty which followed the Japanese War there can now be traced the rising of a

great light in which the world shall see a New Russia revealed." Of this there are illustrations throughout the whole book. The picture of the Grand Duke Nicholas, Commander-in-Chief, and of his General Staff, is full of encouragement, particularly in the entire absence of any display or magnificence, and the all-pervading note of simplicity and efficiency. As regards the hospitals and the medical service, the same holds equally good, and the brief sketch of the Grand Duchess in charge of one of the hospitals, "who every day ministers in person to the wants of the wounded privates and officers alike, in the same way as her more humble sisters," is testimony to the same effect. As to the final end, Mr. Washburn tells us that "by April Russia will be in the best position she has been in since the war started, and as far as one can judge, will then be just prepared to put her maximum strength into the conflict, so that the end is now assured." All the several descriptions and pictures of the battlefields, the various scenes and incidents here set down, are told with graphic and realistic vigour, and the main salient features admirably brought out. As a book of mere impressions Mr. Washburn's notes are marvellously effective and informing, and the numerous illustrations which the camera of Mr. Mewes has contributed add a special value and helpfulness of their own.

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Meetings of Creditors.

Howell, Orice Alf., 71, Elderton Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, trading as C. Howell & Co., 9, Harp Lane, E.C. Printer and Stationer. At Bankruptcy Court. March 10.

Jackman, Alf. Butterworth, 60, Beeston Street, Harpurhey, and 15, Bank Buildings, Cannon Street, Manchester. Bookbinder. At Official Receiver's, Manchester. March 9.

Pizzey, Ernest Hy., residing at 26, Burton Road, Brondesbury, carrying on business under the style or firm of R. T. Ross & Co., at 61, Leather Lane, E.C. Printer, &c. At Bankruptcy Court. March 10.

Platt, Jno. Thos., 166, Highland Road, Eastney, Portsmouth. Stationer, &c. At Official Receiver's, Portsmouth. March 8.

Dividends.

Levy, D. W., 77, Montgomery Street, Edinburgh. Envelope Manufacturer. First at G. E. Dall's, 15, York Place, Edinburgh, on April 9.

Watkins, Edgar J., 34, Marsh Street, Bristol, and Bristol Road, Weston-super-Mare. Stationer and Printer. Claims by March 6 to Fred G. Tricks, 18, Nicholas Street, Bristol, F.A.A.

Winding up of Public Companies, &c.

Judd (H. K.) & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. S. W. Tubbs, 28, Basinghall Street, E.C., C.A., appointed Receiver. February 19.

Maxwell Publishing Co., Ltd., London, W.C. E. C. Finlason ceased to act as Receiver January 23.

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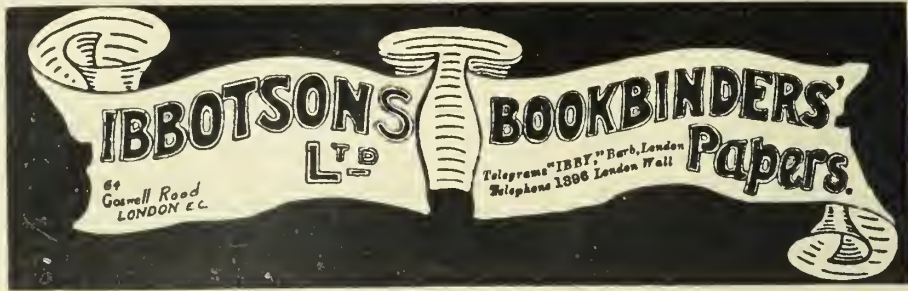
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Trade and Literary Gossip.

Booksellers' Provident Institution.—The usual Annual General Meeting was held at Stationers' Hall on Wednesday, when Mr. C. J. Longman presided over a good attendance of members and friends, and Sir Henry Newbolt gave the customary address. We hope to give a full account of the proceedings in our next issue.

For King and Country.—The following has been received since our last list:—

MESSRS. W. H. SMITH & SON (Twenty-eighth List).—Cooper, T. J., A.S.C.; Everitt, C., Essex; Dally, F., R.F.A.; Briars, H., 7th Middlesex; Young, G., R.F.A.; Kelsey, P., A.S.C.; Williams, W. H., A.S.C.; Giles C., Middlesex; Riches, R., 22nd County of London; Newland, R., 22nd County of London; Francis, P., A.S.C.

Messrs. Jack announce "German Culture," a book which should be of great interest at the present time. It will set forth from the point of view of various academic authorities the contribution which Germany has made to modern thought in its various departments. Professor W. P. Paterson, of Edinburgh University, edits the volume, and the contributors include Professor Richard Lodge, Mr. A. D. Lindsay, of Oxford, Professor J. Arthur Thomson, Professor D. H. Macgregor, of Leeds, Professor Baldwin Brown, of Edinburgh, and other eminent names.

Owing to the large demand for "Aircraft and the Great War," by C. Grahame-White and Harry Harper, a second impression is being printed before the publication of the book by Mr. T. Fisher Unwin.

M. Louis Hachette, the new President of the French Cercle de la librairie, de l'imprimerie, de la papeterie, du commerce de la musique et des estampes, when speaking at the recent annual meeting of the Cercle, referred in appreciative terms to the death of Mr. Edward Marston, an honorary member of the Cercle, and to the valuable help given to the booksellers of France in the war of 1870-71, when the English book trade collected 24,574 francs for the assistance of French booksellers in distress through the war. It was, he said, an evidence of the close bond of union between the French and English organisations of the book trade, and he felt sure that it was stronger and more complete to-day than ever.

Messrs. Cassell & Co. will publish next week "Reminiscences and Letters of Sir Robert Ball," edited by his son, W. Valentine Ball, who has interwoven the autobiographical material with letters written by and sent to his father so as to present a chronological record. The autobiographical sections, which abound with the characteristic "Ball" humour, deal with undergraduate days at Trinity College, Dublin, Social Life in Dublin, Parsonstown, the Dublin Zoo, Sir Robert and the Game of Golf, and the hundred and one interests to which the distinguished scientist abandoned himself.

Mr. Frank T. Bullen's reminiscences are to be issued next week by Messrs. Seeley; they will be entitled "Recollections." By a strange coincidence Mr. Bullen had only completed his revision of the proofs a few weeks before his death at Madeira on the 26th of last month.

The action for infringement of copyright of G. Philip & Son, Ltd., v. Carreras, Ltd., has been settled in the Court of Mr. Justice Eve. Mr. Maugham, K.C., who appeared for the plaintiffs, the well-known map makers, said that his clients, with the Associated Newspapers, Ltd., proprietors of the *Daily Mail*, brought an action against Carreras, Ltd., and Messrs. Frenkel, Ltd., to restrain them from infringing the copyright of the *Daily Mail* war map. The plaintiffs alleged that the defendants had copied the map in question mainly in connection with an advertisement for advertising a brand of their cigarettes. The defendants had agreed to submit to a perpetual injunction restraining them from printing or selling the *Daily Mail* map for the purpose of trade or any other purpose, and from otherwise disposing of any copies of the map, or from infringing the copyright of the plaintiffs in the map. There would also be an order for the delivery up and destruction of certain lithograph plates and stones and all copies of the maps printed in infringement of the copyright. In addition the defendants had agreed to pay a certain sum for damages and another sum for costs. Mr. Macgillivray, for the defendants, said his clients would submit to judgment as stated. He wished, however, to say that the managing director of Messrs. J. Frenkel, Ltd., had sworn in his affidavit that whatever use was made of the *Daily Mail* war map, it was made by employees of the company without his knowledge and consent. It was printed by Messrs. Frenkel, Ltd., for Carreras, Ltd., and as far as the latter firm was concerned they were entirely innocent of any infringement. His lordship assented to the settlement.

Geographia, Ltd., are issuing a "Penny History of the War," with special double-page maps, which will appear in fortnightly parts. The first part, "Germany the Aggressor," is now ready.

Mr. Bernard Bosanquet has brought together in a small volume some "Lectures on Æsthetic," which he delivered at University College, London, last autumn. The first lecture deals with "The General Nature of the Æsthetic Attitude—Contemplation and Creation"; the second with "The Æsthetic Attitude in its Embodiments—Nature and the Arts"; the third and last with "Form of Æsthetic Satisfaction and the Reverse—Beauty and Ugliness." The volume will be issued next week by Messrs. Macmillan & Co.

Messrs. Methuen & Co. have just published "Poems," by Maurice Maeterlinck, done into English verse by Mr. Bernard Miall, which include the two volumes of M. Maeterlinck's poetry which have played a great part in the literary movement which may be styled the Belgian Renaissance. Mr. Miall has translated them in their original metres, with a few exceptions, and he points out that they form part of a movement long defunct, the Belgian Symbolist movement. The growing popularity in England of M. Maeterlinck's writings makes a translation of his poems exceedingly opportune, and particularly as Belgium to-day takes so large a place in the public eye this English translation of the poems of Belgium's greatest writer will be specially welcomed.

Messrs. T. C. & E. C. Jack have just issued a further batch of six volumes in their well-known and popular series of "People's Books." The new books are all most opportune, and full of interest at the present moment. "A French Self-Tutor," by W. M. Conacher, is specially useful now that our connection with France is so close, and this very handy little manual will be equally useful for those among our soldiers who are going to France and those of us at home who are doing our best to entertain the war refugees who have sought safety in this country. "Germany" is just now a subject in which we are all anxious to learn all we can, and Mr. W. T. Waugh, Lecturer in History at Manchester University, has packed a great amount of information into his necessarily restricted space. It is, of course, quite impossible to deal with all aspects of the question, and he has wisely confined himself to those matters which call for most attention at present—the government of Germany, its foreign and home policy, and what is called its "culture." Mr. Waugh, who has lectured to the Workers' Educational Association, has learnt by experience what the readers of such books as these require, he has provided it with very considerable success, and he specially emphasises the fact that "while German intellectual activity is still great, it is no longer unique." The volume on "Heinrich von Treitschke" is particularly attractive, and the writer, Mr. Maximilian A. Mügge, who has already given us a study of Nietzsche, has here set out succinctly yet adequately the main points of his political teaching. He does not profess to expound his doctrines exhaustively, but he gives the reader an admirable exposition of the salient features. "The Hohenzollerns, a Historical Study," by Mr. A. D. Innes, is a commentary on or an illustration of the saying "It is excellent to have a giant's strength, but it is tyrannous to use it like a giant." The short summary of recent events with which Mr. Innes concludes has been excellently done. A volume on "Belgium" is, of course, indispensable, and Mr. Frank Maclean's description of the country gives the main facts in a clear and popular fashion. The appendix on the Congo is cautious and impartial, and points out that the materials for final decision are not yet available. "The British Army of To-day" is a subject which interests every one of us, and no one more qualified to write about it can be found than Captain Hilliard Atteridge. He has given us a very complete and comprehensive account of our military forces from the beginning, and the three chapters which respectively describe the British army in the first sixty years of the last century, the reorganisation effected by Mr. Cardwell, and later by Lord Haldane, could hardly be bettered. As a concise and yet complete book on the subject Captain Atteridge's little work deserves the highest commendation.

Messrs. Jordan & Sons have published the twelfth edition of their well-known handbook "Company Law and Practice: An Alphabetical Guide Thereto," by Herbert W. Jordan. The important changes made in the law by The Trading with the Enemy Amendment Act, 1914, have been carefully noted, and the various modifications in law and practice up to the time of going to press have been duly embodied.

Messrs. J. M. Dent & Sons will publish next week the following twenty-one new volumes in the "Everyman's Library," completing 721 volumes in this well-known Library:—"The Life of Robert Browning," by E. Dowden; "Cæsar's Gallic War and other Commentaries," translated by W. A. McDevitte; "Carlyle's Essays," 2 vols., with Note by J. Russell Lowell; "Froude's Short Studies," vol. II.; "The Story of a Peasant," by Erckmann-Chatrion, translated by C. J. Hogarth, 2 vols.; "The Subaltern," by G. R. Clig; "Windsor Castle," by Harrison Ainsworth; "Tom Cringle's Log," by Michael Scott; "Dostoeffsky's Poor Folk and The Gambler," translated by C. J. Hogarth; "Josephus' Wars of the Jews," Introduction by Dr. Jacob Hart; "The French Revolution," by F. A. M. Mignet, Introduction by L. Cecil Jane; "Anthology of British Historical Speeches and Orations," compiled by Ernest Rhys; "Emerson's Poems," Introduction by Prof. Bakewell; "Ibsen's Brand," translated by F. E. Garrett; "Heimskringla: The Olaf Sagas," translated by Samuel Laing, Introduction and Notes by John Beveridge; "Paine's Rights of Man," Introduction by G. J. Holyoake; "Bacon's Advancement of Learning," Introduction by Dean Kitchin; "Young's Travels in France and Italy," Introduction by Thos. Okey; "Tales of Ancient Greece," by Sir G. W. Cox.

The Year Book Press has sent us the new annual volumes for 1915 of "The Public Schools Year Book," the twenty-sixth issue, and "The Schoolmasters' Year Book and Directory," which now appears for the thirteenth time. In the first of these two volumes the sections dealing with the Army and Navy have received special attention, and all the new regulations for temporary and permanent commissions introduced owing to the war have been carefully included. The book deals only with the public schools represented at the Headmasters' Conference, and it is explained that one or two schools which fully comply with the conditions are, by the wish of their Headmasters, not represented at the Conference, and consequently not described in the book; one of these is, apparently, Manchester Grammar School. A short account of the Headmasters' Conference, and of the proceedings at the last Annual Meeting, and particulars of the Teachers' Registration Council are prefixed. "The Schoolmasters' Year Book" again shows the well-known features which have made it so indispensable a book of reference. The Directory is much fuller than in previous issues, and it now includes nearly 16,000 names of men teaching in Secondary Schools, Universities, Colleges, Training Colleges, and Technical Schools. The whole information has been very carefully revised and brought up to date, and the general information as regards official regulations, educational societies and organisations is well arranged and accurate.

Mr. Leopold Hill has published a useful English Grammar for Flemings by G. V. Bishop, under the title "Engelsche Spraakkunst voor Scholen en Beginners." It enables Belgians to learn the English grammar in the shortest possible time, and it will no doubt be found very useful by those for whom it has been specially prepared.

"The Conquering Jew," which that fertile writer Mr. John Foster Fraser has just published through Messrs. Cassell & Co., provides at least a sufficient justification for the title which Mr. Fraser has chosen. He tells us at the outset that on his various travels wherever he has gone he has found the Jew a principal factor. "Whether it be on the bourses of the European financial centres, or in the business of Broadway, or in the wheat markets of Russia or Argentina, or in the trade of Africa, north and south, there the Jew has always been prominent, quietly but restlessly obtaining grip of the commerce." Mr. Fraser naturally wished to learn why this was so, and the present volume is the outcome of his enquiries, and his book is the more valuable as he has tried to write it entirely without any bias. He emphasises the fact that the Jew possesses quite unusual powers of adaptation; he "adapts himself to everything; he is fitted for everything; he feels at ease everywhere, consequently he succeeds in everything." As a single instance, Mr. Fraser mentions that the average Jew has four per cent. more ability than the average Englishman, and two per cent. more than the average Scotsman, while "the chance of discovering a distinguished man, a scholar, or an artist among a thousand Western Jews is three or four times as good as among a thousand Englishmen, French or Germans."

Messrs. Sidgwick & Jackson have just published a useful popular book, "Britain's Territorials in Peace and War," by Mr. F. A. M. Webster, author of "Britain in Arms," and other works dealing with our Regular and Territorial forces. Mr. Webster here gives in sufficient detail the history of our volunteer soldiers, and he tells the reader all about the inauguration of the Territorial force, its composition, establishment, and the work of the county associations. A very helpful chapter on things for the Territorials to know, gives many valuable hints and much sound practical advice, and a concluding chapter tells the reader something about the exploits and achievements of those Territorial units which have already distinguished themselves so greatly at the front.

Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston & Co., Ltd., announce a new work by Jeffery Farnol, entitled "The Chronicles of the Imp," illustrated by Edmund Blampied, and for which Mr. Clement K. Shorter has written an Appreciation of the author and his work; also a cheap edition of "The Money Moon," by the same author; "Saturday Island," by Robert Overton, a new boy's book; and "The Gypsy's Parson," by the Rev. George Hall, who is another George Borrow. A hitherto unpublished story by Jules Verne is in preparation, and "The Wonderland of Modern Chemistry," by Dr. Geoffrey Martin, may be expected shortly. Low's "Handbook to the Charities of London" is well in hand, and an interesting work on "The History of the Church in New Zealand," by Purchas, will be ready in due course.

The late Mr. F. T. Bullen contributed his first sea story to "Young England." It was an exciting and graphic West Indian shark story, entitled "Port Royal Tom," and it will be reprinted in the forthcoming April issue of this popular magazine.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—While it is a familiar axiom that "one half of the world does not know how the other half lives," it is none the less true that the "one half" is firmly convinced of its competence to instruct the "other half" in the management of its business. The spirit which betrays itself in this little weakness is, I am afraid, in no small measure responsible for the painfully slow growth of that closer co-operation between author, publisher, and bookseller which we all recognise, in theory, as so greatly to be desired in the best interests of all alike. For it almost always happens that when a spokesman of one of these three mutually dependent powers begins to discuss matters in which they are all jointly concerned, he proceeds to lecture the representatives of the other two upon their professional mistakes or business shortcomings. Then, to use a homely metaphor, the fat is in the fire, and the critic is bidden to remember that there are other and (for the criticised) more important points of view than that from which his selfish and interested strictures are directed. All of which, needless to say, makes for friction and recrimination rather than for harmony.

These reflections were suggested to me by the perusal, the other day, of an article in a literary weekly journal, in which "A Publisher" took Mr. W. L. George smartly to task for his recent lecture to booksellers, and incidentally to publishers, at Stationers' Hall. To do the novelist justice, he seems to have made little pretence of considering the questions raised from any other standpoint than that of the author; nor did he claim to have any practical acquaintance whatever with the working conditions of either the publisher's or the bookseller's business. For him it was apparently all-sufficient that the members of both callings should aim at securing for the author the greatest possible measure of advantage. The consideration that they themselves have also interests to safeguard and profits to make seems hardly to have been dreamt of in his unconsciously cynical philosophy.

One may as well abandon all hope of more effective co-operation between the three component forces of the book-producing world, if each is going to say to the other two—"I know and care nothing about the conditions of your calling as they affect your own interests; but I am quite prepared to instruct you how to carry it on to the best advantage of mine." It is just this free adaptation of the maxim "Every man for himself, and the Devil take the hindmost," that has been responsible for so much that we would all gladly see altered for the better in the present circumstances of the book trade. Mr. George, for example, is all in favour of standardising the price at which new novels are subscribed, in sublime disregard of the fact that booksellers would suffer heavily from the imposition of a hard-and-fast rule in the matter, which would recognise no distinction between a "best seller" and the product of a tenth-rate author, or of one whose name and work were wholly unknown. He finds a grievance, too, in the widespread production of cheap reprints—not considering, it would seem, that as there is a huge demand for such issues, it is the business of publishers and booksellers, as practical men, to give their customers what they want, so long as it is possible to do so with reasonable profit to themselves. The implied theory that they should conduct their operations with a single eye to the advantage of the author is not, as our Transatlantic friends would say, "a business proposition."

Though we have had at various times, and happily possess to-day, a fair number of authors of distinction among our leading men of affairs, one fails to recall the name of more than one prominent English politician of modern times—the late Lord Houghton, better remembered, perhaps, as Monckton Milnes—who has won reputation as a poet. All the more interesting is the announcement of the volume of verse by

Lord Curzon, which Mr. John Lane is about to publish. Readers of the *Observer* have already had several opportunities of admiring Lord Curzon's metrical skill, since there have lately appeared in that journal sundry clever and felicitous translations, over the signature "C. of K.," of war-verses by the Belgian poet Cammaerts. It is understood that the promised volume will be mainly composed of English renderings of war-poems by French and Belgian writers; and, judging from the samples to which I have just referred, it should go far to give its author an established position among contemporary English verse-writers.

"Not at all—proper self-respect, nothing more!" was, you will remember, the bland reply of Sir Joseph Porter, when the young bluejacket hero of *H.M.S. Pinafore* apologised for introducing himself as the smartest seaman in the Navy. The First Lord's philosophic comment was recalled to me, the other day, by a review of the autobiography of Sir Hiram Maxim, lately published by Methuen. The reviewer quoted some of the hardly less emphatic expressions of "proper self-respect" which the distinguished inventor has scattered up and down his pages, and found in them the material for some good-natured and quite legitimate chaff. Undoubtedly, the gifted deviser of the Maxim gun has shown no undue tendency to hide his light under a bushel, or to do less than justice to the exceptional abilities, and the admirable qualities of mind and character, which went to the making of his eminent career. But there is something quite disarming in the ingenuous lack of reticence with which he has compiled the register of his own excellences; and I am inclined to think that his method—when you have recovered from the first shock of it—is, after all, preferable to that of some autobiographers, whose modesty is unconvincing in proportion to its assertiveness, and whose laboured self-depreciation reeks horribly of "the pride that apes humility." Sir Hiram Maxim's salutes to his own merits are as distinct and decisive as the reports of his own gun; and, what is more, we have the satisfaction of knowing that they are thoroughly sincere.

A very timely war-book—despite the fact that it will carry us back some fifteen centuries—will be Mr. Edward Hutton's new study of "Attila and the Huns," which is among the spring promises of the house of Constable. It will be interesting to have freshly presented data for a comparison between the methods of the original Huns and those of their present-day imitators. Due allowance having been made for the demi-semi-civilised times in which the former lived, we shall probably have no difficulty in reaching the conclusion that in the matter of brutal and ruthless "frightfulness" they were simply not in the running with the Kaiser and his hosts, who have done their worst in this enlightened age to plunge the world back into barbarism.

Readers on the look-out for books of the kind to "take them out of themselves" for awhile in these war-ridden days will welcome the issue, by Sampson Low, of a new work by Mr. Jeffery Farnol. Nothing could be more "wholesome for these times" than the breezy, open-air style and the delicate fantasy which have gained for the author of "The Broad Highway" so wide a circle of admirers. His new book is called "The Chronicles of the Imp," and it appears that the "imp" in question is, in character and spirit, own brother to the "Small Porges" of "The Money Moon," whom one recalls as among the most delightful child-characters in modern fiction.

As a "mere male creature," I confess myself piqued by the official intimation that "Every Woman's Flower Garden," which Mr. Herbert Jenkins is publishing, "gives sage and simple counsel by which every woman and most men" (the italics are mine) "may learn how to create the garden beautiful." Heaven forbid that I should raise a controversy on the comparative intelligence of the sexes; but why, oh, why, this invidious distinction?

March 12.

JACOB OMNIUM.

Messrs. Stanley Paul & Co. have published a very interesting shilling brochure, "Stories of the Kaiser and his Ancestors," by Mrs. Clare Jerrold, who has already given us several well-known books of biography and reminiscence. Many of the anecdotes she has to tell are well worth quoting, but if we began we should never finish, and we must therefore be content to recommend our readers to buy the book and read it themselves.

"The Berlin Court under William II." will be published immediately by Messrs. Cassell & Co. It is written by a German Court-intimate who had a genuine repugnance for the way events were being moulded by his Imperial master. The life of the Emperor is sketched by one who has known the Kaiser from childhood, and an analysis furnished of the inclinations and personality of the Kaiser in the formative years of his life, and the combating factors and influences which were moulding his character shown at work. The pages of "The Berlin Court" contain certain intimate criticism of such famous celebrities as General von Caprivi, Prince von Bülow, Alfred von Krupp, Prince Hohenlohe, Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, Duke of Saxe-Coburg, Crown Prince of Saxony and his wife, Admiral von Tirpitz, Empress Augusta Victoria, and other notables. The diplomatic way in which the Kaiser brought about the marriage of his daughter, the close interest which William II. has always evinced in the welfare of the Krupps, his relations with the Crown Prince, and various disclosures of confidential documents and letters are among the matters included.

Messrs. C. & E. Layton send us their "Handy Newspaper List for 1915." It has now reached its semi-jubilee, and fully maintains the reputation for carefulness and accuracy which it has so long enjoyed.

Mr. John Lane has just issued in his Shilling Library "The Crime of Sylvester Bonnard," by Anatole France, translated by A. Lafcadio Hearn, and "The Wingless Victory," by M. P. Willcocks.

Messrs. G. G. Harrap & Co. have issued an opportune volume entitled "Why the Nations are at War," by Charles Morris and Laurence H. Dawson. It is sufficiently described in the sub-title as "the causes and issues of the great conflict, a graphic story of the nations involved, their history and former wars, their rulers and leaders, their armies and navies, their resources, the reasons why they are involved in the war, and the issues at stake." The aim of the writers is therefore sufficiently comprehensive, and they have paid special attention to the history of the past century, beginning with the career of Napoleon and tracing the political evolution of Europe down to the present time. The reader who carefully goes through these informing pages will be fairly well posted up in the main essentials of the whole story, while the tale of Great Britain's progress during the period naturally bulks very largely in the general survey. The volume has been excellently illustrated, and as a postscript an article by Mr. Eden Phillpotts on "Looking to the End of the War," reprinted from the *Daily Chronicle*, provides a most suggestive and interesting conclusion.

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. J. W. ARROWSMITH, LTD., will publish immediately "Canada and the War," by Mr. Walter Haydon, of the Canadian Northern Railway.

MESSRS. CONSTABLE & Co. have in preparation "Essays on War," by Mr. Hilaire Belloc.

MESSRS. DUCKWORTH & Co. announce "Quaker Women," by Miss Mabel Richmond Brailsford.

MESSRS. WM. HODGE & Co., London and Edinburgh, will issue at an early date a volume of war stories and impressions by Mr. J. W. Herries, under the title of "Tales from the Trenches." The author describes personal experiences in visiting battlefields, travelling with refugees from bombarded towns, and at transport hospital centres.

MR. JOHN LANE will publish next week a volume of translations of poems by Emile Verhaeren, the Belgian poet. The volume includes a biographical introduction by the translator, Alma Strettell, and a photograph reproduction of a drawing of Verhaeren specially made for this volume by John S. Sargent, R.A.; a new novel by Ford Madox Hueffer, "The Good Soldier," but it has nothing to do with the war; "Ventures in Thought," a volume of Essays, by Mr. Francis Coutts. He will also publish on March 16th a cheap shilling edition of W. J. Locke's novel "Simon the Jester."

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. will issue next week "Deliverance: The Freeing of the Spirit in the Ancient World," by Mr. Henry Osborn Taylor. The book describes the methods by which great men of the past have rid themselves of anxiety in life and from the fear of death, and so have won peace of mind.

MR. ELKIN MATHEWS has nearly ready "Fifty-one Tales," by Lord Dunsany.

MESSRS. STANLEY PAUL & Co. announce "Miss Billy's Decision," a sequel to "Miss Billy," by Eleanor H. Porter, author of "Pollyana"; "Tainted Gold," a new novel by Mr. H. Noel Williams; "The Heiress of Swallowcliffe," by E. Everett-Green; "The Black Lake," by Sir William Magray.

MESSRS. PUTNAMs will publish at once "Alsace and Lorraine, from Cæsar to Kaiser, 58 B.C.—1871 A.D.," by Miss Ruth Putnam; "Honest Business: Right Conduct for Organisations of Capital and Labour," by Mr. A. K. Fiske; "A Poet's Cabinet," by Dr. George Lansing Raymond, arranged by Dr. Marion Mills Miller, and illustrated by Howard Chandler Christy; "Christianity as Mystical Fact and the Mysteries of Antiquity," by Dr. Rudolf Steiner, translated from the third edition, revised and enlarged under the editorial supervision of Mr. Harry Collison, M.A., an attempt not merely to represent historically the mystical content of Christianity, but to describe the origin of Christianity from the standpoint of mystical contemplation.

THE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY will issue immediately "The Divine Master and Everyday Life," by the Rev. Harrington C. Lees, M.A.; "The Cossart Cousins," by Evelyn Everett-Green; "The Little Girl's Sewing Book," edited by Flora Klickmann.

MR. GRANT RICHARDS will publish shortly "Sailor and Beachcomber," by Mr. Safroni Middleton.

MR. T. FISHER UNWIN will publish next week "The Woman in the Car," a new novel by Mr. Richard Marsh, the author of "The Beetle"; "A Sister to Assist 'er," by Mr. John Le Breton, founded on the little play which Mr. Fred Emney and Miss Sydney Fairbrother have acted in all the principal music halls in England; "The Modernising of the Orient," by Mr. Clayton Sedgwick Cooper; "A Shadow of '57," a novel by Mrs. A. M. Scott Moncrieff, opening with a vivid account of an incident in the Indian Mutiny.

Notices of Books.

Brunel's Tower. By Eden Phillpotts. (W. Heinemann.—We seem to remember that Mr. Phillpotts recently intimated that he intended to give his many admirers no more of the West Country tales which he knows so well how to tell. If this were so we are very glad to find that he has changed his mind, for though the main events of his new story might perhaps have been laid in any district which provides the particular clay necessary for artistic pottery, still, the fact that Mr. Phillpotts has chosen to place them in Devonshire gives the whole story a very attractive environment and allows him once more to illustrate his exceptional gifts in the graphic portrayal of West Country character. George Easterbrook, though by origin a Midlander, had started a pottery business in one of the disused towers which Brunel had built in the earliest days of the railway in South Devon, when it was intended to haul the trains by atmospheric pressure, one of the ingenious but impracticable ideas of that famous engineer. Here, in conjunction with an artistic friend, Paul Pitts, also something of a genius, he successfully established his pottery works, and his principal workmen, Samuel Punchard, the foreman, Jeremiah Tolley, the engineman, and others play their part in the tale. The hero, however, is one Harvey Porter, a lad who had run away from a reformatory, but who proved himself exceptionally capable, and seemed intended to become Easterbrook's successor. However, fate intervened, for two strong characters such as the master and the boy do not always agree. They naturally had their differences and their difficulties, but in time these were overcome, and Harvey Porter and his master were once more brought together, only to be cruelly separated by the fatal accident in which Harvey lost his life just when things were at their best. We can only regret that Mr. Phillpotts should have brought his story to so tragic a conclusion, without, as it seems to us, any real artistic necessity. Still, in these matters the author is no doubt the best judge, and we may readily admit that even as it stands the story is one of the most powerful and most characteristic of the many notable tales that Mr. Phillpotts has given us.

Reticence in Literature and Other Papers. By Arthur Waugh. (J. G. Wilson.)—We may very well congratulate both the publisher, who is a recent and welcome addition to the number of literary publishers, and the author, on the appearance of this interesting and suggestive volume. Mr. Arthur Waugh possesses a considerable reputation as a literary critic, and the different papers he has here collected represent some of the best phases of his work for the last twenty years or so. The first paper, "Reticence in Literature," originally appeared in the well-known "Yellow Book," which, it will be remembered, aroused a good deal of attention on its first publication. A suggestive and appreciative account of George Herbert was first written as an introduction to his poems, while companion estimates of Richard Crashaw, Charles Kingsley, Christina Rossetti, Robert Buchanan, George Gissing, and George Birkbeck Hill are all very successful in bringing into admirable relief the salient characteristics of these well-known writers. The variety of fame indicates the comprehensiveness and width of Mr. Waugh's literary capacity, and when all are so well done it would be rather invidious to particularise. The first two essays on "Reticence in Literature" and the "Abuse of the Superlative" deal with two somewhat different aspects of the same tendency, and all readers will agree with the vigorous criticism of too much outspokenness and of unnecessary emphasis in literary style. As Mr. Waugh well puts it, "That mortal who would put on immortality must first assume that habit of reticence, that garb of humility by which true greatness is best known. To endure restraint—that is to be strong."

A Free Lance in Kashmir: A Tale of the Great Anarchy. By Lieut.-Colonel G. F. MacMunn, D.S.O. (Smith, Elder & Co.)—The Great Anarchy, we are told, is the name which has been given to the years following the death of the Emperor Aurangzebe in 1707 and the dismemberment of the Mogul Empire to the bringing of peace to a distracted country by the rise of the English. During the last fifty years of the eighteenth century European soldiers of fortune took service with the various contending chiefs, and some of them made themselves permanent rulers. In particular the half-breed children of English adventurers and their Indian wives here found their careers, and in particular one James Skinner made a great reputation. In such scenes as these the instructed and expert novel-writer finds ample opportunity, and Colonel MacMunn, who has already proved his knowledge of Indian affairs, has thrown into the guise of fiction facts which often, no doubt, were really historical, and we may fairly surmise, though the writer does not exactly tell us so, that the story, as here set forth, of Captain David Fraser, the son of one Major Fraser, of the Hon. East India Company's Bengal Artillery, and the Sultana, Mwir Suddozai, a Duranni, is largely based on the accepted history of the famous free lance, James Skinner. How David finds favour in the eyes of the Begum Somru and was passed on by her to her ally, Salabut Khan, the Duranni Governor of Kashmir; how he was taken into that chieftain's service, did him good service, and saved him from the threatened usurpation of one of his sub-chieftains, and how, after all, he fell in love with the Lady Miriam, a sister of Salabut Khan, and eventually was married to her in proper wedlock, we must leave the reader to discover. It is enough to say that Colonel MacMunn possesses in a considerable degree the faculty of storytelling, that he is quite at home amid the various scenes and incidents he has to describe, and that he has made his story absorbingly interesting from beginning to end.

The Case of Mortimer Fenley. By Louis Tracy. (Casell & Co.)—The name of Mr. Louis Tracy on the title-page of a new novel is always the guarantee of an exciting not to say sensational story, ingeniously conceived and graphically written, and those who have enjoyed his many previous stories will, we are sure, be more than satisfied with his latest tale. When a banker is suddenly shot dead just as he is entering his motor car to go to the station according to his daily habit, when the most careful search fails to discover that anyone has been near the only point from which the fatal shot can have been fired, the essential element of mystery has been sufficiently assured, and those who know Mr. Tracy's skill as a story-teller will know very well that he will so manage the resulting scenes and incidents that the interest of the reader is firmly held until the time comes for the destined dénouement. The fact that the murdered man, Mr. Mortimer Fenley, or rather the bank of which he is the head, has got into the black books of Scotland Yard adds a further element of mystery, while the apparent desire of the elder son, Hilton Fenley, to suggest that his younger brother Robert, an unsatisfactory young gentleman, may be the guilty person is so managed towards the end that it throws a certain suspicion on the elder of the two. The particular manner in which the mystery is solved is, we think, far-fetched, and while not exactly impossible we doubt whether in real life even such a criminal as Hilton Fenley would have thought of it. The two Scotland Yard detectives are very graphically and successfully portrayed, and the love story of John Trenholme, the wandering artist, and Sylvia Manning, the wealthy niece of the murdered man, forms a pleasant relief to the more tragic parts of the main story, which will certainly take a high place among Mr. Tracy's many popular books.

Publications of the Week.

Religion and Theology.

- FARQUHAR (J. N.) Modern Religious Movements in India. Illustrated. 8vo, pp. 486. *Macmillan* ... net 10/6
- FISHER (John, Bishop) Commentary on the Seven Penitential Psalms. Edited with preface and glossary by J. S. Phillimore. Vol. 2. (The Catholic Library.) Cr. 8vo, pp. 120. *B. Herder* net 7/
- FLOWER of the Field (The) By a Benedictine of Princethorpe Priory. Cr. 8vo. *Burns & Oates* net 2/
- FOUR Gospels (The) from the Irish Codex Harleianus. Edited, with Introduction, by E. S. Buchanan. 8vo, swd. *Heath, Cranton* net 21/
- FOUR Gospels (The) from the Latin Text of the Irish Codex Harleianus. In English Version, with short Introduction by E. S. Buchanan. 8vo, swd. *Heath, Cranton*, net 3/6
- LAKE (Kirsopp) The Stewardship of Faith: Our Heritage from Early Christianity. 8vo, pp. 204. *Christophers*. net 5/
- MACGOUN (Townsend) The Holy Land in Geography and in History. New ed. Cr. 8vo. *Partridge* 5/
- OAKLEY (G. R.) Crowned with Glory: Stories of the Younger Saints in the Prayer-Book Calendar. Illustrated. Royal 16mo, pp. 120. *S.P.C.K.* net 1/6
- PASSION of Our Saviour Christ (The) according to the Four Evangelists from the Goodly Primer of 1535. 8vo, swd. *Society of SS. Peter and Paul* net 6d
- ROE (M'Dermott) The Kingdom of God. 3rd ed. 12mo, pp. 160. *Burns & Oates* net 1/
- SIMPSON (A. B.) The Gospel of Healing. New ed. Cr. 8vo, pp. 154. *Morgan & Scott* net 2/
- STORAGE (Paul M.) The Reconstruction of the Church. Cr. 8vo. *Macmillan* net 6/6

Annuals and Serials.

- "FEATHERED WORLD" Year Book (The). 1915. 8vo. *Office* bds., net 1/; 2/
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For King and Country.—The following has been received since our last list:—

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"Foreign Opinion," a new weekly publication, will make its first appearance next Wednesday, the 24th inst. The aim of the journal is to collect within the limits of its pages the representative opinions of all nations week by week. The price will be 3d., and the contents of the first number will include the following: "Sea Power and Land War," by Field-Marshal Von der Goltz; "A Sorry Business," by Gabriel Hanotaux; "Kitchener's Army Through Other Eyes," &c.

The journal will be illustrated and printed on art paper. It will be published each Wednesday by Messrs. Jarrold & Sons.

We heartily reciprocate the "One hundred thousand Good Wishes from an appreciative Irish subscriber," which reached us on Wednesday, together with a consignment of shamrock, and take this opportunity of thanking our anonymous donor for his kind thought and equally kind message.

The King and Queen Alexandra have accepted specially bound copies of Sir Douglas Mawson's book, "The Home of the Blizzard," published by Mr. Heinemann.

National Book Trade Provident Society.—Under the auspices of the London Branch a lantern lecture on "The Making and Printing of Three Colour Process Blocks" will be given by Mr. H. J. Dent, at Stationers' Hall, on Friday next, March 26th, at 7.45 p.m. Mr. Thomas Secombe will preside. Mr. Dent has specially prepared plates for this purpose, and there can be no question that the lecture will have a real technical interest. It is hoped that members of the Trade will attend in large numbers. Tickets, sixpence each, will be supplied on application to the Hon. Lecture Secretary, Mr. H. Cecil Palmer, 12-14, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

Lord Kitchener, it is interesting to know, has commandeered the first copy of the limited edition of "Chinese Pottery and Porcelain," by Mr. R. L. Hobson, of the British Museum, who has himself joined Kitchener's Army. The Field-Marshal, it seems, is keenly interested in the subject.

The Annual Report of Messrs. Cassell & Co., to be presented at the Annual Meeting next Friday, states that the profit for the year ended December 31, 1914, was £28,585 9s. 4d. The directors recommend a dividend of three per cent., less Income Tax, they place £7,000 to the Copyright Equalisation Account, £3,000 to the Reserve Account, and in view of the war they carry forward the balance of £5,214 1s. They report that Mr. Charles Gardner, the manager of the Australasian branch of the company, is retiring after thirty-one years' much appreciated service, and that he will be succeeded by his son, Mr. Charles E. Gardner, who has been associated with the branch for many years. They recommend that Mr. Thomas Young, Advertisement Manager, and Mr. W. Newman Flower, Chief Editor, be elected directors of the company.

National Book Trade Provident Society (Oxford Branch).—The Annual Meeting of the above Branch was held recently at the Old Central School Room, Mr. B. H. Blackwell being in the chair. Among the members present were Messrs. F. S. Thornton, F. W. Chaundy, Cottrell Horser, and A. J. Colegrove. The Secretary (Mr. H. S. Rowles) presented a full report of the doings of the Branch during the year, which included lectures, readings of plays, and social gatherings. In presenting the accounts, which showed a satisfactory balance in hand, the Secretary stated that they were again indebted to the Oxford Branch of the A.B. of G.B. & I. for a donation of ros. 6d. towards expenses. The meeting next proceeded to the election of Committee, the following being duly elected:—Messrs. B. H. Blackwell, F. W. Chaundy, C. Horser, F. S. Thornton, F. Bishop, L. Chaundy, T. C. Hook, J. H. Dunn, F. J. Hanks, and H. S. Rowles. The Chairman next addressed a few words to the meeting on the position of the Society, advising those who are only Insurance members to become also members of the General Division, as the funds of this Division were steadily accumulating. He also referred to the "Odd Volume," which, in spite of hard times, had realised a substantial sum. In conclusion, the Chairman asked the meeting to accord a very hearty vote of thanks to the Secretary for his work, which had been again carried out in his usual efficient manner, and this was carried with acclamation. Among the announcements made was an address to be given shortly by Mr. G. D. H. Cole (author of "The World of Labour") on "Industry and the War." A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the business. The meeting then resolved itself into a social evening, to which friends had been invited. The first part of the programme consisted of a concert arranged by Mr. H. W. Chaundy. After refreshments, the second part was devoted to the performance of the well-known farce, entitled "Ici on parle Français." All the characters were represented by members of the Branch, and gave an excellent performance, Mr. Spriggins (H. S. Rowles) and Anna Maria (W. J. Pallett) causing roars of laughter by their surprising histrionic efforts. Messrs. T. C. Cook (as Mrs. Spriggins) and L. Chaundy (Victor Dubois, the Frenchman) were admirable. The remaining parts were well sustained by Miss H. Parker (Angelina), Miss L. Ovenell (Julia), and C. J. Howes (Major Rattan).

The Home University Library.—A further batch of four volumes, commencing the second hundred of this deservedly popular library, has just been published by Messrs. Williams & Norgate, and the subjects chosen excellently illustrate the wise comprehensiveness with which the series has been planned. Mr. R. C. K. Ensor's volume on "Belgium" is both most timely and most instructive. At the very outset he presses upon his readers four important facts about the Belgians: that they are a nation, an old nation, a proud nation, and a nation which has much to teach as well as to learn. The personal history of the three Kings of Belgium and the connection with the Congo have both been intentionally omitted, though as regards the latter Mr. Ensor warns us that the possession by Belgium of this great heritage must not be overlooked in any estimate of her future. Mr. Clement C. J. Webb is a well-known Oxford tutor in Philosophy, and what he has to say about "The History of Philosophy" should command special attention. He reviews in brief but adequate summary the great figures in the history of philosophy, from Plato and Aristotle down through the ages to Kant and his successors, and his history makes a most illuminating companion to Mr. Bertrand Russell's earlier book, "The Problems of Philosophy"; "Milton" finds an admirable expositor in Mr. John Bailey, and his appreciation of our great poet, "still a figure of transcendent interest, the most lion-hearted, the loftiest-souled of Englishmen, the one consummate artist our race has produced, the only Englishman of letters who in all that is known about him, his life, his character, his poetry, shows something for which the only fit word is sublime," strikes at once the right keynote, and holds the reader's uninterrupted interest to the very end. Mr. Ernest Barker, a prominent Oxford tutor, discusses in broad outline the main movements of "Political Thought in England, from Spencer to To-day," in a comprehensive and masterly fashion. Mr. Barker sets forth and explains the salient points in the history of political thought in this country since the middle of the last century, and he suggests that "we may be moving towards a new conception of the State, and more especially a new conception of sovereignty, which shall be broad enough to embrace these new ideas. We may have to regard every State as in its nature federal; we may have to recognise that sovereignty is not single and indivisible, but multiple and multicellular." However this may be, Mr. Barker's analysis of recent political ideals is both suggestive and illuminating, and the four volumes which have now been added to this excellent series may very well take their place among the best of their predecessors. It is certainly not a little remarkable that the new batches, as they appear from time to time, show no falling off, either in interest or in instruction, and prove a perpetual testimony to the careful wisdom and skilful judgment with which the whole undertaking has been planned and executed.

Messrs. G. W. Bacon & Co. issue a very useful variety of Maps for Cyclists and Motorists, and all who are preparing for cycling and motoring in the coming season would do well to write for lists, which will be sent on application.

Messrs. Crosby, Lockwood & Son have just published in conjunction with the Church Army "The Soldier's Pocket Companion, a Little Book with a Wide Range for the Man on Active Service: to Assist his Work, to Equip his Mind, to Preserve his Soul." H.R.H. the Princess Royal prefixes a special message, in which she says "this is a very interesting little book, and will be of much use to our brave soldiers . . . to all its soldier readers I say God bless you and keep you from all danger, and bring you home again in peace and safety." Lord Meath, the President of the Church Army, in a brief commendatory Introduction, describes the book as "an inadequate attempt on the part of the Church Army to render such small service as is in its power to the soldiers of the King." It contains useful English-French and English-German vocabularies, notes on Mechanical Transport, Telephones, the Compass, German Aeroplanes, and a Glossary of Aviation terms. A short sketch of the British Empire and Notes on Regimental Histories are also very helpful features in a very helpful little book.

The relations between Public Libraries and Booksellers are still arousing discussion in America and the Librarian of the Public Library at Washington contributes some suggestive notes on this subject to the *New York Publishers' Weekly*. An appreciative editorial remarks that "it is probably true that some of the trade still view the spread of the public library as one views the spread of a plague. But the soundest, best sustained judgment of the trade is that the public library is one of the greatest allies the book trade in America has." It goes on to add that "there are by the latest figures 3,000 or more live libraries in this country [America], libraries with a definite permanent staff organisation and a growing and reasonably permanent clientèle. Surely from such a collective and continuous advertisement of books and book reading as these libraries give, the bookseller, if he is so minded, can reap advantage." If these arguments are held to have any validity in America there is probably equal force in them as regards libraries and booksellers on this side of the Atlantic.

Messrs. Novello & Co. have just published "Gradus ad Parnassum," 24 Selected Studies from Muzio Clementi; "Etudes," 56 Selected Studies from J. B. Cramer; and "Études," 31 Selected Studies from H. Bertini, all three arranged by Franklin Taylor, and all worthy the careful attention of musical students; also "Etudes," 19 Selected Studies, and the "School of Velocity," 30 Selected Studies, from Charles Czerny, both arranged by the same editor.

Messrs. Methuen & Co. have just published the "Life of Edward Carpenter," by Mr. Edward Lewis; and in their "Arden" edition of Shakespeare "Henry VIII.," edited by the Rev. C. Knox Porter; also a two shilling edition of Sir Gilbert Parker's "The Judgment House"; a shilling edition of Mr. H. G. Wells' "The Sea Lady," and a sevenpenny edition of Mr. H. A. Vachell's popular "A Drama in Sunshine."

Messrs. John Long will publish next week "The Life of H.M. Albert, King of the Belgians," by John de Courcy MacDonnell. The advance orders have been very encouraging.

Messrs. T. C. & E. C. Jack have just published a very useful and informing volume, under the editorship of Prof. W. P. Paterson, of Edinburgh, entitled "German Culture: the Contribution of the Germans to Knowledge, Literature, Art and Life." It consists of nine essays by well-known experts, dealing with what Germans have done in the various spheres of intellectual work. Professor Lodge, of Edinburgh, sketches the history of Germany and Prussia, emphasising the difference between the two. Mr. A. D. Lindsay, of Balliol College, Oxford, expounds the achievements of German Philosophy, and Professor J. A. Thomson, of Aberdeen, sets out what Science owes to German Investigators; Dr. John Lees, of Aberdeen, estimates Germany's place in Literature, and Professor Baldwin Brown, of Edinburgh, her place in Art. Professor Tovey, now Professor of Music in Edinburgh, tells us about German Music, and Dr. Michael Sadler, of Leeds, contrasts with knowledge and force the Strength and Weakness of German Education. Professor Macgregor, of Leeds, discusses the Political and Economic Aspects of German Nationalism, and the editor concludes with a survey of German Religion and Theology. In his Introduction he explains as far as possible the exact meaning of "German Culture," pointing out that "Kultur" means in Germany what we here mean by "civilisation." The Kaiser, he tells us, is reported to have said recently that "Zivilisation" is a mere affair of the drawing-room, thus identifying it with civility or politeness, and that "Kultur" means "to have the deepest conscientiousness and the highest morality." "My Germans," he added, "possess that"!!! "Kultur," the editor concludes, is "Civilisation viewed on its higher side," and in the book it is taken to mean "the contribution which the Germans have made to the ideal tasks and achievements of the civilised world."

Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. will publish next week "Hugh," a memoir of his brother by Mr. A. C. Benson, a study written very informally and directly, merely an attempt to show him as he showed himself, freely and unaffectedly, to his own circle. The volume includes seventeen pages of portraits and illustrations. They also announce "Brontë Poems: Selections from the Poetry of Charlotte, Emily, Anne, and Branwell Brontë, including some Poems hitherto unprinted," edited, with an Introduction, by Mr. Arthur C. Benson. Several new ones by each of the sisters that have not been printed before have been added, the dates of composition being given as far as possible. All the best poetical work of this gifted family is thus made accessible for the first time in one volume. Reproductions of the recently discovered portraits of the sisters and facsimile MSS. are included in the volume.

Mr. Heinemann has added to his series "Ammunition for Civilians," "The Germans in Belgium," a personal account by Dr. L. H. Grondys, a Dutch physician, of his experiences in Belgium during the occupation by the Germans.

Mr. Leadbitter's novel, "Rain Before Seven," which is proving so successful, was, we are informed, rejected by four well-known houses before it was accepted by the publishers, Messrs. George Allen & Unwin.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—To come upon any sort of literary controversy or discussion in these war-distracted days is like hearing an echo from some half-forgotten past. Yet, however absorbed we may be in sterner things, such an echo is by no means unpleasing, if only because it serves to remind us that interest in the affairs and problems of the book world has only been subjected to partial eclipse by the supreme and overmastering topic of the time, and is ready to re-assert itself in a revival of the old familiar wrangles and jangles, as well as in less aggressive ways, as soon as our normal conditions of life are restored. So I am inclined to think that, in a way, we ought to feel grateful to Bishop Forrest Browne, formerly of Bristol, for having remarked to the members of the Royal Literary Fund, at their recent meeting, that "he was glad that a particular kind of book—the novel written by young women—should be checked, and hoped the war would have a permanent effect on that sort of thing." Even in these days, such a debatable utterance could hardly go unnoticed; and, as a matter of fact, the challenge which it contains has been vigorously taken up.

One may safely assume that by the expressions "a particular kind of book" and "that sort of thing," the Bishop meant to indicate a certain specific type of novel, too much in vogue before the war, which exploited sex "problems" in a way that made their appeal an unpleasant, and, for readers of impressionable age, a distinctly mischievous one. But it was surely rather invidious, and something less than fair, to imply that books of this class have been the exclusive product of "young women"—or, for the matter of that, of women at all. Considering the sex that is impeached, the question of age is one into which few of us would have the temerity to follow the learned prelate. But he may at least be assured, in general terms, that novels of the kind to which he reasonably objects, even when written by women, are far from being always the work of "young" ones; and further, that no inconsiderable share of the contributions to "that sort of thing" has stood to the credit—or, rather, discredit—of male authors.

Again, it should hardly be necessary to point out that there are more than a few "young women" engaged at the present time in writing clever novels which are in all respects beyond reproach; and these have good reason to resent the Bishop's far too loose and sweeping generalisation. However, leaving the sex and age questions out of the argument, he is doubtless right in his view that the new spirit evoked by the war has done and is doing a great deal to check the production of that kind of unhealthy literature which flourished too profusely in some recent seasons. To-day there is less need than before to worry about any kind of "censorship" to deal with books of this type, which may safely be left to find their own level, and will not long survive the discovery by their authors of the fact that their wares have come to be generally recognised for the deleterious rubbish that they are.

But with a good deal else that is being said and written just now about the future of the novel as affected by the war, it is much less easy to agree. Some of our literary "wise men" seem to have quite made up their minds, for instance, that the novel of the future, for an indefinite time to come, will occupy itself entirely with martial exploits, deeds of chivalry on the stricken field, and all the "pride, pomp, and circumstance of glorious war." Frankly, I do not believe a word of it. That we shall get a great many war-novels within the next two or three years, and that the fiction of an even longer period will be strongly coloured and influenced by the great world-conflict through which we are now passing, is of course a certainty. But those who imagine that the novel of sentiment, the novel of character, and the novel that touches the vital problems of the time,

social or ethical, will be snowed under by the military avalanche are likely to find themselves very much mistaken. To whatever extent the war may have affected us, it has assuredly not weakened our abiding interest either in the interplay of passions and emotions and the eternal conflict of temperaments, motives, and interests that go to the making of the human comedy, or in the burning questions which so constantly arise to confront us in our collective life. There is small fear, therefore, that novelists of the type of, say, Mr. E. F. Benson at the one end of the scale and Mr. John Galsworthy at the other, will be reduced in the immediate future to turning out war-novels as an alternative to remaining silent altogether.

With rather mixed feelings I read, the other day, that a couple of provincial public librarians have been applying themselves to the compilation of "A Bibliography of Unfinished Books." Their enterprise and industry are of course worthy of all praise, and it is easy to recognise, by anticipation, the curious interest that must attach to such a work, though it will surely be a surpris to many people to learn that there have been enough unfinished books published to provide material for a bibliography. The danger I foresee is that all kinds of adventurous and irresponsible writers, having been put on the track of such books, will incontinently dig them out and set to work to "finish" them. When one recalls the "leading case"—as the lawyers say—of "Edwin Drood," it must be admitted that the prospect is rather an alarming one.

Those of us to whom the flamboyant historical romances of Harrison Ainsworth were meat and drink in the days of our boyhood will be unable to resist a feeling of satisfaction at the fact that his "Windsor Castle"—one of his best and most absorbing books—is included in the newly-issued batch of "Everyman's Library" volumes. It is, no doubt, immensely easy to laugh at Ainsworth, and to poke fun at his laboriously conscientious efforts to reproduce the "atmosphere" and modes of speech of the various periods in which his stories were set. But one could put up with a good deal of "Ho, varlet!" and "By my halidame!" and "Gramerey, fair lady," and the rest of it, for the sake of the picturesque vividness and the strong dramatic touch which, combined with their historical appeal, gave his stories such an irresistible fascination for the youthful mind. To him innumerable boys of a former generation have been indebted for their first intelligent interest in English history; and I am not at all persuaded that "Windsor Castle," and "The Tower of London," and "Old St. Paul's" are despised even by the more sophisticated boyhood of to-day. It is pleasant to see that Mr. Dent thinks it still worth while to give Ainsworth a "show" in a popular edition.

The news of the death, at an advanced age, of "Rolf Boldrewood," otherwise Thomas Alexander Browne, the Australian novelist who gained so much fame by his powerful stories of gold-mining and bush-ranging adventure, suggests the wonder how it comes about that Australia has so far produced so few writers of note. Perhaps it is still too young to have done much for literature, though one would have thought that its "illimitable spaces" would have provided a stimulus to imagination. But those who know tell you that the imaginative Australian is by way of being something of a black swan.

Very welcome is the announcement that the late Mr. Frank T. Bullen has left behind him a book of reminiscences, completed shortly before his death, and that the firm of Seeley will publish it immediately. It will be one of the books of the season for the innumerable admirers who are lamenting his loss.

The topic-weary novel-reader who lately petitioned for a good story about Noah and the Flood may possibly find something still more congenial in the same line in Mr. Joseph Hocking's "latest," which seems, according to its title, to be devoted to "The Day of Judgment."

JACOB OMNIUM.

March 19.

BOOKSELLERS' PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Members of the above Institution was held, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations, on Wednesday evening, March 10th, at 7 o'clock, at Stationers' Hall.

MR. CHARLES J. LONGMAN, President, occupied the chair, and among those supporting him on the platform were: Mr. Reginald J. Smith, K.C., Mr. J. W. Darton, Mr. Arthur Spurgeon, Mr. Wm. Longman, and Mr. F. H. Miles, besides the lecturer for the evening, Sir Henry Newbolt, M.A., D.Litt.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the Notice convening the meeting be taken as read.

MR. W. A. KELK moved: "That the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting, held on March 4th, 1914, and the Report of the Board of Directors and Auditors, which have already been printed and circulated, be taken as read."

MR. G. COOPER, in seconding, said he might add that they were indebted for the convenience of having the Report of their last year's proceedings printed and distributed to the publishers of THE BOOKSELLER, Messrs. Whitaker & Sons, who had again presented the same facility as for about ten years past. He was glad to have that opportunity of acknowledging it.

The PRESIDENT, after putting the Motion for acceptance, declared the same carried. He then said:—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, the next resolution is "That the Report of the Board of Directors for the year 1914 be adopted." It falls to my lot to propose this resolution, and in accordance with my custom for a good many years, I will just run shortly through the salient points in the Reports and the Accounts. As we know, you have all had this Report; and on page 4 there is a comparison of the receipts and the expenditure for the past year with the previous year, 1913. I think that on both sides of the account the result may be regarded as satisfactory. There is no very great difference in the amounts; but such differences as there are are in favour of the past year. For instance, I see that the annual and life subscriptions are rather more, £370 against £337. That is the result of our having rather more members. There is one item apparently unsatisfactory, that is, the donations, which are only £203 against £246 the previous year. That is accounted for, by a note added to the Report, by the fact that the previous year certain donations which rightly belong to the year before, but were not actually paid till after the 1st January, were brought in. In point of fact, the donations are about the same as they were, but the chief donation, that from the Booksellers' Provident Retreat, is considerably more. They gave us the very handsome present of £250, which they are empowered by their Articles to do, and that I hope we may look forward to receiving again. (Hear, hear.)

The interest on investments is rather better, owing to the fact that we have been able to put by money. Income-tax recovered is much the same. Turning to the expenditure side of the Account, there is very little difference. We spent a little more on assistance to those of our Members who need it; and the expenses of management are a little less; so that both of those two items in our expense are, I think, of a satisfactory character.

On page 5 of the Report it is noted that we have been able to invest the sum of £997 5s. 6d. in Queensland Stock. This, of course, is very satisfactory. It is not entirely due to the fact that we have been able to put that amount of money by. In point of fact, we have, I think, put by something over £500, which is

certainly quite good; but the balance has been due to the fact that at the beginning of the year we had a very large balance at our bankers, and the Finance Committee and the Trustees thought that we might safely reduce that; and therefore we have invested during the past year rather more than we actually saved, amounting in all to close upon £1,000.

Another item which is a satisfactory one is that the number of Members has increased. You all know that after the Insurance Act we lost Members to rather a serious extent. We anticipated that we should lose Members. It is obvious that as, under the Act, it was necessary for everyone in the Trade to pay contributions, there might probably be some who would say that they could not afford to pay both the contributions under the Act and the subscriptions to this Institution. The year before we sustained, I think, a net loss of 30 Members. However, as you also know, we met that difficulty by reducing the subscription, and that very wise step has already borne fruit. We have gained Members. Some few have still dropped out owing to the necessity, no doubt, of paying the Insurance Act subscription; but those who have joined have been considerably in excess, so that the net gain in Members is 12. That, we may well hope, will be increased another year.

I think these facts, all taken together, indicate that the Institution is in a very sound and healthy condition. At such a time as this at which I now address you, a period of the greatest national trial and trouble, it is a very satisfactory thing to those who are Members of the Institution, and to our Trade, that we have an Institution like this, which has and shows no sign of decay, but is fully equal to meeting all calls which have been or which may be made upon it. It is a fact that when the war broke out—I am speaking simply from the point of view of the affairs of the Institution—I thought, and I think some others also, that we might have a winter in which we should find matters were very strained. It was obvious that trade would be depressed; and that anticipation, so far as the depression in the book-selling trade is concerned, has not been falsified. But, nevertheless, we have not found any exceptional pressure at all upon our Institution. The claims have been practically about normal, and I think the reason for this is fairly obvious; and it is due to the patriotic way in which Members of our trade have given up their peaceful pursuits and joined the Army. Owing to that, the number of persons engaged in their different offices has been much reduced, and consequently, although trade is undoubtedly very much less in volume than it was a year ago, as the numbers who remained to look after it are also very much diminished, there has been plenty of employment for all. It is to that that I attribute the fact that we have not had more severe calls upon our funds this winter. As I say, the business has been in that respect fairly normal. Let us just consider for one moment what a normal business of this Institution means. It means that last year 68 different persons received substantial benefits. Of those 68 persons, more than half were widows of Members. I think that we can hardly imagine a more satisfactory thing to those who join an Institution than the thought that should they be called away from any cause, should die young, and should leave their widows less amply provided for than they hope, they have this Institution to fall back upon. During the year six persons in receipt of assistance from your Institution died. Of course, if I were to tell you the details of cases I might make my speech more interesting, perhaps, than it is; but it has been our invariable

rule—one that I think has never been broken—that any applications made to the Board of Directors are treated in confidence. (Hear, hear.) I can say nothing, and have no desire to say anything, about individual cases, but I should like to say this: that of those six persons who died—who, I may say, were all widows—they had received a total sum from the Institution of £2,173. (Applause.) Their husbands had received something in addition. Their husbands had contributed during their life-time the sum of £170, averaging £28 6s. 10d. each; and they and their wives—their widows afterwards—received no less than £2,252, being an average of £375 per head for each of those persons in receipt of relief who died last year, in return for a subscription of £28 each. (Renewed applause.) One of those persons, a widow, whose husband had subscribed £42 during his life, received no less than £773. Ladies and Gentlemen, this is, of course, a very gratifying result of the establishment and maintenance of an Institution like this. I do not think I need go into the details of the Accounts or Report much further, except again to allude to the fact that we have turned the corner, and are again now increasing our Members. I cannot say that I am satisfied in regard to the increase during the past year. Now that the subscription has been reduced, I think that the difficulty which we undoubtedly felt has also been very much reduced, and I shall hope to see a much larger increase in the future than we have had during 1914. Before the little set-back—or I may say the serious set-back—which we had we were increasing; and I think I have mentioned it before now, but I quite hope some day we should touch 1,000 Members here. Considering the size of our trade, we ought to. An Institution like this ought to have 1,000 Members. I hope some day I shall live to see it. I am almost afraid I shall not, but still it will happen some day. It is a great thing in favour of this Institution that it is purely voluntary. I think in this country we like voluntary movements. Of course, there are reasons for the compulsory Insurance Act which we need not go into; but still that Act does not altogether, or even very largely, meet the needs of our Trade, and there is plenty of room for a voluntary Institution like this. I will now ask Mr. Darton if he will kindly second the adoption of the Report.

MR. J. W. DARTON, in seconding the adoption of the Report and Accounts, thought he could not add anything to what the Chairman had said in his exhaustive speech, but he would like to mention one thing that gave him great satisfaction, viz., that their subscriptions and income from investments were, roughly speaking, £400 a year more than was really required; so that he could express a hope in another direction to what their Chairman had expressed—that they would be able in the future—and he hoped it would not be far off—when the Relief Committee could give more than they had hitherto done. Their investments were now spread over several securities, and there was another gratification with regard to the statement which they had had, and that was, they put the investments at a low reduction of £7,000. That was to say, they were £7,000 less than they paid for them. That was done in order not to deceive the subscribers by giving a fictitious value. Also, comparing the subscriptions with what they were about ten years ago, their investments were producing some £200 or £300 more than they were. For the last five years they had had on an average sixteen new Members every year, and the death-rate among the Society had been five every year. So he thought that all pointed to the fact that they were very flourishing, and had great confidence for the future.

The Motion was carried unanimously.

MR. J. R. BLADE moved: "That the persons who have been nominated for the offices of President, Vice-Presidents, Trustees, Treasurer, and Auditors be hereby taken to be duly elected as Officers of the Institution."

MR. W. H. JELPKE seconded, and the same was adopted.

MR. E. G. WHITE moved: "That the eleven persons who have been nominated for the office of Director be hereby taken to be duly elected."

MR. W. H. SMITH seconded this motion, which was also adopted.

MR. ARTHUR SPURGEON had the honour of proposing the following resolution:—

"That the best thanks of this Meeting be given to the President, Mr. Charles James Longman, for the great interest that he has constantly manifested in the Institution; to the Vice-Presidents, Honorary Vice-Presidents, and the Trustees for their continued support; to the Treasurer for the manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office; to the Honorary Medical Officers for the valuable advice which they have always been ready to give; to the Honorary Secretary for the valuable legal advice given by him when requested; and to the Board of Directors, the Auditors, and the Honorary Accountant for the able and efficient manner in which they have discharged their duties during the past year."

That omnibus resolution reminded him of a story of a man who had come from America, and had been travelling in this country, and, as is usual when he had lived at various hotels, he found he had to put his hands pretty freely into his pockets in order to gratify those who had been waiting upon him. And so grave had been this tax, that when he got on to his ship at Liverpool, ready to sail back to his native land, he apostrophised the people of England, every man, woman or child he had not tipped, if they had any claims upon him, let them come forward now or for ever hold their peace. If, said the speaker, there was anybody in that hall who was not included in that resolution who ought to be included, he was quite sure the Chairman would give him the privilege of adding his or her name to the list.

He felt somewhat in an awkward position, because he knew they were all burning with the desire to hear the eloquence of Sir Henry Newbolt; and he felt that he would really be consulting their feelings as well as his own if he were to confine his observations just to three or four sentences. They lived undoubtedly in very stirring times: not only in the book trade, but in connection with the welfare of the nation at large. Last Wednesday, suffering from the depression to which the Chairman had so feelingly alluded, he was standing upon the cliffs at Watergate Bay in Cornwall, and he saw a ship, one of their merchant steamers, ploughing the ocean quite gaily towards the English Channel. Suddenly they saw that ship turn round, and as fast as it possibly could it made away for the Bristol Channel. They learnt subsequently that a submarine had appeared in the neighbourhood, and that accounted for this very rapid manœuvre. It was not often one on a holiday saw a sight like that; and one's post brought in very pathetic reminders of what was going on about them. He had a letter from a member of his staff who was at the front, who had been in one of the recent battles. His comrade next to him was buried alive in the trench, and two of his officers had been killed in one engagement. They only had to think of their Chairman to realise what other losses had been sustained by people whom they very much respected in their daily life. He felt that they could not go on with the business as usual when they were passing through such a crisis as the one through which this country was passing at the present time. Necessarily the trade connected with books must feel the depression more than perhaps any other trade. Because he supposed even Sir Henry Newbolt would agree that the purchase of books was more or less one of the luxuries of life; and even with the innumerable gift books issued in the sacred name of charity their business had not been quite as usual. But

he considered that on the whole they had very much to be grateful for. He thought the book-trade had come through the crisis of the last seven months with flying colours. (Hear, hear and applause.) Whether it was publisher, bookseller or author—or perhaps he ought to reverse the procedure, and say author, bookseller, or publisher—he thought they had all very much to be grateful for. He never went into a bookshop without metaphorically taking off his hat to the man who was managing it. He thought it was wonderful how a bookselling business was carried on. It was one of the mysteries to him, first of all, the prices that were charged, and the system in which stock was kept, and the whole ramifications of the bookselling business to him were amazing; and the longer he was in the trade, the more amazed he was; and therefore all honour to those who seemed to have made such a lot of money out of it and had done so well, both as booksellers and proprietors, to say nothing of those plutocratic authors to whom he had already alluded. There was his friend Mr. Shaylor, connected with one of the most eminent firms in the country. He was not only an author, drawing heavy royalties from the books he published—(laughter)—not only a bookseller in a very large way of business, but also a publisher, and the enlargement of the publishing business began to make some of them, publishers, a little nervous as to what was going to happen to them.

His last word was, he wanted them not only to support that fund personally, but he wanted them to get everybody connected with the Trade to join it. He believed in those Funds. He belonged to that one himself; he belonged to the Sick Fund, La Belle Sauvage, to the Journalists' Provident Fund, and to every fund he had a claim in any way to join. They had all heard the story of the old lady in church who used to bow when the name of Satan was mentioned. The clergyman went to her and remonstrated with the bowing at the name of Satan. "Oh," she said, "you never know what you may want, and courtesy costs nothing." (Laughter.)

There could not be anything more eloquently said that night than those figures given by their Chairman in regard to six widows who received between them such a large sum of money in return for the very small subscription that had been paid during the lifetime of their husbands. He proposed that resolution with all heartiness. He had perhaps wandered almost to Tipperary from the terms of it, but he did not think any words of his were necessary to recommend it to their consideration. He would only say that if there was a man in London for whom he had a high, sincere, and profound admiration, he was the Chairman of their meeting that evening. (Applause.) He had much to be grateful to him for. When he became attached to the publishing business in a more pronounced way than he had been some ten years ago, some of the publishers in London did not welcome him altogether with open arms. They did not greet him with a smile. But from the very first Mr. Longman had always been the kindest and most courteous of gentlemen; and he was there that evening because Mr. Longman was in the chair, and, secondly, because of the value of that Institution. Therefore he had great pleasure in asking the Meeting to accord their thanks to all the gentlemen he had named, and he wished the greatest possible prosperity to the Institution during the coming year. (Applause.)

MR. BARTON: It gives me great pleasure in seconding this resolution.

MR. SPURGEON put the motion, which was unanimously carried.

The PRESIDENT acknowledged the vote of thanks on behalf of himself and the others named therein.

MR. WM. LONGMAN proposed, and Mr. J. W. HARDEN seconded: "That the best thanks of this Meeting be given to the Worshipful Company of Stationers for the use of their Hall." The same was put to the Meeting and duly carried.

SIR HENRY NEWBOLT, M.A., D.Litt.

SIR HENRY NEWBOLT, M.A., D.Litt., said:—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am very much indebted to Mr. Longman for his kindness in giving me the opportunity of enjoying myself this evening for a few minutes in talking to you. Not because I have anything to say which is in itself very well worth saying, or because I have anything to say which you have not already had said to you probably many times before. Of that I know nothing, because this is my first appearance here. But because everybody likes to talk about things which he has thought about for a long time, and this gave me the opportunity to-night of speaking about two questions which have been in my mind ever since I was old enough to have anything that could be called a mind. Those two questions are: What is a book? and What is a bookseller?

The first question perhaps concerns me rather more than you; and I propose to postpone for a moment or two what I am going to say about it. The second question, "What is a bookseller?" is, of course, a question which any of you could answer, and could have answered many years before I found even the glimmerings of an answer to it.

What is a bookseller? To me a bookseller has always been a great mystery, to be approached only by the most elaborate and scientific methods of observation. (Laughter.) When I was very young I had a clear idea, and, of course, like all one's young ideas, it was a very obvious interpretation, and quite a wrong one. I had a very clear idea of what a bookseller was. He was a person who had a shop window very much like a pastrycook's shop window, and in that window were certain goods very much as it might have been currant buns, and if you saw there anything which you wanted, you went in and asked for it, paid the price, took it away, and devoured it at your leisure. That was my first observation about booksellers. Then came the stage when I used to go away to the seaside for holidays. Now, as everybody knows, at the seaside you always find that you have not brought anything with you to amuse yourself with. Towards the end of every week you begin to wonder whether there is anything in the house to read. We used to go round to the local bookshop. I am speaking, of course, now of a period many years ago; perhaps—I only say perhaps—there is not in any seaside place in this kingdom a bookshop so poor in its resources as some of those which I remember. But we used to go into a shop and ask for a certain book, or for something to read. If you knew what you wanted; if you had read a poem, or had a book recommended, the answer invariably in my recollection was, "I am sorry, sir; we have not it in stock, but we shall be very glad to order it for you." (Laughter.) Now I doubt whether any disappointments of youth were ever more exasperating than that particular kind of disappointment which occurred so often. When you want to read a book that you have just been told is a first-rate book, or when you have just read a review which tells you it is a first-rate book; when your head is full of it, and when it is, moreover, Friday, and you have nothing to do for the week-end, and you must have that book at once, to be told that somebody will order it for you is very disappointing. To begin with, it means, as the bookseller used to explain, that as to-day is Friday, the order will only reach London too late for business on Saturday. It consequently cannot be fulfilled before Monday at the earliest, and you will get your book on Tuesday if you are lucky, but more likely on Wednesday, or even on Thursday; and for the unfortunate boy who wants to read a book during his week-end to be told on Friday that next Wednesday or Thursday he may have it is very annoying.

There is another type of bookseller with which I made acquaintance afterwards; the type of bookseller who says to you, "No, sir; we do not stock that book, but I can offer you something which I think you will like better." (Laughter.) That is more than disappointing; that is positively exasperating; because, as

he has no idea of why you want to read the book, he can have no possible idea of whether another book will fill its place better or not. I hope these types of bookseller are by this time extinct. But they do lead me to this conclusion: That really the art of book-selling is a very remarkable one, and must be carried on by means of which the ordinary man can form no possible idea.

You may remember that many years ago, in fact, I think about 900 years ago, the Persian poet, Omar Kháyyám, in speaking of another mystery, the mystery of the wine-sellers, the vintners, said:—

“I often wonder what the Vintners buy
One half so precious as the Goods they sell.”

To him, of course, it was inexplicable that anyone could wish to part with wine in order to buy anything else. To me, it is very difficult to understand how anybody can want to part with books in order to buy anything else. But that is only part of the mystery, because I believe there is an explanation of that. The other part of the mystery which I have never solved is, How does any bookseller ever manage to go through the process of getting in and dispensing out the books which the public want? In my recollection, as I have told you, successes were very few and far between; but I have every reason to believe that in more modern times it is quite possible to go into a bookshop and to get out the book you want. Now that must be done—it may be done—in a mechanical way. I suppose it is conceivable that a bookseller might be found who should keep every book which is published; but I do not believe that that is the right solution, and I can tell you why. If you take every book, say 3,000 a year, which has been published in the last fifty years, you have 150,000 books. And I suppose no self-respecting bookseller would think of taking less than seven copies at the very least, if not thirteen—(laughter)—of any book which he chose to stock. It therefore follows that at the smallest he must have about one million books, and possibly about two million books, on his premises. That means that his premises must resemble the British Museum rather than any bookshop of which I myself have had experience, and it is not very likely that we shall find British Museums springing up all over the country in order to satisfy the needs of the book-buyer. Moreover, it is not a pleasure to me to think of a bookseller who should merely be like a penny-in-the-slot machine, where you go in with your shilling or your sevenpence or your five shillings and put the money in the slot, and say that you want a certain book, and the book at once appears without anybody having had anything to do with it except the performance of a purely mechanical process. To my mind, the secret must lie elsewhere. The real bookseller, the ideal bookseller, the bookseller who perhaps hardly exists on earth, but whose type of character, whose pattern, is laid up in Heaven—the real bookseller must manage to combine with that mechanical act of handing a book over the counter something of a selective, or even, perhaps, of an advisory character. It is that, of course, which makes him human, which makes him what I should call a bookseller.

Is there anybody who has ever been in the habit, the very humane habit, of buying books so extraordinary in his nature that he has never made friends with a bookseller? And why does he make friends with his bookseller? Not because he performs a mechanical act of handing a book over a counter, but because he tells him something about the book, or, at any rate, he shows that he knows something about it; or at any rate he shows that he knows something about the writer of the book, and the nature of the book, and, in fact, takes an interest in the article which he is selling. That, I imagine, is the real bookseller; and when I speculate upon how he carries on his trade, I am still content to leave it as a mystery. I know it cannot be merely the virtue of what is called “watching how the cat jumps.” A bookseller cannot

really be the man who is clever at knowing what the public are going to want. I do not say that the public are not generally right. I believe myself that in the long run, and in connection with books which last, the judgment of the public is generally right. The majority knows better than the individual. But I also believe that as with all arts and artistic productions, there are individuals—all the better sort of individuals—who know decidedly better than the majority, whose taste is decidedly better than that of the crowd. Consequently, if the bookseller followed only the majority of the public, he would not always be right; he would very often be wrong. It is not, then, the mere observance of popularity that makes the good bookseller. No. He has some means of getting at the truth about books which I have not, which I do not understand. But the result of it is that although he will not undertake, I hope, to thrust down my throat a book which I have not asked for, and which I do not want, when I go into his shop he will delicately engage me in conversation, and will ask me in a subtle and ingenious manner whether I have seen this book, and that book, and the other book; and whereas I went in to buy one book, with which he supplied me without a moment's hesitation, I shall probably end by going out with a bundle in my arm which I can scarcely carry. And, moreover, I shall be grateful to him for what he has done.

Of course, the bookseller enjoys tremendous advantages. He lives among books, and, what is more, he has advantage over all others, and especially over those who review books for us, in that he has time and opportunity to read them, which I believe is not the case with the reviewer. (Laughter.) A reviewer has to spend all his time in writing about a book, and it is quite impossible that you should expect him to find time also to read it. (Renewed laughter.)

Well, if that is the character of the ideal bookseller, and if those are the advantages under which he exercises his profession, it becomes very interesting to know, in order to find out all about him, exactly what is a book.

Now it is quite clear to me what a book is not. We have already said a book is not a currant bun. That is to say, it is not a thing made by the gross, put in and out mechanically across a counter in return for a coin. That is what it is not from the bookseller's point of view. What it is not from the author's point of view I can tell you myself. It is not a piece of craftsmanship; it is not a bundle of plain statements carefully decorated for the market. It is not, in fact, a sort of glorified woodcarving. That is not in the least what any work of art is. It is the expression of something; the expression of human emotions, the expression of human feelings and human thoughts. It is, of course, first of all the expression of the individual, the feelings and thoughts of the man who writes it. But that is not by any means the most important part of it. The bookseller does not deal with the works of one author only. The bookseller deals with the whole mass of books which are put forth by the nation. Now those books are the expression of something much greater than an author or any group of authors. Those books are the expression of the whole life and ideals of the nation—of what is sometimes called the National Culture. Just now the word “Culture” is very rightly a word to shun; a word which is not only rather misunderstood, but which is very much disliked and despised. But by the word “Culture” one may mean several things. One great nation especially by the word “Culture” means a most curious and unprecedented combination of pedantry, exact scientific study, very often of an elementary, rather crude and dry quality; but, at any rate, a powerful, penetrating, a pedantic study, combined with an extraordinary barbarism of character. That is not in the least what I mean by the word “National Culture.” The National Culture of every nation is, broadly speaking, its way of life; the way in which it

actually lives its life, and still more the way in which it believes that human life ought to be lived. It contains, therefore, all its ideas, all its practices, all its human relations, and all its aspirations and beliefs. Those are slightly different in every generation. They gradually change; they may even pass away. What does not pass away is the instantaneous record of that Culture which is recorded in the Literature of the country. Now it is no small thing to handle with understanding and with sympathy a mass of work which does represent the national practice, the national life, and the national ideals of a great people. And it is quite impossible that there should be any trade or occupation in life which has greater opportunities than that of the bookseller, who is the ideal bookseller I have been trying to describe.

The same thing applies, of course, to the publisher. But the publisher, although perhaps he handles books more intimately, handles fewer of them. I do not know whether publishers confine their reading entirely to the books which they themselves publish. I have sometimes suspected that they must do, when I have seen the enormous mass of new books which any one great House, like that of our President, will pour forth in a single year. But, at any rate, if they know the books more intimately, they must know fewer of them. The bookseller I imagine, as one used to imagine the grocer's apprentice in one's youth, is one who lives in a place entirely filled with good things, any one of which he may consume to his heart's content. Certainly, then, a bookseller ought to be certain of one thing. Having been in contact all his working-day life, and having had the opportunity of being in contact all through his leisure, with everything that is most memorable in the national life, with every expression which is most worthy to be recorded and perpetuated, he has the opportunity of laying up for himself a most desirable old age. I have not the least doubt that the ideal old age is the old age of a bookseller. If I had time, I would endeavour to secure that old age for myself by becoming a bookseller, but, unfortunately, I am otherwise occupied. There remains, then, in order to produce the ideal bookseller's life, one thing only, and that is, that that old age should be undisturbed by the troubles which come upon people either when they have not been provident, or when, having been provident, they have fallen into undeserved misfortune. That interference is provided against by the Society to which you belong; and it has been a pleasure to me to see this room to-night so well filled, and to hear such a prosperous statement of its accounts; because I can well believe that there is no more admirable Institution at the present moment in the City of London than the Booksellers' Provident Institution. (Applause.)

MR. REGINALD J. SMITH, K.C., in moving "That a vote of thanks be accorded to the speaker, Sir Henry Newbolt," said he had heard many addresses in that ancient hall, but he was sure they would agree with him in thinking, as he did, that they could not have had a more interesting, a more instructive, he might say a more humanising address than they had just heard from his friend Sir Henry Newbolt. He was sure that in moving a vote of thanks to Sir Henry he would have their very hearty support.

Continuing, Mr. Smith said: Ladies and Gentlemen, I was rather pleased with a little thing that came before me to-day. I had the privilege of reading the letters which were written by a boy, a midshipman, who on the 4th August, a date you will remember, was in Osborne College. He immediately went on one of the battleships, and had the great good fortune to be on the *Carnarvon* in the Battle of the Falkland Islands. I think it was December 9th. It was this boy's seventeenth birthday. He had the luck, as I say, to be in that engagement, and he did another thing the same day. He doubled Cape Horn, going after the *Dresden*. Well, reading these letters—there was one written just as the battle was beginning—I was pleased to see that the boy quoted some lines

which are very familiar to you. I think they may be familiar to Sir Henry Newbolt:—

"Admirals all, they said that day,
The echoes are ringing still;
Admirals all, they went their way,
To the haven under the hill.
But they left us a kingdom none can take,
The realm of the circling sea:
To be ruled by the rightful sons of Blake,
And the Rodneys yet to be."

I think Sir Henry Newbolt may be pleased with that tribute from a boy of seventeen in his first engagement.

MR. F. H. MILES had much pleasure in seconding the resolution. He observed that until he came there that evening he himself, although he had been in the trade some years, hardly knew what a bookseller was, and he was still of the same opinion. (Laughter.) There was one remark that Sir Henry Newbolt made which rather struck him. It was to the effect that the greatest privilege of all was to be amongst one's books. But he thought that the greatest drawback to a bookseller was to have the books always with him. (Laughter.) He thoroughly endorsed the motion for the vote of thanks.

The PRESIDENT, in supporting the motion, said that the verse which Mr. Reginald Smith's young friend the midshipman, quoted, came from a poem which they all knew, and which he might say was the first introduction he had to Sir Henry Newbolt; because it came out many years ago, as he was proud to remember, in the magazine which he (the President) then edited. It was entitled "Admirals All." He expressed the hope that Sir Henry might write many more such poems on that immortal subject. (Hear, hear.) They had that evening heard him weave an amount of romance round the career in the declining years of the bookseller which they hardly suspected to exist; and he still had hopes that some day Sir Henry might write—not only speak in that charming vein, but also add some lyrics on the subject of a bookseller's career, so that he might become not only the Laureate to the Navy, but also to the bookselling trade. (Laughter.) He put to the Meeting that they give the most hearty vote of thanks to Sir Henry Newbolt for his great kindness in coming there and giving such an interesting and charming address.

The motion was carried with applause, and the first part of the proceedings terminated.

A useful card, giving equivalent tables of Russian weights, measures and money, with instant conversion into the corresponding British denominations, has been issued by the Central Translations Institute, Ltd., of Danes Inn House, 265, Strand, W.C. In view of the increasing importance of our trade with Russia its helpfulness and utility need no commendation.

The Religious Tract Society have published a cheap shilling edition of "The Next Life, Light on the Worlds Beyond," by that popular writer, the Rev. J. Reid Howatt. It deals with matters of perennial interest and importance, and in its cheaper form will no doubt find a greatly extended circle of readers.

Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co. have just published "Hospital Handbook in English and French," by H. Mengens. It contains a list of drugs and dressings, medical terms, nursing necessaries, parts of the body, weights and measures, useful phrases and words in English and French. It will no doubt prove particularly useful to all engaged in medical work at the front.

Messrs. Cassell & Co. are adding to their Shilling Novels "The Flame," by Miss Olive Wadsley, which proved so successful when first published about two years since; Mr. Max Pemberton's recent story, "Captain Black," a sequel to his "Iron Pirate" is also added to Cassell's Sixpenny Novels.

Messrs. T. Nelson & Sons have added to their popular Sevenpenny Copyright Novels Sir Conan Doyle's well-known story, "The Hound of the Baskervilles"; to their Shilling Library, "The Story of My Struggles," the Memoirs of the late Arminius Vambery; and to the "Coleccion Española Nelson" "La Pimpinela Escarlata," por la Baronesa de Orczy, Version Castellana de Ricardo G. Llanos, the last a further illustration of the widespread popularity of that famous story.

In Preparation.

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co. will issue immediately "The Book of Hardy Flowers," by Mr. H. H. Thomas, a new volume of the publishers' well-known "Series of Gardening Books"; "Motor Cycles," by Mr. Bernard E. Jones, editor of *Work*, an addition to the "Work Handbook Series."

MESSRS. GREENING & Co. will immediately add to their Two Shilling Novels "The Girl from the East," Mr. David Whitelaw's popular story.

MESSRS. HURST & BLACKETT will issue at once "The Miracle of Love," a new long novel by Mr. Cosmo Hamilton.

MESSRS. HUTCHINSON & Co. announce "An Appreciation of Robert Hugh Benson," by Olive Katharine Parr, author of "A Red Handed Saint."

MR. JOHN LANE will publish next week a new novel, "Mrs. Barnet—Robes," by Mrs. C. S. Peel, author of "The Hat Shop"; also "Nature in Music, and other studies in tone poetry of to-day," a new music volume by Mr. Lawrence Gilman, author of "Music of To-Morrow" and "Aspects of Modern Opera."

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. are about to issue "The Gospel Miracles," a new work by Dr. J. R. Illingworth, with two appendices, treating of "The Nature of Man," and "The Confusion caused by Sin"; also the third and last volume of the fifth edition of Dr. J. Lewkowitsch's "Chemical Technology and Analysis of Oils, Fats, and Waxes," edited by Mr. George H. Warburton.

MR. JOHN MURRAY will publish next week "The Great Condè," by the Hon. Eveline Godley; also an "Illustrated History of Music," by Mr. Thomas Tapper, of New York University, and Mr. Percy Goetschius, Instructor at the Institution of Musical Art in the City of New York.

MESSRS. STANLEY PAUL & Co. will publish immediately "War Up to Date," compiled by Mr. Charles E. Pearce, explaining the uses of, and the differences between the many instruments of war; they will also issue next month "Britain's Deadly Peril: or, Are we Told the Truth," by William le Queux; "Juliette Drouet's Love-Letters to Victor Hugo," translated by Lady Theodora Davidson; "A B C of Collecting Old English China," by J. F. Blacker (reprint); "The Everyday Soup Book," by G. P.; "On Desert Altars," by Norma Lorimer; "The Sails of Life," by Cecil Adair; "The Ink-Slinger," by Rita; "The Free Marriage," by Keighley Snowden.

MESSRS. PUTNAMs will publish immediately "The Jester," a new novel by Miss Leslie Moore, author of "The Peacock Feather"; "Automatic Pistol Shooting," a new book by Mr. Walter Winans; "The Winning of the Far West," by Dr. Robert McNutt McElroy, a continuation of Mr. Roosevelt's well-known book "The Winning of the West."

Obituary.

Browne.—Recently, at Melbourne, aged 89, Mr. Thomas Alexander Browne, well known to many novel readers as "Rolf Boldrewood." He was born in London in 1826, and was taken as a child to Australia. There his career was varied. He was one of the pioneer squatters in Victoria, holding large properties, and losing them in the great droughts. In 1870 he was made Magistrate and Warden of the New South Wales goldfields, an office he retained till 1895. His first novel, "Robbery Under Arms," appeared in 1888, and at once made him famous. Since then he has written several others, which, though not quite so successful, still enjoy a wide circulation.

Crane.—March 14th, at Horsham, aged 70, Mr. Walter Crane, R.W.S., the well-known artist and writer. At the age of 17 he produced his first illustrated book, "The New Forest," and during the last fifty years the long list of the books he has illustrated includes many of permanent value. He was for some years Director of Design for the Manchester Municipal School of Art, and later Principal of the Royal College of Art, South Kensington, but he is best known as the founder and president of the Arts and Crafts Exhibitions, which have had so much influence on English art and craftsmanship during the present generation.

Du Maurier.—Lieut.-Colonel Guy du Maurier, author of "An Englishman's Home," the play that created so much sensation in 1909, killed in action in Flanders, the sad news being received on March 10th. He was the son of the famous *Punch* artist, and brother of Mr. Gerald du Maurier, the well-known actor.

McLaren.—March 6th, at his residence, rather suddenly, Mr. D. A. McLaren, for twenty-five years cashier and advertisement manager with Messrs. Hutchinson & Co., of Paternoster Row. He had been in indifferent health for some time, but it was only on the Monday previous that he actually relinquished his work. He was much liked by all with whom he came in contact, and many friends will deeply lament his loss.

Rogers.—March 4th, at his residence, Gorphwysfa, Grosvenor Road, Wrexham, aged 67, Mr. John Rogers, J.P., for many years a well-known bookseller in that town. As a boy he entered the employ of Messrs. Hughes & Sons, printers, Wrexham, and in 1870 he commenced business for himself as a printer and stationer in Hope Street. His abundant energy and keen business ability soon made themselves felt, and the concern speedily grew and developed. In 1891 he was joined in partnership by Mr. Jenkins, who now carries on the business under his own name, Mr. Rogers retiring from active work some ten years ago. He was much esteemed by all the townspeople, and as Deputy-Chairman of the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company, Director of the Wrexham Gas Company, a Manager of the Wrexham Savings Bank, and in many other capacities his business ability proved exceedingly useful. His death will be much regretted by a wide circle of friends.

Notices of Books.

A Lover's Tale. By Maurice Hewlett. Illustrated by Maurice Greiffenhagen. (Ward, Lock & Co.)—The materials of his latest story Mr. Maurice Hewlett has found in one of the famous Sagas of Iceland, and he expressly states his obligations to the two literal translations now current, one by the late Professor York Powell and the other by Messrs. W. G. Collingwood (whose work on Ruskin is so well known) and Jön Stefánsson. He further points out that the tale as set forth in these two versions is badly put together as a story, "with all its joints loose and some missing, with an abrupt beginning, no middle and no end." He has made it his particular business to tell the story properly, to put back into it "human nature and that logic of events which only a study of human nature can give." "Human nature," Mr. Hewlett goes on to remark, "is very much the same in Iceland and in England, and in all the countries I ever heard of or saw," and he finds the Saga full of human nature as we know it now. We are quite willing to accept this view, but we somewhat regret that Mr. Hewlett has not invented his own story, for the tale he now has to tell, which it is clearly in its essence one of the ancient Sagas, does not make quite such attractive or interesting reading as those which Mr. Hewlett has previously given us. Human nature is no doubt much the same now as it was then, but somehow the expression of those times hardly possesses the same attraction for the novel reader of to-day; and even Mr. Hewlett's expert skill as a storyteller does not quite overcome this inherent difficulty. It seems rather a pity that Cormac, who really loved the maiden Stangerd, an exceptionally beautiful young woman, was not allowed by fate to marry her, for they would, we are sure, have got on quite well and happily together, and Stangerd would certainly have been happier with him than she was with the masterful strong man, Berse, to whom she was eventually wedded against her will. A somewhat unusual feature, on which opinions may differ, is the introduction of a good deal of poetry, in which Cormac now and again sings the praises of his lady love. Some of the fighting scenes are vigorously described, and the whole tale possesses the mark of real distinction, which is never absent from Mr. Hewlett's work.

The British Empire: Six Lectures. By Sir Charles P. Lucas, K.C.B., K.C.M.G. (Macmillan & Co.)—There are few persons better qualified than Sir Charles Lucas to give the everyday English reader the real facts about the British Empire. For many years he was one of the permanent chiefs of the Colonial Office. In that capacity he has known much of its inner history, and he has written that standard text book, "The Historical Geography of the British Colonies." The further fact that he has dedicated these lectures to the members of the Working Men's College, with which he has been for many years closely associated, may be taken to indicate that they are intended to appeal to the widest class of readers—to the thoughtful working man no less than to the student of British policy and British politics. Sir Charles tells us in his short Introduction that he has tried here "to state as shortly, as simply, and as honestly as the writer can how this Empire came into being and what it means; to explain that it is not a mere creation of force and fraud; and to try to prove that it is at once the interest and the duty of all Englishmen, poor as well as rich, to maintain it." He quite rightly recognises "that among a large section of Englishmen there was a suspicion of Empire, both the word and the thing, as implying jingoism, vainglory, and hypocrisy," and it is not the least of the merits of his little book that it makes quite clear to all impartial minds, that this view, though it may be quite honestly held, is really altogether mistaken. Sir Charles's presentation of the history of the Empire at the important epochs of its growth and development is very

skilfully and suggestively done. For example, when he points out the value of Gibraltar, "a natural fortress of no direct value for trade, of no value at all for settlement, but of the utmost value for a seagoing power on the road to Empire, commanding one of the greatest trade routes of the world." Again, in the contrast between the freedom of the British Empire and the military despotism of the German Empire. Uniformity, as in Germany, can only be attained by force, while equal strength is at least possible through diversity. "Diversities may be and must be a danger to an empire in the making. . . . On the other hand, the danger may be risked and surmounted by wise statesmanship and practical good sense, with an incomparably greater outcome for the future. This is the possibility of the British Empire." A further argument for Empire is found by Sir Charles Lucas in the fact that "it was the Empire which delivered England from living on sufferance. . . . Nations, like men, cannot stand still: they grow or they decline; there could have been an England if there had been no English Empire, but it would have been a dependent England. If England has made an Empire, equally the Empire has made England." In the same way the importance of the Empire to England is vividly brought home when Sir Charles pertinently reminds us of the words of Carlyle when he dwells upon the qualities of the Englishman which have made the Empire, "not mere force nor love of greed, but the quality of discerning what is doable and what is not doable, the application to lands and peoples of practical common sense." These few points fairly sample the spirit and intention of Sir Charles Lucas's most admirable book, which will, we hope, find the widest possible circulation in all parts of the great Empire he so vividly and effectively describes.

Memoirs of the Duke de Saint Simon: An Abridged Translation with Notes. By Francis Arkwright, with Four Illustrations in Photogravure. Vols. I. and II. (Stanley Paul & Co.)—The Memoirs of Saint Simon, which have long been known as one of the most interesting and authoritative of the original sources for the history of France in the first half of the eighteenth century, need no commendation on the score of interest or importance. They are admittedly the very best of all French memoirs, but at the same time they are lengthy and unequal, and any complete translation is hardly practicable. Some editions have been published which are really little better than mere extracts, and Mr. Arkwright has done excellent service in providing this abridged translation. His object, he tells us, has been "to separate the dross from the ore; in short, to do the reader's skipping for him." He has, however, "when in doubt acted on the principle that it is better to retain too much than too little," and he has particularly "been careful to omit nothing which throws any light on the history and manners of the time, or on the character of Saint Simon himself." The aim and purpose of his work are clearly most commendable, and the six volumes which will present the work to the English-reading public will, no doubt, if these first two volumes may be accepted as a fair sample of the whole, remain for some time the standard English translation of this famous French classic. This instalment gives the memoirs from the account of Saint Simon's first presentation to Louis XIV. in 1691, when he was sixteen years of age, and had just commenced his military service as a Musketeer, down to the year 1707, the death of Madame de Montespan, who had been driven into retirement by Madame de Maintenon, who was afterwards secretly married to the King. It is, of course, impossible to review in any detail a work of this character, and we can only say that it shows in a wonderful fashion how Saint Simon managed to keep well behind the scenes, and to know fairly well most of the things that were going on.

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Trade and Literary Gossip.

The Easter Holidays.—"THE BOOKSELLER" will be published next week on Thursday, and all communications should be received by the first post on Tuesday. The office will be closed from Thursday evening till Tuesday morning.

Booksellers' Provident Institution.—At the last monthly meeting of the Board of Directors, Mr. C. J. Longman presided, supported by Messrs. J. R. Blade, L. Carrodus, J. Clark, J. Cooper, J. Foster, A. W. Gatfield, C. H. Hollingsworth, F. J. James, W. H. Jelpke, G. H. Johnson, W. A. Kelk, C. T. Langford, A. S. Lewis, J. Meade, A. W. Mills, A. J. Sabin, E. Shallis, F. W. Smith, W. H. Smith, G. C. Sole, J. E. Stroulger, R. E. Taylor. One new member was elected, and the sum of £121 8s. 2d. was granted for the relief of members and widows of members. The deaths of two widows were reported. In one case the husband had subscribed the sum of £42, and the widow had received assistance to the amount of £428 2s. 4d. In the other case, the widow, who had just died at the age of 48, had received during the years of her widowhood the sum of £432 6s. 6d., the subscription of her husband amounting to £30 16s. A grant for funeral expenses was made in both cases. The following donations have recently been received:—The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, £5 5s.; Messrs. George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., £2 2s.; Mr. A. J. Ritchie, £1 1s.; Messrs. Chatto & Windus, £5 5s.; "Law Notes" Library, £1 1s.

For King and Country.—The following has been received since our last list:—

MESSRS. W. H. SMITH & SON (Thirtieth List).—Boden, E., 12th County of London Rangers; Cole, C. A., 7th Batt. Essex; Taylor, W. E., Sherwood Foresters; Shoebridge, A., Royal Fusiliers; Page, C. E., R.F.A.; Pedder, H. E., 3rd County of London Yeomanry; Hollman, W. J., R.A.M.C.; Clements, S. W., R.F.A.; Sanvarin, L., 3rd County of London Yeomanry; Sparks, D., R.E.; Harvey, B. J., A.S.C.

Publishers' Association.—The Annual General Meeting will be held at Stationers' Hall next Tuesday, at 3.30 p.m.

Mr. Simon Brentano, of New York, of the well-known American publishing firm, whose death was recently announced, has left estate valued over £200,000. He left instructions that the publishing business should be kept in the family.

A Whist Drive, under the auspices of the N.B.T.P.S., will be held on Friday, April 16, at Caxton Hall, Cabin's Restaurant, Tothill Street, Westminster (one minute from St. James' Park Tube Station, District Railway). The committee desire that an early application should be made for tickets in order that all arrangements may be made. About forty prizes will be given by members of the trade. The prizes will be presented by Mr. Frank Hanson, President of the N.B.T.P.S. (London Branch). Tickets may be obtained from all booksellers, any member of the committee, or from either Mr. A. W. Gibbs, 22, Ashbourne Avenue, Golder's Green, N.W., or Mr. Cecil Palmer, Red Lion Court, E.C.

Eltham.—The high-class Bookselling, Stationery and Fancy Goods business carried on for some years by Mr. A. Dale Sheppard, at 16, The Broadway, has been purchased by Mr. W. Bray Collins. Messrs. Holmes & Son, 33, Paternoster Row, London, E.C., sold the business and conducted the valuation on behalf of both parties.

National Book Trade Provident Society.—At the last meeting of the Committee of Management five applications for membership in the Insurance Division and two in the General Division were passed. It was decided to hold the Annual Meeting on Friday, May 14th, at 8 p.m., and it was reported that the Stationers' Company had kindly consented to grant Stationers' Hall for this purpose. The President reported that at his request Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P., had consented to address the members at the meeting.

Mr. Balfour has delivered to Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton the manuscript of his Gifford Lectures, "Theism and Humanism," which will be published immediately.

Messrs. Thomas Nelson & Sons are about to publish a Continental Library of Works by modern English and American authors. This library will contain the latest books shortly after their publication in England and America, and will be for sale only on the Continent of Europe. The Continental Library will be issued from Messrs. Nelson's Paris office, No. 189, Rue St. Jacques. The published price will be 2 francs net per volume. Owing to the large European connection which has been established by their French and Spanish Libraries and their various cheap English libraries, Messrs. Nelson are in an especially favourable position for giving new English and American books the widest Continental circulation. Among the early volumes of the library will be the latest works of Rudyard Kipling, Miss Marie Corelli, Sir H. Rider Haggard, Sir A. Conan Doyle, Jeffery Farnol, Sir Gilbert Parker, Baroness Orczy, Agnes and Egerton Castle, Ian Hay, George Birmingham, Anthony Hope, and E. F. Benson.

The Life of His Majesty Albert, King of the Belgians, which Messrs. John Long, Ltd., have just published in a cheap and popular form, will undoubtedly command a very widespread circulation. The heroic figure of the Belgian King stands out in astonishing relief against the tragic background of the misfortunes and sufferings of his country, and his name will long remain famous in any future history of Belgium. Mr. J. de Courcy MacDonnell has succeeded in giving his readers a very graphic and lifelike portrait of the King, his character and his actions, since he succeeded to his heritage. The picture of the simple home life of the Belgian Royal Family is specially attractive and touching, and in every way he has accomplished his task with conspicuous success. Beside the King, his Consort Queen Elizabeth fills a place hardly less in the minds and feelings of all Belgians. Indeed, she is pre-eminent among all the Royal ladies of Europe, as at once her people's Sovereign and their most intimate sympathetic friend. The book, we may add, has had the advantage of the King's personal revision and approval, and Commandant Maton, Military Attaché of the Belgian Legation, London, prefixes a short appreciative introduction.

Manchester and District Booksellers' and Stationers' Association.—The Annual Meeting and Social Evening was held on Friday last, in Smallman's Café, High Street, Manchester. There was a full attendance, notwithstanding depletion among the male members owing to a goodly number having joined His Majesty's Forces. Mr. J. S. Smith (Messrs. John Heywood, Ltd.) was in the chair, and was supported by principals and representatives of various branches of the trades. After the minutes of the last annual meeting had been passed, the Secretary, Mr. A. T. Kerslake, (Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son), and the Treasurer, Mr. F. J. Barlow (S.P.C.K.), presented their respective reports. Each was eminently satisfactory, the membership being practically normal, and the net balance almost the same, notwithstanding that for the first time £15 had been contributed to the Belgian booksellers and the Manchester local relief funds. Votes of thanks were accorded the retiring officers and President (Mr. J. S. Smith), in seconding which his namesake (though no relative!) Mr. E. W. B. Smith—the well-known bookseller of Bury—made very happy references to the good the Association was evidently doing among the trade in Manchester. Mr. Smith's earnest and enthusiastic work during the past twelve months was very cordially acknowledged. Mr. J. S. Smith proposed, and Mr. Hughes (Sherratt & Hughes) seconded, Mr. F. Johnson (Williams & Norgate) as President for 1915-16. Two veteran members, Messrs. J. Shaw (John Heywood, Ltd.) and H. M. Cater, supported with much earnest feeling, and in the case of Mr. Shaw some reminiscences of delightful cricketing afternoons in days gone by when the nominee was "a lad in whites." The proposal was carried with acclamation, and Mr. Smith welcomed his successor to the chair. Mr. Kerslake and Mr. Barlow were re-elected to the positions which they have filled so successfully. Messrs. W. M. Wharton (John Heywood, Ltd.) and Harrison were re-appointed Auditors. A full list of the Committee and other officials will be given in a later issue. After refreshments a musical programme was much enjoyed: Mr. Cater volunteered to recite "The Blunders of a Bashful Man," and achieved a double success. Mr. Cuthbert Allan's charming baritone voice and easy delivery created a furore. An old friend (who has now left the book trade for a "more tyreing" occupation), Mr. P. Maggs, achieved his usual success with a pack of cards and his "soliloquies" whilst manipulating them. A very pleasant evening was closed by the whole company singing "God Save the King."

Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru.—To enable preparations to be made for the removal to the new buildings, the National Library of Wales will be closed to readers on and after the 1st of April, 1915, until further notice. The new buildings stand on an eminence close to the town of Aberystwyth, overlooking Cardigan Bay, and thus provide one of the most magnificently placed library buildings in the world.

Messrs. Methuen & Co. have published in their Sevenpenny Novels "Katherine the Arrogant," by Mrs. B. M. Croker; "A Drama in Sunshine," by Mr. H. A. Vachell.

Sir Henry Newbolt's remarks at the Annual Meeting of the Booksellers' Provident Institution, reported in our last issue, on his "ideal old age of a bookseller," have incited a correspondent to express his ideas in the following verses, which we are sure many of our readers will read with interest:—

A BOOK-LOVER'S IDEAL.

One room I'll have that's full of shelves,
For nothing but books; and the books themselves
Shall be of a sort that a man will choose
If he loves that good old word *PÉRUSE*:
The kind of book that you open by chance
To browse on the page with a leisurely glance,
Where you are certain and sure to find something new
Although you have read it ten times through.
I don't mean books like *Punch*, in series,
Or all the volumes of *Notes and Queries*;
But books of that special sort I mean
Where your favourite passage is easily seen—
The same page always, and the same position,
It's never the same in another edition!—
"The Vicar of Wakefield," and "Evelina,"
"Elia," "The Egoist," "Emma," "Catrina,"
"Fuller and Malory," "Westward Ho!"
And the wonderful stories of Daniel Defoe,
And Izaak Walton, and Gilbert White,
With Plays and Poetry left and right!
With no glass doors, and with no "fumed oak"—
Plain deal, and fumed by myself with smoke;
Stained, if at all, to a pleasant brown,
With ledges and places for putting books down.
And there I'll sit by a blazing log
With a sweet old briar and a glass of grog,
And read my "Pickwick," "Pendennis," "Huck
Finn,"
In comfort and ease when my ship comes in.

We have received from an esteemed correspondent the following note in memoriam of the late Mr. John Rogers, of Wrexham, whose death was recorded in our last issue:—"I first knew him as an assistant to Messrs. Hughes & Son, Wrexham, but became more intimate with him after he commenced business 'on his own' in 1870. It was always a pleasure to renew our acquaintance bi-annually, and as time rolled on it gradually grew into a closer intimacy. Mr. Jenkins was his fellow colleague till 1891, when he joined Mr. Rogers and remained as his partner until a lingering and painful illness made it necessary that Mr. Jenkins should take the sole charge of the business. The illness caused all his friends grave anxiety, but after a time he happily recovered, and was enabled to give of his best to the benefit of his fellow-townsmen. R.I.P."

"The Girl's Own and Woman's Magazine" for April will contain an article by Mr. Alexander Graham Bell, the great inventor, whose name will always be associated with the telephone, on "Things We May Yet Invent."

Messrs. W. & A. K. Johnston have very opportunely issued an excellent "War Map of the Dardanelles and Bosphorus." It shows the Forts, Main Roads and Railways, and provides an inset map of the Dardanelles and the Forts, and one showing the extent of the Turkish Empire. At the present moment the map is particularly welcome.

The Spring List of the New and Recent Publications of the Religious Tract Society, recently issued, contains particulars of many important and interesting books which are well worth the attention of all book-buyers.

In the "Canadian Bookseller and Library Journal," which we are glad to note has been resuscitated in an attractive new series, the first number of which has just reached us, Dr. George H. Locke, the Librarian of the Toronto Public Free Libraries, has an exceedingly interesting article on "What Toronto Reads." He tells us that over a million books have been read by the patrons of the Toronto Public Library during the past year, which works out on an average to more than two books for each person in the city. The Public Library is, he maintains, the greatest aid to the bookseller in disposing of his books. "This is not theory, but can be proven any day of the year." It is true that the great majority of the books read are fiction. But "the great majority of books bought are fiction. Good wholesome fiction is recreation, and that is one of the reasons for the existence of a Public Library. The pre-dominance of fiction in a city such as Toronto can be explained very readily when one understands that there are fourteen Public Libraries in different parts of the city, each one of which is a community centre, where people meet one another and from which they get books to read. . . . The class of books that is most highly in favour at the present time, because it is commanding the largest audience and bringing the greatest return, is that which is known as 'Books for Boys and Girls.' Our best illustrators are working for this class of books, and our booksellers are finding an enormous demand for it. Now it would be a most arrant folly to say that the booksellers have created this demand. On the contrary, the demand has been developed entirely from the Public Libraries, and the booksellers and the book publishers are reaping the benefits. Of the Dovercourt branch of our Library, in the children's room there are 2,000 books; the circulation of these books during the past year was 42,746. In other words, we develop a taste for reading, which taste will have to be satisfied, and it can be satisfied only through books which are to be purchased from booksellers and book publishers. We had an exhibition last December of books suitable for parents to buy for children. We advertised that there was no book in this collection which retailed for more than one dollar. We had hundreds of visitors who took lists of books which they intended to buy for their children, and we had many parents who brought their children with them, so as to pick out what books would be attractive. Yet there are still booksellers and book publishers who think that such exhibitions and such development in Public Libraries do not help the booksellers. The fact of the matter is that the Public Librarian takes more intelligent interest in the booksellers' trade than the bookseller does in the Public Library."

"Scribner's Magazine" for April contains an article on "The Fighting in the Carpathians," by Mr. James Archibald, who is with the Austrian Army—the impressions of so well-known a correspondent will be remarkable, seeing that they have been received on the side of our enemies; a further instalment of Mr. Galsworthy's novel "The Freeland"; the second article of Colonel Goethals' series on the Panama Canal, this one dealing with "Labour Problems Connected with the Work."

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—Another, it seems, has lately been added to the recorded instances—by no means few—in which a book that has suffered rejection by a succession of publishers has scored an immediate and emphatic hit when it has finally found a sponsor. This, we are told, has happened in the case of "Rain Before Seven," which its author, Mr. Eric Leadbitter, is said to have offered in vain to one prominent publishing-house after another before it was accepted by the firm of George Allen and Unwin, with a result which has fully vindicated their judgment. As I need not remind you, there are even established "classics" of recognised greatness which struggled to their birth under precisely similar circumstances; and, until publishers and their "readers" acquire the gift of infallibility, or are able to add tame prophets of unerring efficiency to their respective literary staffs, there is no kind of guarantee against the occasional occurrence of similar mistakes in future.

From the author's point of view, there is at least the consolation derivable from the knowledge that these little errors of judgment are obviously of the kind that bring their own punishment. There can be few things more exasperating to a publisher than the discovery that he has allowed a book endowed with the elements of success and popularity to slip through his fingers and contribute to the prestige and profit of a professional rival. I well remember the present head of a very eminent publishing-house telling me, not long ago, that the mistake of his ancestor and business predecessor, the founder of the firm, in rejecting a certain work which is now secure among the literary "immortals" would never cease, as long as he lived, to be a source of poignant regret to him. And it occurred to me to imagine the malicious pleasure which the avowal would certainly have given to the spirit of the long since departed author, if it could have been conveyed to him at his present address in the literary department of the "happy hunting-grounds."

But, after all, it would be surprising if publishers did not now and then find themselves the victims of misplaced confidence in their own judgment, especially when it is remembered that their quest of literary talent is conditioned, to some extent at any rate, by the consideration whether the particular kind of merit which they may think they discern in any individual work is of a sort that is likely to be recognised and appreciated by a large enough section of the reading public to make the book "worth while" from a business point of view. I am well aware that even in these commercial and keenly competitive days there are publishers—all honour to them—who will occasionally produce a book, not because they have any expectation that it will prove a source of profit to them, but solely because they admire it and are glad to be associated with it and give it to the world as a piece of literary artistry. But such cases must of necessity be exceptional; and in normal circumstances the publisher, if he wants to make "ends meet," is compelled to let himself be guided not only by his own literary judgment or that of his "reader," but also by what he knows, or thinks he knows, of the tastes and requirements of the book-buying (and book-borrowing) public. And, having to reckon with so very uncertain and elusive a factor, it is small wonder that he sometimes makes a mistake.

This reminds me, by the way, of something that Sir Henry Newbolt said about another branch of the book trade in that charming speech to the members of the Booksellers' Provident Institution which THE BOOKSELLER gave us all the opportunity of reading *verbatim* last week. Speculating humorously, from a layman's point of view, upon the way in which the "real bookseller" carries on his trade, the distinguished author of "Admirals All" expressed his conviction that "it cannot be merely by virtue of what

is called 'watching how the cat jumps.' A bookseller cannot really be the man who is clever at knowing what the public are going to want." That is all very well; but though it seems to be more the publisher's than the bookseller's "job" to anticipate what the public are *going* to want, it is certainly a very large part of the bookseller's business to be clever at finding out what the public *do* want, and to be rapid and efficient in supplying it. Sir Henry Newbolt himself gave an amusing description of the type of bookseller who seems to make a point of never having anything except what his customers *don't* want; but he made it quite plain that he did not look for his "real bookseller"—and certainly not for his ideal one—in that direction.

I met with a curious kind of enigma, the other day, in the daily gossip-column of the *Evening Standard*, and no amount of brain-cudgelling has enabled me to hit upon a satisfying solution. Dealing with the present situation in the book-trade, the writer remarked—"Probably even the best-known novelists have found their sales dropping by twenty or thirty per cent., but it is curious and perhaps very lucky that the new books by first-rank authors published since the war began have for the most part been comparatively poor efforts." It is that "perhaps very lucky" which bothers me. Why, in the name of all that is mysterious, should it be very lucky that the latest productions of favourite authors have been below par in point of attractiveness, just at a time when the sales of books are in any case adversely affected by outside circumstances, and when it is therefore obviously more necessary than ever that the books which are put on the market should make the strongest possible appeal to the reading public?

Has the output of war-books already become excessive? It seems to be an admitted fact that some of the more recently published works of the kind have by no means realised expectation in the matter of sales; and this certainly appears a little ominous in view of the number of books of the same order which are still to be issued as the present season advances. I imagine the truth of the matter to be that people are getting so vast and constant a supply of war-reading from their morning, evening, and weekly newspapers that, when they have time to turn to books, they prefer those that are of a nature to give their minds a temporary respite from the one great dominating subject. I confess it is no surprise to me that this should be the case, and, as you may remember, I have all along deprecated the idea that new issues other than war-books would be unacceptable to the public at the present time. As the event is proving, it is fortunate that the mistake of concentrating wholly or mainly on war-literature this season has been avoided by most of the publishers.

In her very interesting book, "An Englishwoman in a Turkish Harem," recently published by Methuen, Miss Grace Ellison notes with regret that, while the sale of French books in Turkey has been "enormous," English literature has been almost entirely neglected, owing to our failure to spread the knowledge of our language in the Near East. Possibly if the misguided Turk had been in a position to acquire more first-hand information about the English, he would have known better than to allow Germany to entrap him into his present fatal adventure. However, it is too late now; and if he should haply develop any belated interest in our literature after the war, it will no doubt have to be forwarded to him, not at his present address, but at his new capital somewhere in Asia Minor.

"Britain's Deadly Peril; or, Are We Told the Truth, by William Le Queux." Such was the precise form in which this portentous announcement greeted us in last week's list of works in preparation; but even my recollection of a recent ultra-amazing "spy" book shall not tempt me to speculate whether the second comma is there by design or by accident.

Messrs. Putnams have recently published, or have ready for early issue, the following: "In Hoc Vince," The Story of a Red Cross Flag, by Mrs. Barclay, author of "The Rosary"; "On the Fighting Line," a new novel by Miss Constance Smedley; "Patricia," by Edith Henrietta Fowler, author of "The World and Winstow"; "The Jester," by Leslie Moore, author of "The Peacock Feather," "Children of Banishment," by Frances W. Sullivan, a novel of Canada; "Deutschland über Alles, or Germany Speaks," compiled and analysed by John Jay Chapman; "The Evidence in the Case—a Discussion of the Moral Responsibility for the War of 1914, as disclosed by the Diplomatic Records of England, Germany, Russia, France, and Belgium," by James M. Beck, late Assistant Attorney-General of the United States, with an Introduction by the Hon. J. H. Choate, revised edition with additional material; "One American's Opinion of the European War—An Answer to Germany's Appeals," by Frederick W. Whitridge"; "Why Europe is at War," by Frederick Coudert, Prof. Von Mach, F. W. Whitridge, Dr. Iyenaga, with an Introduction by Francis V. Greene; "Alsace and Lorraine: From Cæsar to Kaiser, 58 B.C.—A.D. 1871," by Ruth Putnam; "The World Crisis and the Way to Peace," by E. Ellsworth Shumaker, author of "God and Man"; "The Munroe Doctrine: National or International," by William I. Hull; "Japan to America," a symposium of papers prepared under the editorial supervision of Prof. Naoichi Masaoko; "The Industrial and Commercial Schools of U.S. and Germany," a Comparative Study, by Frederick W. Roman; "The Tuberculosis Nurse," by Ellen N. La Motte; "Tabular Views of Universal History," compiled by George Palmer Putnam, M.A., and continued to date under the editorial supervision of George Haven Putnam, Litt.D., new and revised edition; "Life and Law," by Maude Glasgow, M.D.; "Fear and Conventionality," by Elsie C. Parsons, author of "The Family"; "The Religion of the Spirit in Modern Life," by Horatio W. Dresser; "In the Oregon Country," by George Palmer Putnam, with an Introduction by the Hon. James Withycombe, Governor of Oregon, Rambles in Oregon, Washington, and California; "The Lady," by Emily James Putnam (Mrs. G. H. Putnam), new and cheaper re-issue; "Sun Lore of All Ages," by William Tyler Olcott, author of "Star Lore of All Ages"; "The French Revolution and the English Novel," by Allene Gregory; "Rhymes of Homes," "Rhymes of Little Boys," and "Rhymes of Little Folks," by Burges Johnson.

In Preparation.

MESSRS. J. M. DENT & SONS will shortly publish "Jean Baptiste," a romantic story of French Canadian life, by J. E. le Rossignol; "From the Shelf," a record of life and experience on "the shelf" in a deserted monastery on the island of Majorca, by Paxton Holgar.

MR. LEOPOLD B. HILL will publish next week two further books to help us to understand and be understood by our Allies, viz., "Grammaire Anglaise" (English Grammar for French People), par E. V. Bisschop, and "The Briton in Russia" (Briton Abroad Series, No. 10), by J. H. Wisdom.

MESSRS. HUTCHINSON & Co. will publish shortly "Loneliness," the last novel by the late Monsignor Robert Hugh Benson; a new novel by "Berta Ruck" (Mrs. Oliver Onions), entitled "The Courtship of Rosamond Fayre," a comedy of love; "Little Comrade; the Romance of a Lady Spy in the Great War," by Burton E. Stevenson. A tale of mystery, love, and international intrigue.

MR. JOHN LANE will publish next week "Napoleon's Death Mask," by G. L. de St. M. Watson, a most interesting and exhaustive study by a Napoleonic specialist, indispensable to all students of Napoleon; "Russian Realities," by John Hubback, an intimate study of Russia and Russian life by one who has known it personally for many years, with six illustrations and a map; a popular edition of "Cornish Saints and Sinners," by J. Henry Harris, with drawings by L. Raven-Hill, which has been out of print for some years.

MESSRS. T. WERNER LAURIE, LTD., will issue immediately the first volume of their "African Library." It is written by Albert F. Calvert, F.S.A., and is called "South-West Africa under German Domination." The book has two coloured plates, 230 half-tone reproductions from photographs, and some specially-drawn maps; "To Arms!" a novel by W. H. Williamson, a history of the war in the vivid and human and thrilling form of a novel.

MESSRS. HORACE MARSHALL & SON will publish immediately "John Bull's Surplus Children," by Denis Crane, a careful study of the recent development in the emigration of children to Canada and a defence of the system.

Correspondence.

THE BOOKSELLERS' PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

DEAR SIR,—I am requested by the Board of Directors of this Institution to express to you their grateful thanks for your kindness in supplying reports of the Annual General Meetings for distribution among the members of the Institution.

These reports have proved of great value, both from their accuracy and from the point of view of the time saved at the meetings, and the Directors feel that they are very much indebted to you.

I am, yours very truly,

C. J. LONGMAN,
President.

Stationers' Hall Court,
London, E.C.

19th March, 1915.

ENGLISH BOOKS IN PAPER COVERS.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

DEAR SIR,—A writer in the *Daily Mail* has pointed out that owing to the war the libraries can get no new "Tauchnitz" books. Now, he suggests, is the time for some enterprising publishing firm to step in and issue English books in paper covers at a reasonable price. This is just what I have been doing for several years past; "Unwin's Library" is well known on the Continent, and has had a large circulation. It now includes sixty-four volumes, mainly of fiction, issued in paper at 1 mark 50 or 2fr. each. A new volume shortly to appear is "The Woman in the Car," by Richard Marsh, author of that famous sensational novel "The Beetle." Other new volumes are Miss Ethel M. Dell's "The Knave of Diamonds" and "The Way of an Eagle," and Olive Schreiner's "Dreams." Among other well known authors whose novels have been included in the series are H. G. Wells, H. de Vere Stacpoole, E. F. Benson, Mrs. Humphry Ward, Mary E. Wilkins, Barry Pain, John Oliver Hobbes, and S. R. Crockett.

Yours faithfully,

T. FISHER UNWIN.

March 20, 1915.

Notices of Books.

Reminiscences and Letters of Sir Robert Ball. Edited by his son, W. Valentine Ball. With a Photogravure Frontispiece and eight Plates. (Cassell & Co.)—Few lecturers have combined to the same degree of perfection the power of popular scientific exposition and the highest theoretical scientific knowledge as the late Sir Robert Ball, the successor at Cambridge as Lowndean Professor of Astronomy to Professor Adams, the famous discoverer of Neptune. For, well known as he was among the leading authorities in astronomy, he was equally, perhaps almost better, known as a popular lecturer on astronomical subjects to popular audiences all over the country. All those who have enjoyed listening to his characteristic expositions will find equal pleasure in reading this delightful account of his life and work, this admirable portrait of a most attractive and remarkable man. Though he was born in Ireland and possessed all the characteristic wit of the Irish, he was a Devonian by extraction, and he had made for himself a great reputation as Professor of Astronomy at Trinity College, Dublin, and Irish Astronomer Royal before he was elected in 1892 Professor of Astronomy at Cambridge. For all Cambridge men the chapter which tells the story of his work in that chair will no doubt prove the most interesting part of the book, and the general reader will find it hardly less attractive and enjoyable. It is, perhaps, a little unfortunate that his son has not been able to say much about the very remarkable lectures which made his father so widely known. No written copies of them are in existence, we are told, and those who listened will remember that part of their greatest attractions was the inimitable fashion in which they were delivered, the characteristic way in which they were made to appear almost as impromptus, in spite of the fact that they were always most carefully prepared. Nor does Mr. Ball tell us much about his father's important researches into the mathematical theory of screws, in which subject he showed himself one of the great mathematicians of his time. The many extracts from his correspondence, which fill a large space in the volume, admirably illustrate his characteristic pleasantry and humour, and whether he is poking fun at his chairmen, or replying to some strange query received at the Observatory, he is always most entertaining and amusing. Altogether, Mr. Ball has given us a very excellent and lifelike sketch of his famous father, which will long remain a permanent memorial of his vivid, forceful, and always delightful personality.

Napoleon in Exile: St. Helena (1815-1821). By Norman Young. With two coloured frontispieces, and one hundred illustrations, mainly from the collection of A. M. Broadley. Two volumes. (Stanley Paul & Co.)—The present volumes, which have been appropriately published just one hundred years after the landing of Napoleon near Cannes, with which the story commences, are the sequel to Mr. Young's previous work, "Napoleon in Exile: Elba," published last year. Mr. Young's handling of the first part of his task received our hearty commendation, and we can at once say that the present volumes demand and deserve the same unstinted praise. For we now have in sufficient detail a complete and definite presentation of an episode which for many years had been deliberately misrepresented, and therefore quite naturally misunderstood. Mr. Young here makes it clear that Napoleon during the whole of his detention at St. Helena—a fate which he hardly anticipated, but which by general consent he had practically made inevitable,—posed as a martyr and invented grievances to justify the pose. It was, perhaps, natural that he should hate his guardians, and that he should defame the character of Sir Hudson Lowe to such good purpose that it was many years before the calumnies he invented were fully refuted. This was no doubt partly the fault of the Government, who had unfortunately so mismanaged matters that if they had then allowed

Sir Hudson Lowe to publish the story of the matter they would have laid themselves open to well deserved blame and discredit. Governments have, before then and since, been content to shift on to another the blame which is properly theirs, and one can only be glad that, in this case at any rate, the *bonâ fides* and right dealing of Sir Hudson Lowe have been effectively established. The whole story, unpleasant and at times unsavoury as it is, Mr. Young has set forth with clearness, authority, tact, and discretion, and his book will no doubt be the last word in what has been for too many years an unfortunate and an unsatisfactory controversy. A specially attractive feature of the book is its admirable and lavish equipment of illustrations, mainly selected from Mr. A. M. Broadley's unique collection, an equipment which very materially helps the reader to understand and appreciate many of the most important points which are dealt with as they arise.

The Titan. By Theodore Dreiser. (John Lane.)—The aims and methods by which the great financial magnates of America amass their enormous fortunes must always provide ample material for the realistic novelist if he can make himself familiar with the real histories and biographies he has to present to his readers. Mr. Dreiser, it is clear, is well acquainted with these matters from the inside, and the picture he here paints bears the evident impress of reality and truth. The chief character, Frank Cowperwood, is one of those masterful Chicago financiers who make their millions out of the robbery of the rights of the community. He is brutally strong, forceful, and fascinating, a man who seems bound to win. And yet when we first meet him he has only just come out of a Philadelphia gaol. He is, of course, rich, for his kind are nearly always rich, and makes his way to Chicago, where he is soon busy in making a new fortune in the old way. He gets rid of his wife and marries his mistress, and at first they make a fine show in Chicago, until his rivals find out his story, and for a time a boycott begins. Throughout the whole book Mr. Dreiser shows himself familiar with the conspiracies and intrigues of the financiers, the politicians, the bosses, the blackguards who have made public and business life in the great cities a commercial and political cesspool. The various incidents and scenes are described with dramatic vigour and effectiveness, and the unsavoury story of the millionaire's amours is very skilfully intertwined with that of his various financial deals. Cowperwood is a masterly portrait, and the whole drama palpitates throughout with reality and life. As a vigorous satire on one aspect of American life and society it stands in a place of its own, quite apart from the ordinary novel of everyday life.

The Chronicles of the Imp: A Romance. By Jeffery Farnol; also An Appreciation of the Author and his work by Clement K. Shorter. (Sampson Low, Marston & Co.)—A new story by the author of "The Broad Highway" hardly needs any introduction, but as Mr. Clement Shorter remarks in his pleasant appreciation of the author and his work, Mr. Farnol has written nothing quite on the same lines as this his latest tale. Mr. Shorter is content to describe it as "a simple story with which we may pass a pleasant hour." He tells us he likes the Imp and his Aunt, and we are quite sure all who read the book will find them most attractive. The plot is very slight, and the story full of pleasant and whimsical fancy, and the stages by which the "Imp," who is a delightful small boy whose proper name is Reginald Augustus, helps his "Uncle Dick" in due time to win for his wife "Auntie Lisbeth," are described with much pleasant and fanciful humour. The whole story possesses a wonderful charm, and is sure to prove a permanent favourite, not only with all those who have enjoyed Mr. Farnol's previous books, but with all who can appreciate a simple and delightful story.

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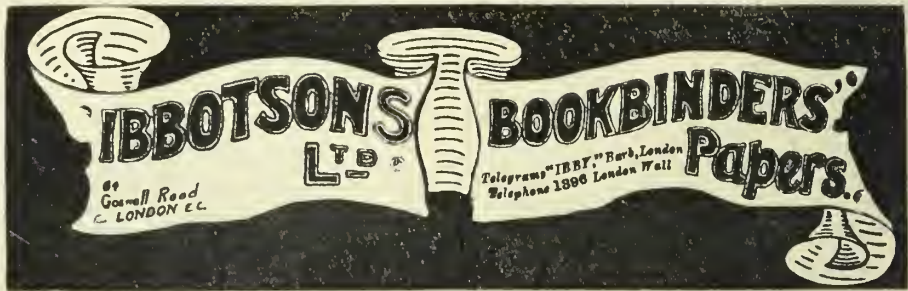
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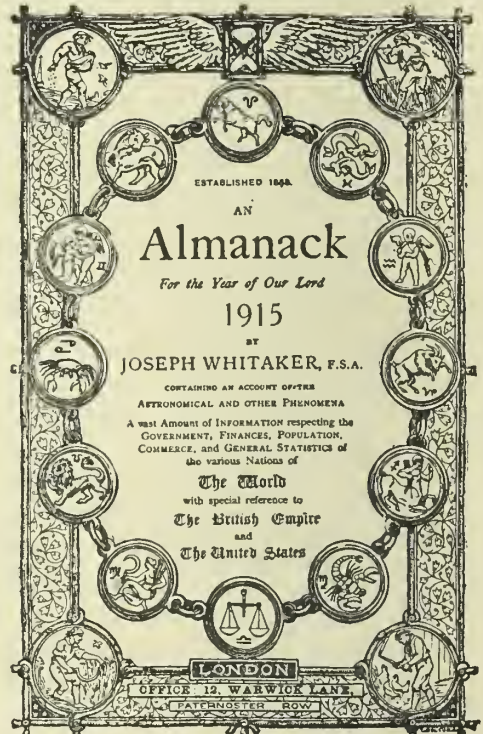


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Communications relating to the Literary Department, Books for Review, Note of Changes, and all matters interesting to THE TRADE, must be addressed to the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER, 12, Warwick Lane, Paternoster Row, E.C., and be received at latest by the first post on Wednesday.

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Trade and Literary Gossip.

The Publishers' Association and the Booksellers.—In the Annual Report of the Association, which appears on another page, there is one paragraph which is more than usually significant. We are there told that "a suggestion made by the Associated Booksellers for a Joint Committee of publishers and booksellers was carefully considered, but the Council felt that no good end could be served by the establishment of such a Committee." We need hardly reiterate our often expressed regret at this *non-possumus* attitude on the part of the Council. We should have thought it needed no argument or proof to show the essential desirability of such a Joint Committee, in view of the close interconnection of interest between the two branches of the book-selling trade. Nor need we add anything to the other considerations in its favour which were so unanswerably set forth in the suggestive article on "Book Trade Organisation" which recently appeared in our columns. That article expressed the views of one who is as fully acquainted with the position of the publishers as with that of the booksellers. He, in common with many, sees in the hearty co-operation of the two, the only real method of dealing with the many intricate problems which are so imperatively awaiting an early solution.

On his retirement, after 40 years' service as editorial and publishing secretary of the S.P.C.K., Canon McClure has been presented with a cheque to provide bookcases for his library. His portrait, painted by the Hon. John Collier, has been presented to Mrs. McClure.

For King and Country.—The following has been received since our last list:—

MESSRS. W. H. SMITH & SON (Thirty-first List).—Cape, H. W., R.F.A.; Willett, P., Cyclist Co., S.M. Res. Div.; Brooks, H., Middlesex; Atkin, J., Motor Transport; Roden, J. G., R.F.A.; Galvin, A., R.F.A.; Keating, J. J., R.F.A.; Barlow, A., 1st Kent Cyclist Batt.; Maltby, G., Sherwood Foresters; Armitage, T., Leicestershire; Webster, A., London Scottish; Gregory, T., Middlesex; Gardener, W., A.S.C.; Sherman, A., Lord Kitchener's Army.

Mr. Bertram Mitford, novelist, of Cowfold, Sussex, left unsettled property of the gross value of £2,196, with net personalty of £2,059.

Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton announce that the following awards have been made in their All-British £1,000 Prize Novel Competition:—The prize of £250 for the best Canadian story has been awarded to Mrs. A. E. Taylor, of 9, Dempster Terrace, St. Andrews, N.B., for a novel entitled "Land of the Scarlet Leaf." The prize of £250 for the best Australian story has been awarded to Miss Katharine Susannah Prichard, of 64, Chelsea Gardens, for a novel entitled "The Pioneers." The prize of £250 for the best South African story has been awarded to Mr. F. Horace Rose, of Maritzburg, Natal, for a novel entitled "Golden Glory." The prize of £250 for the best Indian story has been awarded to Mr. S. Foskett, care of Mr. B. Foskett, 8, Chester Crescent, Newcastle-on-Tyne, for a novel entitled "The Temple in the Tope." The judges were Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P., Mr. Charles Garvice, Sir H. Rider Haggard, and Captain A. E. W. Mason.

Wimborne, Dorset.—The Bookselling, Stationery and Fancy Goods business carried on for some years by Mr. G. E. Bozon, The Clock House, 22, High Street, has been purchased by Miss E. A. Bacon. Messrs. Holmes & Son, 33, Paternoster Row, London, E.C., sold the business and conducted the valuation on behalf of both parties.

Mr. H. Gordon Holmes—second son of Mr. H. G. Holmes, J.P., and Mrs. Holmes—partner in the firm of Holmes & Son, 33, Paternoster Row, E.C., was married to Miss Violet May, daughter of Mr. Henry Parry, late of Portmadoc, North Wales, at Paddington Chapel on Wednesday last, by the Rev. R. S. Holmes, uncle of the bridegroom.

Miss Ethel H. Dell's new novel, "The Keeper of the Door," will be published next week by Mr. Unwin. The story may be described as in some respects a sequel to "The Way of an Eagle." The hero is Maxwell Wyndham, a young doctor who made his first appearance in "The Rocks of Valpré"; and the heroine is Olga Ratcliffe, the niece of Nick Ratcliffe of "The Way of an Eagle," now grown to womanhood. Nick Ratcliffe plays the part of beneficent genie in the lives of both. The latter half of the book is laid chiefly in a turbulent little State in India, where three more old friends from "The Way of an Eagle" and "The Rocks of Valpré" join the main party, and go through a terrible adventure with them.

The British Museum is about to issue the "List of Catalogues of English Book Sales." It ranges in date from 1676 to 1900, and will thus be far in advance of anything of the kind yet attempted. It is arranged chronologically—the only satisfactory system—and this forms a basis for a history of English book-collecting. There is a full index of owners, which will be found useful to collectors and booksellers in tracing the provenance of rare books.

The Kipling Collection formed by Mr. G. M. Williamson, of New York, realised nearly £1,130 at the recent auction sale. High prices ruled throughout. The scarcest of the Kipling first editions, "The Smith Administration," published at Allahabad in 1891, sold for £130. A copy of "Schoolboy Lyrics," Lahore, 1881, realised £53, a set of the "United Services College Chronicle," from October, 1878, to December, 1894, brought £100, and "Echoes by Two Writers," Lahore, 1884, £60.

Messrs. George Newnes, Ltd., are publishing, immediately, under the title of "Sir Edward Grey, K.G.: The Man and His Work," the first biography that has ever been published of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. Although Sir Edward Grey looms more largely in the public mind than almost any other man in the world, yet, outside a small and exclusive circle of friends, practically nothing is known of the man himself. His innate hatred of publicity and intense natural reserve have hitherto presented an impenetrable barrier against the shafts of public curiosity.

"**The Evidence in the Case,**" by Mr. James M. Beck, late Assistant Attorney General of the United States, recently published by Messrs. Putnams, has been translated into French, Italian, Spanish and Dutch.

Messrs. Hodgson & Co. will sell by auction, at their Rooms, 115, Chancery Lane, on Friday, April 9th, a further Selection of Books from the Library of the late Dr. W. Aldis Wright, Vice-Master of Trinity College, Cambridge. The selection includes a complete copy of the Complutensian Polyglot Bible and a set of the Chaucer Society's Publications, 1868-1914, also a complete set of the Tudor Facsimile Texts.

The Annual Report of the Bodleian Library, just published in the *Oxford University Gazette*, states that the additions to the Library during the year 1914 total 74,348, as compared with 97,795 in the year previous. Some sixteen members of the staff have joined the Army in various capacities, and the work of the absent members has to a large extent been undertaken by those who remain. There has naturally been a great diminution of German, Austrian, and even French literature, but probably extra money will have to be expended at the conclusion of the war in the purchase of works only kept back on account of difficulties of transit. The number of readers has not fallen off nearly as much as might have been expected, partly owing to the opportunities for research work afforded to Professors, Readers, and Fellows of Colleges in the present condition of the University. The Report notes that the meeting of the Library Association, which was to have been held at Oxford last September, was unavoidably abandoned, and it is quite impossible to forecast at present at what time and in what way a future meeting may be arranged.

Mr. Joseph Hocking, the well-known novelist, has been asked by the War Office to conduct a recruiting campaign in Cornwall.

To the attractive Service Edition of Kipling's Works Messrs. Macmillan & Co. have just added "The Day's Work," two volumes, and "Kim," also in two volumes; to be followed next month by "Traffics and Discoveries" and "Actions and Reactions," which will complete the re-issue.

A Spanish Correspondent reports that General Echague, Minister for War, has presented to the artillery museum at Madrid a letter from Admiral Lord Nelson to the Governor of the Canary Islands, dated June 26th, 1796, in which he warmly thanks the Governor and the Spanish authorities for their delicate attentions during his recovery from wounds. Nelson offers the Governor, whose name was Gutierrez, a gift of a barrel of beer and an English cheese.

Mr. John Lane has just published shilling editions of "The Crime of Sylvestre Bonnard," by Anatole France, translated with an Introduction by Lafcadio Hearn, and of "Simon the Jester," by Mr. W. J. Locke, a tale which in its new and cheaper form will no doubt find increased acceptance with the novel reading public. Mr. Lane has also published an attractive collection of the "Poems of Emile Verhaeren," selected and rendered into English by Alma Strettell. In any case, an English version of the Belgian poet's most characteristic work would be very welcome, but at present, when Belgian matters are so prominently to the front, it will be particularly acceptable. The volume is made additionally attractive by a portrait of the author by Mr. John S. Sargent, which forms an appropriate frontispiece.

"**The Athenæum Year Book**," a guide to the annual literary production of the United Kingdom, which is to "contain the titles, authors, publishers, and prices of books published during the past year, with descriptive notes of the contents," is in preparation, but it will not be issued unless a sufficient number of subscribers is obtained.

Mr. Fisher Unwin has just published "Aircraft in the Great War," by Flight-Commander Claude Grahame-White and Mr. Harry Harper. Its aim is to explain in a popular, dramatic and perfectly non-technical way just what aerial warfare means as revealed in the happenings of the present war, and how air-scouting helped to save our Expeditionary Force from annihilation at Mons and its immense value in the operations at Paris and afterwards. Mr. Unwin has also issued a new edition of "Dead Souls," the famous Russian novel by Nikolai Gogol, with an introduction by Mr. Stephen Graham.

Messrs. Stanley Paul & Co. will publish next week "Britain's Deadly Peril," by William Le Queux, which is described as a book of "fearless and outspoken criticism," and a first edition of fifty thousand copies will be printed.

The Life of General Joffre, by Alexander Kahn, which Mr. W. Heinemann has just published, gives a most excellent account of the "cooper's son who became Commander-in-Chief." Mr. Kahn's task has not been easy, for the "silent taciturnity" of Joffre, with his disinclination to publicity or advertisement, greatly limits the material out of which such sketches can be written. In spite of all drawbacks, however, Mr. Kahn has made the most of the resources open to him, and has given the reader a very fair portrait of the French commander-in-chief, and all will agree with his final conclusion, "a man of honest purpose, of constant pursuit, of unflinching energy, of deep thought, and of great learning; a leader of sterling qualities, a general of genius, a soldier without fear or reproach—this is General Joffre, his life and himself."

Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. have just published "The House of the Foxes," by Katharine Tynan; "The System of National Finance," by E. Hilton Young, M.P.; "Hugh: Memoirs of a Brother," by Arthur C. Benson; "Round the Red Lamp," by Sir A. Conan Doyle, a new volume in their three-and-sixpenny novels. They have second impressions in the press of "Paris Waits: 1914," by Mrs. M. E. Clarke; "A Freelance in Kashmir," by Lieut.-Colonel G. F. MacMunn, D.S.O.; "War and Lombard Street," by Hartley Withers; and "The Full Price," by Lady Charnwood.

Messrs. T. C. & E. C. Jack have published a very striking and topical story by that popular writer, Mr. Guy Thorne, entitled, "The Secret Service Submarine," a story of the present war. It would not be fair to reveal the plot, but we may say that Mr. Guy Thorne tells his exciting story with all his accustomed vigour and graphic force, and the reader's attention is grasped at once and firmly held till the destined dénouement is in proper time brought about. It would be an interesting story at any time, but just now it should prove quite exceptionally successful.

Publishers' Association.—The following have been elected as the Officers and Council for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. Reginald J. Smith, K.C.; Vice-President, Mr. James A. Blackwood; Treasurer, Mr. W. M. Meredith (Constable & Co., Ltd.). Council: Longmans, Green & Co.; Blackwood, Wm., & Sons; Bell, G., & Sons, Ltd.; Murray, John; Constable & Co., Ltd.; Macmillan & Co., Ltd.; Smith, Elder & Co.; Black, A. & C., Ltd.; Heinemann, William; Williams & Norgate; Chatto & Windus; Oxford University Press; Cassell & Co. The Report of the Council states that "The war has had little effect on the general work of the Association, and has called for no emergency measures beyond what is entailed in the work of the new Trade Committee." It points out that the war with Germany has not cancelled the international rights of German authors, "as there has been no abrogation of the conditions of the Berne Convention." It records the hearty support given by the Council to the fund which has been started for the relief of the Belgian Book Trade, and the vote of £100 towards that object, and it has called the attention of members to the formation of various libraries for the use of soldiers and sailors in hospitals and camps. The Council express the opinion that any attempt by Local Education Committees to produce their own educational books should be vigorously contested, and the Council will be glad to receive information on this point from any member of the Association who may be interested. A Trade Committee, consisting of Messrs. Black, Heinemann, Longman, Meredith, and Spalding, with power to add to their number, has been appointed to consider, advise upon, and, when necessary, deal with all trade matters directly affecting members of the Association. Several cases of booksellers' complaints against publishers have been satisfactorily settled. It is further noted that "a suggestion made by the Associated Booksellers for a Joint Committee of publishers and booksellers was carefully considered, but the Council felt that no good end could be served by the establishment of such a Committee" (an unfortunate decision on which we comment elsewhere). The Report records with much regret the death in his ninetieth year of Mr. Edward Marston, and that Messrs. Scott, Greenwood & Son, Crosby Lockwood & Son, Alston Rivers, Ltd., have resigned, and Messrs. George Allen & Co., Ltd., have ceased to be members. The Medici Society, Ltd., and the Manchester University Press have become members.

Messrs. Putnams have published an attractive reprint of "In Hoc Vinco: The Story of a Red Cross Flag," which Mrs. Barclay contributed to "King Albert's Book." It is now reprinted as originally written, including the final sentences on the symbolism of the story which were then omitted. Mrs. Barclay explains that the main details are perfectly true, and we are sorry to see that the hero of the tale, to whose memory it is dedicated, was killed in action a few weeks afterwards. We need not say that Mrs. Barclay tells the tale with all her characteristic skill, and short though it is, its merits are in inverse proportion to its length. It will no doubt find wide acceptance.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—This, they tell us, is to be for a great number of people a stay-at-home Easter. As the stage directions of the Elizabethan dramatists remind us, "alarms and excursions" were once closely associated in time of war. Nowadays, in similar circumstances, we get the alarms and have to do without the excursions. Well, I doubt not that the deprivation will be recognised, by most of those who suffer it, as a very light affliction to be called upon to endure in days like these; and we may at least be sure that all who find an unfailling source of recreation and pleasure in books will be able to make themselves perfectly happy at their "ain fire-side," and even—if the weather is as it so often is in very early spring—to bless the disguised kindness of the fate which has imposed upon them so agreeable an alternative to the braving of rude Boreas in chilly country lanes or on hail-swept marine parades.

As for those to whom books are, in one way or another, a business as well as a pleasure, they may profitably devote some portion of this quiet Eastertide to meditating upon the present condition of things in the trade, and comparing it—difficult and very far from normal as it undoubtedly is—with the all-black prophetic picture which was presented to them by panic-stricken Jeremiahs in the early days of the war. And, if I were allowed to suggest a text for their meditations, I should venture to commend to them the inspiring and now classic formula—"Are we down-hearted? No!" No doubt, as a cheerful "Job's comforter" went out of his way to remind us in the *Daily Chronicle* the other day, "this is a bad time for books generally." But the point is that it might easily have been a very much worse one; and though I have my own opinion as to what ought to be done to those clever people who go about talking as if the war were already as good as over, I think we are reasonably justified in hoping that we have now seen the worst of its effects upon the arts of peace, and that things will consequently be on the up-grade in the near future, as compared with the position in the immediate past.

If, by the way, you want a really encouraging example of recuperation on the part of a professional industry that seemed to be threatened with grave disaster at the beginning of the war, you may find it in a study of the recent and present experience of the newspaper world. We all remember how, in those fateful days of August, even the great daily journals shrank to ominously reduced proportions, and on every side there were whispers of the suspension, actual or impending, of numerous periodicals, and of the desperate struggle which others were having to maintain their precarious hold on life. Compare that state of things with the fact that within the last three or four weeks no fewer than half-a-dozen new papers—one daily and five weekly—have been launched, in all cases, apparently, under prosperous conditions, and you will realise how very considerable is the difference between the journalistic outlook of to-day and that of eight months ago.

One cannot forget, however, that, for those associated with the book trade, there is a point of view from which this renewed energy in the multiplication of papers can hardly be regarded as consoling. With all this mass of attractive periodical literature to tempt them, there is an obvious danger that the vast number of people who have only limited leisure for reading of any kind may be seduced into devoting less and less time to the reading of books. But this form of competition is inevitable, and "things without all remedy should be without regard."

The recent reminder that Germany's ill-starred attempt to *strafen* England has had the effect, among others, of suspending our supply of new "Tauchnitz" volumes suggests once more the question whether paper-covered books are ever likely to establish themselves in general favour in this country. Mr. Fisher Unwin drew attention, last week, to the fact that his

paper-covered series known as "Unwin's Library," in which many works of contemporary English authors of distinction have been included, is well known on the Continent, and has had a large circulation. But it remains a fact that the paper-bound book has not so far gained the hold in England that it has long enjoyed in Continental countries; and it must be confessed that there seems less likelihood than ever of its doing so in days when quite handsome and more or less substantially bound volumes can be had at prices within the reach of almost anybody who can afford to buy books at all.

In the announcement of one of the new novels on Mr. John Murray's list, I fancy I detect a touch of quiet sarcasm at the expense of those pretentious novelist-preachers who imagine themselves endowed with a mission to regenerate the world and reform everybody and everything through the medium of their work. The book, says the advertisement, "may be read with confidence by all who enjoy fiction for the recreation and entertainment it provides." One can hardly imagine anything better calculated to commend a novel to favourable attention in an age in which fiction is so constantly employed as a kind of rostrum for the expounding of its author's personal views and fads on all sorts of debatable subjects. That a novelist should make it his outstanding aim to provide recreation and entertainment for his readers would no doubt seem to these posing prophets and apostles a quite shocking waste of opportunity. Yet in pursuit of this modest object a good deal of fiction has been written which will still be read with delight long after most of the work of our self-conscious modern "problem"-worriers has been forgotten.

Not many modern statesmen of the first rank have been able to keep themselves "out of the limelight" as successfully as Sir Edward Grey, who has such a rare gift of unobtrusiveness that the public know very little about him beyond the fact that he is an enthusiastic fisherman as well as an admirable Foreign Secretary. Now, for the first time, we are getting a book about him, written by an author who seems to share his subject's shrinking from publicity, since he apparently prefers to remain anonymous. The firm of Newnes is responsible for the issue of the work, in which we are promised an intimate picture of Sir Edward, both in his official and in his private capacity. In that picture I hardly think we shall recognise the truculent swashbuckler and malevolent schemer who, according to the newly-invented Teutonic legend, insisted on forcing war upon poor, innocent, peace-loving Germany.

It was, I think, the Quaker statesman John Bright who said that the only use of war was that it helped to teach people geography. One is reminded of this rather cynical dictum by the extraordinarily large number of books relating to foreign countries which are included in the current publishers' lists. It is not merely geography that war helps to teach, and if John Bright had lived to see the greatest armed conflict in the world's history, he might have found some consolation in the fact that the very vastness of its extent, and the unprecedented number of nations involved, make it necessary for all who desire to be decently informed to carry their quest for precise knowledge of other lands and races over an infinitely wider area than ever before. And, seeing that this particular kind of knowledge has not hitherto been the average stay-at-home Briton's strongest point, it is easy to understand the greatness of the demand which the publishers are just now so judiciously setting themselves to meet.

If the supreme value of a book-title lies in its capacity for shrieking for attention, Mr. Reginald Bliss must certainly be allowed to have hit the bull's-eye with his "Boon, the Mind of the Race, the Wild Asses of the Devil, and the Last Trump," which Mr. Fisher Unwin is about to publish. But should not the first word of this megaphonic title have another stroke to its final letter?

JACOB OMNIUM.

"A Bibliography of Unfinished Books, with Annotations," is now in course of preparation. The compilers are Mr. Albert R. Corns, F.L.A., and Mr. Archibald Sparke, F.R.S.L., F.L.A., Chief Librarian of Bolton, and in the annotations they have tried to tell from trustworthy sources the reasons why the books included have remained unfinished. The book will run to about 200 pages, and will contain over 2,000 entries, and subscribers are asked to send their names to either of the two authors mentioned, who will be glad to give any further particulars.

Sir Sidney Colvin has edited a new edition of the "Poems of John Keats," which has just been published by Chatto & Windus. This edition is complete in two volumes, printed at the Florence Press, and contains the new poems which have been recently discovered.

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. CHAPMAN & HALL will publish immediately "The War and our Financial Fabric," by Mr. W. Walter Wall, a well-known authority upon all questions of finance; they will also add to their "Shilling Library" "The Peradventures of Private Paget" and "The Passing of the Flagship," by Major W. P. Drury; "More Letters to my Son," by Miss Winifred James; "The Devil's Keg," "The One Way Trail," "The Compact," and "The Twins of Suffering Creek," by Ridgewell Cullum.

MESSRS. HUTCHINSON & Co. will publish shortly a new novel, entitled "A Bride of the Plains," by Baroness Orczy, the author of "The Scarlet Pimpernel," &c. It deals with the love of a young peasant lad for a beautiful girl of his native village, and his separation from her while he is compelled to do his two years' military service.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & Co. will issue immediately a three-and-sixpenny edition of "Round the Red Lamp," by Sir A. Conan Doyle. It will form the twenty-third volume of his collected works.

MR. T. FISHER UNWIN will publish shortly "Marjory Mallory," by Mr. Ivan Hodgkinson, the twenty-first volume of his well-known "First Novel Library"; also "Factors in Conduct," by Professor A. Thielton Mark, of Manchester, author of "The Teacher and the Child"; it is a brief study of ethics, and is in part of the nature of a sequel to the author's recently published "The Unfolding of Personality," a study in psychology and education.

Correspondence.

MR. G. HAVEN PUTNAM AND THE WAR.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

MY DEAR MR. EDITOR,—You found yourself interested in bringing into print in THE BOOKSELLER some weeks back a letter of mine to the Leipzig publisher, Mr. Karl W. Hiersemann. Mr. Hiersemann had found occasion for criticising utterances of mine in regard to the issues of the pending war, and had taken the ground that Americans did not have a proper understanding of the actual conditions. In my letter, I had pointed out the reason why Americans, with hardly an exception, found themselves cordially supporting the cause of England and her Allies, believing that they were fighting in behalf of civilisation and for the protection of the liberties of Europe. We held further that if Germany should succeed there must,

of necessity, be left open issues that would lead to war again in the near future, and that it was only through the success of the Allies that there could be prospect of an assured and continued peace.

Mr. Hiersemann has answered my letter in so fair-minded and considerate a manner that I think that his words should be brought to the attention of the same readers who had had before them my arraignment of Germany's position and of Germany's actions. I can but feel that in the correspondence that has come to us from Germany as a result of the issues of the war, the publishers make a better showing, as far as reasonableness and fair-mindedness are concerned, than do the scientists and the professors of ethics.

I am, yours respectfully,

(Signed) GEORGE HAVEN PUTNAM.

2, 4 & 6, West 45th Street,
New York,
March 6th, 1915.

[COPY.]

KONIGSTRASSE 29,
LEIPZIG,
February 8, 1915.

George Haven Putnam, Esq.,
G. P. Putnam's Sons, Publishers,
2, West 45th St., New York City.

MY DEAR SIR,—I fully appreciate the friendly tenor of your favoured letter of January 21st, respecting the present war, and thank you heartily for it.

On the other hand, I am afraid that we will not agree about the origin and necessity of the war by whatever I reply to it, although we are both men of the best intention. The war has been in the air for years, and we all feel that it was impossible to avoid it, or to put it off longer, unless we would be likely to run the risk to be blotted out as a nation by our present enemies. While the British nation has tried for the last six months to make us give in by trying to starve us with our children and at the same time monopolising the seas, the Americans supply them, to the English and their Allies, cannons, powder, weapons, &c., in fact all the material they need for the war. There is no help for us but to defend us in the best way possible.

I hope to see you next winter in New York, and then I hope to find you in good health and be allowed to pay you cordial, personal respects. In spite of General Bernhardt's books, we are a peaceful, hard-working people.

I am, believe me, my dear Sir,

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) KARL W. HIERSEMANN.

A BOOK-LOVER'S IDEAL.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

DEAR SIR,—I am afraid I must deprive your correspondent, who sent you some verses, printed in your last number under the title of "A Book-Lover's Ideal," of the claim he apparently makes to their authorship. Save for a few changes—not, I venture to think, for the better—the lines appeared as part of a longer poem by me, entitled "When My Ship Comes In," in the *Cornhill Magazine* in 1904.

This fact, I fear, also disposes of the suggestion that they were inspired by Sir Henry Newbolt's remarks to the Booksellers' Provident Institution.

I am aware that he who steals my verses steals trash, but I wish he would not misquote. I enclose a corrected copy to substantiate my claim to the original trash.

Yours faithfully,

F. SIDGWICK.

3, Adam Street, Adelphi,
London, W.C.,
March 29th, 1915.

We are holding over to our next issue an interesting communication from Mr. Thatcher, of Bristol.

Notices of Books.

The Holy Flower. By Sir H. Rider Haggard.

The Fires of Love. By Marie Connor Leighton. (Ward, Lock & Co.)—The thousands of delighted readers who have so thoroughly enjoyed the wonderful adventures of that famous hero, Allan Quatermain, as set forth in several previous romances by Sir Rider Haggard, will need no recommendation of ours to purchase and read this latest addition to that well-known series. Nor will they need any very detailed description of the scheme and plot which Sir Rider Haggard has once more devised for their delectation. The characteristic features and attractions of these stories are already widely known. The accurate and vivid descriptions of the wild African country in which the scenes are usually laid, the picturesque and vigorous characters who carry on the tale, and, in particular, the marvellous deeds and exploits of the great hunter, Allan Quatermain himself, a hero whose prowess is unsurpassed and unsurpassable—whose skill in shooting is almost superhuman, and who, whatever the danger and peril in which he finds himself, is always able at the right moment to find a safe way of escape. "The Holy Flower," which gives its name to the story, is a wonderful orchid, which is carefully cherished as divine in an out of the way part of Africa, and the romance tells how Quatermain succeeds in the almost impossible task of finding it, and bringing it, or rather its seed, safely back to England. We need not praise the book in any detail: it is enough to say it is another of Sir Rider Haggard's Allan Quatermain tales, if not the best, at least one of the best, and it shows that his pen has not forgotten its cunning—is, indeed, more wonderful and more marvellous than ever. In "The Fires of Love" Mrs. Leighton once more illustrates her exceptional skill in the construction and working out of an exciting and mysterious plot. The Rev. Gerald Orde, a popular Baptist minister, loves Miss Errol, the daughter of a local millionaire, but her father wishes her to marry a peer, one Lord Vereham. All this time Luce Golding is in love with Mr. Orde, and the story tells how in the end Miss Errol gives her life to save Luce Golding, and in response to her last appeal the minister marries Miss Golding; how Lord Vereham turns out to be one Stephen Hare, a murderer, who eventually cheats justice by committing suicide in his cell. It will be seen that the story is sufficiently sensational, but it is told with wonderful skill and vigour and holds the reader's attention from the first page to the last.

The Christ of the Men of Art. By J. R. Aitken. With Frontispiece in Colour, Twenty Reproductions in Photogravure and Twenty-eight in Half-tone. (T. & T. Clark.)—It is, of course, only what might have been expected that, as Mr. Aitken quite rightly points out at the commencement of his book, "the spell of the Christ has been upon the men of art and they have given us from pencil and brush some of the deepest thoughts of the Son of Man." As he further phrases it, "All the world of art has gone after Him and the greatest and best of the men of art have been strangely drawn to Him. The pathos, the beauty and power of His life and death have entered the heart of the noblest among them." And this being so, it goes without saying that the work of tracing the long succession of famous painters and famous paintings of which Christ has been the inspiration and the theme is a task well worth the doing, and which, if well done, with the necessary knowledge, sympathy and judgment, may be expected to make an effective appeal to a wide circle of interested readers. Mr. Aitken draws special attention to the fact that when the greatness of the subject is remembered it becomes manifest that "the subject of Christ is to the painter, sculptor, poet, and singer the supreme test of the greatness of

their work." He further emphasises the essential condition that "to ensure success heart counts for more than hand and soul than touch. . . . If there be no love, no lifting of the heart and the life, the highest skill will not avail." All this Mr. Aitken illustrates in the course of his work as he traces the presentations of Christ in the art of the various stages and epochs from the early centuries through Byzantine Art and that of the Renaissance, through the works of the great Spanish, Flemish, and Dutch painters, down to more modern times, concluding with the main pictures of British artists that deal with this perennially fascinating subject. In the last chapter, which we could almost wish to have reprinted separately, we have careful and sympathetic descriptions of such famous paintings as Madox Brown's "Christ Washing the Feet of Peter," Holman Hunt's "Light of the World" and "Shadow of Death," Millais' "Boy Christ," Burne-Jones' "Easter Morn" and "Dies Domini," and others hardly less well known. Throughout Mr. Aitken shows true artistic feeling and judgment, and every page well deserves very careful attention. The many reproductions in photogravure and half-tone form a special feature of the work, which in every way will take a specially high place among standard works on this always attractive subject.

Defective Children. Edited by T. N. Kelynaek, M.D. (John Bale, Sons and Danielsson.)—Some few years ago, soon after the Act which authorised a State School Medical Service, a collection of studies relating to the organisation and administration of such a service was published under the title of "Medical Examination of Schools and Scholars," and the present volume is intended to be a sequel to that work. Its aim is "to provide reliable and authoritative information regarding the chief classes of defective children requiring special medical supervision and educational care." It is, indeed, one of the most satisfactory facts in the development of our national education of recent years, that at last the nation has become partly awakened to "the urgent necessity for securing the conservation of its children." Something is being commenced in this direction, and everything that can be done to stimulate the movement, to spread knowledge on a subject which is as yet but imperfectly understood, and to provide accurate information for the help of all those who are actively working for its progress must always command and deserve every encouragement. The present volume contains some twenty-seven important papers, each by a recognised expert on various points dealing with the proper treatment of defective children. The contributors have been enlisted from the United States, France, Austria and Germany—these papers, it should be added, were requested and written before the outbreak of the war—Canada, Scotland, Ireland, and from city and provincial centres. The authors have rightly been allowed a free hand in the expression of opinions, and the chief intentions and purpose of all have been "to assist in the establishment of ways and means whereby effective measures may be organised and administered for the rectification, arrest, or amelioration of all forms of defect." The book may, indeed, be described as "a collective contribution to the comparatively new field of medico-educational literature." The fact that it has been dedicated to Sir George Newman, M.D., the Chief Medical Officer of the Board of Education, is in some sort a guarantee of its importance and authority, and the editor, Dr. Kelynaek, whose activity in this department of medical work is widely recognised, may be warmly congratulated on the complete success with which he has carried out the editorial work. A word of special praise is due to the very excellent bibliographies which are given at the end of each article.

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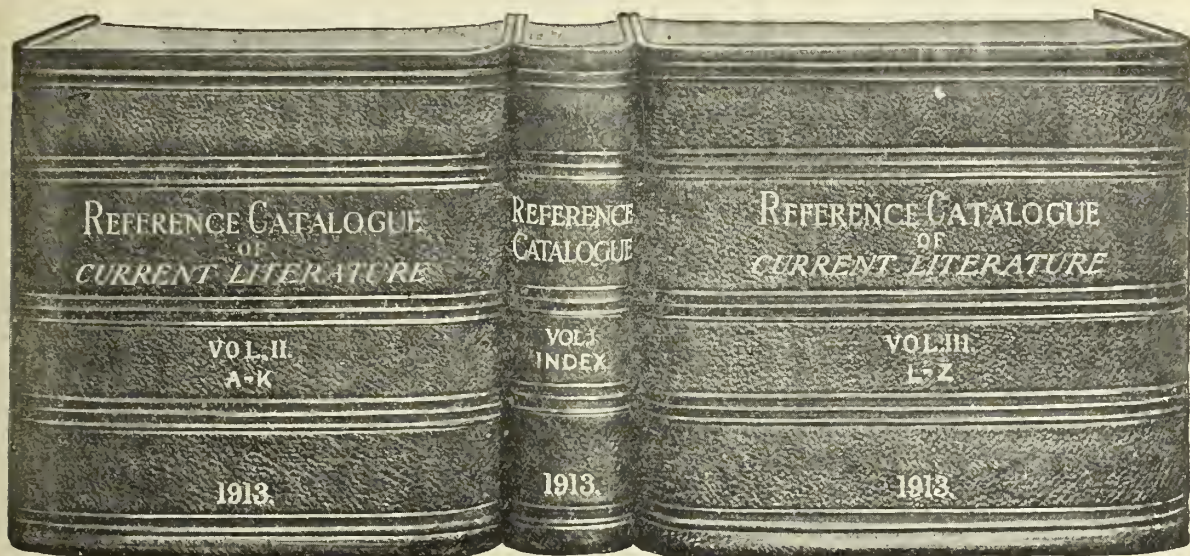
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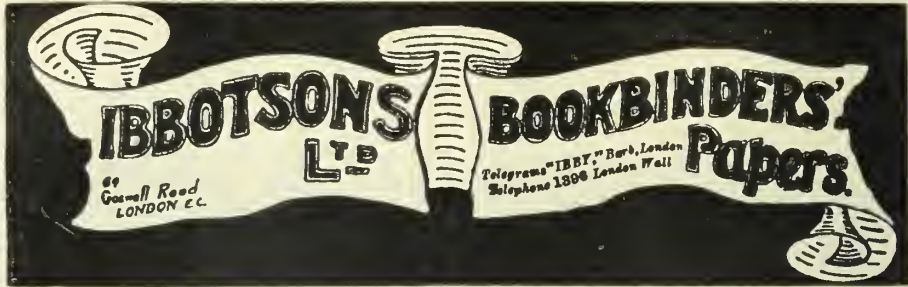
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Trade and Literary Gossip.

I.A.A.B.—A Committee Meeting will be held on Monday next, April 12th, at 7 p.m., when new members will be elected and other business transacted.

Mr. J. Richardson has disposed of his interest in the London & Suburban Publishing Company, 9 and 10, St. Bride's Avenue, Fleet Street, E.C., and it will be continued under the same style. The present directors are Messrs. J. E. Fawcett and W. C. George.

Norwood.—The well-known Bookselling, Stationery and Fancy Goods business which has been in the occupation of the Fricker family for nearly 60 years has been disposed of by Messrs. F. T. Evans & Co., of Cathedral House, Paternoster Row, to Messrs. Evans & Co. The valuation on behalf of the purchasers was conducted by Messrs. Holmes & Son, of Paternoster Row, and on behalf of the vendors by Messrs. F. T. Evans & Co.

Mr. W. G. Burns, one of the staff of Mr. Murray, has, we regret to note, been killed in action, within a fortnight of his joining the forces at the front. Private Magee, of the Middlesex Regiment, one of the young men on the staff of Charles H. Kelly, who enlisted, has also been killed. A third soldier from the book trade who has fallen is John Harold Diggle, aged 20, one of the staff of Messrs. Henry Young and Sons, of South Castle Street, Liverpool, who had been engaged there for six years when he enlisted last September. His loss is deeply regretted by all with whom he worked. He was killed in the trenches in Belgium on Good Friday.

Messrs. Cassell & Co. have awarded the Two Guineas Prize for the best Window Display of their Gardening Works to Mr. George E. Over (late Lawrence), Market Place, Rugby, with consolation prizes to Mr. G. Sexton, 11, St. Leonard's Road, Bexhill-on-Sea; Mr. W. Erskine Mayne, 2, Donegall Square West, Belfast; Messrs. Slade, 42, Abington Street, Northampton; Mr. W. J. Machen, 208, High Road, Balham, S.W.; Messrs. Heard & Sons, Truro. The list of entries was very gratifying and the contest exceptionally close.

H.M. the Tsar of Russia has accepted a copy of Dr. Nansen's "Through Siberia: The Land of the Future," and has conveyed his thanks to Mr. Heinemann for sending him a copy of the book. The promise it holds out of a possible opening up of Siberia for European trade by regular water communication makes the book of vital importance and interest to our Allies.

In connexion with the N.B.T.P.S. Whist Drive, announced in our issue of March 26th, the following is a list of those who have presented prizes:—A Friend, Messrs. H. E. Alden, A. & C. Black, John Bumpus, L. D. Carpenter, Cassell & Co., Chatto & Windus, H. M. Dent, A. & F. Denny, F. W. Hallett, F. Hanson, Heinemann, John Lane, T. Werner Laurie, Sampson Low & Co., Macmillan & Co., B. W. Matz, Andrew Melrose & Co., Methuen & Co., F. H. Miles, Humphrey Milford, John Murray, Messrs. F. & C. Palmer, Stanley Paul, Putnams, H. Shaylor, J. Shaylor, Mr. Reginald Smith and Lady Scott, Messrs. J. Truslove, and Hodder Williams.

At the recent annual meeting of Messrs. Cassell & Co. the annual reports and accounts, of which a summary has already been given in a previous issue, were adopted on the motion of the chairman, Sir Clarence Smith, J.P. He said the first half of the year passed merrily and prosperously, and in July they were fully warranted in expecting a considerable increase in net profit, while in the event the report showed a decrease of £13,000. In round figures the trading profits in 1913 were £40,000 and in 1914 £27,000. The redeeming feature was that there were any profits at all. It would appear that the average man, the moment he finds himself in financial trouble, or scents financial trouble in the future, cuts down his literary luxuries, and if he is an advertiser the first thing he does is to reduce his advertising cost. For a few weeks after the outbreak of war the prospect was dark. Mr. Spurgeon and his staff did not fold their hands. They girded up their loins for fresh effort, to do the best possible in a very difficult situation, and they had met with a considerable amount of success. Progress had been certainly greater than was expected, and both sales and advertisement receipts were approaching much nearer to normal figures than could at one time have been anticipated. A dividend of 3 per cent. would be paid, so as to leave a sufficient amount in hand for emergencies. £7,000 was placed to the copyright equalisation fund, £3,000 to the reserve fund, instead of £8,000 as last year, and a considerable sum in cash so as to be able to deal, without going to the reserve fund, with any eventualities that might arise. The report and accounts were adopted. Mr. Young, the Advertisement Manager, and Mr. Newman Flower, the Chief Editor, were elected Directors, and it was announced that Mr. Charles Gardner, the Manager of the Australian Branch, was retiring after thirty-one years' much appreciated service.

Messrs. Angus & Robertson, Ltd., of Sydney, N.S.W., inform us that they will publish next June the "Sydney University Calendar, 1915," containing regulations, lists of text-books, and all other information referring to Matriculation and other Examinations covering the full course of University work for 1914-15. Publishers' lists for insertion in the advertisement section should leave London not later than the second week in April; also in August next the "Sydney University Manual of Public Examinations, 1916," containing regulations, lists of text-books, and all other information referring to the Junior and Senior Public Examinations. Publishers' lists for insertion in the advertisement section should leave London by the end of June.

The volumes of "Everyman's Library" are not necessarily "text-books" within the trade or common meaning of the term, according to the decision of the United States General Appraisers, reported in full in the current issue of the *New York Publishers' Weekly*. Messrs. E. P. Dutton & Co., of New York, had imported certain volumes, and claimed to have them appraised as "text-books." The elaborate legal decision on the matter concludes "that the importing corporation has failed to establish by a clear preponderance of the evidence that any of the books referred to in the invoices is a text-book within the common and ordinary understanding of that term."

The Cambridge University Press, as agents in Great Britain and the British Empire except Canada for the University of Chicago Press, will shortly publish the following: "The Modern Study of Literature," by Richard Green Moulton; "Religious Education through the Family," by Henry F. Cope (Constructive Studies, Ethical Group); "Senescence and Rejuvenescence," by Charles Manning Child, Associate Professor of Zoology in the University of Chicago; "The City Institute for Religious Teachers" (Principles and Methods of Religious Education), by Walter S. Athearn; "University of Chicago Sermons," by Members of the University Faculties; "The Bixby Gospels," Historical and Linguistic Studies in Literature Related to the New Testament, by Edgar J. Goodspeed, Associate Professor of Biblical and Patristic Greek in the University of Chicago; "Proceedings of the American Sociological Society," vol. ix.; "Bibliographical Society of America Papers," vol. viii., Nos. 3-4.

Messrs. Everett & Co. have just published "Germany's Vanishing Colonies," by Mr. Gordon Le Sueur, which gives a clear account of Germany's attempt to build up a world-embracing Empire in rivalry to that built up by British blood and brains.

Messrs. G. G. Harrap & Co. have just published "Jovial Jottings from the Trenches," by Captain Wideawake, a pseudonym which conceals the name of a well-known Major.

In "The Way of the Red Cross," which has just been published by Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton, Mr. E. C. Vivian and Mr. J. E. Hodder Williams have set forth in vivid and graphic fashion a fairly complete record of the work of the Red Cross movement, which is such an invaluable factor in the important business of caring for our war wounded. The principal officials have given unstinted assistance, and the authors may be very heartily congratulated on the great success with which they have accomplished their task. The two parts into which the book is divided—the story of the work abroad and of the organisation at home—together provide an excellent idea of the aims, methods, and results achieved, and the skill with which they have brought into clear relief the salient points of the organisation deserves the highest praise. An autograph commendatory letter from Queen Alexandra which has been prefixed, distinctly adds to its value and interest, and we feel sure that every reader will heartily endorse the Queen's words and will "thank every individual nurse, one and all, who is nursing our brave wounded soldiers and sailors—for their splendid and unequalled devotion and gallantry on their behalf—for which I and the whole nation owe them our undying and unflinching debt of gratitude." All profits from the sale, it may be added, will be given to the *Times* Fund for the Sick and Wounded.

Messrs. Methuen & Co. have published in their shilling series "Social Evils and their Remedy," a selection from the writings of Leo Tolstói; "Health for the Middle-Aged," by Dr. Seymour Taylor, a new volume in their Health series; a new edition of the "Little Guide to Kent," by the Rev. Dr. J. Charles Cox; a cheaper shilling edition of "Lalage's Lovers," by G. A. Birmingham.

The Annual Reports of the Toronto Public Library show gratifying progress all round. The chairman specially notes the insistent call from every section of the city for the opening of new branches, and he sees in the Free Public Library of to-day the realisation of the dreams of its pioneers, the "People's University," and he thinks the day is coming when libraries will be plentiful and saloons scarce. The Chief Librarian calls attention to the great increase of the work with children, the total circulations of this department now reaching 187,000, while as regards the whole of the departments the number of books used has passed the million mark, the number of books added daily is about one hundred, and the libraries have been used by over two hundred thousand children.

Messrs. C. A. Pearson, Ltd., have just published two very useful and instructive books of information about the war. "Things to know about the War" is thoroughly comprehensive, and gives a mass of useful information about nearly everything connected with the military and naval operations. It is exceedingly interesting, and altogether well worth reading. "Our Regiments and their Records," by Mr. Charles White, gives a complete list of all the Regular regiments, their battle honours, mottoes, uniforms, badges, dates of formation, previous titles and nicknames past and present, together with an account of the Territorials. It is quite as interesting as the previous work, and will no doubt find an equally wide circulation.

"**The Pocket Sing Song Book**," which has just been published by Messrs. Novello & Co., provides in a neat and portable volume a collection of unison songs of the best type for camps, ships, clubs, and other gatherings where sing-songs are popular. The editor, Mr. W. G. McNaught, has done his work excellently, and his selection could hardly be bettered. Simple accompaniments add to its value, and the fact that several of the songs will admirably serve as marching tunes is a further advantage. "The Soldier's Pocket Companion," just published by Messrs. Crosby Lockwood & Co., is very accurately described as "a Little Book with a Wide Range for the Man on Active Service to Assist his Work, to Equip his Mind, to Preserve his Soul." It is edited by the Earl of Meath, and the Princess Royal, in a Special Message prefixed, says it is "a very interesting little book, and will be of much use to our brave soldiers." We need add no further commendation, and will only express the hope that it may be circulated as widely as possible. "War Time Tips for Soldiers and Civilians," just published by Messrs. C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd., is a useful sixpenny brochure, which admirably answers to its title, and will no doubt be found extremely useful to all those for whose special use it has been prepared.

Burdett's Hospitals and Charities, 1915, now reaches its twenty-sixth year of issue, and is so well-known that a mere acknowledgment of its receipt is all that is necessary. Some useful alterations have been made, and some new features added which make the present volume even more helpful and more indispensable than its predecessors.

The Official Year Book of the Church of England, which has now reached its thirty-third year of issue, provides for churchpeople the usual storehouse of official statistics and information. It is fully and carefully arranged and the particulars given are trustworthy and authoritative. The editor in his preface notes that the outbreak of the war has profoundly affected the whole course of religious life. It is satisfactory that he can tell us that the number of candidates for Holy Orders during the year was slightly larger than in the previous year, while the increase in the number of Easter Communicants reaches the large total of 116,400 over the year before. The new scheme of Diocesan Finance seems to be working satisfactorily, and altogether the evidence collected in this indispensable volume testifies that the work of the Church shows no falling off in efficiency and vigour. The Year Book, we should add, is published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

Messrs. Edward Stanford, Ltd., have just published a new War Map of "The Theatre of War in Eastern Europe, including Poland and the Russo-German Frontier on the North, the Northern part of Servia on the South, and Transylvania, Bukowina, and Rumania as far as Bucharest on the South-East." It covers the Eastern Theatre of War almost completely, on a good scale. The operations on the Niemen; on the Narew, with its tributaries; on the Vistula, Bzura, Pilica, Nida, San, Dunajec, &c., in Poland and Western Galicia; on the Dniester, Pruth, Sereth, and their tributaries in Eastern Galicia and Bukowina can all be followed intelligently. In addition to the rivers, railways, principal roads, and political boundaries, the map is coloured on the layer system, showing the great plains that lie at a level below 500 feet above the sea and the mountains that rise to 1,000, 2,000, 5,000, and above 5,000 feet elevation above the sea.

"**The English Catalogue of Books for 1914**" has now reached its seventy-eighth yearly issue, and gives the usual particulars of the books published in England last year. The general features and characteristics of the volume are now so well known that any detailed description is quite superfluous, and the volume may safely be allowed to furnish its own recommendation.

Mr. W. Heinemann has re-issued in a popular edition "The Correspondence of William I. and Bismarck," which was first published in the autumn of 1903. Just now, in view of the Bismarck centenary, its re-issue is particularly opportune.

Messrs. Cassell & Co. have just published "Woman's Mysteries of a Primitive People," by Mrs. Amaury Talbot, wife of the British District Commissioner in Southern Nigeria, giving the results of a journey which covered something like 4,300 square miles of savage country.

Messrs. Nisbet & Co. have published a suggestive little book by Mr. Robert Keath, author of "Songs of the Narrow Way," on "The Loneliness of Christ: Studies in the Discipline of Life." It is well worth careful reading and is very suitable for the present season.

Messrs. A. & C. Black have very opportunely published a new edition of the volume on "Belgium" in their attractive series of "Peeps at Many Lands." It is written by Mr. G. W. T. Omond, and the coloured illustrations are after drawings by that skilful artist, Amédée Forestier. At the present moment Belgium and her heroic people arouse more than ordinary interest and attention, and this pleasant and informing little volume is sure to find wide-spread acceptance.

Messrs. Gieve (London Agent and Publisher, Mr. John Hogg) have just issued a new and revised edition of the "Text-book of Navigation and Nautical Astronomy," by Capt. Williamson, F.R.G.S., fully illustrated with maps and diagrams.

The Newspaper Press Directory for 1915 makes its seventieth annual appearance, and in addition to the usual and well-known features, it contains a very helpful article on German trade with the British Dominions Overseas. A legal article on "The Press Censor and his Powers" is very opportune, and the review of the judicial decisions during the twelve months is sure to prove very useful. It is satisfactory to know that no newspaper of importance has suspended publication, while several new daily papers have made their appearance both in London and the provinces. The present total of newspapers published in the United Kingdom is now given as 2,413, of which there are 29 morning dailies and 8 evening dailies within the metropolitan postal radius. Mr. George Edgar's article on "Things that Matter in Advertising" is full of useful hints and wise advice, and a suggestive paper on "The Trend of the Modern Press" is particularly well worth reading. Obituary notices and portraits are given of Sir John Duncan, of the *South Wales Daily News*; Sir James Henderson, of the *Belfast News-Letter*; Mr. T. C. Mortimer, of the *Totnes Times*; Sir Douglas Straight, of the *Pall Mall Gazette*; and Mr. Jesse W. Ward, of the *Croydon Advertiser*.

"The Book of Hardy Flowers," edited by Mr. H. H. Thomas, which Messrs. Cassell & Co. have published, is quite correctly described as "a simple and complete descriptive guide to the cultivation in gardens of the trees and shrubs, perennial and annual flowers that are hardy or are suitable for planting out-of-doors in summer in the British Isles and other temperate countries." It has been very helpfully arranged in alphabetical order so that reference to information about any particular plant is made as easy as possible. A special feature of the book is the number of illustrations provided, which show some two hundred different shrubs and flowers and give the reader much assistance in identifying the various kinds. The thirty-two direct colour photographs by Mr. Essenhigh Corke are specially beautiful and helpful in this respect, and the sixty and more half-tone plates, in their own way, are equally excellent. The increased interest in gardens and horticulture evidenced by the frequent appearance of these useful guides is particularly satisfactory, and Mr. Thomas, with his expert knowledge of these matters, has proved himself an ideal editor and has taken care that the many details are set forth in as simple and non-technical a manner as possible.

THE KAISER AN EXAMPLE OF THE INTOXICATION OF CIVILISATION.

BY
THOMAS THATCHER.

Is the "Good Time" coming, or has it come and gone? With advanced civilisation we have many privileges, but "all is not gold that glitters." Extremes meet. The olden times were not without their advantages. Our forefathers possessed indomitable courage, industry, and perseverance. Their attention was not diverted by modern fashions and conventions. They were, for the most part, hardy, healthy, and well developed. There was comparatively little insanity, and they knew less of numerous modern diseases; they lived simple lives, and were content in daily toil and duty. They had few holidays and not so much so-called pleasure or amusement, their principal recreation being weekly attendance at church or chapel, or, for the less serious, a chery gossip by the crackling fire of the parish inn with perhaps some good old beer and a pipe. There was less desire for town and city life, and country villages flourished with agricultural pursuits. The chief education was at Sunday, National, British, or Dame Day School, and they rarely advanced beyond the three R's, but they possessed clean, happy homes, relished their meals, and enjoyed their slumber. They lived well within their means, generally putting by something for a good old age.

With the advance of modern civilisation there are many dangers, and unless truth, honour, and reasoning powers, with brain and muscle, advance in like proportion, it may become a curse instead of a blessing. The abnormal conventionalities which the human mind has to encounter in the region of modern civilisation are numerous and often overwhelming. Ambition is excited, brains are overstrung, hearts affected, and mental and physical health endangered. Brain diseases, perverted tastes with neurotic mania frequently follow the speed with which we go—our advanced locomotion by steam, motor, cycle, and even in the air; mental excitement in endless ways; keen commercial and other competitions, &c. We are largely privileged, it is true, with schools, colleges, universities, and libraries, but even these are not without danger. Every teacher knows how impossible it is to make the majority of children literary and learned. The very attempt often wrecks and weakens the usefulness in other ways which is really in them, and only helps to make them failures in life. "A little learning is a dangerous thing; drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring." The crammed and over-taxed brain is perhaps spurred for a time by emulation or by stimulating foods and drink, but ill-used digestion rebels. Intellectual dyspepsia follows, with perhaps ultimate paralysis and contraction of the reasoning powers. We must not forget that, especially in the present day, we want body workers as well as brain workers. Arm and hand workers are largely in demand, and none too plentiful. We want many soldiers but few officers. In our intoxication we greatly overlook healthful, simple habits of body and normal essentials of true health, strength and happiness, especially the three health R's—Rest, Recreation, Regimen.

Our beautiful world is now blackened with revolting deeds of cruelty which barbarous savages would shun in shame. Justice, honour, liberty, precious human lives one and all, are sacrificed and condemned to death without judge, jury, or court of appeal.

It is Hell on Earth! May Britain and her brave Allies "frustrate their knavish tricks and lay them low."

THE PUBLISHERS' ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

MR. JAMES H. BLACKWOOD (President) took the chair at the annual meeting of this Association at Stationers' Hall, on Tuesday, March 30th, when the following gentlemen were also present:—Messrs. H. E. Alden (Simpkin & Co.), C. A. Ashley (Wells Gardner, Darton & Co.), Edward Bell, Guy Bickers (G. Bell & Sons), Adam Black, C. F. Clay (Cambridge University Press), J. Cooper (W. & R. Chambers), C. C. Darton, F. J. Harvey Darton, Gerald Duckworth, Cyril Gamon (S. W. Partridge & Co.), Geo. G. Harrap, S. W. Heaton (University Tutorial Press), Wm. Heinemann, B. Ince (Cambridge University Press), O. Kyllmann (Constable & Co.), A. W. Lidderdale (Nisbet & Co.), C. J. Longman, A. J. McDougall, W. M. Meredith (Constable & Co.), H. S. Milford (Oxford University Press), John Murray, F. Nash (H. Marshall & Son), G. E. Nathan (Constable & Co.), Stanley Paul, H. Scheurmier (T. Nelson & Sons), J. Shaylor (Simpkin & Co.), Reginald J. Smith, K.C., A. F. Sowter (C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd.), Percy Spalding (Chatto & Windus), Arthur Spurgeon (Cassell & Co.), Edward Stanford, W. Symons (Blackie & Son), P. H. Lee Warner (Medici Society), G. H. Whitaker, Geoffrey S. Williams, Wm. Poulten (Secretary).

The President, in moving the adoption of the report, said he had little to add to what was printed, but he could not refrain from one note of warning to publishers. The present was a time of war conditions and of exceptions, but when peace came, as he hoped it soon would, he felt they ought to consider very carefully what the future of publishers in this country was going to be. It seemed to him that there was an increasing tendency to give away books on sale or return, and he could not help thinking that was exactly the danger which upset the bookselling trade. They knew that the bookselling trade came absolutely to grief, and it was only the institution of the net book system which saved the trade from utter ruin. It was up to publishers to consider the fact that there was no one to pull the publishers out of the fire if they were ever to find themselves in the position in which the bookselling trade had found itself.

Mr. C. F. Clay seconded the motion, and the report was adopted.

The President announced that Mr. Waugh, of Messrs. Chapman & Hall, Ltd., had written expressing his pleasure at the compliment paid his firm in electing them to the Council. He asked, however, to be excused from serving. A vote thereupon took place for a firm to fill the vacancy, and Messrs. Cassell & Co., Ltd., were elected.

THE OFFICERS.

The result of the ballot for the election of officers was that Mr. Reginald J. Smith, K.C., was elected President; Mr. James H. Blackwood, Vice-President; and Mr. W. M. Meredith, Treasurer.

On the motion of Mr. Reginald Smith, seconded by Mr. Stanford, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the retiring President.

The new President said he was greatly obliged to the members for electing him to an office which, while honourable, was also, as he knew, onerous. His hands were tolerably full, and he could only ask them to elect him for one year. One thing he did hope and trust was that in his year of office they

would once more see an honourable peace. He would do what in him lay to perform the duties of the office faithfully, and in the phrase which was so familiar in the House of Commons, if any error was committed he would ask them to put it down to the President and not to His Majesty's faithful publishers.

Mr. Blackwood, in acknowledging the vote of thanks passed to him, said he had used his best endeavours to carry out the wishes of the Council, and to translate them into such action as would best meet the wishes of the entire Association. But he would not have been able to carry out the work efficiently if he had not been so ably seconded by Sir Fredk. Macmillan, Mr. John Murray, and the other members of the Council. He would like to take the opportunity also of saying how very much he had appreciated the help which had been afforded by the Secretary. Mr. Poulten had a most admirable memory for details, and had never failed them in being able to give full information of any past event which had a bearing on any subject under discussion. He felt sure they would all agree that they owed a great debt of gratitude to Mr. Poulten.

Messrs. Harold E. Warne and Walter Symons were re-elected Auditors, and thanked for their past services.

SUGGESTED CHRISTMAS CATALOGUE.

The question of the desirability of issuing a general Christmas catalogue of the publications of members of the Association was introduced and discussed, and a number of explanations based on preliminary enquiries were given by Mr. Meredith and Mr. Heinemann. Considerable discussion ensued, and at the conclusion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Longman.

"That the Council is requested to proceed with the production of an official Christmas catalogue, provided the Committee receives the necessary support from the booksellers and from the members of the Association."

Mr. Blackwood proposed a resolution dealing with the advisability of members of the Association purchasing British rights in American books only in cases where the purchase included the Australasian market. He expressed the opinion that the very strongest efforts should be made to uphold their position in this matter. It seemed to him extraordinarily unjust that when they bought the British rights in an American book they should not also buy the Colonial rights. His firm had always refused to buy without those rights.

Mr. Harrap seconded the motion, and said special attention ought to be given to the matter at this particular time.

Mr. Longman supported the proposal, but expressed the hope that British publishers would see that American authors did not suffer in royalties by the carrying of such a rule into effect.

Mr. Spurgeon said he did not think the American author got less royalty so far as Australia was concerned from British publishers.

Eventually, the following resolution was agreed to unanimously:—

"That it is advisable that members of the Publishers' Association should purchase British rights in American books only when the Australasian market is included in the purchase, and that the Secretary should obtain the signatures of members to an undertaking embodying this, such undertaking to be binding for a period of not less than three years."

A vote of thanks to the Stationers' Company for the use of the hall concluded the proceedings.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING.—To find oneself "preaching in the wilderness" is always rather a discomfiting experience; and those of us who have consistently advocated a closer working union between the several interests concerned in the book trade must needs feel a little disappointed to discover how unsympathetic, apparently, are the ears upon which our doctrine has fallen. The latest evidence of this unresponsive attitude is to be found in the point-blank refusal of the Publishers' Association to adopt the suggestion—the very excellent suggestion—of the Associated Booksellers that a joint committee of publishers and booksellers should be called into existence. The setting aside of so promising a proposal with the pontifical remark that "no good end could be served" by its adoption will be regretted by all who have been hoping to see something practical done for the furtherance of that principle of co-operative action which gets plenty of lip-service, but in some quarters, it is to be feared, very little else.

If it is admitted to be a "good end" that publishers and booksellers should work and take counsel together for their mutual advantage and for the general welfare of the trade in which they are jointly interested, one would have thought that the establishment of the suggested committee must have commended itself as an eminently desirable and even a necessary step towards the attainment of that end. However, I suppose it is useless, for the moment, to say any more on the subject, though it is impossible to refrain from remarking that, if every practical proposal of the kind is going to be "turned down" in this uncompromising fashion, we may as well regard all prospects of an improvement of the existing conditions as postponed until the Greek Kalends. In that case, we shall have no alternative but to attribute the failure to those who are more concerned to maintain such advantage as their particular interest may seem to derive from the present state of affairs than to promote the prosperity of the trade as a whole by ending the senseless "triangular duel" between publishers, booksellers, and authors, and bringing the three forces into harmonious co-operation for the benefit of all alike.

There was a letter, by the way, in last week's *Academy* which did something to illustrate the need for more satisfactory relations between two of these three powers. It was written by Mr. G. Herbert Thring, secretary of the Incorporated Society of Authors, and referred to a recent statement of Mr. W. L. George to the effect that "several publishers make a practice of entrapping novices and paying them nothing on the first fifteen hundred copies or so, which means nothing at all." Commenting on this, Mr. Thring remarked that, while not going quite as far as Mr. George, he could and did assert from long experience in his present post that publishers not infrequently make contracts on the lines indicated. "On several occasions," he added, "I have known them break up the type after printing the requisite number free of royalty, making it impossible for them to reproduce further editions at a profit to the author. I regret to say that some of the publishers who have been guilty of this practice are publishers whose names stand prominently before the public."

It cannot be denied that so explicit a charge of mean dealing—not to say sharp practice—put forward in such an assured and positive manner, makes a distinctly unpleasant impression, and seems to demand an answer. At the same time, I am bound to say that it is most undesirable for anyone, whether the spokesman of a society or a private individual, to fling about such accusations broadcast, and to leave the whole body of "publishers whose names stand prominently before the public" to share the stigma between them. In any case in which it is known for certain that the course described has actually been adopted, there would be no danger from the law of libel, I take it, in making the facts and names public.

But this kind of loosely comprehensive indictment of prominent publishers in general is manifestly unfair; and the fact that it is put forward in the name of the Incorporated Society of Authors argues the existence of a state of feeling which would be impossible if, by the friendly co-operation of a joint committee representing the interests of publishers and authors respectively, the business relations of the two bodies were placed upon an equitable and mutually satisfactory footing.

So deep is the odium which the modern Huns have incurred by their horrible barbarities and their unspeakably infamous methods of warfare that the least suspicion of tenderness towards anyone or anything German seems almost like an insult to civilisation. But for all that, one could not help detecting the note of unconscious pathos in the closing sentence of the letter of Herr Karl W. Hiersemann, the Leipzig publisher, to Mr. G. Haven Putnam, which the latter gentleman allowed to be published in *THE BOOKSELLER* of last week. "In spite of General Bernhardt's books," wrote the German publisher to his American correspondent, "we are a peaceful, hard-working people." Well would it be for the world to-day if Germany could truthfully say that her ancient character as a peaceful people had remained unchanged "in spite of General Bernhardt's books," and of the teaching of the other false prophets whose pernicious doctrines have lured her to her ruin. One can realise only too well what this war must mean to ordinary German citizens whose normal life-work, like that of Herr Hiersemann, is devoted to the arts of peace. But the sad thing is to find this doubtless highly intelligent minister of "culture" in its true sense accepting without question and repeating with evident sincerity the preposterous fable which credits other nations, and England in particular, with having originated the war, in fulfilment of a sinister design to "blot out" Germany. No wonder the "Hymn of Hate" is popular in the Fatherland, when even her more thoughtful and well-disposed sons allow themselves to be bewitched by this amazing perversion of the truth!

One realised, of course, that a good deal of water had flowed under the bridges since Mr. Richard Le Gallienne first began to make a reputation as a rather daring and unconventional writer of essays and verses; but it is still a little startling to find, on looking up his record, that his first book was published more than a quarter of a century ago. Needless to say, it was a good deal easier to be recognisably daring and unconventional at that period than it is to-day; and one rather wonders whether it will be found that Mr. Le Gallienne has been at pains to maintain his old speciality in the forthcoming volume of new essays from his pen which is promised by the house of Putnam. There is, perhaps, some significance in the intimation that in "Vanishing Roads and Other Essays," as the book is to be called, he "discusses Mrs. Grundy"—possibly with a mental eye to the old Victorian days when that worthy dame refused to discuss him.

The powerfully realistic young writer who made his name with "Children of the Dead End," and has just added to his reputation with "The Rat-Pit," ought to be able to give us some vivid inside glimpses of the new Army, of which he is now a member. Mr. Patrick MacGill enlisted promptly at the beginning of the war, and in "The Amateur Army," which Mr. Herbert Jenkins is about to publish at the popular price of a shilling, he proposes to give us the benefit of his experiences and observations as an embryonic soldier of the King. His graphic powers of description should render the result both interesting and instructive.

For her forthcoming new novel, promised by Hutchinson, Baroness Orczy, I see, has chosen the title "A Bride of the Plains." Let us hope that no "absent-minded beggar" among booksellers will be careless enough to catalogue the book as "A Plain Bride."

April 9.

JACOB OMNIUM.

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. G. G. HARRAP & Co. will publish shortly "Medieval Italy," by H. B. Cotterill, M.A., author of "Ancient Greece"; "The Sleepy Song Book," twelve songs set to music by H. A. J. Campbell, the verse by Eugene Field, May Byron, and Florence Campbell.

MR. HEINEMANN will publish shortly a novel by Mr. Robert Bowman, entitled "A Lady of Russia"; also a new edition of Mrs. Constance Garnett's translation of "The Death of Ivan Ilyitch, and Other Stories," by Leo Tolstoy, uniform with the well-known translations "Anna Karenina" and "War and Peace."

MESSRS. HODDER & STOUGHTON will publish immediately "How Britain Answered the Call."

MESSRS. HUTCHINSON & Co. announce for early publication "The Princess of Happy Chance," the last novel of the late Tom Gallon; also a new novel by Mrs. Campbell Praed, entitled "Lady Bridget in the Never-Never Land."

MESSRS. HERBERT JENKINS, LTD., will publish shortly "The Amateur Army," his own experiences of soldiering, by Patrick MacGill, author of "Children of the Dead End" and "The Rat-Pit"; also "The Russian Arts," by Mrs. Rosa Newmarch, uniform with "The Russian Opera."

MR. JOHN LANE announces "Kitchener Chaps," a volume of sketches by Mr. Neil Lyons.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. will publish very shortly a biographical study of the great Indian poet, Rabindranath Tagore, by Mr. Ernest Rhys.

MESSRS. SIMPSON, MARSHALL & Co. have nearly ready "Russia's War Minister," an important book on the life and work of Adjutant-General V. A. Soukhomlinov, the man who has made the Russian Army what it is to-day. This book is translated from the Russian by V. D. Doumbadze, and edited by A. A. Knapp.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON PRESS will publish immediately "War Progress, and the End of History," by Vladimir Soloviev, with an introduction by Dr. Hagberg Wright.

Correspondence.

BOOKSELLERS' ASSISTANTS.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

DEAR SIR,—For about fifteen years or so I have been a constant book buyer, and one of the things that have chiefly impressed me about the booksellers with whom I have dealt from time to time, both in London and the provinces, is the lack of interest and intelligence shown by their assistants.

They seldom evince any real capacity for their vocation (and surely it is one that should call for both intelligence and culture in some degree), and it would almost seem at times, so far as my experience goes, as if most of them had entered the trade by accident rather than by design, and not because they possessed any natural taste or inclination for it.

In but comparatively few cases have I found myself served by assistants who give me any reason to think that they take more than a perfunctory or mechanical interest in their work; indeed, so far from doing so, some of them clearly evidence that they possess little or no literary knowledge or discrimination, and have no such ability as would enable them to refer or introduce a book to a customer in such a way as by the exercise of a little tact would unimportantly secure its sale.

On more than one occasion I have asked for a book I had just seen in the window only to be told that the book was "not in stock, but we can order it for you"; while only last week I enquired for Dostoeff-

sky's "Crime and Punishment" included in a popular library to find that an assistant (whose youth certainly excused him on this occasion) so far misconceived the nature of the work as to lead him to seek for it on shelves containing "The Home University Library."

Nobody, perhaps, can reasonably expect to find University students employed in book shops (the wages obtained, for this matter, are not over high), but surely one can expect to meet with assistants better fitted for their duties than those I allude to.

To illustrate my meaning: Some few years ago being without congenial occupation, and under thirty years of age, I decided it would be a good thing for me if I could enter a bookselling business as an assistant, undertaking to give my services free until such time had elapsed as would convince an employer that they entitled me to an adequate wage, bringing to my work, as I knew I could, both a thorough knowledge and interest in books.

Accordingly, I advertised and answered advertisements for situations, laying claim in my applications to such adaptable qualifications for the trade as I possessed, but when once I was compelled to state that I lacked actual shop or technical experience no bookseller would entertain me, and so I remain

UNWANTED.

April 6, 1915.

Obituary.

Walch.—March 25th, at Hobart, Tasmania, aged 84, Mr. Charles Edward Walch, third son of the late Major J. W. H. Walch, Indian Army, and Senior Director of the well-known bookselling and importing firm of Messrs. J. Walch & Sons, Ltd., Hobart. In THE BOOKSELLER of June 18th, 1909, we gave some account of the Jubilee Number of *Walch's Literary Intelligencer*, which had then reached us, and which gave much interesting information as to the foundation and history of this well-known business. We may now just remind our readers that in 1846 Major J. W. H. Walch, who had retired from the Indian Army, and had settled in Tasmania from London, purchased the goodwill and stock-in-trade of Mr. S. A. Tegg, one of the sons of Mr. Thomas Tegg, so well known as a publisher in Cheapside in the early part of last century, and opened business in his own name, shortly afterwards taking his son, Mr. James H. B. Walch, into partnership, and changing the style of the firm to Messrs. J. Walch & Son. In 1852 Major Walch died and Mr. James Walch became proprietor. A year later he took into partnership his brother, Mr. Charles Edward Walch, whose death is now announced, mainly to act for the firm as their chief buyer in London, and the Jubilee number of the *Intelligencer*, already mentioned, contained many interesting autobiographical reminiscences of Mr. Walch's experiences in those early days. In 1858 Mr. Walch, who had well and truly laid the foundation of the firm's London business, transferred it to an agent and himself returned to Hobart to renew his active work in the management of the firm, and since that time its progress and development under his direction have been continuous. In 1875 it was necessary to rebuild the original premises of the firm at Wellington Bridge, and in 1909 the Stationery Store at Macquarie Street was greatly enlarged and its floor space doubled. The London office of the firm at 29, Ludgate Hill, E.C., is now and has been for some time under the management of Mr. Herbert Bishop.

Notices of Books.

Recollections: The Reminiscences of the Busy Life of one who has played the varied parts of Sailor, Author, and Lecturer. By Frank T. Bullen. With portrait. (Seeley, Service & Co.)—It is sad to know that since these pages were printed Mr. Bullen has passed away at the comparatively early age of 57, and the fact necessarily gives an added interest to its contents. It is, perhaps, in one respect a little disappointing, as it tells the reader very little about the varied adventures through which he had passed, and which provided the staple material of most of the books which have made him so well known to the reading public. But the reason for this apparent omission is no doubt to be found in the fact that he has already in previously published works told the world the main facts of his autobiography, and he probably thought it was hardly necessary to add to the many interesting particulars then already related. And, indeed, the part of his life with which he here mainly deals is in some ways nearly as interesting, for he now tells us how he became a popular professional lecturer, and describes many of the experiences, amusing and otherwise, he met with in the course of his lecturing career. It is curious to read that he really learnt how to be a lecturer by delivering religious open-air addresses on Peckham Rye and similar resorts, and he frankly tells us that while so preaching in the open-air he felt "the pure joy of swaying a multitude of my fellow men and women." The first occasion when he actually lectured on his own subjects was to provide funds for some free teas at Peckham. Here he kept his humble audience absorbingly interested till five minutes past ten, and, more than that, made a profit of £13 for the Fund. A public lecturer who could commence in that way was sure to succeed when he made it his regular business, and the remainder of the work bears ample testimony to his continued success as a lecturer. His heart was wholly in his work, he thoroughly knew what he was lecturing about, and he further possessed that supreme qualification—he was always able to establish a perfect understanding between himself and his audiences. He thoroughly enjoyed what came to be his main work, and the chapter in which he discourses on the various qualities needed for successful lecturing is one which every young lecturer should read, mark, and inwardly digest. Mr. Bullen, it should be added, was equally successful whatever the kind of audience he had to address. He was as much at home when lecturing at a great public school as in a large city, or in a Welsh colliery village. Such a lecturer must needs have had many interesting and entertaining experiences, and the many good stories he has to tell of his hosts, his chairmen, his audiences, his hotels, and other matters, make a most delightful budget of enjoyable reading. The book, indeed, is full of good things, and the reader is only too sorry when he has reached the end.

The Good Soldier. A Tale of Passion. By Ford Madox Hueffer. (John Lane.)—It is fairly clear, if only because of the title, that Mr. Hueffer's latest novel was conceived and written before the war, for a novel with such a title written later must have had some connection with the great conflict, and here we have nothing at all about it. Even as it is some critics might be disposed to question the appropriateness of the title, for Captain Ashburnham, the hero, or perhaps the villain, of the tale, though he might perhaps be technically a "good soldier" when with his regiment, was hardly a good man in his married life. The story, indeed, is not very pleasant reading, but at the same time the cleverness and skill with which it has been conceived and is told is quite exceptional. The plot is out of the common and distinctly original, the characterisation of the principal persons in the story is wonderfully lifelike and realistic, and the manner in which the tale is told, though perhaps

somewhat discursive, is remarkably ingenious. One hardly knows which of the principal characters has been the most successfully portrayed. Captain Ashburnham himself is a very complex personality. As already noted, in his profession he was perhaps a good soldier and skilful player at polo, with a good deal of rather weak generosity. His wife, Leonora Ashburnham, is sketched with hardly less skill, though one can scarcely understand how the two could have appeared in society so entirely the happy husband and wife when, in private, we are told, they never spoke a word to each other. The American millionaire who tells the story, and his wife, who pretends to heart disease and nervousness, and yet is content to become Captain Ashburnham's mistress, are both drawn with a certain uncanny verisimilitude which exacts the reader's admiration. The whole book, indeed, is most remarkably clever, so much so that in spite of its unpleasant and unsavoury details the reader is compelled, whether he will or no, to read it to the end.

God's Country and the Woman. By James Oliver Curwood. With a frontispiece by Dudley Tennant. (Cassell & Co.)—The author of "Kazan the Wolf Dog" has already proved himself a storyteller of much more than ordinary ability, and, further, fully familiar with the far north country of Canada, where the hunter and the half-breed form almost the only inhabitants. In the present story Mr. Curwood has, if possible, given us a tale of even more absorbing interest and thrilling adventure. Philip Weyman, who has been exploring in the Far North, meets unexpectedly a most attractive maiden, Josephine Adare, who tells him she is in trouble, but cannot tell him the real reason. They return to her home together and Josephine shows him a little baby, which she says is hers, and she asks him to take the place of its father. The plot is so far sufficiently mysterious, but as it proceeds the mystery deepens, and exactly how it is solved it would hardly be fair to reveal. It must suffice to say that Josephine is one of the most attractive characters we have met with in recent fiction. It is quite clear that throughout she is taking someone else's blame upon herself, with an unselfishness which is rarely found. Philip, who is perhaps the hero of the story, is sketched with much skill, while Jean Croisset, the French half-breed, who is devoted to Josephine, has evidently been portrayed from actual experience. The fighting and adventures are vigorously and realistically told, and the general surroundings of the scenes and incidents graphically described. The book breathes the true spirit of the Far North, and is a notable addition to the many vivid stories the scenes of which are placed in that wild and romantic region.

The Tollhouse. By Evelyn St. Leger. (Smith, Elder & Co.)—The Tollhouse which gives its name to this touching and pathetic story is a well-known landmark in the village, and is now inhabited by Mrs. Kidston, who was formerly nurse at the big house, where dwelt "the Squire—generally known as Sireny, and the Squire's wife and family—spoken of respectively as her ladyship, Master George, Miss Mary, and the children-at-the-house." The story tells how Master George went to the war and was killed, how Miss Mary's lover, the Parliamentary candidate for the division, also went to the war, and other happenings, all of which are narrated with a mingled humour and pathos which give the book a very special distinction. The whole tale is slight and unpretentious, but in many ways it is a most lifelike and photographic sketch of what has taken place, and is taking place, in many of our English country villages to-day. Miss St. Leger is no doubt writing from actual facts, and both in conception and in execution she has given us an absolutely perfect piece of work.

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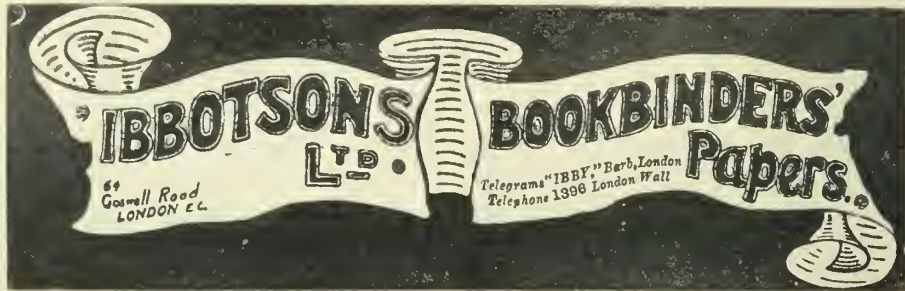
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We regret to record the death in action of Lance-Corporal Shearing, K.R.R. He was on the staff of Messrs. E. Marlborough & Co., Old Bailey, and rejoined the colours on the declaration of the war. He will be much missed by his old friends and associates.

Barnes.—The stationery and fancy goods business of Mr. A. L. Lambert, 17, High Street, has been transferred to Mr. A. S. Muir. Messrs. Holmes & Son, 33, Paternoster Row, London, E.C., sold the business and conducted the necessary negotiations on behalf of both parties.

Mr. William Winning, manager of the printing-room in the establishment of Messrs. W. and R. Chambers, Ltd., of Edinburgh, has just been presented by Mr. Charles E. S. Chambers with a handsome ormolu clock in celebration of the fact that Mr. Winning has completed his fiftieth year of employment with the firm. The occasion was the forty-seventh annual social gathering of the employees, at which Mr. Charles Chambers presided over a large audience and made the presentation in very felicitous terms.

We would call the special attention of our readers to the informing and suggestive letter of Mr. W. L. George, the well-known novelist, on Publishers, Booksellers and Authors, which appears on another page. Mr. George rightly emphasises the unity of interests among all three component parts of the book trade, the publishers, the booksellers and the authors, all of whom, as he points out, are equally interested in the one object of selling books. He again advocates the proposal, which has always been supported in THE BOOKSELLER, of a joint association of all three. Such an organisation, he urges, might effectively consider and determine the many points of material difference which must always arise between partners, and which can only be satisfactorily solved by the mutual decision of all concerned. We hope Mr. George will continue his agitation, and that he will receive the support he deserves from all interested in the publication and sale of as many books as possible.

The publishing house of Charles P. Sisley, Ltd., has recently moved to new premises at 35, Craven Street, Charing Cross, W.C.

N.B.T.P.S. Whist Drive.—The name of Messrs. T. Nelson & Sons should have been included in the list of those who have presented prizes, but was received too late for insertion last week.

Mr. Warwick Deeping, the well-known novelist, is now serving with the Royal Army Medical Corps, and will shortly proceed to France. Before he wrote novels he practised medicine.

The Board of Trade of the American Booksellers' Association is circulating to each member of the two Houses of Congress of the United States, and to the publishers and booksellers throughout the country, formal resolutions in favour of the policy for net price legislation. The *Publishers' Weekly* gives the formal terms of the resolutions, and rightly remarks that "nothing will be of greater help to those fighting for net price legislation than the concrete evidence that the business men of the country are well nigh solidly in support of the legislation asked for. And as the book trade is an important integral part of the nation's business, as it has been in the forefront of net price litigation, and is peculiarly and vitally interested in the general success of the net price movement, it of all business bodies should unanimously and unmistakably make public its stand on the question." These resolutions, as noted above, are being sent to the trade at large in America for endorsement, and will no doubt receive immediate consideration and general approval.

"Quarterly Review."—Sir William Ramsay, Mr. T. W. Rolleston, Professor Gilbert Murray, and Mr. H. A. L. Fisher make critical examination of the much-vaunted German "Kultur," with illuminating results. Sir Charles Stanford writes upon "Music and the War," and Mr. Edward Porritt on the "Pro-German Propaganda in the United States."

General Joffre is much better known as a soldier than as a writer, and we believe that the account of his "March to Timbuctoo" in 1893, more than twenty years since, is his only literary effort, if, indeed, even this may be so termed. For from the original title "Operations of the Joffre Column, before and after the Occupation of Timbuctoo, published with the authorisation of the Minister for Colonial Affairs," his story would seem to have been really a merely official report of what happened in that expedition. M. Ernest Dimnet, in the interesting biographical introduction running to nearly fifty pages which he has prefixed, tells us that he has "no notion of an artistic composition, that he cares nothing for words. His report is, therefore, exclusively a soldier's report, stating with minute accuracy all the events he thought useful to record, and adding information for which another soldier might be grateful."

Messrs. T. C. & E. C. Jack have just published "A Guide to the English Language," a serious attempt to answer the problems which daily arise out of speech and writing. The contributors include many distinguished names. The book, as far as possible, covers exhaustively the whole field, deals with the history of the language, grammar, vocabulary, composition, style, quotations, and a great variety of cognate subjects.

"The Little Girl's Sewing Book."—The stock of the first large edition of this book being already entirely exhausted, a second impression is now ready.

Messrs. T. Nelson & Sons have added Miss Elizabeth Robins's well-known story, "The Open Question," to their Sevenpenny Copyright Novels, now rapidly approaching the two hundredth volume; also "The City of the World," by Edwin Pugh, to their "Shilling Library."

The death of Mr. Frederic J. Harrison, of Maer Hall, Staffordshire, a member of a well-known firm of Liverpool ship owners, which occurred on April 7th after five months' illness, enables us to make known the particulars of the truly magnificent Christmas gift which was made by him to the men of His Majesty's Navy, a gift remarkable not only for its magnitude, but for the thoughtful care with which all the details of its distribution were worked out. Briefly, Mr. Harrison presented to the men of the lower deck of every ship in the Navy a gift of books varying in quantity with the size of the ships, the total number of volumes given amounting to more than 275,000. The whole of this large order was executed by Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son, of 186, Strand, who were responsible for the selection of the books, and the despatch of the parcels to their various destinations was undertaken by the Admiralty. The number of parcels, weighing about 55lb. each, was no less than 2,478. From the letters received by Mr. Harrison from various ships it is evident that his princely gift has been everywhere welcomed, and that his kindly thought for our brave sailors has been most warmly appreciated. Amongst the letters the following from the captain of one of His Majesty's ships is amusing in its conciseness: "If the ship's company had been given W. H. Smith & Son's to loot they could not have come back with a bigger or better supply of literature. There is not a man fore or aft the ship who cannot find books to his taste, and plenty of them." With characteristic modesty Mr. Harrison had no desire for publicity during his lifetime, but there is now no longer any objection to the fact of his generous and kindly action being made known.

Mr. Fisher Unwin will publish next week Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pennell's book on "Lithography." The work contains chapters on the history of the art by Mrs. Pennell, together with a description and technical explanations of modern artistic methods by Mr. Pennell, and is elaborately illustrated, the plates including lithographs printed by Way and Vincent Brooks. Though the historical portion of the book is founded upon the volume by Mr. and Mrs. Pennell issued in 1898 and long out of print, it is new, that portion is not merely a new edition. The book is new, though based upon the old. Mrs. Pennell wrote all the historical section of the original volume. She has re-written it—leaving out unnecessary facts, correcting mistakes, and filling up omissions, making it not only more readable, but more reliable. The technical part is entirely new. It is arranged after the method of Senefelder's "Complete Course of Lithography," not only because Senefelder's was an excellent system, but for reference. In the sixteen years that have elapsed since the book was published, the artistic revival of lithography has come to pass, and to-day artistic lithography is taking its proper place with etching and engraving among the graphic arts—a place which it will always hold, for the "litho artist" and the "professional lithographer" have been put in their proper places by the artist, who has found out that to make an artistic lithograph nothing but artistic ability is necessary.

Mr. John Lane will publish this month "With the German Armies in the West," by Sven Hedin. The book will run to some four hundred pages, and will have over 100 Illustrations from Photographs and Sketches by the Author. It is described as the first account by an "Eye Witness" of the German Army in the field. As a counterblast Mr. Lane will also publish a new Lucas and Morrow book, "In Gentlest Germany," by Hans Svedend, edited by E. V. Lucas, with Illustrations by George Morrow. To his Shilling Series of Novels Mr. Lane has added "The Crime of Sylvestre Bonnard," by Anatole France; "Arthur's," by A. Noel Lyons; "Simon the Jester," by William J. Locke; "Chip," by F. E. Mills Young.

"**Forty Years in Constantinople**" is a book of recollections which Sir Edwin Pears has in preparation with Mr. Herbert Jenkins. Since 1873 Sir Edwin has been an eye-witness of the many remarkable changes in Turkey and the Near East. He has seen three revolutions, three Sultans deposed, and the establishment of the Young Turkey Party. He has met most of the great public men connected with the Near East, including Skobelev, Baker Pasha, Prince Said Halim, the Grand Vizier, Marshal von der Goltz, Enver Pasha, Talaat Bey, Izzet Pasha, Kiamil Pasha, Hakki Pasha, Count Corti, General Ignatieff, Marshal von Bieberstein, and eleven British Ambassadors. He is able to lift the veil and tell of the inner and unwritten history of Turkey and the Near East. As President of the European Bar and Acting Judge on various occasions he has had many strange experiences, and has been on friendly terms with the Patriarchs of the Greek and Armenian Churches, as well as the leaders of Moslem thought. By his letters to a London Daily in 1876 he first made known to the British people the Moslem atrocities in Bulgaria which were denounced by Gladstone in his famous pamphlet, "The Bulgarian Horrors." When war broke out between Turkey and the Allies Sir Edwin was arrested, and it was only the prompt action of the American Ambassador that enabled him to leave the country. As a writer recently said in a weekly review, Sir Edwin Pears has no rival in his knowledge of men and affairs in the Near East.

Mr. Murray will publish shortly, in two volumes, the important scientific work, "Life Histories of African Game Animals," which Colonel Theodore Roosevelt has written in collaboration with Mr. Edmund Holler. This work is the scientific fruits of that historic hunting trip through East Africa and Uganda which the famous warrior-politician-orator-traveller enjoyed after his last term of office as President of the United States.

Messrs. Raphael Tuck & Sons have just added some interesting and attractive subjects to their well-known series of "Oilette" Postcards, "A Call to Arms," in twelve different designs; "Teaching the Young Idea how to Shoot"; "Royal Horse Artillery," after originals by Mr. Henry Payne; "Regimental Bands"; "History in the Making"; "Fighting his Battles over Again." In each case the selection of subjects is very happy, the designs striking, the colouring bold and effective.

"**The Lombard Street Library,**" which Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. have just started, is to be "a series of volumes on financial subjects," and it could hardly make a better commencement than with a new issue of the standard book on English Finance which the late Mr. Walter Bagehot published rather more than forty years ago under the title of "Lombard Street: A Description of the Money Market." There have necessarily been changes in our National finance and in opinion on various matters during that period, and Mr. Hartley Withers, who has already given us some most illuminating books on money and finance, has prefixed a very suggestive and helpful introduction, in which he points out and explains the principal changes which have taken place. The permanent value of Mr. Bagehot's work has always been fully recognised, and its re-issue in this new and helpful form will be heartily welcomed by all concerned in our national financial methods, whether as actually engaged in financial business or as students of this extremely important side of our national economy.

The Series of "Ammunition for Civilians," now in course of publication by Mr. W. Heinemann, has been much increased in value by the inclusion of "The Germans in Belgium: The Experiences of a Neutral," by L. H. Grondys, Ph.D., formerly Professor of Physics at Dordrecht. He has given very graphic accounts of the German barbarities at Aerschot, Louvain, and other towns in Belgium, and in his preface he rightly expresses surprise that the Germans have not realised that "their methods have strengthened the resistance of the Belgians . . . have rallied fainting souls and despairing hearts to the support of great and farseeing leaders, King Albert, Cardinal Mercier, the Burgomaster Max, and many others," and he reminds them that "the individualism which the Germans despise so much is the virtue of the Latin race . . . it is the Latin civilisation against which they are fighting."

Messrs. T. C. & E. C. Jack always make a feature of books for boys and girls, and they have just published "The War, 1914-15: A History and an Explanation," by Elizabeth O'Neill, a continuation of the earlier book on the war, entitled "The War, 1914." The present volume carries on the story of the war till after Christmas. In vigorous and interesting chapters Miss O'Neill describes the battle for the Coast, with the great fight at Ypres and the Yser, the Russian Campaign, the gallant defence of Serbia, the Naval War, the War in the Air, the capture of German colours, and a careful summary of the results of the first five months of the war. The account is pleasantly diversified with many incidents and anecdotes, and the main points of the operations are made sufficiently clear. The four coloured plates and the many black-and-white illustrations, largely from photographs, have been admirably selected.

Messrs. Methuen & Co. have just issued in their Two Shilling Library, "Lord Loveland Discovers America," an amusing book by Mr. and Mrs. Williamson, also in their Shilling Series, "Social Evils and their Remedy," a selection from the writings of Leo Tolstoi; they have also published a new and completely rewritten edition of "The Little Guide to Kent," by Dr. J. Charles Cox.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—A lending library in the trenches! This is no fancifully Utopian suggestion, but a statement of accomplished fact, as you will have discovered if you happened to read the very interesting and informing article on the Camps Library Depot and its work which appeared in the *Daily Mail* a few days ago. The writer quoted the appeal of a "boy" at the front for books and magazines "for a small lending library in his 'dug-out' for the use of the men, which he greatly wishes to augment." And it may well be doubted whether even the industrious Sister Susie of the tongue-paralysing ditty is capable of earning a larger measure of gratitude from our cheery heroes in France and Flanders than those who respond judiciously as well as generously to appeals like this, and help to keep up an adequate supply of the literature for which they crave.

I say "judiciously," because in this account of the experiences of the Camps Library it had to be pointed out, by no means for the first time, that merely to sweep together any heterogeneous collection of printed matter in covers and pack it off to the Depot is to spoil the value of a well-intentioned act for want of a little thought and a small amount of trouble. We were told of sales-catalogues, old Royal Academy guides, railway time-tables, and telephone directories that had been blindly sent along for the mental recreation of our country's brave defenders. But it was reassuring to learn that the majority of senders show some discretion in the choice of their offerings, and that suitable books of various kinds have largely predominated among the hundred thousand volumes and more that have been received since the beginning of December. As might have been expected, the handy little "sevenpennys" are specially appreciated; but one gathers that the demand for literature other than fiction in the trenches is also quite surprisingly large. So there is a fairly wide field of selection for those who may be doing their literary "spring-cleaning" just now; and since the Depot in Earl Street, Westminster, is still asking for as many suitable books as anyone can spare, the opportunity of doing our soldiers a good turn in this way is well worth bearing in mind.

It will be, we may be sure, a peculiarly gratifying experience for any of the authors of repute who are now serving with the colours to find their works giving pleasure and entertainment to their comrades in arms. Quite a considerable number of writers of standing are already in khaki, and every now and then one hears of some addition to the list. These author-warriors have evidently no sympathy with the view once put forward by Ernest Renan, who protested that it was a misuse of men of marked artistic talents to make soldiers of them, and that they ought consequently to be exempted, in the public interest as well as in their own, from liability to be called up for military service. It may be taken for granted that this way of looking at the matter is shared by very few, if any, of the French authors and artists of to-day who are helping to defend their native land; and their English colleagues, though living at present under a system which makes enlistment a purely voluntary act, are showing that they, too, recognise no reason why men who possess literary or artistic gifts should not be as active and as efficient in their country's defence as any other class of citizens. It would be, indeed, a very poor compliment to mark them off as exempt from any moral obligation to respond to the call of patriotism, so long as they are of military age and physically capable of bearing arms.

There can be little doubt that if we had been living in normal times, a lively controversy on the ethics of book-reviewing would have been set on foot by the stimulating article on the subject which appears in the current issue of the *British Review*. To criticise the critics is always an attractive undertaking; and those who sit in professional judgment on books and authors are certainly none the worse for an occasional dose

of their own medicine. But though it is obviously true that all book-reviewers are not as helpful or as well qualified for their work as they might be, I think we have a right to claim that the general standard of literary criticism that obtains, at any rate, in the more important and influential organs of our daily and weekly Press, is a commendably high one. Considering the vast number of new books which tumble over one another in their appeal for attention in the course of an ordinary season, the only wonder is, I think, that the work of the reviewers is so well and so thoroughly done. It can hardly be said that there is anything inadequate or perfunctory in the way in which books of any importance are dealt with by the critics of papers whose opinions on literary subjects are of any recognised value; and if books which are scarcely worth noticing at all are sometimes dismissed in a few charitably colourless lines, I do not know that anyone is very much the worse.

Speaking of book reviews, it has always seemed to me that a regular and conscientious study of the best of them, from day to day and from week to week, might do a good deal towards correcting that "lack of knowledge and discrimination" on the part of some booksellers' assistants about which an aggrieved correspondent was complaining to us last week. It is obviously impossible, needless to say, for any bookseller's assistant—or any bookseller himself, for that matter—to gain a first-hand knowledge of the contents of every new book that passes through his hands; but a diligent following of the reviews could not fail to be of immense service, and the information thus acquired could be gained at the cost of a very small expenditure of time and trouble. I do not forget, of course, that a bookseller's stock does not consist entirely, or even chiefly, of newly-issued works; but it is about these latter that the visiting customer is most likely to seek information. For the rest, everyone must agree that it is a huge mistake to entrust the selling of books to persons who handle them without knowledge or interest, as if they were so many pounds of tea or packets of stationery; though the very considerable difficulty of securing qualified assistants for such work must not, in fairness, be overlooked.

Very welcome is the announcement issued within the last few days that Mr. Gilbert Chesterton is now making steady though slow progress towards recovery from his recent illness. How serious that illness has been, and how gravely it threatened, at its worst, to rob us of further work from one of the most brilliant and original pens of our time, a good many of the admirers of "G. K. C." are probably still unaware. Happily, there is now reason to hope that he will be well enough before long to resume some portion, at least, of his literary activity. It is, I am told, a fact that his illness was aggravated by his deep concern about the war, on the moral aspects of which, as you will remember, he was writing a series of remarkable articles for the *Daily Mail* at the time of his breakdown of health. Everyone who is acquainted with Mr. Chesterton—personally, I have had the good fortune to know him since the days when his fame and success were still to be won—is aware that, despite his love of expressing himself in humorous paradox and fantastic imagery, he is a man of deep feeling, profound convictions, and intense sincerity. At a time when literary brilliancy is too often made a mere vehicle for provocative exhibitions of shallow cynicism by posing "super-men" afflicted with the lust of self-advertisement, it is good to know that we have a writer and thinker of Mr. Chesterton's original genius "on the side of the angels."

In his new novel, "Brunel's Tower," Mr. Eden Phillpotts sentimentously remarks that "men are like pots, none perfect, if you look close enough, for perfection is denied all made of earth." I was amused to see that the *Daily Chronicle*, in reproducing this passage the other day, headed its quotation "The Personal Touch." It evidently thought that the novelist intended to write—"Men are like Phillpotts"!

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. BLACKWOOD & SONS are just publishing "Private Spud Tamson," a collection of sketches by Captain R. W. Campbell, describing the training and the war exploits of a special reservist. They are also including in their Popular Shilling Series Mr. John Buchan's "The Watcher by the Threshold."

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co. will publish immediately "Marriage by Conquest," a new novel by Mr. Warwick Deeping; "The Story Behind the Verdict," by Frank Danby; "The Tale of Progress," the Fifth Book on Cassell's Modern School Series of Historical Readers; "The Street of Seven Stars," by Mary Roberts Rinehart; "Wonders of Wild Nature," by Mr. Richard Kearton, with a very full series of direct-from-nature photographs by the author and his daughter, Miss Grace Kearton.

MESSRS. J. M. DENT & SONS, LTD., will publish shortly a new novel "The Awakening" (Les Yeux Qui S'Ouvrent), by Henry Bordeaux (author of "The Fear of Living"), translated into English from the 95th French edition by Ruth Helen Davis.

MESSRS. GREENING & Co. will publish next week "Much Ado About Nothing," the novels from Shakespeare series, by a Popular Novelist.

MESSRS. H. GREVEL & Co. have in the press a "Monograph of Leonardo da Vinci's 'Mona Lisa,'" by John R. Eyre, dealing with the subject from a strictly historical point of view.

MR. HEINEMANN will publish next week a new volume of lithographs illustrating the Greek temples, by Mr. Joseph Pennell. A special student's edition will appear simultaneously, with an introduction by Dr. Rouse, of Cambridge.

MESSRS. HODDER & STOUGHTON are publishing immediately "Seeing It Through," a new book about the war, by Mr. A. St. John Adcock.

MESSRS. HURST & BLACKETT, LTD., will publish shortly a new novel entitled "The Miracle of Love," by Mr. Cosmo Hamilton, author of "The Blindness of Virtue," etc.; also a new novel entitled "The Teeth of the Tiger," by Maurice Leblanc, the creator of "Arsène Lupin."

MESSRS. HUTCHINSON & Co. will publish immediately a new sporting novel entitled, "Meave," by Dorothea Conyers, author of "The Strayings of Sandy," and other popular novels; Mr. H. de Vere Stacpoole's new book entitled "The Blue Horizon"; a new novel entitled "Whose Name is Legion," by Miss Isabel C. Clarke, dealing with Catholicism and spiritualism as opposing forces.

MR. JOHN LANE will publish next week "Kitchener Chaps," a volume of sketches by Mr. A. Neil Lyons; "Carillons in Belgium and Holland," by W. Gorham Rise, illustrated with 32 photographs; also "My Shrubs," by Mr. Eden Phillpotts, magnificently illustrated with 50 photographs.

MESSRS. JOHN LONG will shortly publish a new novel, "The Snake Garden," by Amy J. Baker, author of "I Too Have Known," "The Impenitent Prayer"; also "The Wizard of the Turf," by Nat Gould, the popular writer of racing stories.

MESSRS. G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS are publishing immediately: "Field Hospital and Flying Column," by Violetta Thurstan, the journal of an English Nursing Sister in Belgium and Russia; "In the Service of the King," a parson's story by Joseph B. Dunn.

THE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY announce: "With our Fighting Men," the story of their faith, courage, endurance in the great war, a stirring narrative by William E. Sellers, M.A.; a new work of art by Harold Copping entitled "Wist ye not that I must be in my Father's house?" a beautiful photogravure reproduction, printed on India paper, of the original

drawing. Each copy will be signed by the artist; "The Wonderland of Egypt," by Percy Salmon, F.R.P.S., a vivid pen picture of that land of sunshine and mystery, with many beautiful drawings by artists who have lived in Egypt.

MESSRS. SIDGWICK & JACKSON will publish at once "The Volunteer Training Corps Handbook," by Mr. F. A. M. Webster, with Introduction by General Sir O'Moore Creagh, V.C.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & Co. will publish shortly Mrs. David G. Ritchie's story "Two Sinners," which has just completed its serial course in the *Cornhill Magazine*; also "The Irish Nuns of Ypres," the story of the Benedictine convent which, founded by James II. two centuries ago, was shelled by the Germans, told by one of the Dames. Edited by Mr. Barry O'Brien, and with an Introduction by Mr. John Redmond, M.P.

Correspondence.

PUBLISHERS, BOOKSELLERS, AND AUTHORS.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

SIR,—I observe with interest that "Jacob Omnium" has taken notice of the charges made by the Secretary of the Society of Authors against publishers who entrap novices and so arrange their contracts as practically to deprive the authors of any chance of profit, and even break up the type when the copies free of royalty have been printed. This is done simply to avoid the cost of taking moulds, say, £5 or £7 for the average novel, or of paying the rent of standing type. All this arises out of the lecture I delivered to the Booksellers' Provident Society, and out of the unmannerly attack made upon me in consequence in *The Academy* by an anonymous publisher. The Society of Authors, and, inferentially, myself, are now asked to name these men. You place me at least in a difficulty; there are only three or four of them and some of their contracts have been printed in the *Author* for everybody to read. I should suggest that the file of that publication be examined. Let it be noted that there is nothing dishonest in making contracts such as these; it is merely hard business. Only I am trying to get rid of hard business between partners. I am doing everything I can to produce closer union between booksellers, publishers, and authors; I was responsible for the resolution last year at the Society of Authors to call a conference on the censorship of libraries, between the four interested parties; the war stopped this conference, but I intend to bring the matter up again. And in the autumn of last year I tried for another meeting to discuss all the outstanding questions, limitation of output, standardisation of prices, &c. What I want is what might be called a Book Union, where we would all sit. Our interests are the same, as we all want to sell books, only, Sir, if we are to do any good, we must get rid of the attitude of hostility and suspicion which separates the partners in our common business. It is no use attacking an author violently because he has dared to speak about publishing methods; and it hurts me a little to think that certain booksellers have been offended by the remarks I made on remainders, &c. We must not be offended with each other; we can tell each other that we are talking nonsense and prove it, and I for one am glad to be corrected if I can be instructed. It is no use the bookseller saying to the publisher, or the publisher to the author: "Mind your own business!" We are, because it is our joint business.

I hope you will be so kind as to publish this letter, and, indeed, you would be doing a great service to literature if you could open the columns of your powerful organ to the cause of unity in our common interests.

Yours faithfully,

W. L. GEORGE.

3, Pembroke Crescent, W.
April 10th, 1915.

BOOKSELLERS' ASSISTANTS.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

DEAR SIR,—I can sympathise with "Unwanted." I have had about twenty-five years of bookselling, and I have long deplored the want of intelligence in assistants. My experience has been chiefly with women and girls. They seem to regard the years spent in business as a means of "killing time" rather than a golden opportunity of acquiring valuable knowledge. In a bookshop the knowledge to be gained is of so much *more* value in private life, than is that of many other businesses, say, for instance, the drapery trade. One can always talk about books without "talking shop." Regarding the difficulty "Unwanted" found in getting a post in a bookshop, on the (very fair) terms he suggested, this was probably not so much because he "lacked shop or technical experience," as because most people would feel a certain amount of embarrassment in accepting the services of any one so much beyond the usual age of apprentices. An employer would also recognise that if the gentleman had to work with juniors his position would not be an enviable one. At the same time, it is easy to believe that he might be of very great assistance, his knowledge of books being a valuable possession.—Yours faithfully,

A BOOKLOVER AND BOOKSELLER.

Southampton, April 12th, 1915.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to "Unwanted's" letter I think the following lines will fully answer him.

"Here lies Ned Pindon, a bookseller's hack,
He lived such a damnable life in this world,
I don't think he'd care to come back."

Yours truly,

HAD SOME.

April 10th, 1915.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

DEAR SIR,—With reference to the complaint as to the lack of intelligence and culture among so many booksellers' assistants made by your correspondent "Unwanted" in last week's BOOKSELLER, it must be confessed that his remarks are not without considerable foundation. But while he himself gives some of the reasons for this state of things, he omits to suggest any remedy. With your permission I should be glad to point out one or two ways in which some move towards improvement might be made possible. First, the booksellers should combine (like other trades and professions) and charge the published *price* to the public for all *books, magazines, and periodicals* whether marked net or subject. Second, the employer would in this case be enabled to employ assistants of a higher grade and more efficiency by giving higher wages—for none can expect a cultured and intellectual assistant for wages less than that of a 'bus conductor. As all employers know quite well, it is the wages that command the right man. Third, another reason for the ignorance of the bookseller's assistant is to be found in his comparative youthfulness. Why do your advertisers always ask for a young man with a thorough knowledge of the trade? A little reflection would show that the combination is impossible.

The knowledge of our literature is a life-long study, and to suggest that a man in our trade is too old at forty is ridiculous. On the contrary, he is then just becoming valuable to the class of book buyers such as "Unwanted" in giving expert advice, and to the bookseller in making more business by his experience. "Unwanted" ended with a personal note. I will do the same. I am employed as a bookseller's assistant, and have been one for the last forty years, but should I unfortunately lose my present employment I am convinced that, despite my experience and all round knowledge of books, &c. (and I have that or I could not be where I am), I should quickly find myself

"ANOTHER UNWANTED."

Obituary.

Thin.—April 11th, at his residence, Lauder Road, Edinburgh, aged 91, Mr. James Thin, for very many years a leading bookseller and publisher in Edinburgh. It was so long ago as 1836, when he was not yet twelve years old, that he commenced as a bookseller's apprentice, and after twelve years with his master he began business on his own account in Infirmity Street in the well-known premises that he occupied till his death. At first he dealt mainly in educational books and books for University students, but as the years passed on his operations extended into a general new and second-hand trade of considerable dimensions, and his premises at times have held a stock of some half a million volumes. For more than half a century his shop was a recognised rendezvous of literary and scientific men, and very many of those who are well known in University life and literature have been frequent and welcome visitors. The business also developed a large foreign and colonial connection, which added materially to its growth and importance. In 1873, more than fifty years ago, he was appointed publisher to the University of Edinburgh; in 1885 he purchased the business of the late Mr. Moodie Miller, of Lindsay Place, and has since carried it on as a branch concern; and five years later he took over the Medical and Foreign department of Messrs. MacLachlan and Stewart, opposite the University, thus making still closer his already close connection with scientific and educational book buyers. Two years before this he had retired from the more active work of the business in favour of his two sons, Messrs. George and James Thin, but his personal interest remained undiminished. Some ten years ago he printed an extremely interesting brochure on "Bookselling in Edinburgh in the time of William IV.," which was full of interesting details, but is now quite out of print. He was always specially interested in hymnology, and he collected a library on this subject numbering no less than 2,500 volumes, a collection which is probably unrivalled in the British islands. It naturally enabled him to be of unique usefulness to the Hymn Book Committee which compiled first the Presbyterian Hymnal, and later the Church Hymnary. In the course of his long life Mr. Thin had many experiences of exceptional interest. He could remember De Quincey, who came to live in Edinburgh so long ago as 1828, and had various business transactions with him. When he was only six years old he was present with his father at the proclamation of King William IV. He saw the famous Jubilee Reform procession of 1832, the proclamation of Queen Victoria in 1837, and the first visit of Her Majesty and Prince Albert to Edinburgh in 1842, while he was present at the Disruption Services in St. Andrew's Church in 1845. For 60 years he served as an Elder in Bristo United Presbyterian Church, later the United Free Church, and his jubilee as an Elder was celebrated by the presentation to him by the congregation of his portrait by Henry W. Kerr, A.R.S.A. He was always an active member of many Synodical committees, and, as a member for nearly thirty years of the Foreign Mission Board, he visited many congregations in the interest of that society.

Notices of Books.

Woman's Mysteries of a Primitive People, the Ibibios of Southern Nigeria. By D. Amaury Talbot. With forty-four illustrations from photographs. (Cassell & Co.)—It is extremely fortunate that the suggestion was made to Mrs. Talbot, the wife of an official in Southern Nigeria, that she should take up the work of research into the subject of primitive woman—a matter in which hitherto only men have been employed. Mrs. Talbot was one of the few women who had been allowed to accompany their husbands on Government Service in Africa, and for some six years she had gone with Mr. Talbot on all his journeyings. It was a further advantage that she had lived among the Ibibios of Southern Nigeria, a race which, though they now occupy a low position on the ladder of culture, have apparently come down from a time when they possessed a religious culture hardly less highly evolved than that of Ancient Egypt; indeed, they may have been a link in the long chain by which the Egyptians gained their knowledge from Western Africa, and the Nile borrowed from the Niger. Mrs. Talbot was also fortunate in the fact that by the unwritten law of the Ibibios it is forbidden for any man to obtain even a glimmering of mysteries which custom has decreed should be confided to woman alone. She was therefore able to obtain much valuable information which would always be denied to male enquirers. Mrs. Talbot has carried out her investigations with remarkable skill and success, and the many curious facts as to prenatal influences and birth customs are of the highest importance and interest. She has set forth for the use and benefit both of the intelligent reader and the scientific investigator the life story of the Ibibio woman from her cradle to her grave, so far, at any rate, as those of her people were willing to confide it to an alien race. What she has to tell us is invaluable not only for itself but also, we may hope, as showing the way to a new path of investigation, the fruitfulness of which can hardly be overestimated. Her book is exceptionally interesting and instructive from beginning to end, and is sure to excite quite unusual attention. The many illustrations are of special value.

Light from the East: Studies in Japanese Confucianism. By Robert Cornell Armstrong, M.A., Ph.D. (Librarian University of Toronto).—The fact that this work is one of the University of Toronto Studies in the Department of Philosophy and that it is also issued under the auspices of the Forward Movement Department of the Toronto branch of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Church gives it a double value and influence. For it carries with it at once the guarantee of University scholarship and learning and of missionary activity and zeal. It is a further advantage that the author has apparently written it on the spot, at Kobe, in Japan, and in its preparation has enjoyed the ready help and co-operation of many Japanese teachers, whose knowledge of the subject may be taken as first-hand. Dr. Armstrong tells us that his "work is given to the public in the hope that it will throw light on some of the formative elements of Japanese civilisation and lead to a better understanding of Japanese character and life." As Japan is now our ally in our great fight for our national existence, it goes without saying that the better we understand the character and life of our allies the better it will be for both countries concerned. It is indeed specially "important that we should look at the Japanese from a broad, human standpoint and endeavour to discover their real nature." The author tells us that he hopes that "these studies may lead others to the conviction that East and West are fundamentally one"—a view manifestly different from that so vigorously expressed in the well-known phrase of Mr. Kipling, that "East is East and West is West and never the twain shall meet." Which of the two

is finally correct we shall not attempt to decide, but a careful study of Dr. Armstrong's important work will at least enable the English reader to form clearer ideas on one side of the great issue. We cannot, of course, in the limited space at our disposal attempt to discuss or review the many interesting and at the same time difficult matters with which Dr. Armstrong has to deal. We can only draw attention to the enormous influence which Confucianism, so eagerly studied by Japanese scholars for more than a thousand years since its first introduction, has exerted on the life and thought of that country, particularly in the sphere of moral culture. As Professor Tetsujiro Inouye, of the Imperial University of Tokyo, points out in his commendatory Foreword, the preparation thus made explains to a large extent the sudden uprise of Japan of modern years; so much so, indeed, that it may be said to be only a natural and necessary transition. And this in spite of the fact that since the Restoration Confucianism seems to be almost extinguished. This, however, is only apparent, for Confucianism has become very largely Japanised, and therefore to understand Confucianism of the Tokugawa age is to understand Japanese culture itself.

The White Horses. By Halliwell Sutcliffe. (Ward, Lock & Co.)—A vigorous martial storyteller such as Mr. Halliwell Sutcliffe has already shown himself is always at home when fighting or love have to be described, and the characteristic directness and vigour of his previous books is as marked as ever in this story of the great civil war, or at least the part of it that was fought in Yorkshire up to the disaster of Marston Moor. Squire Metcalfe, of Napper, in Wensleydale, (then called Yoredale), and the hundred and twenty Metcalfes of his clan all on their white horses, their valour and their exploits, give Mr. Sutcliffe ample material, and the skill with which he has put together the various scenes and incidents which make up the tale is undeniable. Cromwell and Prince Rupert, Lambert and Fairfax, and Newcastle and other well-known figures of that stirring time, are ingeniously introduced, and in each case portrayed with realism and accuracy. The love stories which are intertwined with the thread of the tale add much to its interest.

Sea-Pie, being some Minor Reminiscences and Tales of other Men. By J. E. Patterson. With a Title-Page and Two Drawings by J. Gidley Withycombe (Max Goschen, Ltd.). In his previous books, "My Vagabondage," and "Fishers of the Sea," Mr. Patterson gave us some very exciting sketches of his various experiences on land and sea, set forth with a graphic force and vigour which attracted more than ordinary attention. He now gives us what he modestly describes as some "Minor Reminiscences," mainly of his experiences on board ship, with realistic sketches of some of the strange and remarkable persons he has met with. "Sea-Pie," it would seem in sailors' life is a sort of nautical hotch-potch, which is usually very welcome to those to whom it is served. In the same way we may endorse Mr. Patterson's phrase and assure him that his "literary sea-pie" may be warranted to be at least equally appetising to the reader. We have no space to describe in detail any of the most exciting incidents and episodes that are so attractively set forth, but we may remark that some of the sea characters here sketched—such, for example, as the unique individual known as "Shivers"—stand out from the main run of the book, and will long remain in the memory of the reader. The rough and tumble atmosphere of the ship's surroundings, the realistic picture of the ship-load of Eastern pilgrims and other scenes and incidents are thoroughly true to life, and the whole book indeed palpitates with actuality from the first page to the last. In sheer forcefulness and dramatic vigour it is a characteristically noteworthy piece of work.

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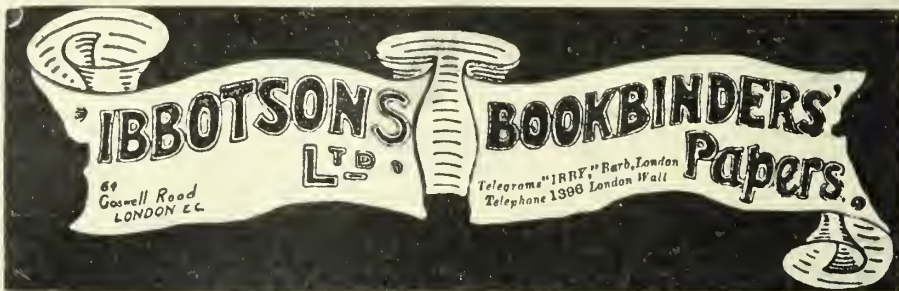
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Trade and Literary Gossip.

For King and Country.—The following has been received since our last list:—

Messrs. W. H. SMITH & SON (33rd List).—Middleton, A., Royal Fusiliers; Hornsey, H. J., Northumberland Hussars; Elder, G. R., R.F.A.; Pittaway, W., R.F.A.; Milsom, S., King's Royal Rifles; Dighton, F. W. A., Duke of Cornwall's L.I.; Schofield, G., Royal Navy; Callan, E. H., East Surrey; Jenkins, S. D., R.F.A.; Pierce, J. T., R.F.A.; Haynes, H., A.S.C.; Harvey, H., A.O.C.; Trickey, A. H., R.A.M.C.; Barringer, C., A.O.C.; Roberts, W. G., Middlesex; Richmond, J., Royal Engineers; and Turner, E. J., R.A.M.C.

Mr. T. Fisher Unwin has registered his business as a private limited company under the style of T. Fisher Unwin, Limited, with a capital of £40,000 in £1 shares, 13,000 preference. Mr. T. Fisher Unwin is permanent governing director.

Mr. John Murray, C.V.O., has become a member of and a subscriber to the Duty and Discipline Movement, the membership of which has now reached a total of 4,244.

Mr. J. E. Hodder Williams, head of the firm of Hodder & Stoughton, is standing as a candidate for the vacancy in the Common Council for the Ward of Farringdon Within, caused by the retirement of Mr. J. B. Wild.

Braintree.—The stationery and fancy goods business of Mr. W. H. Beckett, carried on at 25-27, Raynes Road, Braintree, has been transferred to Mr. Albert Baker. Messrs. Holmes & Son conducted the valuation on behalf of both parties.

Liskeard.—The old-established bookselling, stationery, and fancy business at Market Street, Liskeard, carried on by Mr. Ernest H. Pond, has been disposed of by Messrs. F. T. Evans & Co. to Miss F. M. Haughton, formerly of Dawlish.

The late Mr. Charles William Blacklock, of Barnes, head of Messrs. Blacklock & Co., printers, of Manchester, publishers of "Bradshaw's Guide," has left estate of the gross value of £189,094, with net personalty £44,551.

Virginia Woolf, whose first novel, "The Voyage Out," has just been published, is the daughter of the late Sir Leslie Stephen.

National Book Trade Provident Society.—The recent Whist Drive held under the auspices of the London Branch proved very successful. There was a record attendance, and the whole proceedings were in every way satisfactory. The following ladies and gentlemen were prize-winners:

Mesdames Clum, 183; Woodfield, 176; Miss Greenfield, 176; Mesdames Barton, 175; Morgan, 174; Foot, 173; Toovey, 173; Greenfield, 172; Wing, 172; Bartley, 172; Miss Heather, 171; Mrs. Hillyard, 171; Misses Levy, 170; Peacock, 170; M. F. Curtis, 169; Payne, 169; Mrs. Crane, 168; Misses G. O. Anderson, 168; A. E. Batt, 168; Mesdames Bennett, 167; Crockett, 167; Miss Horwood, 167; Mrs. Hattersley, 167; Miss Coltman, 166; Miss Lucraft, 166. Messrs. Allen, 189; R. Miller, 182; Pentland, 182; Piper, 182; Pike, 180; Ansell, 178; Ames, 177; Blaber, 176; Baden, 175; Hazelton, 175; Harry Spur, 173; Hobson, 173; Miller, 172; Roberts, 172; Metcalf, 171; Cosgrove, 170; Hardy, 170; Rosenberg, 169; Bowling, 169; Crane, 168; A. Denny, 168; Crockett, 168; Askew, 167; Lindsell, 167; Foot, 167; and Davidson, 167.

The "Publishers' Mail," a new newsagents' journal, will make its appearance on Saturday, May 1st, and will be issued from Brownlow House, High Holborn, W.C.

Messrs. Maggs Brothers inform us that Messrs. R. W. P. de Vries, of Amsterdam, perhaps the most important book firm in Holland, on May 1st celebrate their Jubilee, and this day is also the birthday of Mr. Vries, Sen., founder of the firm.

"Drawing" is a new monthly magazine which is to appear on May 1st, and is described as "an Illustrated Monthly Magazine devoted to Art as a National Asset." It will aim at "the complete union of Art with Industry," and at being "a live and practical paper for the Artist, Designer, Craftsman, and all in any way connected with Art." It will be published at 210, Strand, W.C.

The "Canadian Bookseller," of Toronto, has just changed its title to "The Canadian Bookman," to express "the keen desire of the Editor and promoters to make it an independent literary review for the use of the bookbuyer." In its new form it is certainly more attractive, and will no doubt successfully "appeal to the wider constituency of ardent booklovers who hitherto have had no distinctively Canadian magazine to minister to their long-felt needs."

The Booksellers' League, of New York, has for the last year or two provided lectures for the special training of booksellers' assistants, and these have been well attended. They now issue in the trade journals particulars of a regular course which has been arranged under the direction of Mr. Huebsch, an ex-president of the Booksellers' League. It is under the supervision of a representative Advisory Committee, on which are publishers, booksellers and editors of the trade journals. The scheme bids fair to be successful, and something on the same lines might, perhaps, be useful on this side of the water.

Messrs. Andrew Melrose, Ltd., have issued a useful List of their Spring Announcements, which include several books of much interest: "At the Front with Three Armies," by Granville Fortescue, correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*; "The Ghost of Poland," by Cranstoun Metcalfe; "Accidentals," by Helen Mackay; sketches of France immediately before and after the outbreak of the war; "The South African Rebellion," by Cyril Campbell; and several novels of more than ordinary interest.

Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton have published on behalf of the *Daily Telegraph* Bands' Fund a handsome *edition de luxe* of Mr. Rudyard Kipling's "Song of the English," with illustrations by Mr. W. Heath Robinson. Mr. Rudyard Kipling's verses need no praise, and Mr. Heath Robinson's drawings are all in his best style, and show all the characteristic merits that have won for him so widespread a reputation. The book will no doubt find the extensive circulation it so thoroughly deserves, to the substantial benefit of the important Fund on whose behalf it has been undertaken.

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. will publish immediately the sixth and last volume of the elaborately illustrated edition of Macaulay's "History of England," which has been prepared by Professor C. H. Firth.

Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. announce a third edition of Mrs. M. E. Clarke's "Paris Waits, 1914"; they have had to reprint twice the April number of the *Cornhill Magazine*, and they have issued a second edition of Lady Charnwood's novel "The Full Price."

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. have published an interesting brochure entitled "Japan our Ally," by Mr. W. Crewdson, a Vice-President of the Japan Society, which deals with the main points of recent Japanese history, and of the alliance between England and Japan. Sir Claude Macdonald, for so many years the British representative, contributes an interesting commendatory preface, in which he bears the fullest testimony to the courtesy and fair dealing of the Japanese Government.

The "Publishers' Weekly," of New York, rightly calls attention to the important fact that an essential factor in advertising is the element of news which has so much to do with making advertisement the more effective. Hence, for the live shopkeeper to give his window displays "news interest" should be a constant ideal. The bookseller, the writer continues, "is fortunate above all his fellow shopkeepers in that all his stock has properly and fundamentally this same news appeal. Other men sell nails and sugar, and buttons and chairs, and they find it difficult to give news value to these commodities. In this respect, however, the bookseller is more fortunate. Every new book is news—capable of advertising exploitation, and the bookseller's house organ is to book lovers veritably a newspaper, to be treated and regarded as such."

Messrs. C. Arthur Pearson are issuing at once "The New Bernhardt," which, it is stated, has been written by direction of the Kaiser, and puts forward some startling views as to the progress of the Campaign in France, explains why Germany has up to date failed to secure the world power that he forshadowed, and makes a particularly ferocious attack on England.

Mr. G. B. Burgin has just issued through Messrs. Hutchinson & Co. a new Canadian novel entitled "The Herb of Healing," which reintroduces some of the characters of his previous novels.

The Cambridge University Press will publish shortly "An Elementary Russian Grammar," by A. P. Goudy, Lecturer in Russian in the University of Cambridge, and, under the editorship of Mr. Goudy and Mr. E. Bullough, of Gonville and Caius College, a series of Russian texts, each volume to consist of about 150 pages, with notes and vocabulary; the first three volumes of the series will be "Boris Godunov" by Pushkin, "Sevastopol" by Tolstoy, and "Poor People" by Dostoyevsky.

Messrs. Methuen & Co. have issued a shilling edition of Madame Albanesi's story "The Beloved Enemy," and a cheaper half-crown edition of Miss Topham's successful book "Memories of the Kaiser's Court."

Mr. John Grant, wholesale bookseller, of 31, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh, has issued to the trade a catalogue of valuable and scholarly works on Art and Finely Illustrated Works, including the special numbers issued by *The Connoisseur*. It will, as usual with Mr. Grant's catalogues, be found worth special attention.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—Last week's vigorous letter from Mr. W. L. George on the need for closer union between publishers, booksellers, and authors should have brought a gleam of fresh hope to any who may have begun to despair of seeing anything practical done towards the attainment of what all must admit to be, in theory at any rate, "a consummation devoutly to be wished." For that letter must have suggested to many others, as it did to me, that if only a few leading representatives of the other interests concerned could be induced to bring to bear upon the subject the same blend of enthusiasm and common sense that Mr. George applies to it as a spokesman of the authors, the literary Triple Entente from which so much all-round benefit might be expected would soon be brought within measurable distance of establishment.

Even among those who are as fully convinced of the necessity of definite action as Mr. George himself, there are probably some who doubt whether the present is a propitious time for pressing the matter. But since the book trade has to be kept alive in spite of the strain and distraction of the war, there can surely be nothing inopportune in the immediate consideration of means by which it might be assisted to overcome some of its chief internal difficulties, and so to enter upon a period of renewed and—as we hope—enhanced prosperity as soon as peace is concluded and normal conditions are restored.

Speaking as a disinterested—though in one sense a keenly interested—onlooker, I should like to venture the tentative suggestion that if Mr. George and some of those who share his views, whether authors, publishers, or booksellers, were to constitute themselves a kind of informal consultative body, and exchange ideas as to the best and most practical means of promoting the object of their common desire, the result of their deliberations could not fail to be extremely helpful. They might even find themselves able to put forward agreed proposals which would commend themselves to all the interests concerned, and which the societies respectively representing those interests would see the advantage of endorsing. If this "outside" suggestion is considered impracticable, I hope that at least it will not be regarded as, in any sense of the word, impertinent.

It is to be feared that the war-poets are just now experiencing a considerable "slump"—if such an expression is allowable—in their market. The torrent of martial verse, of varying degrees of merit and otherwise, which descended upon us in overwhelming volume in the early months of the war has dwindled to-day to a thin and spasmodic trickle, and even the *Times*, which at one period made a set of verses as regular a daily feature as its index of contents, now frequently allows mornings to pass without the appearance of the once inevitable war-poem. It was hardly to be expected, of course, that the topical bards, major and minor, could find continual inspiration for an indefinite period even in so tremendous a theme; and it must be owned that the quality of much of the occasional verse published since the beginning of August has not been such as to leave us in despair at the present diminution of the supply. I see, by the way, that Mr. Alfred Noyes has been telling an American interviewer that though publishers in this country are experiencing a decline in the demand for novels, they are selling twice as much poetry as usual, because poetry has kept closer than fiction to "the big, vital things." This is no doubt true as regards Mr. Noyes's own deservedly popular verse, and one hopes, for their own sake, that it is equally true of the works of his brother poets. A real and lasting revival of interest in poetry on the part of the general reading public would be a welcome addition to the items which stand to the credit side of the war.

Meanwhile, I am afraid that our more ambitious and "serious" novelists will not take at all kindly to Mr. Noyes's implied denial of their ability to get near

enough to "the big, vital things." One can only say that if they fail to attain success in this direction, it is certainly not for want of trying. Perhaps they will not be too proud to take a "wrinkle" or two from the work of a French colleague, M. Henri Bordeaux, whose novel "Les Yeux qui s'Ouvrent," about to be issued in an English version by Mr. Dent under the title of "The Awakening," is officially announced, I observe, as "a recipe for married happiness, a formula for domestic content, and a solution of the divorce problem." These things are surely big and vital enough to satisfy even Mr. Noyes, who, I imagine, would find it no light matter to present himself as an infallible mentor on such delicate questions through the medium of a volume of poems. Oddly enough, the more usual complaint against our crusading novelists is that they are apt to take themselves a little too seriously as inspired evangelists with a special mission to set this poor old world in order. It is distinctly hard on them that they should suddenly find themselves arraigned on the contrary charge that "the big, vital things" are beyond their reach.

Exit the "Almanach de Gotha"—enter the "Almanach de Bruxelles." That formula serves to describe one of the most curious of the minor changes effected by the war. One of the oldest and most famous of the world's reference-books, the long recognised fountain-head of minute information regarding all the Royalties of Europe and those who stand closest to them in blood or by alliance, has by its own act—or, rather, that of its publishers—fallen from its high estate after a super-dignified career of more than a century and a half. The German "hate"-madness has been its undoing, and it is no longer to include the names of princely or ducal personages belonging to the countries of the Allies. Consequently, it will be a maimed and miserably imperfect publication in future, and its place is to be taken by a new "Almanach de Bruxelles," to be issued, for the present at least, from Paris. The absurd action of the publishers of the old "Almanach" has simply given us one more proof of the fact that the spirit which at present possesses our enemies is capable of rendering them not only "frightfully" wicked and brutal, but also frightfully silly.

Among the new publications announced by the firm of George Allen and Unwin, I notice the title of one which causes me considerable perplexity. It is "The Arcana of Freemasonry," and the work thus entitled is described by the advertisements as "a book of intense interest to Freemasons, giving the origins and explanations of their signs and rituals, together with decipherment and proofs irrefutable of the origin and meaning of the Craft." What bothers me is the seemingly obvious impossibility of "giving the origins and explanations" of Masonic signs and rituals in a book available to the general public without inevitably "giving away" the signs and rituals themselves. For, as all the world knows, the knowledge of those signs and rituals is strictly confined to members of the Masonic brotherhood, who are pledged by solemn obligations of honour not to communicate them to any outside the Craft. How, then, can it be possible for any Freemason to publish a book for the information of all and sundry, giving the "origins and explanations" of these secret things, without violating his own pledged word and betraying the confidence of the body of which he is a member? There may be—I suppose there must be—some explanation which fails to suggest itself to me; but if so, it would be extremely interesting to hear what it is.

Had I not been guilty, only last week, of taking Mr. Eden Phillpotts' name in vain in quite another connection, I should have found it difficult to resist the double lure presented by the announcement of his forthcoming book, "My Shrubs." As it is, I had better leave you to apply for yourself the temptingly obvious suggestion of shrubs that fill pots, or that flourish at large, in the garden of Eden.

April 23.

JACOB OMNIUM.

NOTES FROM PARIS.

THOSE of us whose memory goes back over forty years will remember that the events of 1870-71 continued to have an influence on French literature and art for many years after the Franco-German War had finished. Military writers glorified all the successes, and pointed out the lessons to be derived from the defeats. Historians professed to have discovered secret documents proving with almost mathematical certainty the guilt of Germany. Even within the last two or three years a chronicler of the dryasdust school undertook the herculean task of transcribing all the official documents which had issued from or been received by the French Foreign Office. With the thoroughness of all his school—one of their few good qualities—he started his record some ten years before the war, and, in seven thick octavo volumes got as far as 1863, if I remember rightly. In light literature, too, it was much the same thing, and the number of gallant old colonels who bestowed their daughters on brave but modest lieutenants was incalculable.

As for art, every salon contained a large percentage of war pictures, ranging from huge canvases of cavalry chargers, with life-size horses, to *genre* paintings of a young soldier on "sentry-go," with Joan of Arc—faintly sketched in Chinese white—watching over him.

But in that war France was on the losing side, whereas it is Lombard Street to a row of pins that the Allies will win this time, and the probability—it might be said the certainty—is that the war-fever will rage more virulently in literature and art than it did in the years which followed 1870. The unthinking multitude no doubt rejoices at the prospect, but staid and thoughtful men pause half affrighted, for though the Gallic cock will have earned an indubitable right to crow, too much cock-crowing is objectionable. It is said—I hope truthfully—that several of the leading publishers have sworn not to publish any war-literature save a few books of exceptional merit by writers who are in a position to give a fresh and authentic account of the events they describe.

That is all very well so far as it goes, but there is small chance that the example of these three or four leading firms will be followed by the scores of minor publishers, and as, under the royalty system which prevails to a great extent, there is not much loss in bringing out a book, there is every likelihood that the market will be flooded with books made up principally of warmed up newspaper articles written by retired officers or active journalists, each fully convinced in his own mind that he was born to be the Herodotus of this international struggle.

Well, perhaps the future may not after all be as bad as we anticipate. In the meantime, we who are too old, or have some other valid reason for not being in the fighting-line, find pleasure in hunting up—and then hunting down—everything "made in Germany." The octopus of German commerce had spread its tentacles over almost every branch of trade, and the wily Teuton not only dumped his goods upon us, but found the capital for many essentially French undertakings. So we are searching every business in which a German was concerned, personally or financially, and sequestering it.

Perhaps we exiles may be pardoned a half regret that we shall no longer be able to purchase British and American books in the cheap and handy Tauchnitz series. They were piracies, no doubt, for every volume bore on the cover the statement that "the copyright of this collection is purchased for Continental circulation only, and the volumes may therefore not be introduced into Great Britain or her Colonies"—which showed that the British publisher had not been consulted in the matter. The consent

of the author had been obtained—or dispensed with—for the assertion as to the purchase of the copyright was true in a literal sense only. It was, I believe, the custom of Baron Tauchnitz, when he wished to add a new book to the four thousand and odd he had already "conveyed," to send to the writer thereof a cheque, along with the intimation that the book was about to be published in Germany. The cheque was not a large one—£10 per "Tauchnitz" volume was the usual scale, though this was sometimes exceeded in the case of a very successful author, and the author had practically no option as to whether he accepted it or not. If he were young and inexperienced he returned the cheque with a sarcastic letter; if he were an old and wary novelist he shrugged his shoulders and paid the cheque into his banking account, knowing full well that the book would be printed in any case, and wisely considering that a "tenner" was better than nothing.

For, whether the sum offered was accepted or refused, the Baron's conscience was satisfied, and the book was duly printed in that cheap and convenient form which is familiar to everyone who has travelled on the Continent, and even to some who have not, for smuggled copies occasionally found their way into England. The price was moderate, the paper was good enough, and the printing was excellent, for though done by foreign compositors misprints were exceedingly rare. To the traveller, doomed to inaction by illness or stress of weather, the Tauchnitz edition was a veritable godsend, and he would have been more than human if he had bothered his head about the ethics of copyright. The sales must have been large and the profits considerable, for there were no expenses either for binding or advertising, so that the printer's bill and the nominal sum paid to the author were the only items on the debit side of the ledger.

Some years ago an attempt was made to break down the Tauchnitz monopoly, but, after a couple of hundred volumes or so had been issued, the new rival "softly and silently vanished away," and Tauchnitz continued to reign undisturbed by rivalry.

There was also another branch of the book trade in which the Germans had practically the field to themselves. So far as Paris is concerned, there is only one guide-book which may be described as complete and exhaustive. There are several cheap guide-books which are excellent as far as they go, and give the purchaser full value for his shilling, but though they suffice for the ordinary tourist, the conscientious sight-seer who intended to "do" the city thoroughly was compelled to have Baedeker in his coat pocket. At one time—a great many years ago—Galignani's Guide to Paris was, I believe, the only one extant—certainly the best if there were others. Rather later came Murray's excellent handbook. Both have long since been out of print, though Galignani's made a temporary and spasmodic reappearance during the Exhibition of 1900.

Presumably it was the opinion of the publishers of both those guide-books that the ordinary tourist would find all the information he needed in one of the shilling guides, and would not therefore pay five or six times that amount or more for a more complete book. Baedeker thought otherwise, and to judge from the number of tourists armed with the familiar red cloth volume encountered in the streets of Paris on a summer day his judgment proved correct. To do him justice, all his guide-books (they include every country in Europe) were excellent. Some of them were printed in two or three languages and so caught tourists of different nationalities. But their day is over, and when the war is over and the tourists arrive in shoals, the British traveller would fear the fate of Achan if he were caught with the accursed thing in his possession. It is not improbable, however, that its place may be filled, and, indeed I hear that preparatory steps for the reappearance of one of the before-mentioned guide-books have already been taken.

K. VOLTAIRE.

NOTES FROM CANADA.

THERE has not been much about which to write during the past few months. Our people have been absorbed in the talk of war and in the preparation of men and supplies for war. For we are a loyal people, much more loyal than some of the Imperialists in our country would have the English people believe.

Canadian born is a true loyalist; indeed, perhaps the best educational work done in Canada in connection with the war has been through the agency of the Canadian clubs at which at a weekly luncheon a man of learning, vision, and common sense has given us in a half hour's address a picture of some aspect of the war and its meaning. Taking some names which occur to me at this writing, I recall that at the Canadian Club in Toronto this year we have had Dr. Sarolea, on Belgium; Professor Harper, of the Department of Russian at the University of Chicago, and Honourable Curtis Guild, formerly American Ambassador to Russia, on Russia; Professor Ferguson, on the Hohenzollern Family; Mr. Noyes, of the *New York Evening Post*, on the causes of the war and the American attitude, the Premier of the Dominion on Canada's part in the war, and various speakers on the causes and progress of the war, the audiences varying from 150 to 850. And this great Canadian Club supplies speakers to the Canadian Clubs in smaller places that the enlightenment of the nation may be as widespread as possible.

Another source of educational inspiration and enlightenment has been the public libraries, where have been gathered collections of books on the war which formed the "authorities" in each community for the discussion of the great subject.

And in the book trade there is but little depression. True, we had the failure of Bell and Cockburn, of Toronto, but it was not a bad failure by any means, and while the tightness of the money market had something to do with it, there were reasons which were evident "before the war." Mr. Sam Gundy, the manager of the Oxford University Press in Canada, seized the opportunity to take over into his service Mr. Bell and Mr. Henry, and has expanded his business to such an extent that he is able now to take a much larger share of the library business which in this country is growing very rapidly. As an illustration of the growth of library business may be cited the Public Library of Toronto, which expended £6,000 upon books last year.

The Methodist Book and Publishing House is moving into its great building, the largest and finest printing and publishing building in Canada.

A Canadian book which made a great stir was Preston's "Life of Lord Strathcona." There are still living not a few men who remember the stirring times of the Pacific scandal, and the buildings of the C.P.R., and this book was eagerly read by them. Then the younger generation to whom these things was but a faint memory, were anxious to get their ideas clarified even though that process was not altogether impartial. There was some loud talk about untruthfulness, but I fancy that this was more easily alleged than proved. Even if the book were not good literature it was good journalism.

And now we are promised a life of Sir Wilfred Laurier from the same pen. We are imagining all sorts of things concerning this, and it will have a great sale. Sir John Willison, when editor of the *Globe*, wrote a life of Sir Wilfred, a book which he must often have regretted, for having changed his political faith, and having become editor of an evening Conservative paper called the *News*, and acting also as Canadian Correspondent to the London *Times* (we are told over here in the "Colony" that we should say simply *The Times*, but we can't, not nowadays anyway, when it is by no means the English paper read over here), back to him have come

excerpts from his book in which his praise of his old chief was great and seemingly sincere.

There are other reminiscences on the way. Mr. L. J. Burpee is preparing a book on Sir Sandford Fleming and W. A. Harkins did one on Sir Charles Tupper.

An illustration of the vitality of the book trade in these days is the revival of the *Canadian Bookseller*, which for many years has been well buried. I hear that Lindsay Crawford is one of the editors, and if so it will not fail to be literary and interesting. It will be a book journal without the wallpaper, stationery, and postcard attachment so familiar in this country.

Alan Sullivan, who is known as a writer of verse and of short stories, published, through Dent, a novel of Canadian life called "Blantyre—Alien." It is not epoch making, and in language is a bit diffuse, but it is distinctly above the average of the general Canadian conception of fiction. It makes an impression, but lacks what our Southern neighbours call "punch"—the getting through to the other side.

When speaking of reminiscences I forgot to mention those of Sir George Cartier, one of the Fathers of Confederation, and very well done by Mr. Boyd. It is a Macmillan book, is large in size, and in price. If these reminiscent books of Canadians, and by Canadians, are to have an influence in our own country they will have to be made accessible to more people by publishing them at a lower price. Goldwin Smith's books are an example of this disregard for circulation among many people, and it must have been a surprise to the publisher to learn how few were sold in Canada. There were thousands interested, but not at 16s. or 18s.

And now we have Colonel (this week, I believe, General) Steele's reminiscences of his life in the Canadian West with the Royal North-West Mounted, and his services in South Africa with the Strathcona Horse. To-day he is being spoken of as leader of the Second Contingent of the Canadian troops to help the mother country. This book is not as expensive as some, and yet in these days \$3.50 is a stiff price for a book unless the publishers are content with a comparatively small sale. This matter of price is sometimes explained to us as being necessary in order that the retail bookseller may have a larger margin of profit. There are other explanations equally illuminating and satisfying.

Messrs. Andrew Melrose, Ltd., announce two new novels by winners of their 250 Guineas Prizes: "Miss O'Corra, M.F.H.," by Miriam Alexander, and "Queen Anne is Dead," by Patricia Wentworth.

Messrs. Constable & Co. have just issued their new List of Spring Announcements, which includes several items of more than usual interest—a Life of the late Henry Fawcett; "Twenty Years of My Life," by Douglas Sladen; "The Road to Peace," by President Eliot, of Harvard, and other books of equal importance.

Messrs. Stanley Paul & Co. will publish shortly a new novel by Miss Norma Lorimer entitled "On Desert Altars," and a new novel, "The Ink-slinger," by "Rita."

Book-Prices Current.—The new part of the current volume of this well-known publication is necessarily much smaller than usual, as the customary auction sales of books have been greatly diminished by the war. It contains particulars of the books sold at four sales held by Messrs. Hodgson, the Library of the late Professor Campbell Fraser, sold in Edinburgh, and a small sale by Messrs. Robinson and Fisher.

"Nelson's History of the War," by Mr. John Buchan, now reaches its third monthly volume, and deals with the Battle of the Aisne and the events down to the Fall of Antwerp. The two previous volumes have already evidenced the high standard at which Mr. Buchan has aimed, and the large measure of success with which he has attained it. This third volume testifies to the vigour and the ease of Mr. Buchan's writing, the sanity and temperance of his judgments, and the sound common sense which pervades every page. In the present volume the chapter in which he reviews the political situations of the belligerents and the neutral Powers, and the graphic picturesqueness with which he describes the tragedy of Antwerp, admirably illustrates the general excellence of his work, and provides the reader with trustworthy information in some of the most important matters that have as yet arisen. The Appendices which give the dispatches dealing with the Naval Battle of Heligoland, and Sir John French's third dispatch describing the Battle of the Aisne, are particularly helpful.

Messrs. Duckworth & Co. have just published "A Martyr's Servant: A Tale of the Sixteenth Century," by Arthur C. Cripps; a volume of Plays by the Russian author Andreyef; a new edition of "Three Little Dramas," by Maeterlinck; a new popular edition of the "Emperor of Austria," by R. P. Mahaffy.

"Floral Rambles in Highways and Byways," by that veteran botanist, Professor Henslow, which the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge has just published, makes its appearance very opportunely now that Spring is commencing and country walks are becoming possible. The pleasure and interest of such walks and rambles is very distinctly increased by some knowledge of the wild flowers and plants that are met with, and a handbook such as Prof. Henslow here provides is almost necessary for the full enjoyment of such botanical walks. Prof. Henslow's qualifications as a botanical teacher need no emphasis on our part, and we may content ourselves with testifying to the instructive interest of his guidance as he goes with his readers, by hedges and ditches, through a village, over a mountain, across a cornfield, by the sea and saltmarshes, and wherever indeed he takes us. He is a most pleasant and attractive cicerone and teacher, and the lavish illustrations with which the volume is so well furnished add still further to its attractions and usefulness.

Mr. Edward Arnold has just published the "Eye-Witness's Narrative of the War," a volume containing the descriptive accounts by "an Eye-Witness present with General Headquarters," issued by the Press Bureau up to the end of March.

Messrs. Harper Brothers have just published "A Dealer in Empire," by A. J. Burr, a novel dealing with the great Olivares, the Prime Minister of Spain under Philip IV.; "Barbara's Marriages," by Maude Radford Warren.

Messrs. Edward Stanford, Ltd., have just issued a useful List of their Best War Maps, which will be found particularly useful to all who wish to follow with intelligence the various operations of the present war.

Miss Leslie Moore, whose novel, "The Jester," has lately been published by Messrs. Putnams, was the daughter of Colonel Moore, formerly of the Royal Marine Artillery. Her earliest days were passed at Eastney Barracks, Portsmouth. Later she lived at Bideford and at Karlsruhe and Dresden. Afterwards she attended Sir Hubert Herkomer's school of painting at Bushey, and her



MISS LESLIE MOORE.

first book was a children's story, "The Happy League," published by Messrs. Wells Gardner & Co.; the next, "Five Children and their Adventures," issued by Messrs. Nelson. Then came the first novel, published by Messrs. Alston Rivers, and Miss Moore thinks "The Peacock Feather," published by that firm, was the best of her books. "The Jester," her latest book, has many of her characteristic merits, and will, no doubt, still further increase her already considerable reputation.

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co. will publish next week "The Germans and Africa," by Mr. Evans Lewin, Librarian of the Royal Colonial Institute, a book which will help one to understand the motives which lie behind the German Colonial movement.

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS will publish immediately "A Diplomat's Memoir of 1870," by Frederic Reitlinger. It deals prophetically with the possibility of the German menace to Europe, and is of unique interest in view of present events.

MESSRS. HURST & BLACKETT, LTD., will shortly publish a new novel, entitled "Fall In," by J. P. Molyneux, a story of love and war in South Africa.

MESSRS. HUTCHINSON & Co. will publish immediately a new novel, entitled "Her Measure," by Curtis Yorke, also a new novel, entitled "The Pagans," by Mrs. Hugh Fraser and Hugh Fraser, who have already collaborated successfully in the writing of other stories.

MR. JOHN LANE will publish next week "Love-Birds in the Coco-Nuts," a new novel by Peter Blundell, the author of "The Finger of Mr. Blee"; a new volume in his Living Masters of Music Series, "Granville Bantock," by Mr. H. Ormond Anderton; a cheaper edition of "A Vagabond in the Caucasus," by Mr. Stephen Graham.

MESSRS. JOHN LONG will shortly publish a new novel, entitled "The Dream Friend," by V. Goldie, author of "Nigel Thomson," &c.

MESSRS. JAMES MACLEHOSE & SONS, publishers to the University, Glasgow, will issue immediately "The Story of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 91st and 93rd Foot," by J. H. Stevenson, Advocate, author of "Heraldry in Scotland."

MESSRS. METHUEN & CO. will issue next week, in their "Two Shilling Library," "Mr. Burden," by Hilaire Belloc, and new shilling editions of "The Tower of London," by Richard Davey, and "The Wild Olive," by Basil H. King.

Correspondence.

BOOKSELLERS' ASSISTANTS.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

DEAR SIR,—On reading your correspondent's letter on "Booksellers' Assistants" in the BOOKSELLER of the 9th inst., I soon came to the conclusion that here was a man with a grievance, and sure enough I found it at the end—i.e., "Unwanted." There is the trouble in a nutshell. The poor fellow, I presume, has tried several jobs, and having failed thought he could walk into the "Bookshop" and say, "Here am I, full of 'kultur,' knowledge, and intelligence, all this I give you free, only take me, as I am unwanted." What a terrible mistake for an assistant to make. Fancy answering a book "not in stock," and to find that after all a copy was in the window.

I am rather sorry "Unwanted" failed to gratify his wish and become an assistant, for I am sure his views on bookselling would be vastly different after a few weeks' trial.

Just for a change I would like to mention one or two instances of questions asked by customers.

I remember one lady asking for a copy of a book called "Flies in the Cloud," and was very indignant that the book was not known, and on the suggestion being made that "Candles in the Wind" might be the title, said, "Yes, yes, that's the title." Another time the book asked for was "Lord Tennyson," by Belcham and Fry. The book wanted being "Lawn Tennis," by Beldham and F. So you see it is not always a case of the customer having all the intelligence.

No, "Unwanted," from your letter I quite agree with the booksellers who rejected your applications; it's a long, long way to be a bookseller, and patience is a virtue. If still unwanted, try Kitchener.

I am, yours faithfully,

April 14th, 1915.

WANTED.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to thank you for the publication of my letter under the above heading, and also your correspondents for their comments thereupon.

May I be permitted to assure "Booklover and Bookseller" that had an opportunity been afforded me to serve as a 'prentice hand (or shall I term it probationary assistant?) the possibly unenviable contact with juniors would not have deterred me, for I would have hoped that it might have lain in my power to have engendered in them a taste for literature that would have whetted an appetite for more, and perhaps rendered them better adaptable to their trade.

To amplify my meaning here:—When one goes into a well-stocked bookshop, one can scarcely see the wood for trees, all qualities of distinction seem lost in the mass. The "sevenpennies" alone are an infinitude, and undiscerning buyers frequently make selection and judge a book by its pictorial wrapper, which often enough conveys such a misleading idea as to its contents as to be something of a libel. And here one need not be of more than average penetration and intuition to sense the character of some book buyers to feel justified in recommending books that will most likely appeal to their taste.

I once overheard a young policeman ask an assistant for some detective fiction. The assistant recommended "Sherlock Holmes." "Oh! I've read him," said the policeman. The assistant seemed at a loss; and I,

perhaps, impertinently enough, mentioned "The Woman in White," and Mason's "At the Villa Rosa." The policeman bought them on the strength of my recommendation, and as the entire purchase amounted only to 10½d. I don't think that even if he had experienced any disappointment in his purchase he would have regretted it as an investment.

Your contributor, Jacob Omnium, gives a sovereign remedy—a perfect panacea, almost—in prescribing book reviews as being likely to bring about the desired improvement in the literary discrimination and knowledge rightly to be expected of assistants. My own taste and knowledge in literature has been largely founded and cultivated through this medium. There are, in fact, divers ways of acquiring a taste for books. As a boy, I read Stevenson's adventure stories, which awakened my interest in the author's letters, where, alluding to Hazlitt, he practically introduced me to a now favourite author of mine.

The epitaph quoted by "Had Some" is too sad and tragic. "Ned Pindon" was "a bookseller's hack," and as his epitaph smacks somewhat of the eighteenth century, I can only hope there are no such hacks nowadays. If there are, may it be for no other reason than that they have mistaken their vocation.

"Another Unwanted" seems to have "got the right sow by the ear," when he suggests that books should be sold at net prices as a means—and, I hope, deservedly—of effecting an improvement in assistants' wages.

Who can gainsay that books are too cheap, or prove to me that both publishers and booksellers realise fabulous profits on their sales?

With apologies for encroaching so much upon your space.

Yours faithfully,

UNWANTED.

Obituary.

Claridge.—April 2. Aged 73, after a short illness, Mr. John Claridge, for more than fifty years in the service of Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. He was greatly esteemed by his employers and the staff and his decease is much regretted.

Walker.—April 14th. At his residence, in Wharnclyffe Road, at the age of 70, after a short illness of two months, Mr. William Walker, well-known as one of the leading booksellers and stationers, of Sheffield. He commenced his business career in 1869 as a newsagent in South Street. He removed later to Pinstone Street, where he succeeded in building up a successful business. As a thorough-going churchman he connected himself with St. Paul's Church in Pinstone Street, and for many years was Churchwarden and representative on the Ruri-Decanal Council. As a Freemason he passed through the Chair of the Wentworth Lodge, and held provincial rank in the Mark degree for West Yorkshire and Lincolnshire. But it was in musical circles where he was most popular, as an enthusiastic musician holding for some time the Secretaryship of the Sheffield Amateur Instrumental Society and a member of the orchestra. His favourite instrument was the 'cello. His one ambition was to write a history of music in Sheffield, and to this end had devoted all the time he could in examining old files dating back to 1792, and posterity may some day derive benefit from this part of his lifework. As a bookseller, education claimed the largest share of his attention, and he gave valuable service on the local education authority. He has left a widow, son and daughter. The son, who was associated with his father for some years, will carry on the business.

Notices of Books.

Marriage by Conquest. By Warwick Deeping. (Cassell & Co.)—When the reader is first introduced in the early pages of Mr. Deeping's new novel to the strong and forceful, indeed, seemingly irresistible, personality of Richard Heron, he is inclined to think that before the story ends he will, by sheer force of will, compel the fair widow, Mrs. Shenstone, to become his wife. At once the clash of the two strong characters leads him to expect a striking and attractive story. Before very long, however, the trend of the story changes, and we find that it is not the brutal power of the lover which is to prevail, but the finer and, as it turns out, the more determined wooer, John Flambard, who is destined to succeed, and the contrast between the two is admirably presented and most successfully carried out. The way in which the whole tale has been conceived and worked out is quite exceptional and commands our heartiest commendation. Into the details of the plot we need not enter, except to say that the various scenes and incidents are portrayed with all Mr. Deeping's well-known realistic skill, and that the tale, as a whole, is sure to increase very distinctly the high reputation his previous books have already so deservedly attained.

Tainted Gold. A Novel. By H. Noel Williams. (Stanley Paul and Co.)—A vigorous melodramatic story, ingeniously conceived and successfully carried out, will always find interested readers, and Mr. Noel Williams's new tale is an excellent specimen of that sort of fiction. How Raymond Carthew misappropriated some £25,000, the securities of his client, Lady Chessington, how he escaped to the States with his booty and there became James Blair, the multi-millionaire, how he left his wealth to his brother, the Rev. John Carthew, and thereby caused his murder, and also placed John Carthew's son, Gerald, in perpetual risk of a similar fate, clearly provide the materials for a most exciting and absorbing story. How the plot is worked out and how the interest is kept up unabated until the destined dénouement we need not recount in any detail. It is enough to say that the detective part of the matter is very skilfully managed, and that the inevitable love story of Gerald Carthew and Mildred Rivington at last reaches its happy ending. It is, perhaps, a little unusual that Mr. Blair's ill-gotten millions are rejected by Gerald, and are passed on to various charities which it may be presumed will be safer than a single individual from the evil effects of "tainted gold."

Just Because. By Margaret Peterson.

Miss Bryde, of England. By Alice Grant Rosman. (Andrew Melrose.)—It will be remembered that Miss Margaret Peterson two years ago won the prize of £250 offered by the publisher for the best novel by her successful Indian story, "The Lure of the Little Drum." Her two following novels were hardly less appreciated, and the fourth tale she now gives us will, we think, permanently establish her position in the forefront of our novel writers of to-day. The story is again placed in India, with which the author is clearly quite familiar, and it is a tale, admirably conceived and brilliantly worked out, of the misunderstandings which may arise between a husband and wife, who, though they really love each other, somehow fail to pull properly together and allow mistaken pride to prevent the agreement and reconciliation which each really desires. Captain Drummond and his young wife, Lois, are very vividly and realistically portrayed, while other persons in the story, Major Latimer and his impossible wife Belle, Colonel Rogers and Mrs. Rogers, and the flirtatious young subaltern, Captain Denvers, are all real living people drawn, no doubt, from actual life. The characterisation throughout is convincing and powerful, and the whole book is one of the most brilliant Anglo-Indian stories we have read for a long time. Miss Rosman is, it would seem, a new writer, and her story is the fourth volume

of the publisher's "New Novelist Library." Though altogether different it is no whit less brilliant and successful, and Miss Rosman has, no doubt, a great future in store. Miss Bryde is the daughter of a selfish, overbearing, narrow-minded English squire. By the help of Australian cousins who also have settled down to a free and less fettered life in a Chelsea flat, she is at length able to assert her own independence and to some degree enjoy her own life and her own existence. How she in due time finds her partner we must leave the reader to discover, with the assurance that he (or she) will agree that Katharine North, the Australian cousin, and Jim North, her husband, and all the attractive people to be met with in their circle are most delightful.

Great Schools of Painting: A First Book of European Art. By Winifred Turner. (Sidgwick & Jackson.)—It is certainly all to the good that endeavours should be made to teach young students the main features and characteristics of the great schools of art which have had so important an influence on the progress and development of painting from early times almost to the present day. As Miss Turner rightly points out, the field is so vast that the difficulty of making the best selection is always present; but we think that in the present book the choice has been made with sound sense and excellent judgment. Of the three great schools to which the attention of the young reader is directed—the Schools of Italy, the Schools of Germany and the Netherlands, and the Spanish—each possesses distinctive features and characteristics, and each has its own separate place in the history of artistic development. Commencing practically with the art of Cimabue, the first four chapters conduct the reader through the early effects of the Renaissance, with its new subjects and new aims, down to the great days of Venice, Umbria, and Florence, and the great painters who have added by their work to the lasting fame of those Italian cities—Raphael, Michel Angelo, Bellini, Tintoretto, and the others. After this Miss Turner, in the same lucid and instructive fashion, explains the work of the German and Flemish schools, Albert Dürer, Van Eyck, Menline, and Holbein. Finally, we are brought to the Spanish school of painting, which owed its growth—indeed, its existence—both to the Court and the Church, and which so successfully combined realism and religion in artistic activity. Throughout her attractive and helpful book Miss Turner is most suggestive; she uses her authorities with discrimination and judgment, and while her book is evidently intended mainly for youthful readers, those of older growth may learn much of which they were ignorant from her pleasant and illuminating pages. The book has naturally been fully illustrated by typical reproductions of representative works, all of which add very distinctly to its value and usefulness.

Blackmailed. By Arthur Applin. (Everett & Co.)—It is no doubt often the case, as Paul Duhardt, the blackmailer, the villain of Mr. Applin's new story, remarks, that "it's the innocent man or woman who always tumbles into the trap and pays for his innocence," and certainly the blackmailing of Sir John Vessie by Myra Berrington, as here narrated, is an illustration of its truth. For the whole adventure, from the moment when Sir John by accident fell in with Myra Berrington on the Homburg express, and did his best to help her out of her immediate trouble, down to the end of the story, when we find the lady the accepted fiancée of Reggie Vessie, the baronet's son, was on the part of Sir John, at any rate, perfectly innocent and harmless. Still, the best of intentions, when deliberately perverted, may become compromising, and altogether the entire episode, with its various scenes and incidents, is sufficiently exciting, and its narration holds the reader's eager attention from first to last. Mr. Applin has added another to the many attractive tales which have made him so widely known.

MACMILLAN'S NEW BOOKS

VOLUME VI. CONCLUDING THE WORK.
JUST READY.

Macaulay's History of England.
Illustrated Edition. Edited by C. H.
FIRTH, M.A. With 900 Illustrations, including 44
in colour and Photogravure Portrait. In 6 vols.
Super Royal 8vo. 10s. 6d. net each.

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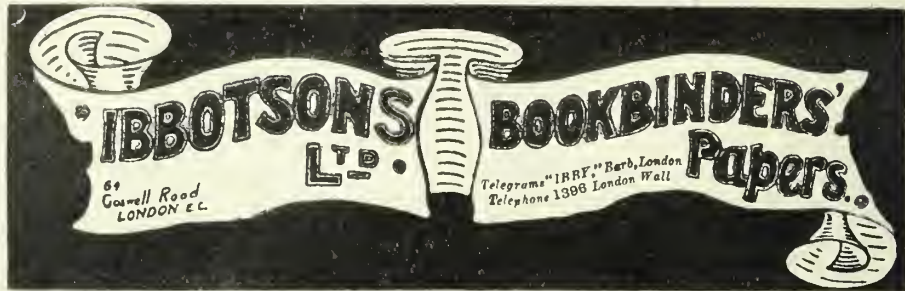
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Trade and Literary Gossip.

The Annual Meeting of the Associated Booksellers of Great Britain and Ireland will be held at the Cannon Street Hotel, London, on Thursday, May 13, at 4 p.m. The agenda of the public proceedings includes the report and balance-sheet, the president's address, the election of the officers and of the council. There will be no social function this year, but it is suggested that some members would like to meet together for a purely informal dinner after the meeting, to which, if they desired, they might be allowed to bring friends.

Booksellers' Provident Institution.—Mr. C. J. Longman presided at the last monthly meeting of the Board of Directors held at Stationers' Hall, supported by Messrs. J. R. Blade, L. Carrus, J. Clark, J. Cooper, A. W. Gatfield, J. W. Harden, C. H. Hollingsworth, F. J. James, W. H. Jelpke, G. H. Johnson, W. A. Kelk, A. S. Lewis, W. Longman, J. Meade, A. W. Mills, A. W. Nott, A. J. Sabin, E. Shallis, W. S. Smart, F. W. Smith, G. C. Sole, J. E. Stroulger, R. E. Taylor, E. G. White. One new member was elected. The sum of £101 16s. 4d. was granted for the relief of members and widows of members; and the receipt of the following donations was reported:—Mr. John Murray, £2 2s.; Mr. Thomas Houlston, £1 1s.; *Law Notes Library*, £1 1s.; Mr. Arthur Spurgeon, £1 1s.

I.A.A.B.—A committee meeting will be held at Arderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., on Monday next, May 3rd, at 7 p.m.

Messrs. Grafton & Co. have removed to more convenient premises at Coptic House, 8, Coptic Street, Bloomsbury, W.C.

Ealing.—The old established bookselling, stationery, and fancy goods business carried on for some years by Mr. Edward Elliott Banham, 128, Uxbridge Road, has been transferred to Mr. Percy and Miss Elsie Jarman. Messrs. Holmes & Son, valuers, 33, Paternoster Row, E.C., sold the business and conducted the valuation on behalf of all parties.

For King and Country.—The following has been received since our last list:—

MEMBERS OF MESSRS. W. H. SMITH & SON (34th List, making total to date 747).—Brinton, R. D., Doctor, Lieutenant R.A.M.C.; Grimes, H., Dorset; Hall, H., King's Royal Rifles; Commons, W., King's Royal Rifles; Perry, A., King's Royal Rifles; Pearce, S. H., King's Royal Rifles; Carter, S., R.F.A.; Lloyd, J. G., A.S.C.; Smith, W., A.S.C.; McCartin, C., A.S.C.; Chandler, J. E., R.F.A.; Rogers, H. C., R.F.A.; Page, P., R.H.A.; Coppock, A., Manchester; Butter, A. G. W., R.F.A.; Ward, J., Army Ordnance Corps; Clark, W. A., R.F.A.; Lewis, W. F., R.A.M.C.; Dye, J., R.F.A.; Burgess, J. G., Royal West Surrey; Cornwall, W., Royal Navy; Byott, A., 24th County of London; White, E., Queen's Westminster Rifles; Etches, F., Royal Berks; O'Brien, A., 14th Batt. Manchester; Brushwood, A., Westminster Dragoons; Mahoney, E., Westminster Dragoons; Stewart, J., Westminster Dragoons; Eason, E. J., A.S.C.; Webber, E., 15th County of London; Elson, W., 24th City of London; Ross, W. A., Royal Berks; Trinder, F. A., R.A.M.C.; and Pittaway, W., R.F.A.

Mr. B. D. Maggs, of the well known firm of Messrs. Maggs Brothers, 109, Strand, W.C., his many friends will regret to hear, has been laid up for some weeks with severe neuritis. He is, however, we are glad to learn, making satisfactory progress, and all will hope for his early and complete recovery to his usual good health.

Mr. John Lane, who announces for early publication the English edition of the much-discussed book of Dr. Sven Hedin on the war, was interviewed the other day by an evening paper, when he pointed out that the publication of this book was justified on precisely the same grounds as the works of Bernhardt. He further went on to say that he had submitted the proofs to Mr. Morrow and Mr. E. V. Lucas, with the suggestion that they should make another Lucas-Morrow book out of them. Mr. Lucas had willingly agreed, and he thought he might fairly say that if only it is the cause of the issue of one of Messrs. Lucas and Morrow's delightful skits, the publication of the English edition is more than justified.

Messrs. Thomas Nelson & Sons announce that, by special permission of Her Majesty the Queen, "The Children's Story of the War" has been dedicated to H.R.H. Prince George. The Private Secretary to Her Majesty writes as follows:—"I am commanded to say that Her Majesty is graciously pleased to give permission to Sir Edward Parrott to dedicate his "Children's Story of the War" to Prince George. The Queen has perused the copy of Vol. I. and is much pleased with the production."

A Booksellers' Red Cross Week.—The sale at Christie's on behalf of the Red Cross will be followed by a Red Cross "Booksellers' Week" at the beginning of May. Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton have arranged to pay twenty-five per cent. of the amount spent during that week on purchases from their list of some 1,500 new and recent books.

Messrs. Putnams notify that the first edition of "Patricia," a new novel by Edith Henrietta Fowler (the Hon. Mrs. Robert Hamilton), which they have just published, was exhausted before publication, and that a new printing has had to be ordered.

Messrs. C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd., owing to the unexpectedly large demand from the trade and from the public, have had to postpone the issue of Bernhardt's new shilling book, "The New Bernhardt, or World Power or Downfall," until May 5th, when they will be in a position to supply all the orders that come to hand. The Kaiser, it will be remembered, gave General von Bernhardt special permission to write this book, which illustrates in a rather startling fashion some notable changes in the war-views of the author of that much discussed volume "Germany and the Next War."

The Wireless Press, Ltd., Marconi House, Strand, W.C., have just published the third annual issue of "The Year Book of Wireless Telegraphy and Telephony, 1915." It is the only book of reference of its kind, and is full of very valuable information. They have also published "The Elementary Principles of Wireless Telegraphy," by R. D. Bangay; and "The Handbook of Technical Instruction for Wireless Telegraphists," by J. C. Hawkhead.

Messrs. Hodgson's Sale for Thursday next is probably the most important sale of Rare Books and Autographs which has been held this season, as may be gathered from the particulars which appear in another column. Amongst the many valuable books may be noticed the scarce English Edition of Linschoten's Voyages, 1598, Eliot's Indian New Testament, 1661, a very rare book of French Decorative Designs, by Cauvet, 1777, an interesting copy of a book of Engravings of Garden Design by Salomon de Caus, 1620, with Horace Walpole's book-plate, and an autograph inscription by Thomas Carlyle; a fine copy of White's Selborne, First Edition, uncut, and the First Edition of Shelley's Cenci in a very handsome inlaid binding. An interesting feature of the sale is a remarkable collection of scarce 17th Century Tracts on Trade and other Economic Subjects, while those interested in Modern Books will find in the catalogue a number of First Editions and volumes from the Kelmscott, Doves, Ashendene, and other Presses, as well as books illustrated by such well-known artists as William Strang, Muirhead Bone, and Frank Brangwyn. The "Journal of Observations in Botany," a subject in which the poet is known to have been interested, kept by Gray during the year 1754, is quite a remarkable "find," as it was discovered by Messrs. Hodgson amongst a quantity of old parchment documents. It is written throughout in Gray's neat and beautiful script, and has a personal touch in the few brief records which it contains of his own ailments. That this sale will attract considerable interest is quite evident, and in view of present conditions it will be interesting to see what results are obtained—and there is no reason to doubt that they will be other than satisfactory.

"Royal Academy Pictures and Sculpture," which is issued in serial form by Messrs. Cassell, is now ready. The frontispiece, which is in colour, is a reproduction of the picture by Richard Jack, A.R.A., entitled "Homeless," showing a group of wandering refugees.

"The Soldiers' English-Russian Conversation Book," which Mr. T. Werner Laurie has just published at the popular price of sevenpence, should prove exceedingly useful for any of our soldiers who may have to co-operate with our Russian Allies. It has been admirably compiled by Mr. G. M. Foakes, and gives hundreds of useful sentences, words, and phrases which one requires in any attempt to make oneself intelligible to a Russian. Special care has been taken to indicate the proper pronunciations.

"Kitchener Chaps," by Mr. Neil Lyons, which Mr. John Lane has just issued, is a collection of some fourteen characteristic stories and sketches dealing with scenes and characters and typical experiences of the men who make up what is generally known as Kitchener's Army. They are all racy, realistic, and entertaining, they possess that native vigour which warrants them portrayed from actual life, and the volume, small and unpretentious as it is, deserves a place on the same shelf as the best of Mr. Kipling's soldier studies. It is sure to meet with widespread approbation.

Mr. Heinemann has just published "The German Emperor as Shown in His Public Utterances," a collection of the Emperor's public speeches, edited by Professor Christian Gauss, of the Princetown University. It throws an admirable light on the character of the man and his mind, and affords a useful picture of the trend of German affairs during the last twenty-five years.

Messrs. Raphael Tuck & Sons, Ltd., are exhibiting samples of their productions at the British Industries Fair at the Agricultural Hall, May 10th to 21st, which is being organised under the auspices of the Board of Trade.

To their "Writers of the Day" Series, Messrs. J. Nisbet & Co. have just added an appreciation of Mr. H. G. Wells by Mr. J. D. Beresford, who is careful to point out that his essay is only "an introduction to the works it describes, it was never intended to be critical." At the same time he has no hesitation in saying that "H. G. Wells is a great writer. His fecundity, his mastery of language, his comprehension of character, are gifts and abilities that certain of his contemporaries have in equal or in some particulars in larger measure. But he alone has used his perfected art for a definite end. . . . He has set up the ideal of a finer civilisation, of a more generous life than that in which we live, an ideal that if it is still too high for us of this generation, will be appreciated and followed by the people of the future."

The London Chamber of Commerce has just issued the thirty-third Annual Report of the Council and the Transactions of the past year. Questions arising out of the war, relating to trade, commerce, shipping, and finance have been the outstanding features of the year, compared with which, all other matters appear to be of secondary importance.

The Oxford English Dictionary has advanced a further stage towards completion by the issue of a new double section containing the words "Spring"—"Squoye," this portion edited by Dr. W. A. Craigie, and "St."—"Standard," by Dr. Henry Bradley. The first portion contains in all 1,482 words recorded with 8,396 quotations, while the second portion totals 999 words recorded with 7,732 quotations. The present double section does not appear to include any words of special importance, but it is worth noting that of the words beginning with "Squ," a large proportion are not found outside of English, as this combination is rare in other languages.

The "Daily Telegraph" War Map of the Dardanelles, the Bosphorus, the Sea of Marmora, and Turkey, gives an excellent view of this part of our warlike operations. The scale is sufficiently large—five miles to the inch—all the details as to railways, forts, hills, &c., are clearly given, and seven insets are included, showing the Balkans, the Black Sea, and adjacent countries, Asia Minor, plan of Constantinople, the Narrows on a large scale, and the Turkish Empire.

Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. have just issued "Two Sinners," a new novel by Mrs. David G. Ritchie, author of "The Truthful Liar," and they also have in the press a second edition of "The Minor Horrors of War," by Dr. A. E. Shipley, Master of Christ's College, Cambridge.

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Mr. Nat Gould is a personal favourite with a very large section of the fiction reading public, and a new story from him of the kind which he has made his speciality is always very heartily welcomed. Latterly his publishers, Messrs. John Long, have issued his new stories in the orthodox shilling form, and the success they have met with has been most encouraging. The new tale, "The Wizard of the Turf," which has just been published, exhibits all the characteristic merits of his well known style. It is well supplied with thrilling and exciting incidents, and the love story which is interwoven is, as always, delightfully handled. It is hard to say which is the best of Nat Gould's very numerous sporting tales, but we are quite sure that this is, at any rate, one of his best. Messrs. John Long have also added "The Storm Dog," by Lilian Arnold, to their popular shilling series, and Mr. Richard Marsh's exciting tale, "The Romance of a Maid of Honour," to their sevenpenny novels, a series which is now well known everywhere.

Messrs. Constable & Co. have re-issued "The Romance of a Favourite," by Frederic Loliée, which they first published more than two years ago. The translation has been made by Mr. W. Morton Fullerton, and in its present cheaper form the strange and interesting story of the Countess de Castiglione, who was such a prominent figure in Paris under the Third Empire, will no doubt find a widely extended circle of interested readers.

Messrs. William Glaisher, Ltd., of 265, High Holborn, have just issued a useful New Catalogue of Remainders, and other books, on sale at greatly reduced prices.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING, — Some probably dyspeptic proverb-monger has left us to grapple with the chastening reflection that there is no rose without a thorn. A discussion at the recent annual meeting of the Incorporated Society of Authors, Playwrights, and Composers brought us up against the kindred truth that there is usually a fly of some kind to be found in the precious ointment of charity. The Society was called upon to consider the serious disadvantage at which authors are placed by the competition of those composite volumes, contributed to gratuitously by all the leading literary and artistic "stars" of the time, which have nowadays become so immensely popular a means of "raising the wind" for charitable, benevolent and patriotic objects. These budgets of attractive tit-bits, offered for sale at the low price of half-a-crown or three shillings, naturally command a huge sale—as, indeed, it is necessary that they should in order to achieve the end for which they are brought into existence. But it inevitably follows that their wide appeal creates a form of competition which is severely felt by authors whose works are simultaneously being produced in the normal way and sold at normal prices. It therefore seems no unreasonable suggestion that a share of the profits derived from these charity books should be set aside for allotment to some fund for the benefit of old or distressed members of the author's craft; and it can hardly be doubted that the justice of this claim will be recognised, in future cases, by those who are in a position to give it practical acknowledgment.

Authors, however, if the truth must be told, are not the only people who are apt to feel the pinch of these triumphantly popular charity budgets, which are also capable of taking more or less serious toll of publishers and booksellers. From the patriotic point of view we all rejoiced, needless to say, at the immense success which "King Albert's Book" and "Princess Mary's Book" achieved at the end of last year. But it is an open secret that the tremendous vogue of these two volumes had a marked effect upon the demand for the ordinary gift-books of the Christmas season. Had they appeared at any other time of the year it is probable that the influence of their competition would have been felt less keenly.

Since I referred, last week, to the question of the war's effect upon the prospects of our contemporary poets, one of these, Mr. Stephen Phillips to wit, has had something to say on the subject in the special article which he contributed to the St. George's Day number of the *Evening News*. Mr. Phillips believes, he says, that the war "will mean not death but decline of the modern novel, and a general seeking after the vaster, the more enduring forms of art." Having delivered himself of this expression of prophetic opinion, he was wise, I think, to forestall cross-examination upon it by airily adding—"No one should go into detail when he prophesies, and I leave it at that." If he had not "left it at that," someone might have wanted to ask him, in the first place, why a revived appreciation of poetry should necessarily involve the decline of the modern novel, and, secondly, what grounds he has for ruling out all modern fiction, present and to come, from the company of the more enduring forms of art. There is surely not the least reason why the literary aftermath of the war should not include a crop of fine novelists as well as of fine poets; and Mr. Phillips would have a hard task to persuade us that the form of art which produces a great novel is not as "enduring" as that which produces a great poem. It seems to me that there is nothing more misguided than this way of pitting one great medium of literary expression against another, and assuming that the progress of the one must of necessity imply the decline of the other. After the war, we want plenty of fine novels and plenty of fine poems too; and it is for our novelists and poets—including Mr. Phillips—to see that we get them.

Certain it is that the influence of the war at close quarters is bringing out latent powers of literary expression of no mean order in not a few of our heroes at the front, "gentle" and "simple" alike. The other day I was reading a private letter from a young officer, describing his personal experiences in the historic action of Neuve Chapelle. Until the outbreak of the war suddenly converted him into a soldier of the King, he was leading a humdrum and uneventful business life, and probably no one would have been more astonished than himself if anyone had suggested that he could "write." But I was astonished at the vivid force of the word-pictures in which he recorded—quite easily and naturally, and without the least straining after effect—his impressions of that ever-memorable fight. No trained war correspondent could have done more to bring the glory and the horror of the thing home to his readers; and, as we know, many other such wonderful letters are reaching home from men in the field who would be much more alarmed at the idea of writing a book than at the prospect of facing the latest developments of German "frightfulness."

An amusingly candid defence—or, rather, defiance—has just been drawn from a lady novelist who was taken to task by the reviewer of an evening paper for her excessive resort to the use of italics. She replied to her critic that she *must* use italics, and that she could not tell a story, either in talking or writing, without them. After that, of course, there was no more to be said; though the reviewer might perhaps have tried the effect of reminding her that the use of many underlined or italicised words is an antiquated habit to be avoided by writers who do not wish to be regarded as hopelessly old-fashioned. It was a practice that flourished mightily in the earlier part of last century, and—as her published correspondence shows—was enormously favoured by the good Queen Victoria, whose continual underlinings give quite a quaint touch to many of her letters. We most of us know people, ladies especially, who talk in italics; but the effect is usually more wearying than impressive, and the idea that the frequent underlining of words in writing makes for literary force is a deplorably mistaken one.

Though we have happily learnt a good deal in recent years about Russian literature and music, and know something of the work of one or two famous Russian painters, there are still very few English people who have any but the vaguest idea of what our Muscovite friends and allies have achieved in most of the other arts. We shall all be anxious to correct our ignorance of these things after the war is over; and, meanwhile, there will be a cordial welcome for the forthcoming volume, promised by Mr. Herbert Jenkins, in which Mrs. Rosa Newmarch is to discourse upon "The Russian Arts" with the authority of one who has made a special study of her subject. It should prove a valuable companion work to her book on "The Russian Opera," issued last year with deserved success by the same publisher.

No one can have read any of the published fragments of his beautiful work without being persuaded that young Rupert Brooke, if his life had been spared, would speedily have taken his place in the first rank of modern English poets. His death at Lemnos from sunstroke, incurred while serving his country as a sub-lieutenant in the Royal Naval Division, leaves literature the poorer by the cutting short of a career of exceptional promise, and England the richer by yet another fine example of self-sacrificing devotion to patriotic duty.

The unhappy wights who "write for the papers" are no doubt tolerably accustomed to hard knocks; but was it quite fair of the *Times* Literary Supplement to print its notice of "A Guide to the English Language" under the heading "A Book for Journalists"? That is what our American friends would call "real nasty!"

April 30.

JACOB OMNIUM.

"Nursery Rhymes for Fighting Times," written by Elphinstoun Thorpe, and illustrated by G. A. Stevens, has just been published by Messrs. Everett & Co. As the author remarks, "at times of great national stress a little nonsense may occasionally prove an excellent tonic." The verses are often very humorous, and Mr. Stevens' drawings are quite admirable.

Messrs. Cassell & Co. are adding "The House of Spies," by Warwick Deeping, to their shilling novels; and "Prairie Fires," by Annie S. Swan, to their "Famous Sixpenny Series."

In Preparation.

MESSRS. J. M. DENT & SONS will publish on or about May 1st "The Magic of Experience," a Contribution to the Theory of Knowledge, by H. Stanley Redgrave, B.Sc., F.C.S., with an Introduction by Sir W. F. Barrett, F.R.S.

MESSRS. GRAFTON & Co. have in the press the second volume of "Books on the Great War."

MESSRS. GEORGE G. HARRAP & Co. will publish next month "Some Contemporary Poets," by Mary C. Sturgeon. It will comprise fifteen studies, including the work of Messrs. Masefield, Davies, Abercrombie, and Stephens, "John Presland," and Mrs. Naidu.

MR. HEINEMANN announces for publication early in May a volume of sketches by John Galsworthy, entitled "The Little Man, and Other Satires," a companion volume to "The Inn of Tranquillity" by the same author; also a collection of stories by the Russian writer Anton Tchekov, entitled "The Steppe, and Other Stories," translated by Miss Adeleine Lister Kaye.

MESSRS. LONGMANS, GREEN & Co. will shortly publish a little book entitled "The Cup of War," by the author of "Especially," "Wayside Lamps," &c., a story of a member of the New Army; they also announce "Types of Christian Saintliness: Lectures Delivered at Sion College, January, 1915," by Very Rev. W. R. Inge, D.D., Dean of St. Paul's; "The Christian Year: Its Purpose and its History," by Rev. Walker Gwynne, D.D.; "Belgian Democracy: Its Early History," by Henri Prieune, translated by J. V. Saunders, M.A. (Manchester University Publications).

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. will publish immediately a novel by an American author, Mr. Ernest Poole, entitled "The Harbor," which supplies an interesting picture of the industrial and social life of New York; also a second edition of Professor F. W. Taussig's well-known "Principles of Economics" thoroughly revised, with the object of bringing up to date the discussion of some important problems.

MR. MURRAY will publish shortly "Evolution and the War," by Dr. Chalmers Mitchell, Secretary of the Zoological Society.

MESSRS. STANLEY PAUL & Co. will publish next month "Life and Letters in the Italian Renaissance," by Christopher Hare; "Western Men with Eastern Morals," new cheaper edition, by W. N. Willis; "The School for Lovers," by E. B. de Rendon; "The Sails of Life," by Cecil Adair; "The Persistent Lovers," by A. Hamilton Gibbs; "Three Gentlemen from New Caledonia," by R. D. Hemingway and Henry de Halsalle; "The House of Many Mirrors," by Violet Hunt; "The Old Order Changeth," by Archibald Marshall; "Clive Lorimer's Marriage," by E. Everett-Green.

MESSRS. PUTNAMs will issue immediately "The World Crisis and the Way to Peace," by E. Ellsworth Shumaker, Ph.D.; "The Holy War Made in Germany," by Dr. C. Shouck Hurgronje, Professor of the Arabic language in the University of Leiden, dealing with the proclamation of a "Holy War" by the Sheikh-ul-Islam; also "The Art of Landscape Architecture: Its Development and its Application to

Modern Landscape Gardening," by Samuel Parsons, Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects, with 57 full-page Illustrations; "The French Revolution and the English Novel," by Dr. Allene Gregory; "Is Death the End?" by John Haynes Holmes. A statement of the arguments for immortality; A fifth edition of "The History of Modern Banks of Issue," by Charles A. Conant, with additional chapters on the American Federal Act and the Banks in the European War; A fourth revised edition of "Improvements of Towns and Cities," or the Practical Basis of Civil Aesthetics, by Charles Mulford Robinson.

THE UNIVERSITY TUTORIAL PRESS will shortly publish "Junior Botany," by F. Cavers, D.Sc., F.L.S.

MR. T. FISHER UNWIN will publish next week "Boon, the Mind of the Race, the Wild Asses of the Devil, and the Last Trump," compiled by Reginald Bliss, executor of the late George Boon, with an ambiguous Introduction by H. G. Wells.

Correspondence.

BOOKSELLERS' ASSISTANTS.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

DEAR SIR,—Were "Wanted's" letter more pertinent than personal, it would be with pleasure rather than reluctance that I reply to it.

If my ideas of bookselling have been as fatuously conceived as "Wanted's" reminiscential customers, inquiring for impossible books with preposterous titles, I can now entertain no doubt but what in the event of an opportunity such as I am seeking being afforded me, any future cause for "grievance" I may experience will be more aggravated than his own. Surely "Wanted" has a grievance self-betrayed! To have encountered such distracting customers sounds to me like bookselling run mad, and must have rendered him a sorely-tried individual by this. While extending to him in all charity the sympathy he deserves, he will possibly be relieved to know that so far I have only met with such "customers" where I should expect to meet them, and not outside the pages of a comic paper. From "Wanted's" flippant tone I am forced to wonder whether he takes his vocation seriously. His perky sense of humour and puerile jokes seem to indicate that he does not. The light and airy manner in which he peremptorily dismisses my appeal, and his jaunty tone of finality, leaves me wondering whether I have been guilty of anything like priggish self-sufficiency in seeming to arrogate to myself all the eligible virtues desirable to a bookshop. In any case, I sincerely hope that if "Wanted's" culture happens to be of that variety spelt with a K, he will not be altogether intolerant of any modest claim I may make to that which is spelt the English way; but if, in so doing, I am capable of any such overwhelming pretensions as those he so cheaply and unjustly imputes to me, mine assuredly should be the experience to disillusion and make me wish I had continued to remain,

UNWANTED.

Obituary.

Badcock.—April 20th. At his residence, Worthing, after a short illness, aged 72, Mr. Herbert Dix Badcock, well known to London and provincial booksellers. For many years he represented Messrs. Sampson Low, and later other houses, and his periodical visits were always very welcome. About fifteen years ago, ill-health compelled him to give up active work, and since then he has lived in retirement at Worthing. His brother, Mr. Walter Badcock, who for many years was a representative of Messrs. Blackie & Sons, and now lives in the enjoyment of fair health, still survives him.

Notices of Books.

Twenty Years of My Life. By Douglas Sladen. With four Coloured Illustrations and twelve Portraits by Yoshio Markino. (Constable & Co.)—The number of names of interesting, important, and well-known people to whom reference is made in Mr. Douglas Sladen's pleasant and interesting reminiscences is something like four hundred and fifty, and that fact alone is a sufficient indication of the widespread interest and almost unlimited information of contemporary persons and personages which it provides for the reader. He is already widely known as a prolific writer of travel and gossip, and he has shown that he has been almost everywhere, and known almost everybody who is anybody. The liveliness and vivacity of his style is always a characteristic merit, while his fund of pleasant and pertinent anecdote is practically unlimited. The twenty years of his life with which he is here specially concerned are those from 1891 to 1911, during which time, as he tells us, he was in constant intercourse with most of the best-known writers of the day. Personal reminiscences and impressions have been specially given by Conan Doyle, H. A. Vachell, Charles Garvice, Eden Phillpotts, Madame Albanesi, Compton Mackenzie, and others hardly less well-known. Earlier chapters deal with his parentage and schooldays, his experiences at Oxford, his residence in Australia and the United States, his long visits to Canada and Japan. The Authors' Club, with which Mr. Sladen has been so closely connected, receives special attention, while the chapters which describe his literary "At Homes" and the many interesting people who foregathered at them are packed full of incident and reminiscence. Mr. Sladen's personal friends are so numerous and varied that they have to be sorted out into several separate batches, but whether they are novelists—who are specially numerous—or authors, or travellers, or artists, or actors, or those who never actually came, they are all alike in providing Mr. Sladen with unlimited material for pleasant and amusing memories and remembrances. It is quite impossible to make any selection from a basket which is so overfilled with good things, and we must leave our readers to make their own choice. The illustrations which Mr. Markino has contributed add a special value of their own, and the twelve portraits in black-and-white are particularly worth notice. Altogether, Mr. Sladen's book may at once take a front place among the most fascinating volumes of recent autobiography and reminiscence.

Russian Realities: being Impressions gathered during some recent Journeys in Russia. By John Hubback. With Sixteen Illustrations. (John Lane.)—Books that help to give the English reader real information as to the life and characteristics of Russia and the Russian people are nowadays always welcome, and particularly so when they are as graphic and picturesque as the collection of vivid impressions which Mr. Hubback now offers to the enquiring reader. He takes as the theme or motive of his book the remark of Mr. Stead, that "Russia is a real country, governed by real people with a real desire for progress," and the various scenes and incidents and places he here describes admirably emphasise and illustrate the general truth of what Mr. Stead probably meant. The first chapter, on "Russia in the Making," briefly sketches the rise and progress of the country which is now able to challenge the military power of the German Empire and may hope still further to develop "with augury of benefit to the world at large." The chapter on Poland is extremely interesting, and draws special attention to the fact that "the Poles are one people, whether they have lived beneath the Russian, the Austrian, or the German flag," and the author points out that if Poland were united under the Czar, Posen and Galicia would come into their inheritance.

The sketches of Moscow, of Novovossick, the "New Russian Town" on the Black Sea, of the journey into Caucasia, of the Kalmuck country, or the wheat fields of the Volga are full of instruction and interest. They show that Mr. Hubback has in large measure both the qualities of observation and description, and he never fails to hold the interested attention of the reader. The last two chapters, on "The German in Russia" and "Three Days Before the War," are particularly worth reading. From the first it would seem that the almost universal pervasion of Russia by Germans has always been rather resented, and will now be definitely terminated, as the Russians are devoting their utmost energies to the abolition of any kind of German supremacy over people of Slav race. In the latter the curious experiences which Mr. Hubback went through in his hasty return from Rostoff on the Sea of Azov to Belgium in the first days of the war are naturally exceptionally attractive.

The Story Behind the Verdict. By Frank Danby. With a Frontispiece in Colour by A. C. Michael. (Cassell & Co.)—Most of us in our own personal experiences have had reason to know that the verdict of a coroner's court is not always infallible, and a case which is now attracting widespread interest is an admirable illustration of the well-known fact. The skilful novelist, therefore, who writes under the pen-name of Frank Danby, when she chooses to frame her latest volume of short tales in the surroundings of inquests and coroner's courts, has at least provided herself with ample material and all the necessary resources for a budget of exciting and absorbingly interesting reading. And by the way in which she has elected to use her materials she is enabled to enlist the excitement and curiosity which the ordinary English fiction-reader always feels for a really good detective story. Her hero, young Keightley Wilbur, an American millionaire, at home in Carlton House Terrace, a successful dilettante in poetry and socialism, with a distinct inclination towards what he calls psychology, though he is hardly as consummate a creation as Sherlock Holmes, is at least a person or personage altogether out of the common, and Frank Danby may be warmly congratulated on so striking a conception. Small wonder indeed that the hero should discover in the sordid details of the coroners' courts "a perpetual source of wonder and surprise, a fount of inspiration, even of romance, of comedy, of tragedy, and even of farce." Of the nine inquest stories here gathered together it is hardly possible to select any one as distinctly superior to any other. They all reach an extremely high level of imaginative conception, of skilful construction and ingenious elaboration.

The Jester. By Leslie Moore. (G. P. Putnam's Sons).—The author of that successful novel, "The Peacock Feather," has now given the English novel reader a further example of her skill and ability. She has placed her tale in the Middle Ages, and she has chosen as the chief characters a castle jester, by name Peregrine, who has followed his father in that position, and the Lady Isabel, who, when she grows up, becomes his mistress, and tries to win from him a greater homage than he is prepared to give. There are also other persons in the story, Peppo, a page, a comrade of Peregrine, Brigid Carlisle, maid of the Lady Isabel, later an inmate of the Nunnery at Sang-dieu, under the charge of her aunt, the Lady Abbess, also a certain cardinal, and Hilary, the Abbot. All these persons are most skilfully portrayed, the surroundings admirably harmonise with the spirit of the time, the story, the details of which we shall not attempt to forestall, is very vividly and whimsically conceived, and the whole tale and treatment evidences a pleasant imagination, combined with a pertinent wit and a keen insight into human nature.

Publications of the Week.

Religion and Theology.

- BAMBERG (Rev. A. Hubert) Popular Sermons on the Catechism. From the German. Edited by Rev. H. Thurston. Vol. 2, The Commandments. Cr. 8vo, pp. 470. *Washbourne* net 6/
- BENTLEY (Rev. J. H.) The Intelligent Use of the Psalms. A Scheme of Bible and Prayer Book Study. 8vo, swd. *Lomax's Successors*
- CODEX Alexandrinus. (Royal MS. I. D. v., viii.) In reduced photographic facsimile. Old Testament, Part 1, Genesis-Ruth. Royal 8vo. *British Museum*
- DOUGLAS (Rev. C. E.) The Mystery of the Kingdom. Cr. 8vo, pp. xii.—373. *Faith Press* net 7/6
- FLEW (R. Newton) The Senior Course (Third Nine Months). The Teaching of the Apostles. Cr. 8vo, pp. 192. *Pilgrim Press* net 2/
- JACQUIN (Père) The Friar Preacher: Yesterday and To-day. Translated from the French by Father Hugh Pove. Post 8vo, pp. viii.—152. *Washbourne* net 2/
- MANUAL of the Sodality of Our Lady, Prima Primaria. By S.P.B.V.M. 32mo, pp. 202. *Washbourne* 1/; leather, 2/
- MERCIER (Cardinal) A Pastoral Letter on the Papacy. Cr. 8vo, swd., pp. 30. *Washbourne* net 2d
- MERCIER (Cardinal) His Philosophic and Pastoral Work. Large 12mo, swd., pp. 13. *Washbourne* net 6d
- OFFICES of Vespers and Compline for Sundays, according to the Roman Rite. The Complete Text in Latin and English. Compiled in strict accordance with the latest revision of the Roman Breviary. 32mo, swd., pp. 48. *Washbourne* 2d
- PRATT (Edwin A.) The Christianizing of China. Cr. 8vo, pp. 110. *S.P.C.K.* net 1/6
- REYNOLDS (Edward M.) Witnesses to the Christian Creed. New ed., revised and enlarged by T. H. Bindley. 12mo. *S.P.C.K.* net 1/
- TUTING (William C.) The Coming of the Kingdom of Christ to the Roman Empire, during the First Four Centuries. 12mo, pp. 80. *S.P.C.K.* net 1/

Annuals and Serials.

- AMERICAN Year Book (The), 1914. Edited by F. G. Wickware. 8vo. *Appleton* net 12/6
- DOD'S Peerage, Baronetage, Knightage, &c., of Great Britain and Ireland. Supplement for 1915. Royal 8vo, swd. *Office* net 2/6
- MERCER (Sir W. H.) and Collins (A. E.) Colonial Office List, 1915. Cr. 8vo, pp. li.—716. *Waterlow* 15/
- NEW ZEALAND Official Year Book, 1914. Prepared by Malcolm Fraser. Cr. 8vo, pp. 1,017. *Mackay* (Wellington, N.Z.)

Archaeology.

- JENKINSON (Hilary) Palæography and the Practical Study of Court Hand. Illustrated. Royal 8vo, pp. 37. *Camb. Univ. P.* net 8/
- PALESTINE Exploration Fund Annual, 1914-1915. Double volume. Royal 8vo, pp. 154. *Office* 45/
- Annual subscribers, 21/
- SELECT Italian Medals of the Renaissance in the British Museum. Illust. on 50 plates. Royal 8vo. *British Museum*

Art and Architecture.

- PENNELL (Elizabeth Robins and Joseph) Lithography and Lithographers. Some Chapters in the History of the Art, together with Descriptions and Technical Explanations of Modern Artistic Methods. Folio, pp. 340. *Unwin* net 10/6
- PENNELL (Joseph) Pictures in the Land of Temples. Reproductions of a Series of Lithographs made by him in the Land of Temples, March-June, 1913, together with Impressions and Notes by the Author. Royal 8vo. *Heinemann* net 5/

Banking and Finance.

- HUNDRED Best Investments (The) With Special Article on the War and Investments and the Policy to be Adopted, by Emil Davies. 8vo, bds. *British, Foreign, and Colonial Corporation* net 1/

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- ROSEBURY (Lord) Dr. Chalmers. An Address delivered on April 14, 1915. 8vo, swd. *D. Douglas* net 6d
- SISTER Gertrude Mary, "A Mystic of Own Days." (The Sister of the Community of Saint Charles Angers, who foretold the conversion of Caldey and Saint Bride's.) Extracts from her Diary, from the French of Canon Stanislas Lequen. Translated by a Nun of St. Bride's Abbey, with a Preface by Dom. Bede Canm. Cr. 8vo, pp. xlviii.—182. *Washbourne* net 2/6
- TOPHAM (Anne) Memories of the Kaiser's Court. Cheaper ed. Cr. 8vo, pp. 252. *Methuen* net 2/6

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- PHILLPOTTS (Eden) My Shrubs. Illustrated. 4to, pp. 140. *Lanc* net 10/

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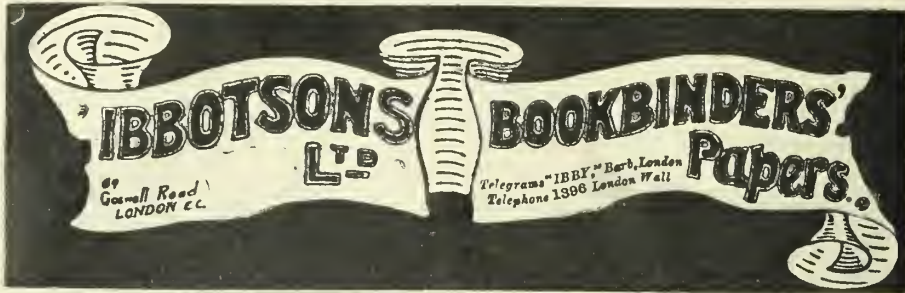
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Trade and Literary Gossip.

Sir Gilbert Parker will lecture on the occasion of the Annual Meeting of the National Book Trade Provident Society in Stationers' Hall on May 14th. The formal business of the meeting will be concluded by 8.30, and all interested in books will be welcomed. The President of the Society, Mr. William Heinemann, will be in the chair.

The Directors of Messrs. G. W. Bacon & Co. have issued the first Annual Report of the reconstructed Company, and the twenty-fifth since the establishment of the business as a joint stock company. The net trading profits of the Company for the year are stated at £2,837, and after providing for the Preference Dividends, depreciation, bad debts, &c., a dividend of 4 per cent. is recommended free of income tax, £1,000 is carried to reserve, and a balance of £829 is carried forward. The profits, it is stated, exceed those which have been earned by the old Company for several years past, and are not chiefly attributable to war publications.

Mr. John Y. Baxendine, eldest son of Mr. Andrew Baxendine, the well-known bookseller, of Chambers Street, Edinburgh, has been gazetted Second Lieutenant 10th Battalion Border Regiment. Private John Thomson, 8th Royal Scots, of the same firm, who was invalided home in December, has now returned to the front.

We much regret to hear that Mr. J. M. Dent has just received information that his son, Mr. Paxton Dent, has been killed at the front.

For King and Country.—The following has been received since our last list:—

MESSRS. W. H. SMITH & SON (Thirty-fifth List, making total to date 780).—C. R. Dunstan, R.F.A.; E. Hipwell, 13th Essex; H. Beckett, R.W.F.; A. E. Taylor, R.N.A.S.; J. J. Briant, Rifle Brigade; S. Bryant, Sportsmen's Battalion; F. Giles, R.A.M.C.; F. W. Williams, East Yorks.; H. Heriston, 2nd Northumberland; B. Bartlett, Hants.; E. A. Laurence, A.S.C.; A. Samuelson, R.F.A.; T. Cleeve, Royal West Surrey; F. T. Parsons, Duke of Cornwall's L.I.; O. Stephenson, Westmorland & Cumberland Yeos.; A. E. Savage, Duke of Cornwall's L.I.; E. Parton, 8th Essex Cyclists' Battalion; F. W. Napleton, A.S.C.; A. Barton, R.F.A.; T. Hood, 11th County of London; M. Hunt, Kitchener's Army; W. H. Sheppard, Kitchener's Army; G. S. Baldwin; A. H. Barrett, 15th County of London; S. G. Cook, Cumberland R.F.A.; C. Abdy, A.S.C.; R. J. Appleby, Officers' Training Corps; R. T. Reynolds, Army Ordnance Corps; C. Trollope, A.S.C.

At the Annual Meeting of the Master Bookbinders' Association, Mr. F. Gruneisen was elected Chairman, Mr. Ernest Straker, Treasurer, with Messrs. Frank E. Bailey, John G. Bain, Hubert Kelly, Robert Leighton and A. C. Nevett as Executive Committee.

The old established Bookselling, Stationery, and News Business known as The Post Office, King's Cross Road, N., has, in consequence of the retirement of the owner, Mr. W. A. Finch, been transferred to Mr. E. G. Edwards through the agency of Messrs. F. T. Evans & Co., the Trade Valuers, of 8, Paternoster Row.

Mr. J. E. Hodder Williams, of Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton, has been elected without opposition to the vacancy on the Court of Common Council for the Ward of Farringdon Within, caused by the retirement of Mr. J. B. Wild. Mr. Williams is a grandson of the late Mr. M. H. Hodder, founder of the firm of Hodder & Stoughton, and grand-nephew of the late Sir George Williams, of Hitchcock, Williams & Co. He was educated at the City of London School, and went thence to University College and afterwards to France and Germany. He then took his place in the publishing house of Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton, of which he is now the head.

Mr. Robert Bowman, the author of "A Lady of Russia," which Mr. Heinemann has just issued, comes of an old Durham family, and is prominently connected with the chemical industry of this country. For a number of years he was scientific adviser to some of the principal chemical works in Russia. He knows thoroughly the Russian forests of which he writes, having hunted and camped in them with all classes of Russians from Prince to peasant. He speaks their language and loves the people. Though he knows the towns well, most of his life in Russia was lived many hundreds of miles from the nearest railway. He was in the centre of the famine district during the great famine, and the plague which followed it, and he has had many strange adventures. He has published short stories in the magazines, &c., but "A Lady of Russia" is his first novel.

In the paragraph on Nat Gould's new tale "The Wizard of the North," we intended to say that the publishers, Messrs. John Long, Ltd., have lately issued his new stories in the orthodox six shilling form, but by a slip of the pen it appeared as "the orthodox shilling form."

Messrs. Raphael Tuck & Sons have been notified that their branch business in Berlin, which has been established there for the past eight years, has been sequestered, and the business and assets sold by the German authorities.

Royal Academy Pictures and Sculpture, 1915.—The annual guide to the Royal Academy Exhibition, which Messrs. Cassell & Co. always prepare, again makes its appearance, and provides, as usual, representative reproductions of the principal pictures on view. In numbers, the exhibition this year would seem to show no great falling off, but the general artistic level does not seem to rise much above the ordinary average. Most of our best known artists are represented, and there are some noticeable portraits; but there are not many war pictures, and those that are included hardly stand out clearly from the rest. The general characteristics and features of the publication are so well known that any detailed notice is scarcely necessary, and we need only say that it will no doubt find the same approval with lovers of art as its many predecessors.

Messrs. Nelson have added "Trent's Last Case," by E. C. Bentley, to their "Sevenpenny Library of Copyright Novels"; and "Le Vicomte de Bragelonne," par Alexandre Dumas, in three volumes, to their well known "Collection Nelson."

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. are about to add to their "Empire Library of Copyright Books" "A Far Country," by Winston Churchill, author of "Inside of the Cup"; "The Sword of Youth," by James Lane Allen, author of "The Choir Invisible." Among recent additions to the Library we may note "The Wife of Sir Isaac Harman," by H. G. Wells; "Incredible Adventures," by Algernon Blackwood; "The Rise of Jennie Cushing," by Mary S. Burke; "The Ways of Miss Barbara," by Agnes and Egerton Castle; "The Demi-Gods," by James Stephens, author of "The Crock of Gold."

Messrs. Constable & Co. have done a great service to those who wish to follow and understand the different operations of the war, by publishing, in a handy shilling volume, "The French Official Review of the First Six Months of the War," as issued by Reuter's Agency. The importance of this official document was at once recognised when it first appeared in the daily papers, and the present reprint in permanent form is from all points of view a great advantage.

The Rev. Owen Watkins' striking book, "With French in France and Flanders: A Chaplain's Experiences with the British Expeditionary Force," has already reached its third edition. It is published by Mr. C. H. Kelly. Dr. Frank Ballard's books on the war—"Plain Truths *versus* German Lies" and "Britain Justified: The War from the Christian Standpoint"—are both in very active demand.

The Year Book of Wireless Telegraphy and Telephony, which has just been published by the Wireless Press, Ltd., Marconi House, Strand, W.C., now makes its third annual appearance. Among articles of special interest which it contains, we may note Mr. Archibald Hurd's contribution on "Wireless and War at Sea"; "The Influence of Wireless Telegraphy on Modern Strategy," by Colonel Maude; and a paper on "Wireless Telephony." The mass of important information and statistics which the volume contains has been very carefully put together, and the work has now established its place as an indispensable book of reference for all who are concerned in the various developments of this wonderful invention.

Mr. T. Fisher Unwin has just published Mr. Alexander Young's "Short History of Belgium and Holland," a book which should prove at present of quite exceptional interest. It is, moreover, very fully illustrated. He has also published an informing and instructive pamphlet on "The American *versus* the German View of the War," by Dr. Morton Price, a statement of our case which deserves every attention.

"**Printer's Pie, 1915,**" will be published as usual next week, and the editor has enlisted the help of a very notable band of contributors, both literary and artistic.

Messrs. George Philip & Son, the well-known Map Publishers, are exhibiting specimens of their publications at the forthcoming British Industries Fair, which is to be held at the Agricultural Hall, May 10th to 21st, under the auspices of the Board of Trade.

Messrs. Herbert Jenkins, Ltd., have just published a most attractive book on gardening for ladies under the title of "Every Woman's Flower Garden: How to Make and Keep it Beautiful." It is written by Mary Hampden, and is illustrated with five colour plates by Mary S. Reeves, and eighty-three designs by the Author. It is a very beautiful and attractive volume, which is specially prepared for those women who wish to maintain their own gardens, and the author points out that all gardening is well within the capacity of a woman of average health and strength. The author begins by telling her readers how to lay out a garden, how to do it most comfortably; and afterwards she conducts her readers through all the various processes of flower gardening, with detailed information and advice regarding the different flowers and how they may be cultivated to the greatest advantage. The gardening proverbs given at the end of each chapter are excellently chosen and crystallise the results of long experience. The four coloured illustrations by Miss Mary Reeves distinctly add to the attractiveness of the volume, and the numerous gardening designs which the author supplies are always helpful.

Messrs. R. & T. Washbourne, Ltd., of Paternoster Row, have issued an attractive booklet on "Cardinal Mercier, his Philosophic and Pastoral Work," with a photogravure portrait of his Eminence on the cover. They have also published a popular edition at twopence of the Archbishop's "Pastoral Letter on the Papacy," which, though of course primarily addressed to Belgian Catholics, deserves the attention of other readers.

Messrs. Novello & Co. have just added to their well-known Handbooks for Musicians, edited by Mr. Ernest Newman, a volume on "The Sources of Key-Board Music in England," by Charles Van Den Borren, Professor of the Université Nouvelle of Brussels, translated from the French by James E. Matthew, a book which will be of great interest to many musicians.

Messrs. Greening & Co. have very opportunely issued a popular reprint of René Bazin's well known novel "The Children of Alsace," with a facsimile note from the author pointing out the close relation of the work to the present war.

Messrs. Marchant, Singer & Co., 47, St. Mary Axe, E.C., have sent us the "Directory of Paper Makers, 1915," which now makes its appearance for the 39th time. It contains all the usual features, and has evidently been very carefully revised and brought up to date.

The Motor Manual, published by the Temple Press, maintains its popularity, and the new edition (the 18th), making the 346th thousand, will be ready shortly. Mr. E. J. Larby, of 30, Paternoster Row, E.C., holds the sole wholesale and export agency.

Messrs. Stanley Paul's List of New and Forthcoming Works includes Mr. P. W. Sergeant's life of "The Princess Mathilde Bonaparte"; Mr. Norwood Young's informing "Napoleon in Exile: St. Helena"; "Juliet Drouet's Love-Letters to Victor Hugo"; "Behind the Scenes in the Terror," by Hector Fleischmann; a third edition of "Britain's Deadly Peril," by W. Le Queux; and a fifth edition of the same writer's "German Spies in England."

Pictures of 1915, published by the *Pall Mall Gazette*, is now ready, and forms an excellent guide to the pictures in the Royal Academy. The exhibition on the whole seems of average merit, and perhaps it is at present rather too early to expect any special artistic inspiration from the war—this, no doubt, will come later. The pictures reproduced have been selected with judgment, and the technical excellence of the issue is as noticeable as ever.



A JUJU "IMAGE."

ILLUSTRATION FROM "WOMAN'S MYSTERIES OF A PRIMITIVE PEOPLE," BY MRS. AMAURY TALBOT, LATELY PUBLISHED BY MESSRS. CASSELL & Co.

The Religious Tract Society's List of new and forthcoming books includes "Womens' Work in the War," by Mary Francis Billington; "With our Fighting Men," by W. E. Sellers, M.A.; "The Wonderland of Egypt," by Percy R. Salmon; "The Divine Master in Home Life," by the Rev. Harrington C. Lees, M.A.; "The Modern Knitting Book," "The Little Girl's Sewing Book," "The Little Girl's Knitting Book," all edited by Flora Klickmann; "The Web on the Loom," by Florence Bone; "Ruth Thornton," by Jean A. Owen; "Sir Guyon in Snowland," by M. S. Madden; "The Wonderful Gate," by Florence Bone. The various Annuals may also be noted: "The Boys' Own," "Girls' Own," "Sunday at Home," "The Empire for Boys" and "The Empire for Girls," the "Child's Companion," "Our Little Dots," "Friendly Greetings," the "Cottager and Artisan."

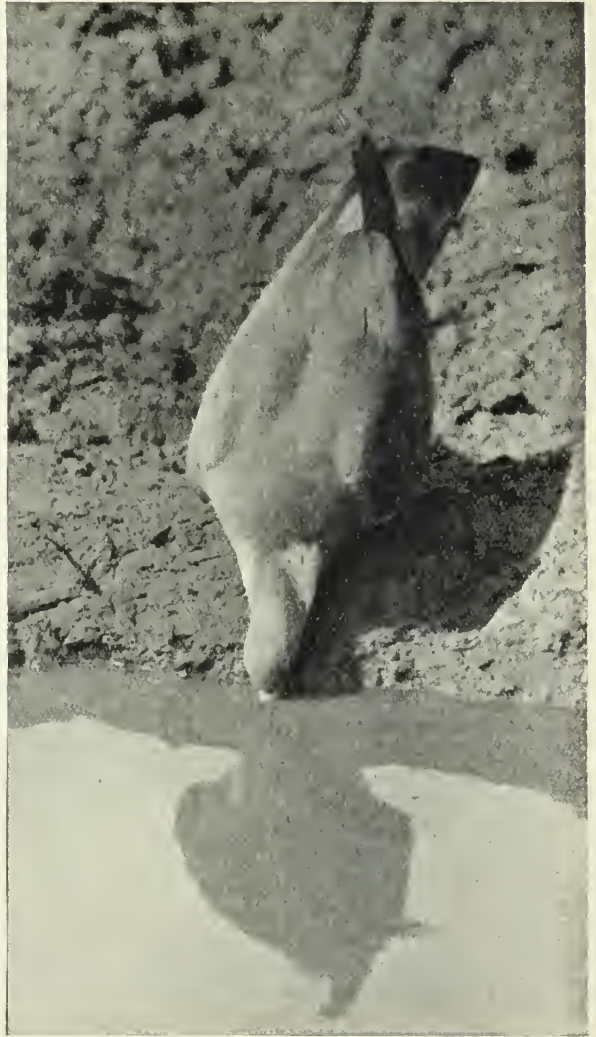
Mr. John Lane has just published "The Auction Mart," by Sydney Tremayne, a new writer.

In "The International Critical Commentary," which has now been for some years in the course of publication by Messrs. T. & T. Clark, the volume on "The Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians," by the Rev. Alfred Plummer, D.D., has just appeared. This important undertaking, the value of which has been fully recognised by theological students, has been carried out under the editorial supervision of the late Canon Driver, of Oxford; the late Dr. C. A. Briggs, of New York, and Dr. Plummer. The two first-named have recently passed away, and Dr. Plummer is now the only remaining editor. In the original plan of the work, "The Epistles to the Corinthians" was undertaken jointly by Dr. Plummer and Dr. Archibald Robertson, the present Bishop of Exeter, and "The First Epistle" was their joint-work. The Bishop of Exeter, however, has been unable to take any active share in the preparation of the "Second Epistle," which is solely the work of Dr. Plummer. At the same time, as he remarks in the Preface, he "knows the Bishop's mind about most of the important questions raised by this perplexing Epistle," and he has also had his article on it in Hastings' "Dictionary of the Bible" to help him. Of the permanent value and importance of Dr. Plummer's work it is quite unnecessary to speak. The Commentary naturally follows the general lines originally laid down, the wisdom of which has been so fully evidenced by the recognised success of the whole work, and not less of the volume previously contributed by Dr. Plummer himself. The general spirit in which the work has been carried out is perhaps best indicated by Dr. Plummer's remarks that he has no new solutions to offer for any of the numerous problems which this Epistle presents, and that while in some cases there is one solution which may be fairly taken to be the right one, there are other questions to which no certain answer can be given. He further points out that the important part of the present volume is the paraphrases prefixed to the sections, which have been made as luminous and as exact as possible.

The Illustrated Edition of "Macaulay's History of England" which Messrs. Macmillan & Co. have been publishing is now completed, and the six volumes make up a particularly handsome and sumptuous edition of Macaulay's great work. The illustrations, which are, of course, the special feature of the edition, have been admirably selected by Professor Firth, the editor. The many portraits of the principal persons of the period give this edition an exceptional attraction, and the lavishness with which this part of the work has been planned and carried out demands the heartiest commendation. It is enough to say that the illustrations are some 900 in number, including 44 coloured plates, to give our readers some idea of the elaborate scale on which the edition has been planned. They each and all illustrate in the real sense of the word both the period itself and the chief sources from which Macaulay obtained the material for his famous work.

Messrs. George Philip & Son have just published special war editions of their well-known "Pictorial Pocket Atlas" and of their "Handy Volume Atlas of the World."

The Political Quarterly for May, which is edited by Mr. W. G. S. Adams, Professor of Political Theory, Oxford, and published by the Oxford University Press, contains several important articles dealing with the various aspects of the war, and some of the more pressing social problems which are now engaging so much serious public attention.



"FROM WONDERS OF WILD NATURE," BY RICHARD KEARTON, JUST PUBLISHED BY CASSELL & CO., AND REVIEWED IN ANOTHER COLUMN.

Sell's World's Press now reaches its thirty-fourth edition, and the present issue gives special prominence to the journalistic interests of Canada, the United States, and South America. It contains articles of more than usual interest on "The Censorship," by the Hon. Secretary of the Press Representatives Committee; "Newspaper Circulations and the War"; "The Press and Spelling Reform," by Mr. W. Archer; "The Foreign Press in England," by the London editor of *Le Figaro*; and "A Bibliography of Journalism," by Mr. Herbert W. Peet. The Lists of papers and other information are all carefully revised and brought up to date, and the volume well maintains its position as one of our recognised and authoritative books of reference.

Mr. Granville Fortescue, the well-known war correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, has published, through Mr. Andrew Melrose, his experience during the first three months of the war in a volume entitled "At the Front with Three Armies: My Adventures in the Great War." He explains that what he has written has been rigidly censored by the Press Bureau, and he protests that in no way could some of the excised passages be described as giving information to the enemy. He further tells us that in its uncensored form it is being published in the United States, and when the war is over a comparison of the two editions should be interesting if not instructive. Mr. Fortescue cannot speak too highly of the perfect organisation of the German army as a war machine, nor can he condemn too strongly the desolation of Flanders by the ruthless Teuton. All will agree when he declares that no atonement can blot out the crime of Germany. He also expresses himself with equal emphasis on the German policy of German aviators dropping bombs on defenceless civilians; it is, he says, the acme of cowardice, and is so dastardly as to merit the severest condemnation. As regards the duration of the war, Mr. Fortescue frankly tells us that Germany is heart and soul for the war, and as she cannot at present be said to be the loser on the actual field of operations, it must be difficult to say when she will be defeated. But her vulnerable point is her commerce. "The Berlin business man is in the gloomiest possible state of mind." Still, he is heartily in favour of the war, and Mr. Fortescue does not think the country is suffering from lack of food or men or money, so that as far as he can see "there is only one factor that will defeat Germany, and that is, exhaustion."

Messrs. T. Werner Laurie's "Colonial Library" now includes "Sylvia's Marriage," by Upton Sinclair; "Love and the Freemason," by Guy Thorne; "Love in War Time: A Tale of the South Seas," by Ambrose Pratt; "The Imperial Malefactor," by Winifred Graham; "To Arms," by W. H. Williamson; "The Monstrous Enemy," by Ranger Gull; "The Wife Who Found Out," by Gertie de S. Wentworth-James; "The Secret Flat," by the same; "The Man from the Past," by Stanley Portal Hyatt; "Brother-in-Law to Potts," by Parry Truscott; "The Enemies of England," by Ranger Gull; "The German Lieutenant, and other Stories," by August Strindberg; "The Women We Marry," by Arthur Stanwood Pier; "The Fatal Garland," by Mrs. Ghosal.

The Service "Kipling," which Messrs. Macmillan & Co. have been publishing, is now completed with the issue of "Actions and Reactions" and "Traffics and Discoveries," each in two volumes. As a convenient edition for general use under present conditions of these popular books, the "Service" edition will no doubt find wide approbation.

Messrs. Methuen & Co. have just published "Practical Physical Chemistry," by Mr. J. B. Firth; "The Story of the Hebrew Patriarchs," by Mrs. Frederic Green; they have also added "The Mess Deck," by Mr. W. F. Shannon, to their Shilling Series, and "Into Temptation," by Mrs. Perrin, to their Sevenpenny Series.

Messrs. Cassell & Co. have just published a very important and informing book, especially useful at the present moment, entitled "The Germans and Africa: Their Aims in the Dark Continent, and how they acquired their African Colonies," by Mr. Evans Lewin, the Librarian of the Royal Colonial Institute. The whole subject is one of immense importance, and we cannot be too grateful to Mr. Lewin for giving us this authoritative history of German colonisation in Africa. The fact that Earl Grey, who has been so closely associated with the development of English interests in South Africa, contributes an appreciative Introduction, further guarantees the value and importance of the book. Mr. Lewin admits at once that Great Britain quite naturally did not welcome the intrusion of a new competitor in territories where she had already established permanent interests. He also allows with ready frankness that while



MR. EVANS LEWIN.

England was justified in her attitude from her point of view, there is still a good deal to be said for the German standpoint. At the same time he recognises that it was hardly probable that Germany would ever be satisfied, while during this critical period the interests of Britain elsewhere occupied all her attention. Earl Grey, in his very valuable and suggestive Introduction, specially emphasises the great difference between British and German methods of colonisation. Britain acquires colonies to protect the natives, or for legitimate trade, while Germany colonises solely through military considerations, to acquire strategical points which might serve as bases for future conquests, as was specially evident in her Moroccan policy. Earl Grey also draws particular attention to the successful efforts which Mr. Rhodes made to prevent Germany from closing the road from the Cape to Cairo. Mr. Lewin's book is throughout deserving of the most careful study. The two concluding chapters, on The Future of the German Colonies and The Failures and Successes of German Policy, are particularly worth attention.

Messrs. W. & A. K. Johnston have just issued in their "New Contour Coloured Maps of War Areas" a map of "Paris to Berlin" on the scale of 18 miles to one inch, and a map of "Petrograd to Berlin" on the scale of 36 miles to one inch. They have also published a very useful "New War Map of the Dardanelles and Bosphorus."

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—We have sometimes cause to be grateful to those industriously inquisitive interviewers who invite leading publishers, every few weeks, to "stand and deliver" about the current condition and prospects of the book trade. They are able, now and again, to extract information useful to those who write books as well as to those who produce and sell them—such, for example, as the significant fact, lately elicited by one of their number, that the reading public are showing a distinct tendency to fight shy of war-fiction. Here, beyond doubt, is a timely warning for those enterprising novelists who may hitherto have been imagining themselves in duty bound to set about adding their quota to the expected avalanche of stories "written round" some phase, or embodying some incidents, of the terrible conflict which is now convulsing the world. The truth seems to be—and, after all, it is by no means a surprising one—that fiction is chiefly valued, just now, as affording mental relief, for the time being, from the constant obsession of the war and its horrors, and that the dragging of "Armageddon" into the realm of the novelist is consequently resented by the average reader.

But it is possible that one may not be far wrong in drawing a wider and more general moral, and in suggesting that the modern craze for being "topical" in what is supposed to be imaginative literature has been carried to altogether excessive lengths. Fiction, when all is said and done, should be something more than up-to-date journalism in narrative form; and if novelists make it their chief business to describe events and discuss questions which are the current topics of the daily papers, they not only do their best to efface the border-line between literature and journalism, but handicap themselves by giving increased directness to a form of competition which, in these days of multitudinous newspapers, is already sufficiently severe. Certain it is that this laborious "topicalism" is not the likeliest means of tempting the ordinary reader to give more time to books and less to his daily and weekly papers. For the competition is of a kind in which journalism must of necessity have and keep the advantage.

To issue in this country a work by a violently pro-German writer must naturally be something of a trial to a patriotic British publisher; but Mr. John Lane is to be congratulated upon the extremely happy thought which suggested to him a means of supplying the antidote with the bane in the case of the English version of Dr. Sven Hedin's book about the war, which he is issuing this week. Bethinking him of the saying that there is nothing that kills like ridicule, he has invoked the aid of that delightful satirical humorist Mr. E. V. Lucas, and set him to work on a skit upon the Sven Hedin book. Mr. Lucas, we may be sure, accepted the commission with eagerness; and, less than a week after "With the German Armies in the West" has been placed in the hands of the public, it will be followed from the Bodley Head by "In Gentlest Germany," by "Hun Svedend." What is more, the skit will be illustrated by the impishly droll pencil of Mr. George Morrow, who may be trusted to make the most, as usual, of his share of an always happy partnership, and to hold up the practitioners of modern "Hunnery" to the derisive contempt that they deserve. It seems quite possible, indeed, that a good many people will make a point of reading Dr. Sven Hedin's book for the sake of being fully equipped for the enjoyment of the Lucas-Morrow commentary upon it.

To a people so utterly devoid of a sense of the ridiculous as the Germans, by the way, this cheery method of dealing with the work of their literary champions and apologists must be no less incomprehensible than exasperating. In all probability, a book written by a "neutral" in praise or defence of England would not be looked at for a moment by any

German publisher. But even if the almost impossible were to happen, and such a book were allowed to be issued and circulated in the Fatherland, can you imagine it being treated by any German writer as a subject for light badinage, or for anything else except an outpouring of that melodramatic hysteria of abuse and denunciation which has found its supreme expression in the ridiculous "Hymn of Hate"?

If we are quite candid, I suppose we must admit that our precious national possession of humour is less strongly represented in the English literature of to-day than it was in that of a generation or two ago. We have, it is true, a few satirists and parodists of acknowledged brilliancy, of whom Mr. Lucas is deservedly one of the most admired; but it can hardly be denied that the humorous books have made rather an indifferent show in the review of the literary output of any recent year. It may be that this is in some measure due to the curious tendency of so many present-day authors—the names of some of them will no doubt at once occur to you—to turn their backs on humour as soon as it has earned them their footing with the reading public, and to metamorphose themselves into "serious" and even didactic writers. But there is also something to be allowed for the fact that the more primitive and rollicking forms of humour which delighted our less sophisticated fathers and grandfathers make no such irresistible appeal to the present generation, whose humorous sense, keen as it is, is of an altogether subtler, less robust, and more satirical quality. One sometimes hears young people say that, much as they appreciate others of Dickens's works, they "can't stand *Pickwick*"; and I imagine the reason to be that the merely physical distresses and misadventures which supply so much of the humour of that immortal work seem to them no more amusing than the harlequinade of an old-fashioned pantomime, with its buttered slides and red-hot pokers. Well—to every age its own sense of humour; but there is a warm welcome and a big harvest for those writers who can satisfy that of the existing generation—and the more, the merrier.

A queer last-century habit which is still perversely cherished by a good many authors and journalists is what I may call the "dash" convention—by which I mean the absurd practice of representing by an initial letter followed by a dash some expletive or forcible expression with which the reader is obviously assumed to be well acquainted, in order that he may not be shocked by seeing the familiar word in print. Of late years there have been signs of revolt against this foolish pharisaism; but it is still allowed to survive in a good many quarters. A few days ago, for instance, I found a reference in a daily paper to a certain colonel who had described his men as "d— rascals, but d— good soldiers." Now, what on earth is the good of the dash in a case like this? It is simply a survival of the finicking prudery of an insincerely "proper" age, and as such ought to have short shrift in these days. Sir Lucius O'Trigger was no doubt distinctly premature in declaring that "damns have had their day"; but it ought to be true, by this time, that "d—s" have had theirs.

Though it is still, perhaps, "a long, long way" to the restoration of peace on the only conceivable terms, it is not too soon to begin to take stock of the great problems with which our nation and Empire will be called upon to grapple after that most desirable consummation has been attained. Some of the most vital of them are very thoughtfully and suggestively discussed in a shilling booklet by Mr. Charles H. Luke, "The War and the Parting of the Ways," which the firm of Sampson Low has lately issued. I have just been reading it; and what Mr. Luke has to say about British trade and its opportunity in the immediate future seems to me to be specially worthy of consideration.

I understand that the author of "The Cup of War," a little book about to be published anonymously by the firm of Longmans, is not Mr. Lloyd George.

May 7.

JACOB OMNIUM.

The Open Access System in public libraries, or the controlled admission of readers directly to the bookshelves, has now been in operation for some twenty years, and though at first its usefulness was more than doubted it has made its way in public confidence, and is, we are told, "now thoroughly established as part of the policy of nearly every public library of importance." This being so, an almost official handbook and guide to the system which Messrs. Grafton & Co. have lately published under the title "Open Access Libraries, Their Planning, Equipment, and Organisation," must be heartily welcomed by all who have to do with public libraries. The book has been planned and the introduction supplied by Mr. James Duff Brown, the first inventor and introducer of the new system. The various chapters have been written by Messrs. J. D. Stewart, H. T. Coutts, William McGill, and the Misses Olive E. Clarke and Alice Jones. The sections dealing with Planning are the work of Mr. Stewart, Mr. Coutts writes on Classification, Catalogues (with some help from Mr. McGill), and Special Rules and Regulations. The Misses Jones and Clarke write on Charging Systems, and the latter on School Children, and the proper use of the Library. An Appendix dealing with various smaller matters of practice and arrangement adds still further to its value, and altogether the book is one which no one actively engaged in the management of public libraries can afford to ignore or to neglect.

Professor John Oman, of Westminster College, Cambridge, has just published through the Cambridge University Press a very suggestive little volume, "The War and its Issues, an attempt at a Christian Judgment." It is divided into two parts, a Christian Judgment and the Moral Issues, and, as a sane, sober, and reasoned statement of the whole position, it at once arouses serious interest, and demands from the thoughtful reader, whatever his view, very serious consideration.

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. HARPER BROTHERS announce "When a Man Comes to Himself," by President Woodrow Wilson; "Pals First," a novel, by Francis F. Elliott; "The Life Builders," a novel, by Elizabeth Dejeans.

MESSRS. WILLIAM HODGE & Co. announce the early publication of a Supplement to "The Law of Contract during War," by Professor W. F. Trotter, bringing the law up to date.

MESSRS. HURST & BLACKETT have nearly ready "Follow After," a new novel by Gertrude Atherton.

MESSRS. HUTCHINSON & Co. announce "The Souls of Germany: A Twelve Years' Study of the People from Within," by Dr. Thomas F. A. Smith, late English lecturer at Erlangen; also "The Wisdom of Damaris," a new novel by Lucas Malet.

MR. JOHN LANE will publish next week "In Gentlest Germany, by Hun Svedend," by E. V. Lucas, with illustrations by George Morrow.

MESSRS. LONGMANS, GREEN & Co. will shortly publish in book form an account, with several illustrations, of "The Bishop of London's Visit to the Front," by his Chaplain, the Rev. G. Vernon Smith; "The Reflections of a Non-Combatant," by Mr. M. Petrie.

MESSRS. JOHN LONG will shortly publish a new novel entitled "The Song of Surrender," by Henry Bruce, author of "The Residency," &c.; "Maids of Salem," by K. L. Montgomery, author of "The Gate Openers," &c.

SIR ISAAC PITMAN & SONS, LTD., will publish almost immediately "Pollyanna Grows Up," by Miss Eleanor H. Porter, author of that successful book "Pollyanna"; "Scandinavia of the Scandinavians," by Mr. Henry Goddard Leach, Secretary to the American-Scandinavian Foundation, a new volume of their "Countries and Peoples Series."

MR. ELLIOT STOCK has nearly ready "The Battle of the Lord," sermons dealing with the War, by Archdeacon Wilberforce.

MR. FISHER UNWIN will publish next week Mr. Charles Tower's book "Changing Germany." Mr. Tower has lived in Germany for many years as correspondent of the *Westminster Gazette*, *Spectator*, *Daily News*, and other papers. His book, the outcome of intimate knowledge of German life, particularly in Berlin, is a study of various phases of the Prussian character as manifested before and during the war, and an attempt to forecast the effects of the war on the German people. In the author's view there has been a steady decay of the old German moral code based upon personality, and a substitution for this of a State-code and police-regulation. The result of this decay has been a prodigious outburst of vice, extravagance, and pleasure-seeking, especially in the Prussian capital, and a general brutalising of life, which accounts for the atrocities of the Germans in the present war. The author, however, believes that the mass-theory will have found its grave on the Marne, Aisne, Lys, and Vistula, and that a new Germany will emerge from the war, more democratic and less disregarding of individual rights and responsibility. A book by no means a piece of abstract theorising, but is full of well-arranged facts, giving a vivid picture of modern German life; also a popular two shilling edition of Mr. Joseph Conrad's first novel, "Almayer's Folly."

Obituary.

Pawling. April 29.—At Westcliff-on-Sea, aged 57, Mr. Kingsford Pawling, for many years well known to the trade and to a very large circle of subscribers and book-lovers as a Director of Mudie's Library, Ltd. He joined the staff at Mudie's about 1872, and, after serving the firm in various capacities, he became a Director in 1894. It will be remembered that little more than a year ago, in March last year, on his retirement from the firm, Mr. Pawling (who is a brother of Mr. Sydney Pawling, of Mr. W. Heinemann's) was presented by the staff with an illuminated testimonial and silver salver. On that occasion Mr. Pawling was not well enough to be present in person. Sentiments of esteem and affection and of regret at his retirement were universally expressed. Mr. Mudie, who made the presentation, personally testified that Mr. Pawling was "one of the most gentle, good, and lovable dispositions one could come across"; and subsequent speakers added their tribute, Mr. Matthews remarking that "those who have grown up from boyhood in the service of the Library, always regarded Mr. Pawling as a sort of wise father rather than as a manager." The funeral service was held at St. Stephen's, Barnet, on Monday, when many personal and business friends attended to pay their last respects.

Notices of Books.

With the German Armies in the West. By Sven Hedin. Authorised Translation from the Swedish. By H. G. de Walterstropp. With 119 Illustrations and 4 Maps. (John Lane.)—It is, of course, well known that Dr. Sven Hedin's account of what he saw of the German campaign in the West does not profess to be impartial, but is avowedly written from the German standpoint. This is indeed sufficiently shown by the note of thanks, which the writer prefixes to his book, "for the hospitality, the confidence, and the comradeship which has been shown to me in the German armies at the Western front." We feel quite certain that no wholly impartial observer would find, at any rate, "the confidence and the comradeship" which Dr. Sven Hedin enjoyed. This conclusion is also inevitable from the statement in his preface that during the two months that "I spent on the German Western front I did not see a single instance of cruelty to prisoners or wounded, let alone ill-treatment of the civil population and its goods and chattels." This statement is so entirely contrary to well-authenticated evidence on the other side that it is perfectly clear that Dr. Sven Hedin only saw and was shown just what he wished to see or what his hosts wished to show him. How far the evidence of such an observer is to be trusted it is difficult to say, except, perhaps, that his book may be supposed to give, at any rate, the view that the German authorities wished to be made public. Mr. John Lane, in a Publisher's note, tells us that the writer "is a trained observer and there can be no question of his veracity," and that, therefore, what he has to tell us is worthy of greater credence than the German official communiqués, "which nobody believes." How far this is really the case each reader must decide for himself, and it is certainly the fact that, according to Dr. Sven Hedin, the German military machine is indeed a very formidable organisation, on which at present but little impression has been made. Throughout the book his anti-English bias is everywhere apparent, and in particular in what he has to say about the employment of Indian troops in the war. It is, of course, useful to have in permanent form an accredited statement of the German view on the many controverted questions which the campaign in the West has raised, and in many cases the minor details and incidents are very interesting. Later, the impartial historian will be better able to estimate the value and authority of what Dr. Sven Hedin has to tell us when it is compared and contrasted with at least equally authentic and authoritative statements from the standpoint of the Allies. The numerous illustrations are a very distinct advantage, and Mr. John Lane may be heartily congratulated on his courage in placing before the English reader what may almost be taken as the official apology of the enemy.

Boon, the Mind of the Race, the Wild Asses of the Devil and the Last Trump; Being a First Selection from the Literary Remains of George Boon. Prepared for Publication by Reginald Bliss. With an Ambiguous Introduction by H. G. Wells. (T. Fisher Unwin.)—As a writer of fiction or romance Mr. Wells admittedly holds a foremost place among present-day writers, and he must not, therefore, be surprised if the reviewer, bearing this fact in mind, looks upon this "Ambiguous Introduction" as fiction, and entirely declines "to see the reasonableness of distinguishing between him and Mr. Reginald Bliss." For it is the common device of the romancer and storyteller to give his own private opinions through the mouth of some fictitious character, and both the alleged George Boon and his supposed literary executor, Reginald Bliss, are only creations of Mr. Wells's own imagination to enable him to set forth his own views on various matters before the reader. It is extremely

difficult in the short space at our disposal to give any very clear account of what Mr. Wells here has to say, and, perhaps, it will be best not to make the attempt. It must suffice to say that under the pretence of narrating a novel written by Boon, and styled "The Mind of the Race," he gives his readers a good deal of very pointed and pertinent literary satire on such writers as Mr. Henry James, Mr. W. H. Mallock, Mr. Bernard Shaw, and others. The chapter which describes the company of literary contemporaries who travel to the World Conference on the Mind of the Race is quite delightful reading, and the cynical-satirical touches in which he caricatures some of the personal characteristics of the writers of today are exceedingly effective. "The brothers Chesterton, Mr. Maurice Baring, and Mr. Belloc," we are told, for instance, "sat up all night in the wagon restaurant consuming beer enormously, and conversing upon immortality, and whether it extends to Semitic and Oriental persons." The last two pieces in the book, "The Wild Asses of the Devil" and "The Last Trump," purport to be merely fragmentary pieces of the late Mr. Boon, but they are really whimsical and fantastic fables which Mr. Wells utilises to gird against the inherent militarism of most persons, and, in particular, of those who would like to extend its sphere of action. "The Last Trump" is a piece of weird, uncanny imagination which no one but Mr. Wells could have produced, and it certainly makes extremely fascinating reading. The volume altogether is quite out of the common. It shows Mr. Wells in a new light; very much of what he says, and particularly the way he here says it, deserves and is sure to receive the careful attention of his increasingly numerous admirers.

Clear Waters: Troutng Days and Troutng Ways, in Wales, the West Country, and the Scottish Borderland. By A. G. Bradley (Constable & Co.)—We have already had from Mr. Bradley several pleasant and attractive volumes describing various parts of the country and relating his own experiences therein. He now gives us a new volume of autobiographical reminiscence, mainly concerned with incidents and experiences of fishing. In his first chapter he candidly tells us that the microbe of fishing must have found its way into his constitution at a very early date, and he describes some of his earliest troutng experiences, in the streams of Exmoor, in the Kennet near Marlborough, the Itchen near Winchester, and also in Wales. Later chapters are full of entertaining incidents and scenes in the West Country, including the little known Devonshire Avon near Brent, many delightful days in Wales and her mountain streams, the English Lake Country, Northumberland, in the Coquet, and still farther north in the Whiteadder where it joins the Tweed. To fishermen this pleasant volume will provide a specially fascinating charm, while the experiences of the writer often help him to give much useful advice and hints. The illustrations give an additional charm and attraction to the book.

Lord Quare's Visitor. By Florence Warden. (John Long.)—As soon as we discover in the first few pages of Miss Florence Warden's new story that Algernon Clegge, the son and heir of the self-made millionaire peer Lord Quare, is determined to marry the girl he loves and not the young lady his father has selected for him we know there will be trouble before he gains his end. Presently, when we find Lord Quare mysteriously murdered, and Algernon, of course, suspected of being the murderer, the plot evidently thickens, and we know that so skilled a writer will give her readers a realistic and exciting story before the book comes to an end. How it all happens we must leave the readers to find out for themselves, and we will be content with saying that the tale is full of excitement and vigour to the last page.



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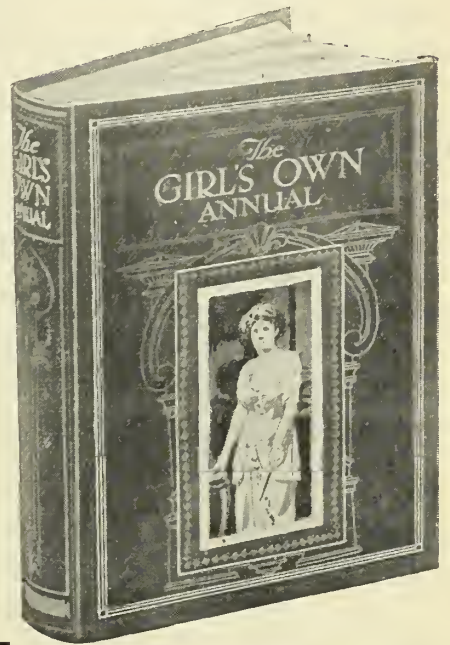
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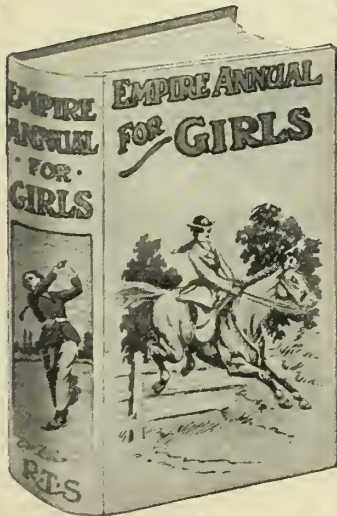
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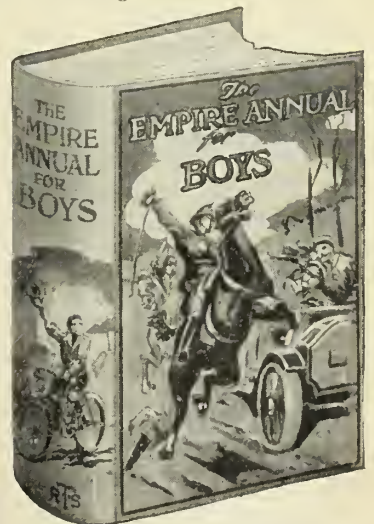
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The War and the Balkans. By Noel Buxton, M.P., and Charles Roden Buxton.—The importance of the Balkan factor in the present international struggle is everywhere recognised, and first-hand information on some of the points which arise must always be welcomed. Messrs. Noel and Roden Buxton have for some years made themselves specially familiar with these problems, and it will be remembered that last October an attempt upon their lives was made by a Turkish assassin, from which everyone is glad to know they have fortunately recovered. In this useful and suggestive little book they outline a proposed scheme of mutual give and take, by which the competing ambitions of the various States may be satisfied and a permanent Balkan Union established which might prove a decisive factor in the present conflict. The authors particularly urge that Greece should make some concession to Bulgaria, and they further suggest that if the Triple Entente were now to adopt the course here advocated, and dictate its terms to all the Balkan States, the reinstatement of M. Venizelos in power, with all that it involves, is more than possible. We need go into no detail, but commend this useful and informing volume to the careful attention of everyone interested in the present struggle.

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Wonders of Wild Nature. By Richard Kearton, F.Z.S. With 72 Photographs Direct from Nature by the Author and his daughter, Grace Kearton.—As the author rightly points out in his introduction to this noticeable and attractive book, a greater interest is taken to-day in the wild life of the world than at any previous period. This is no doubt largely due to the work of writers on the subject such as Mr. Kearton himself, who have done so much to bring home to the general public facts about wild life which would otherwise have escaped observation and have thus popularised information on the subject which have up to recent times been confined to scientific students. Mr. Kearton, whose excellent work in this special field is too well known to need any commendation, here gives his readers some interesting and instructive chapters on the wild life which is still to be found almost within the metropolitan area. Thence he passes to the Shetlands and the Hebrides, where wild birds of entirely different kinds, though not, perhaps, more interesting in themselves, receive his attention. From Britain Mr. Kearton goes still farther afield to the Polders and Meers of Holland and the Norwegian mountains. In every case he gives us the results of his unique skill in observation, and the descriptions of his many attempts to obtain photographs of birds and snakes and other animals are always most exciting and at times entertaining. He is clearly on quite familiar terms with many of his wild friends. He knows just where to find them, their special ways and special habits, and he narrates his experiences in a pleasant and delightful fashion. The many illustrations which the book contains are particularly helpful, and add materially to the value and interest of the volume. How Mr. Kearton and his daughter have so often succeeded in what would seem to an ordinary person an almost impossible task it is not easy to understand. The fact, however, remains, and the result is that the reader is brought, as it were, to close quarters with many phases and aspects of wild life of which, in the ordinary way, it would be impossible for him or her to obtain any knowledge.

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The Life and Teaching of William Honyman Gillespie, of Torbanehill. By James Urquhart, F.S.A. (Scot.). With a Bibliography of the Ontological Argument. By E. Lloyd Morrow, M.A.—The late Mr. Gillespie, who died in 1875, was well known during his lifetime as the author of "The Argument *a priori* for the Being and the Attributes of the Lord God, the Absolute One, and First Cause," a treatise which received the approbation of such authorities as the late Lord Brougham, the late Sir William Hamilton, and the late Principal Tulloch. His wife left certain funds for "the general purpose of extending the circulation of her husband's works so as to keep his memory and teaching alive." It is in accordance with this trust that the present volume is issued, and those who are interested in Mr. Gillespie and his work will find Mr. Urquhart's exposition very helpful and suggestive. We may note that of the sixth edition of the Argument some 8,000 copies have been circulated, which, considering the nature of the work, is an indication of its serious value and importance.

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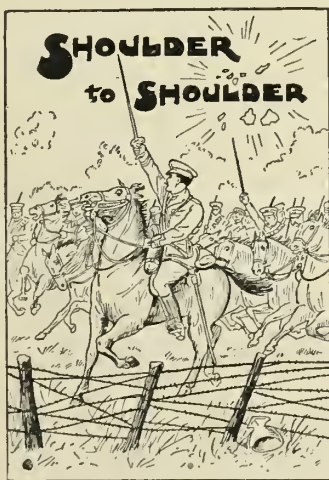
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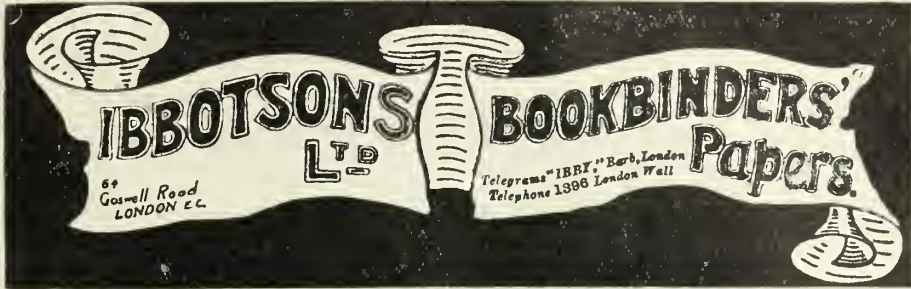
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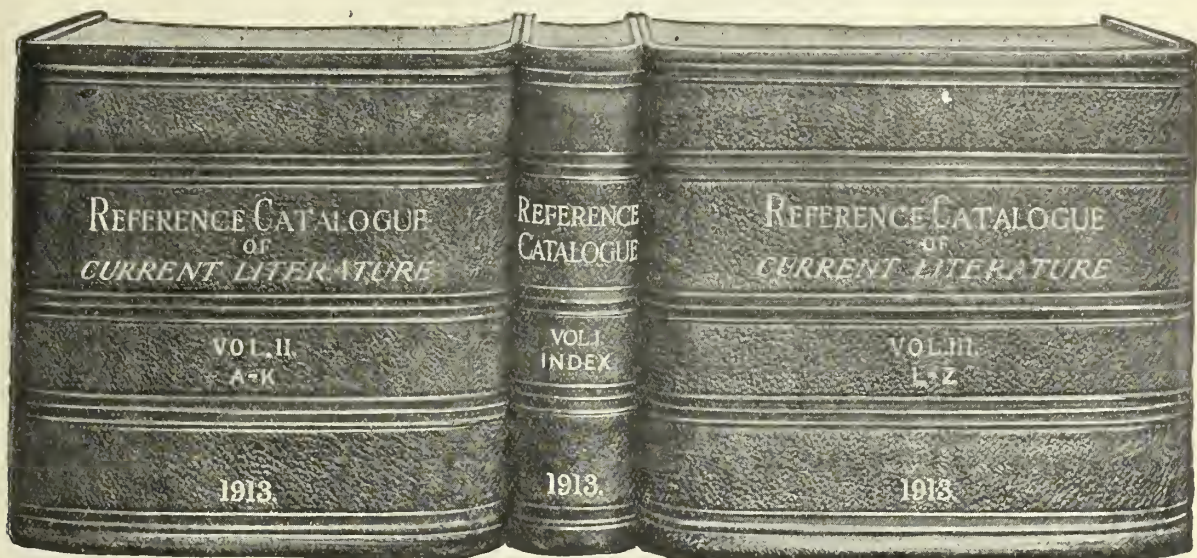
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Trade and Literary Gossip.

Mr. Bernard J. G. Whitaker, only son of Mr. George H. Whitaker, Editor of THE BOOKSELLER, has been gazetted Second Lieutenant of the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment, now at the front.

Mr. William Hutton Brice, eldest son of Mr. William Brice, of Edinburgh, has recently been appointed Second Lieutenant in the 14th Royal Scots Regiment.

For King and Country.—The following has been received since our last list :—

MESSRS. W. & G. FOYLE, 121-123, Charing Cross Road, W.C.—Willington, Corporal, Inniskillen Dragoons; Baylèy, L. R., Renton, A. E., Queen Victoria Rifles.

Mr. James Tregaskis, the well-known Antiquarian Bookseller, has removed from 232, High Holborn, to 66, Great Russell Street, W.C., facing the British Museum.

Madame Curchod, of Algiers, has handed on to various War Funds £32 14s. 3d., the proceeds of the sale of the first edition of the "Union Jack and other Battle Songs and Poems," lately issued by Mr. Alexander Gardner, of Paisley. The profits of the second edition just issued will be given to various Belgian relief funds. The first edition of another book of War Poems, "Ballads of Field and Billet," by Lance-Corporal W. Kersley Holmes, was sold out on the day of publication, and the second is already nearly exhausted.

The Rev. W. K. Lowther Clarke, B.D., Rector of Cavendish, Suffolk, has been unanimously elected Secretary for the Publishing Department of the S.P.C.K. in succession to Canon Edmund McClure, retired. Mr. Clarke is a son of the Archbishop of Melbourne, and a late Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge, where he had a distinguished University career.

All our readers will be glad to know that Mr. Charles E. Lauriat, junior, of the well-known New York firm, the Lauriat Company, a passenger by the ill-fated "Lusitania," was among the saved. Mr. Justus Miles Forman, the popular novelist, who was also a passenger, was less fortunate, and it is feared that he is one of the many hundreds who have perished.

During her visit to the British Industries Exhibition, now being held at the Agricultural Hall, Her Majesty Queen Mary was much interested in the very fine display of bindings, fancy goods, albums, &c., shown by Messrs. Birdsall, Northampton. Her Majesty spent some time at the stall, asked many questions, and mentioned that she had many specimens of the firm's works in her collection.

The series of war-sonnets by Rupert Brooke, which he entitled "1914," were published in the December issue of "New Numbers," which is out of print, but they will stand first in the new volume, "1914 and Other Poems," which Messrs. Sidgwick & Jackson will issue as early as possible.

The Associated Booksellers of Great Britain and Ireland.—The Annual General Meeting for this year was held yesterday, when the Report of the Council was presented and adopted. A full account of the proceedings will be given in next week's issue. The Report was as follows:—

The work of the Council during the past year has again been fully reported in the Minutes of the Meetings; and but little of more than ordinary interest has occurred other than the catastrophe which fell upon the country in August last and which for some time practically caused a stagnation in the trade, but the Council are glad to report that the steps taken to stimulate business were fairly successful, and although the Christmas trade was not up to its usual condition the ultimate result was much better than anticipated.

Your Council heartily joined in the promotion of the Belgian Book Trade Relief Fund, and are glad to report that in conjunction with the Publishers' Association and the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association, a substantial sum has been raised. The Associated Booksellers Branches contributed £110 13s.

As will have been seen by the Minutes further efforts have been made to bring about a joint conference of the publishers and booksellers, and it is with much regret that the Council report they have not been successful, firmly believing that such a Joint Committee would prove of mutual benefit to both publisher and bookseller.

It is also with much regret that the Council report that which is known as the "Oxford Proposals" (see Minutes, March, 1914) were not more favourably considered.

The Annual Meeting in Edinburgh proved to be one of the most successful of the annual gatherings although marred by the absence of the President, who at the time was undergoing a very serious operation. The Council were, however, glad to welcome him in somewhat restored health at their meeting in October.

It will have been noted that at the Annual Meeting a resolution was passed affecting the Vice-Presidents, viz.: "That one Vice-President of the Associated Booksellers of Great Britain and Ireland should retire annually, and not be eligible for re-election for a period of one year; and that in future the Vice-Presidents should consist of two for England, two for London, one for Scotland, and one for Ireland."

Four meetings of the Council have been held during the year, and the average attendance of its members has been fifteen.

The Council feel that some steps should be taken in securing additional members, and the best method for such an end is having their careful consideration.

The usual Schedule of Books has been prepared and is appended.

Year.	Books. Subject	Total		Books. NET	Total	
		£	s. d.		£	s. d.
1901	5675	1211	8 7	2322	983	3 4
1913	3263	607	5 1½	6796	1986	17 5½
1914	3944	580	0 5½	6650	1733	11 1½

The following members of the Council retire by rotation, and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election:—Messrs. B. H. Blackwell, R. Bowes, F. Denny, F. Hanson, F. R. Hockliffe, H. W. Keay, E. Pearce, and W. J. Squires.

National Book Trade Provident Society.—The Annual General Meeting will be held, as our readers are aware, this (Friday) evening at Stationers' Hall, and the following is a *résumé* of the Report of the Committee of Management, which will be submitted for adoption. The accounts show a balance in favour of the Society of £5,027 3s. 11d., an increase of more than £600 over the figures for last year. The special effort initiated by the President resulted in an increased amount from outside sources, and the "Odd Volume" again substantially helped the Society's funds. The membership in the General Division is now returned at 856, an increase of seven over last year, while in the Insurance Division the membership is now 1,541, a decrease of 30, due in some cases to members having reached the high limit of income, and in others, chiefly among women, to loss of employment during the war. As regards the General Division the Committee would like the increase to have been larger, and urge members to induce their friends and colleagues in the trade to join. Since the foundation of the Society, nineteen applications for relief have been received and granted in the

General Division, one for permanent aid, fourteen for temporary assistance, and four towards funeral expenses, while several members have obtained free medical advice. In the Insurance Division the amount expended in sick pay is well within the amount estimated by the Government actuaries, being only 33 per cent. in the case of men, and 50 per cent. in the case of women, of the sum credited to the Division on members' insurance cards. Maternity benefit was paid in fifty-six cases, making a total of one hundred and three payments under this head since the Act was passed. The Committee decided that it was inexpedient, owing to the war, to hold the proposed festival dinner, but they hope to be able to hold it later when circumstances are more favourable. Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P., we may remind our readers, will afterwards address the members and their friends, and his subject will be "Every Man to his Trade," and we feel sure that those connected with the book trade will muster in good numbers to hear what Sir Gilbert has to say to them.

Mr. John Lane announces that owing to the very large number of advance orders received for the new Lucas and Morrow book, "In Gentlest Germany," he has found it necessary to go to press with a second edition at once, and has decided to postpone publication until the 18th inst. He has just published "The Jealous Goddess," by Madge Mears, a new author.

The Library in the Sydney Collection at Frognal, Chislehurst, Kent, which is to be sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank, & Rutley on June 14th to 17th next, contains many unusually important items. It includes many important holograph letters of the King and the Cabinet on American affairs. It is exceptionally rich in Tracts on America, and the remarkable Fourteenth Century *Horæ*, which appears to have been bound up in the reign of Henry VIII., contains considerable details of the Family Pedigree. Thomas Townsend, the first Earl Sydney, was leader of the House of Commons in 1783, and his cousin Charles Townsend was the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whose Stamp Act brought about the American Revolution.

We have received from the Cercle de l'Imprimerie et de la Librairie (the Publishers' Association of France) 117, Boulevard Saint Germain, Paris, the "Table Alphabetique de la Bibliographie de la France Anné 1914," the Alphabetical list of books published in France during last year. In spite of the war it extends to over 230 pages, and will be found as indispensable as ever by all those who deal in French Literature.

The Letters of an Englishman.—These letters, as they appeared anonymously in the *Daily Mail*, aroused some attention, and some three years ago were published in book form in two volumes by Messrs. Constable & Co., with no author's name on the title-page. They are now reissued, and Mr. Charles Whibley acknowledges the authorship. Mr. Whibley has already made for himself some reputation as a journalist and essayist, and the knowledge that these books are from his pen will no doubt ensure for them a still wider circulation. The essays here contained "treat," as Mr. Whibley tells us in a characteristic preface, "of many subjects," but he hopes that "they possess that unity which comes from a settled purpose and a consistent point of view . . . the Toryism not of politics but of life and letters."

Messrs. Hodgson's sale on May 6th included the following:—Cauvel, *Recueil d'Ornemens*, 1777, £60 (Quaritch); Horace Walpole's copy of *Hortus Palatinus*, by S. de Caus, 1620, with inscription by Carlyle, £15 (Wesley); Beaumont and Fletcher's Plays, 1647, £21 (Hatchards); Linschoten's *Voyages*, 1598, £39 10s. (Edwards); Bacon's *Essays*, 1625, £11 (Dobell); Browne's *Hydriothaphia*, 1658, £5 5s. (Spencer); a collection of 17th century quarto Tracts on Trade, Banking, Coin, &c. (60), £144; *The Naval Chronicle*, 1799-1818, £9 15s. (Halliday); White's *Selborne*, first edition, morocco extra, £25; Malton's *Dublin*, coloured copy, 1792, £8 2s. 6d. (G. H. Brown); Angas' *South Australia Illustrated*, 1847, £5 12s. 6d. (Edwards); Shelley's *Cenci*, first edition, handsomely bound in inlaid morocco, 1819, £34 (Maggs); Tennyson's *Poems* by Two Brothers, 1827, £12 10s. (Maggs); Fitzgerald's *Omar Khayyam*, 1868, £8 8s. (Potter); and the rare Madras edition of 1862, £14 10s. (Quaritch); Meredith's *Modern Love*, 1862, £5 5s. (Spencer); Stevenson's *Child's Garden of Verses*, 1885, £5 5s. (Spencer); Conrad's *Nigger of the Narcissus* and *Tales of Unrest*, 1898, £4 15s.; Morris' *Sundering Flood*, vellum copy, Kelmscott Press, 1898, £9 5s. (Jones & Evans); More's *Utopia*, bound at the Doves Bindery, 1893, £13. *The MS. Journal*, by Thomas Gray, sold for £33, and an autograph letter from George Meredith to Mr. George Moore realised £9 17s. 6d. (Heffer). The total for the day's sale was £965, which was regarded as a very satisfactory one. As some indication of prices as compared with those of a year ago, it may be said that the above-mentioned copy of "Poems by Two Brothers" was included by Messrs. Hodgson in their sale of May 12th, 1914, when precisely the same amount was bid for it as the sum now realised.

To his "Living Masters of Music" Series Mr. John Lane has just added a useful volume on *Granville Bantock*, by Mr. H. Orsmond Anderton, which will give the musical reader a very fair idea of the man and his work. After an introductory chapter, which sketches the main conditions of the musical world at the time that Mr. Bantock commenced the serious study of music, Mr. Anderton describes his work at the Royal Academy of Music, the difficulties he found in procuring congenial artistic employment, until he became, early in 1900, Principal of the newly-established Midland Institute School of Music at Birmingham. Here he has consolidated his reputation as a musical composer, and Mr. Anderton closes with a chapter on personal matters and traits, which is exceedingly interesting. Both as a biography of a notable personality and as an appreciation of really artistic musical work, the little volume is exceedingly useful, and the list of the composer's works, which occupies over eight pages, provides a very helpful appendix.

The new issue of "Printers' Pie," which has just appeared, fully maintains, both as regards its literary and artistic contents, the high standard to which the reading public are now accustomed. The list of contributors includes as usual many names in the front rank both of art and literature. Its financial success is already assured, as the whole edition has been sold out through the ordinary channels, and the editor, Mr. Hugh Spottiswoode, makes the suggestion that purchasers when they have read it through might

usefully forward the copy to someone on Active Service, or to a Camp, a Hospital, or Convalescent Home.

The British Industries Fair, 1915, which has been organised by the Board of Trade, was opened at the Royal Agricultural Hall, on Monday. It is confined to British manufactures in Toys and Games, Earthenware, China and Glass, Fancy Goods, Cutlery, Silver and Electro Plate, Clocks, Jewellery, Stationery and Printing. It is with the last of these that we are particularly concerned, and we rather regret that the book and publishing trades are very inadequately represented. Very few of the leading publishers have taken stands. Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, Harrison & Sons, Headley Brothers, Kelly's Directories, Ltd., the Medici Society, Ltd., the Oxford University Press, L. Upcott Gill & Son, Dean & Son, G. W. Bacon & Co., George Philip & Son were our only representatives, though there were many well-known printers, illustrators, and stationers. The Oxford University Press showed many examples of its well-known work, reproductions of ancient and Oriental manuscripts, early printed books, drawings, &c., of the First Folio Shakespeare, the Coptic Apocrypha in the dialect of Upper Egypt. There were also numerous books printed in Russian, Turkish, Arabic, Sanscrit, Hebrew, Syriac, Coptic, Tamil, Burmese, Japanese, the series of Chinese Classics, and Grammars in different languages. The Bibles, Prayer Books, and Standard Poets, printed on the famous Oxford India Paper, naturally attracted attention, and the exhibit was altogether very noticeable. The wonderful Toy Books, particularly the Rag Books, for which Messrs. Dean & Son are so well known, made a very striking exhibit, and the Toys and Games they showed in the Toys and Games Gallery were of almost equal importance. The numerous handbooks and manuals, together with excellent samples of their skill in the printing craft, shown on the stand of Messrs. Upcott Gill & Son deserve special notice, and the maps and other geographical specialities of Messrs. George Philip & Son. and Messrs. G. W. Bacon & Co. fully justified the high standing they have so long enjoyed in the trade. The Diaries and other publications of Messrs. John Walker & Co. made up a large and very attractive exhibit, and admirably illustrated the multifarious and comprehensive scale on which the business of that eminent firm is carried on. The reproductions of famous paintings, for which the Medici Society are so well known, the characteristic Directories published by Kelly's Directories, Ltd., need no commendation, while the books printed and published by Messrs. Headley Brothers, of Ashford, Kent, and 140, Bishopsgate, attracted much attention.

Messrs. Constable & Co.'s "New Poetry Series," which they are just commencing, opens with "The Cloister," a Play by Emile Verhaeren; it will be followed by "Interflow," by Geoffrey Faber, a volume of lyrics by a new author; "Some Imagist Poets," an anthology of unpublished poems; "Irradiations," by John Gould Fletcher; "Japanese Lyrics" collected from the works of Lafcadio Hearn.

The S.P.C.K. have issued a new List of their Announcements and New Books, which contains many items of importance to those interested in religious, missionary, and other works.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—As you have no doubt noticed, there has been some difference of opinion among the reviewers of the English edition of Dr. Sven Hedin's book as to whether any British publisher was justified in standing sponsor for such a work in this country. In the explanatory note with which he prefaced the volume, Mr. John Lane himself made reference to the fact that his action in undertaking to issue it had already been "publicly criticised"; and that action has by no means been unanimously endorsed by those who have reviewed the book since its issue from the Bodley Head. No doubt the high distinction long enjoyed by the author, and the fact that, though an obsequious champion and apologist of the Huns, he is himself a subject of a neutral State, are points which go some way to vindicate the course adopted by Mr. Lane in this particular instance. But I have an idea that it will be well for our publishers in general to be a little less ready in the future than some of them have been in the immediate past to produce English versions of works written either by Germans or pro-Germans for the purpose of glorifying the infamous and degraded race which has now placed itself definitely outside the pale of civilisation.

No one can accuse us English of being a thin-skinned people; but there will certainly be resentment if our native publishers persist in helping the circulation of books by German writers, or by the jackals of Germany in other countries, which beslayer with adulation the authors of the unspeakable crimes that have made the very word "German" an abomination to the whole civilised world. We have already had enough, and more than enough, of the translated literature of the criminal lunatics—Nietzsche, von Treitschke, von Bernhardt, and the rest—whose teachings have materialised in the devilish practices of "frightfulness"; and we shall assuredly not thank our publishers if they continue to foist upon us further garbage from similar sources after all that has happened of late. Not only England, but every other self-respecting nation, will feel it a solemn duty to ban everything German for many a long year to come; and there is certainly little enough in present-day German literature to prompt the faintest desire to make it an exception.

Among the many notable victims of the bestial savages who sank the *Lusitania*, we have to lament the loss of Mr. Justus Miles Forman, whose admirable work in imaginative fiction was equally appreciated on both sides of the Atlantic. It was his fine romantic novel, "The Garden of Lies"—subsequently dramatised by him in conjunction with the late Sydney Grundy—which established Mr. Forman's popularity with the English public, and his later books had as sure a welcome here as in his own country. He was also one of the cleverest short-story writers of the day, and his name was an unflinching attraction to readers of leading fiction magazines, English as well as American. Like not a few other successful men, he only took up the work by which his fame was achieved after having served an apprenticeship to another calling; for he originally "saw himself" as an artist, and studied painting in Paris for a couple of years under Bouguereau and other masters. As soon as he began to write, however, he discovered that the pen and not the brush was his true medium of expression, and his position as a popular novelist was rapidly secured. He was only in his fortieth year when his career was cut short by the tragedy of last week, so that much more good work might have been expected from him had he not been foully murdered, with so many hundreds of others, by the *kultur*-ed enemies of the human race.

Our American cousins, by the way, will hardly be in a mood just now, one would think, to be impressed by the maundering "philosophy" of Mr. Norman

Angell, who is understood to be at present engaged on a lecturing tour in their country. As the events of the last nine months have taught us, no more mischievous book has been published within living memory than "The Great Illusion," the whole end and purport of which was to lull the British public into false security by persuading them that the day of great wars was over and done with, simply because great wars do not "pay." Was it not an amazing thing that any importance should have been attached at the time to the babblings of this blind and foolish pedant, whom any intelligent schoolboy could have told that, when the passions and antagonisms of men and nations are either justly or unjustly aroused, the question of peace or war is not, and never can be, determined merely by cold calculations of pounds, shillings, and pence? Perhaps the author of "The Great Illusion" will endeavour to explain to his American audiences how his beautiful theories square with the existence of a great European nation possessed of the mad ambitions and the fiendish psychology of the modern Huns—and we may wish him joy of the attempt. There should be no further market anywhere for his discredited rubbish.

If we were living under normal conditions, a good deal more attention would no doubt have been attracted by Professor Wallace's discovery, announced last week in an article in the *Times*, that there were several other "William Shakespeares" who were contemporaries and neighbours of the poet, whose biographers have been misled by the fact in some important particulars. It seems, for example, that the William Shakespeare—or Shexpere—who carried on business as a maltster and brewer at Stratford, was, after all, not the Immortal Bard, but another person altogether. Furthermore, there were several other William Shakespeares who lived at Rowington, a village only a few miles distant from Stratford, and bearing the name of that "Manor of Rowington" under which the poet himself had the copyhold of a cottage in his native town. It is just as well, of course, that the mistakes to which these coincidences very naturally gave rise should be corrected, and that our national poet should be disentangled, as far as possible, from the various namesakes whose careers have been more or less confused by tradition with his own. But the worst of Professor Wallace's revelation is that it leaves us face to face with the inevitable conclusion that we know even less about the life and personality of *the* Shakespeare than we thought we did. One wonders whether the Baconians will attempt to make any use of this discovery, or whether they will have the grace to admit the possibility that their "drunken and illiterate clown" may have been the wrong William Shakespeare after all?

"Why do people write poetry?" was the interesting conundrum which served as the heading to a letter in an evening paper the other day. One felt inclined to answer that "people" *don't* write poetry—only poets do; but on reading the letter thus headed, I found its author maintaining that people fall to writing poetry in times of emotional stress simply because they cannot help it. They "do but write because they must, and pipe but as the linnets sing," in fact. That is all very well, no doubt, as an explanation of their peculiar and distressing malady; but when the result is promiscuously labelled "poetry," it seems to be time to enter a mild protest. A hugely-circulated newspaper ought not to encourage the desecration of the word by applying it at random to any and every variety of doggerel. Besides, if "people" are told that any kind of stuff in rhymed or unrhymed metre that they may be moved to perpetrate in moments of excitement is "poetry," who knows but that they may even begin to think about publishing it?

Irony has surely made its masterpiece in the title of a new work announced by the firm of Hutchinson. The book is called "The Soul of Germany."

May 14.

JACOB OMNIUM.

The following Maxims of a Commercial Traveller, which we reprint from a contemporary, make some pertinent points and seem worthy of some attention:—

I believe in the goods I sell. If I did not, I should leave the firm. You can't sell successfully what you haven't faith in.

I don't take long week-ends. Monday morning is a good time for business.

I have a theory that the total of orders has a direct relation to the number of customers called on—the unlikely as well as the likely. It works.

I used to shirk the difficult prospects—leave them to the last. Now I tackle them first. It gives one confidence. Cheerful confidence is a big asset in selling.

"Manner makyth man." It also makyth friends. Someone said that we make money out of our friends; our enemies won't do business with us.

Manner depends on little things. To enter the office of a man you don't know with outstretched hand is liable to offend his sense of what's proper. He usually prefers to shake hands first.

Some travellers try to make sales over the 'phone with people they don't know. It sounds as if it would save time. It is more likely to produce resentment. It is forcing an interview on a busy man. Human nature resents being forced.

I make a point of not outstaying my welcome. Some business men like to talk on—I stay and listen. Others want you to conclude your business and then get out—I get out. It is well to watch for the little signs.

There are travellers who are proud of having sold a customer more than he can comfortably dispose of. I consider it poor policy. Goods are not really sold until they are in the hands of the consumer.

I don't run down rival firms. It would sound as if I were afraid of competition.

Above all, I know my goods. I have been through the factories where they are made. I know what they are good for, and why. That's more than selling points—it's service.

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. CHAPMAN & HALL announce "Plain Jill," by Miss Mary L. Pendered; also a revised and largely rewritten new edition of Professor L. T. Hobhouse's "Morals in Evolution."

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS announce for immediate publication, "Songs to Save a Soul," by Irene Rutherford McLeod. It is claimed for these poems that, besides their literary distinction, they offer a curiously candid revelation of the spirit of modern youth.

MESSRS. CONSTABLE & Co. have nearly ready a new and enlarged edition of "Affirmations," literary Essays by Havelock Ellis, which has long been out of print; a new work on the Financial Operations of the War both in the City and at Westminster, by Mr. W. R. Lawson, author of "Modern Wars and War Taxes"; also "Are We Ready?" by Mr. H. P. Wheller, a study of America's preparedness, or rather unpreparedness, for war.

MESSRS. J. M. DENT & SONS will publish at once a new translation in English verse, by Judson F. Davidson, of the Greek lyrics, usually collected under the title "Anacreontea." It will also contain some additional Poems in the style of Anacreon, together with an essay on Anacreontic Literature, and Notes; also "Fate and Free Will," by A. Sorabjee N. Wadia, tracing the problem from the earliest times to our own period.

MESSRS. GRAFTON & Co., Coptic House, 8, Coptic Street, Bloomsbury, W.C., announce "The Log Books of the Lady Nelson," by Miss Ida Lee (Mrs. Charles Bruce Marriott), F.R.G.S.; also the second volume of "Books on the Great War," the first volume of which is already in its second edition.

MR. HEINEMANN has in preparation a new book by Mr. F. A. Talbot, entitled "Aeroplanes and Dirigibles of War."

MESSRS. HURST & BLACKETT announce "Shadow of Flames," a new story by the Princess Troubetzkoy, author of the successful novel "World's End."

MESSRS. JOHN LONG will shortly publish a new novel, entitled "The Courts of Love," by Farren Le Breton, author of "Fruits of Pleasure"; also "Three Summers," by Victor L. Whitechurch, author of "The Canon in Residence."

MESSRS. SAMPSON LOW, MARSTON, & Co. announce a new novel, "A Girl of the Blue Ridge," by Payne Erskine, author of "The Mountain Girl."

MESSRS. MILLS & BOON have nearly ready "New Russia," by Mr. Alan Lethbridge.

MESSRS. C. ARTHUR PEARSON, LTD., are adding immediately to their Sixpenny Series of Novels Miss Beatrice Grimshaw's story of the South Seas, "Vaiti of the Islands," also Mr. Hornung's sensational novel, "The Camera Fiend"; they will also publish at once "Smithy and the Hun," by Edgar Wallace.

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS will publish immediately "America Fallen, the Sequel to the European War," by J. Bernard Walker. How the great Sandy Hook Forts are captured from the rear, while the German Fleet keeps guard in Lower Bay. Washington is also invested and falls. A German officer visits New York's City Hall and demands 5,000,000 dollars, while the German troops hold the Treasury Department; "In the Oregon Country," by Mr. George Palmer Putnam; "The Tuberculosis Nurse," by Ellen La Motte; and "The Genetic Theory of Reality," by Mr. James Mark Baldwin, Ph.D.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & Co. will publish next week "The Irish Nuns at Ypres: An Episode of the War," edited by Mr. R. Barry O'Brien; "The Spirit of England," by Rt. Hon. G. W. E. Russell, articles contributed to the "Daily News," together with much additional material.

THE S.P.C.K. will publish shortly "Christus Consolator," a Book for Hearts in Trouble, by the Right Rev. H. C. G. Moule, D.D., Bishop of Durham.

Correspondence.

BOOKSELLERS' ASSISTANTS.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

DEAR SIR,—Your issue of the 10th inst. is before me. I have read with interest letters appearing on "Booksellers' Assistants." There is such a need for more intelligent help along that line the world over. As a former bookseller I have knowledge that, taken as a class, they are no worse than salesmen or salesladies in other lines; whether or not remuneration is insufficient can hardly be advanced as an excuse. I would suggest that in every well-regulated bookshop there should be a corner where catalogues, trade journals, &c., should be kept accessible to customers and clerks, also a suggestion or want book. The assistants should be encouraged to read all reviews of new books so as to be familiar with what is coming from the press each week or month. I am reminded of a story which illustrates good salesmanship: "A lady entered A. C. McClurg's bookstore in Chicago, and had evidently enjoyed the book entitled 'The Indiscretion of the Duchess,' and asked for its sequel. The clerk handed her a copy of 'The Heavenly Twins,' by Sarah Grand." Quite recently, while in a bookstore, I noticed a large quantity of "Annals of the Parish," by John Galt, and was told they were stock overstocked. Before leaving the store, by simply reading aloud one of the stories in that excellent work, three copies were sold, and in a very few days they were sold out; it is sometimes well to give in addition to salary a small commission on sales.—Yours faithfully,
W. DRYSDALE.

20, "The Grosvenor,"
756, Sherbrooke Street West,
Montreal.

April 26, 1915.

Notices of Books.

A Beacon for the Blind: Being a Life of Henry Fawcett, the Blind Postmaster-General. By Winifred Holt. With a Foreword by the Rt. Hon. Viscount Bryce. (Constable & Co.)—During the last year or two special efforts have been made to arouse interest in efforts for the benefit of the blind, we are glad to know with considerable success. There can be no doubt that the publication of this popular life of the late Professor Fawcett, perhaps the best example of the triumph of self-reliance and strength of purpose over the calamity of blindness, will very materially help the endeavour. Miss Winifred Holt, who is well known for her work in the help of the blind, has here endeavoured to throw a personal light on the heroic figure of Fawcett, to show his intense love of fun, his high ideals and bravery, his tremendous industry and accomplishments. She admits that she made large use of Sir Leslie Stephens' well-known biography, as his arrangement of the facts provides the simplest and most logical framework for the story. At the same time her book has a good deal of independent value. She describes with force and vigour the salient events in the life and career of her hero—his political and electioneering experiences, his life and work at Cambridge as an undergraduate, a fellow, and a professor. His work and position in Parliament, where he did so much to save the people's playgrounds in Epping Forest and elsewhere, to direct the attention of Parliament to the great problems of India, and his wonderful administration of the Post Office—all these points are fully and effectively dealt with. All through the book Miss Holt always keeps well to the front his indomitable persistence and determination, his always independent standpoint, and the marvellous way in which he set himself to win success in spite of his affliction. As Lord Bryce remarks in his appreciative Foreword, that he should have triumphed over a calamity which would have overwhelmed almost any other man by his cheerful and persistent courage, marks him out as an extraordinary man worthy to be long remembered.

Juliette Drouet's Love-Letters to Victor Hugo. Edited, with a Biography of Juliette Drouet, by Louis Guimbaud. Translated by Lady Theodora Davidson. (Stanley Paul & Co.) The selection and editing of some twenty thousand letters, for that is the number which Mr. Louis Koch, the executor of Juliette Drouet, had in his possession when he died some three years since, is a gigantic task, and demands no ordinary skill and ability on the part of the editor. And particularly because they are not ordinary letters; they are rather notes, or "scribbles," as Juliette herself calls them, written to Hugo in response to his injunction "write to me, write me everything that comes into your head, everything that causes your heart to beat." That Hugo, at any rate, valued them, seems evident from a letter of his in which he says "Your letters, my Juliette, constitute my treasure, my casket of jewels, my riches! In them our joint lives are recorded day by day, thought by thought. All that you dreamed lies there, all that you suffered. They are charming mirrors, each one of which reflects a fresh aspect of your lovely soul." We are not sure that the ordinary reader will be quite so enthusiastic, but we need not read very far to see that the editor has chosen with excellent judgment, and that those which he has published are certainly eloquent, witty, and, on occasions, lyrical. The preceding part of the volume, the biography of the writer, forms a useful and convenient introduction, and tells the tale of the curious relationships between the poet and his worshipper. The story is not altogether satisfactory. We learn how the poet, who was always a much greater man in his own estimation than in reality, captivated, almost hypnotised, a suc-

cessful actress, made her his mistress, his cook, his maid servant, and somehow kept her in obedient subjection to him until she died. The strange part of the business is her entire devotion to him, for in the very beginning she says "I am good for nothing but to love you." Wherever they were together, whether in Paris or in exile in Brussels, or Jersey, or Guernsey, it was always the same, while his wife was living and after her death. All the time she contentedly kept herself in the background quite satisfied with her self-sacrifice, which, she found, more than love or caresses, brings satisfaction to the heart. However this may be, we can readily congratulate M. Guimbaud on making an excellent book out of the vast mass of material at his disposal, while Lady Theodora Davidson has given us an exceedingly easy and pleasant translation. Over thirty illustrations in half-tone add to the value and attractiveness of the volume, which is sure to find a hearty welcome among all those who admire the work and reputation of this famous Frenchman.

The Sword of Youth. By James Lane Allen. (Macmillan & Co.)—The dedication of the English edition of Mr. Allen's latest story, "a remembrance of the soldier youth of the American Civil War to the soldier youth of England in this war of theirs," gives the book a special interest and value to the English reader of to-day. Mr. Allen once more lays the main scene of his tale in that Kentucky where he has already shown himself so thoroughly at home, and his portraits of Kentucky people during the war are as vivid and realistic as ever. The determination of Joe Sumner to go and fight with his fellow-countrymen against the common foe gives him a heroic greatness which many a young Englishman might well envy and emulate. The force of character which allows him to go back to his mother's death-bed, and in so doing to run the risk of a deserter's death, shows a greatness of soul and a bold courage which are not often equalled. The figures of his mother, of the girl he loved, Lucy Morehead, are drawn in Mr. Allen's very best manner, and they stand out in clear and lifelike outline. The concluding scene, when General Lee, the famous leader of the South, recognises the courage and high principle which compelled Sumner to risk his life and reputation to obey his mother's call, is most effectively conceived, and the whole book, though as a story it is slight, as a piece of vigorous and impressive character study will, no doubt, take its place in the very front rank of present-day American fiction.

Time o' Day. By D. Egerton Jones. With a Frontispiece by J. Dewar Mills. (Cassell & Co.)—With her previous book, "Peter Piper," Miss Egerton Jones scored a distinct success, and unless we are very much mistaken her second effort will find an equally favourable reception from the novel reading public. The O'Deas are a family in Australia, the father is a member of the Federal Parliament. Thyme O'Dea, the heroine, is a lively vivacious girl, quite ready for a flirtation and just about the marrying age, "who has got to get married soon, and that's a fact." In the second chapter she meets "rather a nice man—really awfully nice," named Bob Gale, and the experienced novel reader speedily makes a pretty shrewd guess that before the end of the tale Thyme O'Dea will change her name and become Mrs. Bob Gale. How this comes about, how there are mistakes and misunderstandings which at times threaten to be serious, is very skilfully told, and while the main thread of the story is never lost the intervening incidents and episodes are admirably handled. The characterisation throughout is acute and vigorous, and the attention and interest of the reader in the fortunes of the principal persons in the tale are fully kept up to the very end.

Publications of the Week.

Religion and Theology.

- ADAMS (W. Phythian-) Mithraism. (Religions Ancient and Modern.) Cr. 8vo, pp. 108. *Constable* net 1/
- BAPTIST Movement in the Continent of Europe. A Contribution to Modern History. Edited by the Rev. J. H. Rushbrooke. 12mo, pp. 150. *Carey Press* net 2/6
- CODEX Alexandrinus (The) (Royal MS., I. D. v-viii.) In reduced photographic facsimile. Old Testament. Part 1, Genesis-Ruth. 1915. 4to, portfolio. *H. Milford* net 35/
- COLLINGHAM (J. Hay) Eighteenth Century Nonconformity. Cr. 8vo, pp. 152. *Longmans* net 2/6
- CRAFER (T. W.) Soldiers of Holy Writ: Their Lessons for the Present War of the Nations, and for the Ever Present Warfare of the Soul. Cr. 8vo, pp. 116. *Skeffington* net 2/
- FULLERTON (Rev. W. Y.) Christ in Africa. (Carey Lecture 6.) 12mo, pp. 32. *Carey Press* net 3d
- HOMER (J. Lionel) Spiritual Fundamentals: A Message for the 20th Century. Cr. 8vo, pp. 154. *E. Stock* net 3/
- JONES (R.) The Other Side of Death. Cr. 8vo, pp. 104. *I. Pitman* net 2/
- KNOX (R. A. H.) Mary in the XXXIX Article. (York Books, XIV. Continuity Trials.) Cr. 8vo. *Society of SS. Peter and Paul*.
- MURRAY (Marr) Bible Prophecies and the Plain Man. With Special Reference to the Present War. 8vo, pp. 336. *Hodder & S.* net 6/
- NICHOLS (Rev. J. B.) The Christian Law of Love and Resistance to Wrong. Preached at West Ealing Congregational Church, April 11. Cr. 8vo, swd. *Author*.
- WILBERFORCE (Basil) The Battle of the Lord. Cr. 8vo, pp. 186. *E. Stock* net 3/
- WITTY (S. W. W.) Converts through Medical Work. 12mo, pp. 60. *Church Miss. Society* net 6d
- YOUNGHUSBAND (Sir Francis) Mutual Influence. A Re-View of Religion. Cr. 8vo, pp. 158. *Williams*. net 3/

Annals and Serials.

- CROCKFORD'S Clerical List, 1915. Royal 8vo, pp. clxvi.—2,098. *H. Cox* 20/
- FREE Church Year Book, 1915. Cr. 8vo, pp. xviii.—364. *Nat. Council Evangelical Free Churches*.
- GIBBONS (Stanley) Priced Catalogue of Stamps of Foreign Countries, 1915. Cr. 8vo. *S. Gibbons* net 2/6
- REPORT on the Progress and Condition of the United States National Museum for the Year ending June 30, 1914. 8vo, pp. 252. *Government Printing Office* (Washington).
- ROYAL Blue Book Court and Parliamentary Guide, May, 1915. Royal 16mo. *Kelly's Directories* net 5/
- WEBSTER'S Royal Red Book, May, 1915. Royal 16mo. *Webster* net 5/
- WOOL Year Book and Diary (The), 1915. 12mo, leather. *Marsden* net 2/6

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Practical Pathology. By I. L. Steven, M.D. 1887 ed.
Practice of Medicine. By Dr. Barlow. 2nd ed.
Dental Anæsthesia. Painless Tooth Extraction by Conglotion. By R. J. Qinton. 4th ed.
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Trade and Literary Gossip.

The Annual Meeting of the Associated Booksellers was necessarily held this year under very exceptional circumstances, and the decision to make no change in the honorary officers and council is certainly wise. Mr. Keay's address to the members was mainly concerned with a review of the effect which the war has had on the trade generally, and it is pleasant to know that the inevitable set-back was less than had been anticipated, and that the Christmas trade was, under all the conditions, comparatively satisfactory. It is also of further hopeful augury that he was able to say that the Publishers' Association, though it had been unable to agree to the proposed Joint Committee, had taken a step forward in the desired direction. For certainly the fact that it is willing for a special Sub-Committee of the Publishers to meet a special Sub-Committee of the Booksellers to discuss matters of common interest is a distinct improvement on the policy of *non possumus* hitherto maintained. It at least opens the door for further progress. Another matter of essential importance to the trade—the need of a recognised definition of a bookseller—was also indirectly raised in Mr. Keay's address, and we may hope that before very long the two Sub-Committees will take it into careful consideration. If they can arrive at some definite conclusion on a point the importance of which to the retail bookseller can hardly be over-estimated, one very effective reform in the conditions of the trade will have been accomplished.

The Publishers' Circle.—At the Annual General Meeting, held on May 13th, at the Waldorf Hotel, London, the following officers were elected for the present year:—Chairman: Mr. Geoffrey Williams (Williams & Norgate); Vice-Chairman: Mr. H. S. Milford (Oxford University Press); Hon. Treasurer: Mr. William Longman (Longmans, Green & Co.); Hon. Secretary: Mr. F. J. H. Darton (Wells Gardner, Darton & Co.); Committee: Messrs. F. G. Green (Dean & Son, Ltd.), Gerald Duckworth (Duckworth & Co.), William Meredith (Constable & Co., Ltd.).

The late Mr. Robert Dickie, wholesale bookseller, the Glasgow manager and a director of the firm of Messrs. John Menzies & Co., Ltd., wholesale booksellers, stationers, newsagents, and publishers, has left personal estate of the total value of £2,466.

Hampstead.—The stationery and fancy goods business of Mr. C. C. Greenwood, 10, Heath Street, has been purchased by Mr. Frederick William Carver. Messrs. Holmes & Son, valuers, 33, Paternoster Row, E.C., sold the business, and acted on behalf of both parties in the transfer.

The Year Book Press, 31, Museum Street, London, have been appointed by the Teachers' Registration Council as publishers of the first "Official List of Registered Teachers," which will be issued as soon as arrangements have been completed.

For King and Country.—The following has been received since our last list:—

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MESSRS. JOHN LONG, LTD.—Arthur B. Kent, R.F.A. (Territorial); Wm. Herbert, R.M.L.I.; Walter A. Medler, Royal Flying Corps; Albert J. W. Laslett, Legion of Frontiersmen.

MESSRS. W. H. SMITH & SON. (Thirty-sixth List, received too late for insertion last week.)—Lounds, W., A.S.C.; Bannister, G. W., A.O.C.; Badoock, H., Herts Co. Territorials; Spilsbury, W., R.F.A.; Goode, W. F., 3rd Gloucester; Angus, B. J., 9th Co. of London (Queen Victoria's Rifles); Gray, A., 23rd Co. of London; Arrowsmith, A., Scott, R. H., 7th Middlesex (T.); Churcher, J., R.N.; Jones, E. T., Proctor, J., 3rd Co. of London Yeomanry; Myatt, J., 17th Leicestershire; Hood, T., King's Royal Rifles; Thomas, W., R.G.A.; Witham, W. S., Bartlett, A. H., Flying Corps; Laurence, E. A., A.S.C.

MESSRS. W. H. SMITH & SON (Thirty-seventh List).—J. R. Challis, 3rd Co. of London Yeomanry; J. Lewis, 1st Surrey Rifles; H. Sawyer, Oxford Light Infantry; P. Emerick, Westminster Dragoons; H. A. Hales, 6th Batt. City of London Rifles; C. H. Chambers, A.O.C.; A. E. V. Phillips, A.S.C.; P. S. Inkson, A.S.C.; C. Chesterman, King's Royal Rifles; W. Johnson, 6th City of London Rifles; L. Wright, 13th Brigade R.F.A.; R. C. Thompson, 6th City of London Rifles; F. Burden, Westminster Dragoons; W. Wood, 6th City of London Rifles; C. F. Usley, R.F.A.; A. Shuard, 3rd Co. of London Yeomanry; H. Whiddett, 23rd Co. of London (T.F.); H. Mead, 20th Co. of London (T.F.); A. Pellew, R.G.A.; G. Griffin, 8th Worcester; L. Kirk, A.S.C.; S. H. Morgan, 3rd Dorset; S. Leppard, 1st Sportsman's Batt. Royal Fusiliers.

The Stationers' Association.—The Annual General Meeting was held in the Grand Salon at the British Industries Fair, on Monday last. Mr. Barringer, Chairman of the Council, presided, and was supported by the honorary officers and members. A large number of representative traders attended from all parts of the Kingdom, and listened to the Report with marked interest. The whole proceedings were of a very hearty and gratifying nature, and the Chairman and Council were warmly congratulated on another year's admirable work for the interests of the Stationery Trade. This Association has now completed ten years of existence, and appears to be in a very strong and flourishing condition.

The issue of the "Yorkshire Herald" for the 18th was the 20,000th of that paper, which was first issued on Saturday, January 2nd, 1790, and was then delivered gratis. A facsimile reproduction, about two thirds size of the original, is issued as a supplement.

Her Majesty Queen Mary has accepted a copy of Elizabeth Blackwell's book, "Pioneer Work for Women," with an introduction by Mrs. Fawcett, which has been published in the "Everyman's Library."

Mr. A. M. Burghes, who for many years was a well-known figure in the trade, has, we are sorry to hear, fallen upon evil days, and hopes that some of his many old friends may be disposed to help him, as he is now in his seventy-sixth year. Any donations may be sent to THE BOOKSELLER office, and will be passed on to him at once as he is in urgent need of assistance.

The Queen has recently placed an order for a complete set of "Rita's" books. "Rita" is the only woman-writer to whom such an honour has been paid in the present reign.

Dr. George Haven Putnam, the well-known American publisher, has been asked to sign a petition, which is evidently being circulated in large numbers by German agents. The petition is to be sent to the President of the United States, and asks the American Government to place an embargo on the export of all arms and ammunition as a retaliatory measure against the alleged discrimination by Great Britain in preventing non-contraband products of the United States being shipped to Germany. Dr. Putnam has returned the petition unsigned, at the same time stating his belief that a settlement can be secured only by the defeat of Germany and the bringing to a close of the attempt to control Europe under the militarism of Berlin. He believes that the proposed embargo would not only prolong the contest, but would be a direct infringement of neutrality. "All nations," he adds, "whether at war or at peace, are free to make purchases of munitions in the United States. It is not the responsibility of the United States Government or of its citizens that certain nations are, under the fortunes of war, prevented from securing the delivery of such munitions if purchased." Further, "the prohibition of the export of munitions would not restrict the power of Germany to utilise her submarines for the destruction of vessels of commerce and for the killing of unarmed citizens, women, and children. The 'cause of humanity and justice'—a quotation from the petition—cannot be furthered until the fighting power of the nation that carries on war in this fashion shall have been restricted."

From Australia we learn that the book trade there is returning to normal conditions; indeed, in some places it seems to be actually improving. In Brisbane, it is reported that business is about normal. The demand for war papers and literature has slackened, but sales in general literature have been better. In novels, some of the leading books have sold very well, and also King Albert's Book and Princess Mary's Book. In some cases the London agents did not send over nearly enough copies. In Hobart, business is reported as particularly good, even better than it was last year. War books are still in demand, but the vogue of war periodicals has fallen off. From Sydney, the reports are not quite so favourable.

Messrs. Stanley Paul & Co. inform us that although Miss Norma Lorimer's new novel, "On Desert Altars," was only published a few days since, a fourth edition has already been sent to press, and a ninth reprint of her previous tale, "A Wife out of Egypt," will shortly be ready.

Mr. John Galsworthy's new play, "The Full Moon," which is to be produced next Wednesday, will be published in book form on that day by Messrs. Duckworth & Co. in style uniform with his other plays.

Mr. W. Heinemann will shortly issue a new three-and-sixpenny edition of the novels of Gabriele d'Annunzio, the Italian poet and novelist, who is taking so prominent a position as the leader of the war party in Italy to-day.

Sir Owen Seaman has collected in a shilling brochure entitled "War-Time Verses," which Messrs. Constable & Co. have just published, the verses on the war which have appeared from time to time in *Punch* since last August. Sir Owen's position as a writer of topical and forcible verse is now so well established that no commendation of ours for anything he writes is needed, and we will content ourselves with advising every one who possesses a shilling to invest it in the purchase of this admirable little volume. The first verse or two of the first piece, "Pro Patria," may perhaps be quoted as a fair sample of the whole:—

"England, in this great fight to which you go,
Because, when Honour calls you, go you must,
Be glad whatever comes at least to know
You have your quarrel just.

Peace was your care; before the nations' bar
Her cause you pleaded, and her ends you sought;
But not for her sake, being what you are,
Could you be bribed and bought.

Others may spurn the pledge of land to land,
May with the brute sword stain a gallant past;
But by the seal to which you set your hand,
Thank God you still stand fast!"

Mr. Hilaire Belloc's new book, "The Two Maps of Europe," will be published immediately by Messrs. C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd. It will deal clearly and comprehensively with several different aspects of warfare, such as the development of fortifications, the relative value of numbers and supply in the strength of an army, the lessons to be derived from the war, the reliability of war news according to its source, and how to sift it, and a masterly reconstruction of the map of Europe from the point of view of Germany and of the Allies. It should be invaluable to all those who wish to follow the campaign with understanding.

Messrs. George Philip & Son, the well-known map publishers, have just issued an entirely new and enlarged edition of their well-known "Handy Volume Atlas of the World." It has been carefully revised up to date, and a useful War Supplement giving much helpful information as to the belligerent powers has been added. The Atlas is so well and so favourably known that any more detailed notice is quite unnecessary. The mere fact that this is the eleventh edition is ample testimony to the high reputation it so deservedly enjoys.

Mr. H. W. Peet, editor of "Sell's World's Press," has reprinted in separate form the useful "Bibliography of Journalism, a Guide to the Books about the Press and Pressmen," which appears in this year's edition of the "World's Press."

It is as well that the British people should realise clearly that the awful revelations of the Bryce Commission on the outrages committed by the Germans in Belgium are not the spontaneous acts of a disorganised soldiery, but the results of a determined policy instituted by the German General Staff as laid down in the "Kriegsbrauch im Landkriege," of which a translation has been made by Professor J. H. Morgan and published by Mr. Murray under the title of "The German War Book." This amazing volume shows clearly that prime responsibility for the burning and the mutilations, the rapes and other horrors which have stained and damned the name of Prussia for all time, rests on the heads of the Kaiser and his coadjutors.

The Parody on Sven Hedin's recent book, "With the German Armies in the West," by Messrs. E. V. Lucas and George Morrow, is sure to find a wide circulation. The witty humour and keen satire which Mr. Lucas can use so well and the characteristic illustrations of Mr. Morrow make an admirable combination. Mr. Lucas has made his many points with his usual ingenuity and skill, and Mr. Morrow's satirical drawings could hardly be bettered. We readily endorse Mr. John Lane's remark that the appearance of this forcible and entertaining brochure is more than sufficient justification for the publication in England of Sven Hedin's eulogy of his German friends.

Messrs. Constable & Co. are publishing in this country "The Audacious War: its Commercial Causes and Financial Aspects," by C. W. Barron, in which the author, an American financial journalist, sets down the impressions as to the financial and commercial factors in the war which he gathered during a special visit made by him to this country. In his view "the immediate causes of the war are connected with commercial treaties, protective tariffs, and financial progress. German 'Kultur,'" he points out, "means German progress commercially and financially. German progress is by tariffs and commercial treaties. Her armies, her arms, and her armaments are to support this 'Kultur' and this progress." Mr. Barron specially emphasises the fact that "the business of Germany was war from the beginning under Kaiser Wilhelm II., and that Germany was to be made great on land and sea by the sword of war hacking the way for German commerce, German tariffs, and German commercialism. . . . War for aggression, war for business, war for German expansion has been the scheme." The whole book is most illuminating and suggestive, particularly as the work of a keen American man of business, who has formed his opinions after careful enquiry among those who are best qualified to know the facts.

"**The New Bernhardt, or World Power or Downfall.**" is, after a fortnight's sale, out of print, in spite of the fact that Messrs. C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd., twice delayed the original date of its publication, in order to allow them to double their printing orders. A second large edition, however, is now in course of active preparation. It is also attracting deservedly widespread attention in the United States.

Messrs. J. M. Dent & Sons will shortly publish seven new volumes in the "Wayfarers' Library." They will include "The Black Watch," by L. Cope Cornford and F. W. Walker, the first volume of "The Story of the Regiments" Series, which gives the history, together with the story of great deeds, of this famous regiment, and contains a coloured frontispiece of the full dress of the regiment, with the badge and flag. The other volumes of this issue are "The Privateers," by H. B. Marriott Watson; "Demos," by George Gissing; "Her Son," by H. A. Vachell; "The Black Douglas," by S. R. Crockett; "In the Wake of King James," by Standish O'Grady; "Rosemary's Letter Book," by W. L. Courtney.

Mr. W. Le Queux's recent books, "German Spies in England" and "Britain's Deadly Peril," have proved very successful; the former is in its eighth edition and the latter in its sixth, and new editions of both are now at press.

Messrs. P. J. & A. E. Dobell, 77, Charing Cross Road, have just published "Sonnets and Lyrics: a little book of Verse on the Present War," by the late Mr. Bertram Dobell. His son, Mr. Percy Dobell, tells us in a foreword that in publishing the volume he is fulfilling the express wish of his father, who last October announced that "age having disqualified him from taking any active part in the war he had occupied himself with writing verses upon it. There could be no harm, he went on to say, in printing them; if they have the stuff of what Rossetti calls 'fundamental brain work' in them they will endure; if not, they will quietly become what Shakespeare's Ulysses calls 'alms for oblivion.'" All who read this characteristic volume will agree with Mr. Percy Dobell when he says that "these poems will interpret the public feeling of the time: they are couched in vigorous and forcible language, and will not be regarded as a negligible contribution to the literature of the war." Many of the pieces here collected certainly have the true poetic ring about them, and thoroughly merit the distinction of publication in permanent form. As a fair sample of the whole we may quote a few verses of the forceful poem entitled "The German Professor":—

"He conclusively proved
That the great German race
In battle array
Could the Universe face.
All his faith was in force—
As for conscience or law,
Other nations were welcome
To hold them in awe.
But the Superman's state
Need no treaties respect,
And all temples of honour
Must promptly reject.
And justice and light
Should be likewise disdained,
With a purpose to serve
And an end to be gained.
To attain it go boldly
And hack your way through;
Let those who oppose you
Their insolence rue."

Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co. have sent us an attractive tale entitled "We are French," by Perley Poore Sheehan and Robert H. Davis. Sir Gilbert Parker, in a short commendatory preface, testifies to its fascination and attraction. The characters are truthful, and there is a note of patriotism on every page which gives it a value of its own. It is "touching and eloquent and full of brave national spirit," and it will, we have no doubt, commend itself very heartily to the English novel-reading public.

Mr. John Richmond, of Conduit Street, W., has published a new reprint of Mrs. Irene Osgood's very successful novel "To a Nun Confessed," which has already passed through twenty editions. He has also just issued "The Great Snake Murder," by Mrs. L. Stanger, the wife of the London manager of the *Montreal Gazette*. It is her first novel, and is likely to attract much attention.

Messrs. William Rider & Son, Ltd., of 8-11, Paternoster Row, E.C., have just issued a useful complete list of their new publications during the present spring season. It gives particulars of several books of more than usual interest.

Some New War Books.—"The New Bernhardt," by General Friedrich von Bernhardt, which Messrs. Pearson have just published, is a work of special importance for several reasons. It is the only work he has written since the outbreak of the war; it gives his latest views on the campaign, and it shows a remarkable change of attitude when compared with the aggressive utterances of his previous book, "Germany and the Next War." It is further significant in that the Emperor William has given permission for its production, and that a large part of it appeared originally in the *New York American*, and was practically written with the hope of influencing American opinion. As Mr. Stanhope Sprigg pertinently points out in the Introduction, the present book "is valuable for the illumination it affords on the ferocious hatred which even representative Germans like von Bernhardt cherish against England, and on the glib facility with which even the most successful philosophers and soldiers like von Bernhardt will—at the bidding of their All Highest War Lord—eat their own words. The New Bernhardt is assuredly not an impressive figure . . . still it would be a mistake even to-day to underestimate the importance of this apologia or its writer." "The World Wide War," by Capt. A. Hilliard Atteridge, just issued by Messrs. G. Philip & Son, is an outline of the history of the Great War up to the end of the winter. It sets forth in untechnical language the resources of the two groups of Powers engaged in the struggle, and traces the course of events on land and sea in the first six months of the war. The story is well told, the record given is both graphic and accurate, and the maps and diagrams numerous and helpful. "Pan-Germanism," by Professor R. G. Usher, of Washington University, St. Louis, attracted wide attention when first published just two years ago; it is now reissued in a popular shilling edition by Messrs. Constable, and will no doubt find a still wider circle of interested readers. "Men, Women, and War," by Will Irwin, which Messrs. Constable have also published, is a collection of striking essays and sketches of the War by an American correspondent at the front. Mr. Irwin avows himself an adversary of war, but he holds that if the more civilised European nations fail, the end will be a worse thing than war. The chapters in which he describes the soul of France, discusses the cool imperturbability of the British, and tells in graphic and vigorous phrase the splendid story of Ypres are particularly good. It is a striking and effective book, which should find wide approbation.

The Garden City Press, Ltd., Letchworth, has just issued a useful little brochure "The German Danger," by Maxime Hébert, translated into English by J. S. Rathbone. The author, a Frenchman who knows his Germany, tells us that he has written it with the object of opening the eyes of the public, and emphasising to allies and neutrals alike the gravity of the German menace. In it he dwells specially upon the necessity for accuracy in firing, because this is, in his opinion, the first and elementary essential of victory. It is a little book which all should read with care and attention, for the writer emphasises the fact that the enemy is unfortunately stronger than is supposed.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—In the language of the small retail trader, forecasts of the future of literature as affected by the war "are cheap today." Prophecy may be, as the cynic has warned us, the most gratuitous form of error; but it is also, beyond doubt, one of the most fascinating of mental recreations. And so it is quite natural that there should be, at the present time, a large amount of more or less confident prediction as to the literary effects and consequences which the tremendous upheaval of "Armageddon" will be found to have produced in this country when peace is once more restored. You may have noticed, too, that the prophets in this connection tend to divide themselves into two opposed camps of optimists and pessimists, just as do those who concern themselves with the prospects of the war itself. The optimists are quite sure that the world-shaking experience through which we are now passing is a source of plenary inspiration from which must come a great and wonderful literary renaissance. The pessimists seem quite as ready to back their discouraging opinion that the war, when it is past and done, will be discovered to have left our literature very much as it found it.

Probably the event will prove the truth to lie somewhere between these two extremes, the latter of which, by the way, was favoured by the writer of the very suggestive and thoughtful article on "Our Literature and the War," which appeared in the *Times Literary Supplement* of last week. I must refer you to the article itself for the reasons which led the writer to his conclusion that "the war is likely to have little deep or lasting influence on literature," merely remarking that he appeared to make out a tolerably persuasive case in support of his point of view. Personally, I must admit that I can see no justification for the hope of any sudden harvest of literary masterpieces as a result of the war. But it may be trusted to supply inspiration for a certain amount of fine work; and its influence has already reduced some of the worst charlatans in the present-day world of English letters to their proper level of insignificance—which in itself is no small gain.

One would need, I am afraid, a very robust optimism to predict for the book-trade a tidal wave of unbounded material prosperity immediately after the conclusion of the war. The best that it will be reasonable to expect will be a period of steadily progressive recovery, and even that can only be assured by the prevalence of a spirit of adaptable readiness to face new conditions, and to abandon old conventions and old methods which have become obviously inadequate and out of date. Taxation will be heavy, and money, we may take it, will not be too plentiful, in the days when the war has really begun to be paid for; and if the book-trade is to be in a position to encounter such conditions with a fair measure of success, it cannot too soon apply itself to a consideration of the best way of putting its house in order. And here, at the risk of finding myself accused of "damnable iteration," I feel constrained to emphasise once more the point that, if anything practical is to be done towards bringing authors, publishers, and booksellers into closer harmony and mutual co-operation for the benefit of all alike, now is the psychological moment to set about doing it.

If we may assume that the title "Plain Jill," which belongs to a forthcoming novel announced by Chapman and Hall, is intended to have a physical application, it may serve to remind us that personal beauty is no longer such an indispensable attribute of the heroines of fiction as it was when those who are now of the elder generation were reading their first novels. There are, of course, and always have been, exceptions to every rule; and I do not forget that one of the most startling "unconventionalities" of Charlotte Brontë was her courageous departure from that stereotyped

custom in presenting the heroine of her greatest work in the guise of a "little plain governess." But the author of "Jane Eyre" had enough of the giant's strength of genius to be able to defy the conventions of her time in this as in other matters; and there were few of her contemporaries or successors of Victorian times who could have afforded the luxury of a similar independence. Nowadays, however, we are getting quite accustomed to encounter heroines of fiction whose failure to reach any recognisable standard of physical beauty is insisted upon with an absolutely ungallant frankness by their creators, and who are supposed to owe their fascination almost entirely to attractive attributes of mind and character. I suppose we may regard this as, in some way, a sign of intellectual progress; but I imagine that there are still a good many unregenerate novel-readers who, if asked whether they preferred bodily or mental charm in their heroines, would reply like the small schoolboy who was called upon to make his choice between jam and cake—"Please, I should like a little of both!"

To novelists themselves, as well as to their heroines, time has brought its changes. In these days, to be a popular writer of fiction with a big name and an extensive "following" is to be a personage whose individuality looms large in the public eye, and whose expressions of opinion upon all the burning questions of the day are recognised as covetable "copy" by the interviewers of enterprising newspapers. But it was not ever thus, even within the memory of those who are still only in middle life. Take, for example, the case of Mrs. L. B. Walford, of whose death we all heard with much regret last week. She began to write in the early seventies, and for some four decades maintained a great and steady popularity with a very large class of readers, who were ready with an unflinching welcome for her sympathetic, observant, and effectively told stories of upper middle-class life. There were few better-known names than hers in the domain of the circulating libraries; yet one cannot remember her having at any time been publicly paraphrased, photographed, or appealed to as an authority on social, political, and international problems. I have no doubt that she was quite content to go on quietly pleasing her public and doing her work—and very good work, within its unpretentious limits, it was. She had reached her seventieth birthday only a few weeks before her death.

A good many English people, it is gratifying to know, have been anticipating the advice of Mme. Jarintzoff, the accomplished author of "Russia, the Country of Extremes," who, when interviewed the other day in the course of a brief visit to London, strongly recommended all who are interested in Russia and its literature to learn the language of her country. Teachers of Russian are, I hear, in great demand just now in London and others of our great cities; and more than one recent student of the language has assured me that, though undeniably difficult, it is not so forbiddingly hard to acquire as we have been accustomed to suppose. In the course of the interview to which I have just referred, Mme. Jarintzoff said that her native tongue is so full of subtleties and delicate shades of meaning that it is impossible for any translation of Russian literature to do full justice to the original. Whether the average English reader could ever hope to become proficient enough to get a thorough grasp of those "subtleties and delicate shades of meaning" is, perhaps, a moot point; but in any case it is all to the good that our people should turn their attention to the language of the great allied nation whose genius and character they are at last beginning to appreciate.

In re-publishing his forceful "Letters of an Englishman," Mr. Charles Whibley expresses the hope that they possess "that unity which comes from a settled purpose and a consistent point of view." He is naturally anxious, in fact, that his readers shall not find Whibley "wobbly."

May 21.

JACOB OMNIUM.

THE ASSOCIATED BOOKSELLERS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

ANNUAL MEETING.

UNDER the present exceptional circumstances it was, of course, impossible for the annual gathering of the Associated Booksellers' to be held in the ordinary way, with the usual pleasant combination of business and pleasure. The Council therefore decided that the Annual Meeting should be held in London in a more or less formal manner and that the social part of the arrangements should be omitted. The number of members present at the Cannon Street Hotel on Thursday, the 13th, was consequently limited, but all were glad to find that the President, Mr. Keay, had sufficiently recovered from his long and serious illness to take the chair. Among those present were Messrs. Bowes, Blackwell, Hanson, Denny (Vice-Presidents), E. Pearce (Hon. Sec.), F. Brown, J. Truslove, D. J. Knox, T. N. Philip, J. J. Golder, A. Wilson, E. H. Martin, H. E. Young, H. E. Alden, C. Linnell, E. J. Sowerby, B. H. Saxton, F. H. Hockliffe, G. Bates, Richardson (Boots Ltd.), W. Hunt, C. Timæus, J. Rutherford, Hugh Rees, W. J. Barwick, J. S. Thornton, F. S. Homewood, Mrs. Homewood, C. Porter, C. Young, Joanes, W. J. Squires.

Mr. Keay, in formally moving the adoption of the report, which was printed in our last issue, said that he was exceedingly glad to be present again. It was a deep regret to him that he was unable to be with them last year at Edinburgh, and he was thankful to say that he now felt better than he had for some months. He hoped, if his progress to recovery continued, to be privileged to be with them again next year, and again to move the adoption of the report. They met to-day under very peculiar circumstances, and the number present was necessarily small. The council had felt that it would at this time be out of place to have the usual meetings of business and pleasure. The times were too serious for pleasure, for they were engaged in the most stupendous war ever known, one of the greatest difficulties and trials which the British nation had ever had to go through. He feared it would be a question which of the combatants would last out the longest, and he felt sure that Britons were determined to put their whole heart and soul into the fight to secure victory against a nation which was acting more as murderers and demons than as worthy foes.

Nearly all trades except those engaged upon war contracts had necessarily suffered heavily. He had been told by a maker that when there was a depression the first department in which it was felt was that of underclothing, because it was least seen, and therefore retrenchments would be made without other people knowing. For much the same reason the bookselling trade was one of the first trades to suffer, because books were articles which people thought they could do without, and so they began first to retrench. In August and September there was thus much depression, but those booksellers who pushed war books did some trade, and the Christmas trade was better than many had anticipated; perhaps not in every case, but in many cases there was a great rush just before Christmas. He thought one lesson of the situation was that the man who comes off best is the man who is best able to adapt himself to the new conditions, who

does not despair or despond, but cultivates that side of his trade which seems most hopeful. There was no doubt that those who made a good show of war books sold a large number. It was the same with publishers; some adapted themselves to the new conditions and some went even further.

With regard to the report which they had received, it dealt with very few money questions. He was glad that the Belgian Book Trade Relief Fund had been started, and he was sure that all their hearts were open to their stricken *confrères*. Their various branches had given over £110, and the whole fund had reached about £1250. He was afraid that would only go a very little way, for the Belgian book trade had been almost exterminated. They could only hope that the victory would be complete, and that the Belgians might go back and open business once more, aided by their English *confrères*. He knew that the Belgians appreciated what had been done by them.

He was very sorry to note that they had lost many members during the year: Mr. Patterson, of Sunderland, who had taken a great interest in the Association as a leading spirit of the North-Eastern branch. It was he who had first invited the Association to hold its annual meeting out of London. Mr. Thin, of Edinburgh, had been a very old and well-known member, also Mr. Commin, of Exeter, and Mr. Hiscoke, of Richmond, who had been a quiet member of the council, very regular in his attendances. Mr. Mortimer, of Halifax, had passed away only a month or so after attending the meeting at Edinburgh. They greatly needed new-members, and it was time that the Association took this matter up seriously. The council had the subject under consideration, and a sub-committee had been appointed to devise some scheme whereby those who were not yet members might be induced to join. He much regretted that the Publishers' Association had not seen fit to accede to their request to appoint a joint-committee of publishers and booksellers. At the same time he might say that though the Publishers' Association did not see their way to appoint a joint-committee Mr. Blackwood had assured him that they would be quite willing to appoint a sub-committee to meet a sub-committee of the booksellers to discuss any questions at issue. The council had, therefore, certain subjects to be laid before the sub-committee, and he hoped that the two sub-committees would meet to discuss them.

One point which would be brought forward was the unfairness of the present practice by which certain ministers were able to obtain net books at a discount because in the past they had been looked upon as booksellers. They had seen the head of one of these associations, and he was glad to say that after repeated interviews they had brought him round to see their point of view, and he had admitted that it was unfair to the bookseller. It would be a very great help to them in bringing the matter before the publishers to be able to say that they had so far succeeded.

They would see from the figures given that this year the books published subject to discount showed a very large increase, but, at the same time, the value was less, which showed that the increase was entirely among the smaller books. The number of net books published had shown a large decrease, but this was, he was sure, due only to the war, and did not mean any feeling against net books. He hoped that after the war most books would be published at net prices. The net books had been the salvation of the trade, and

allowed the bookseller to have something—it was not very much—left after he had paid his expenses.

Booksellers, he was certain, did not feel down-hearted. The more they could keep together, the more they were united; the more they could show that they represented the feeling of the trade, the more they would be likely to impress the publishers and make their Association a real success. To do this they must get new members and so increase the strength of their position and help each other. They would thus be able to show to the publishers that if well treated they would do their best to raise the standard of the trade, so that it shall be a trade in which booksellers would do all they can to improve it in every particular.

Mr. F. Hanson, in seconding, was glad to congratulate Mr. Keay on being with them. His illness had been serious, and his life had been almost in the balance, but he was glad to see him back, and they all gave him a hearty welcome. He would like to remind them that this was the twenty-fifth year of the Association. It was established on May 15, 1890. He thought he might say the Association had improved their trade, had united their trade, had succeeded in getting the publishers to know each other, the London booksellers to know the country booksellers, and had done great things for the benefit of the trade. Before it started booksellers were all individuals working each for himself: to-day the Association had converted mere business relations into paternal affection, and had enabled them all to work for the whole trade and not merely for themselves. The report was then adopted unanimously.

Mr. D. J. Knox then moved that the officers and council for last year be re-elected. He said he was sorry he was the only Scottish representative present. Mr. McNiven had intended to come, but he had not been able. The council thought that in view of the state of things caused by the war it was better not to make any change in their officers, and that the resolution passed last year as to the election of vice-presidents should be held over for the present.

Mr. Golder seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Keay, on behalf of himself and the officers, acknowledged the vote, and thanked the members for their kindness and confidence.

Private business was then taken, and afterwards most of the members present dined together informally. There were no speeches. Mr. Keay briefly gave two toasts, "The King" and "His Majesty's Forces at the Front," both of which were drunk with great heartiness and enthusiasm.

Mr. T. Fisher Unwin has just published a shilling volume entitled "Sixty American Opinions on the War," which collects the views of prominent American citizens in regard to the war. Among the contributors are ex-Presidents like Taft and Roosevelt, publicists like Charles Francis Adams, ex-Ambassadors like Joseph Choate and Robert Bacon (formerly Secretary of State to the United States), leading lawyers like James Montgomery Beck, authors like Brander Matthews, Poultney Bigelow, W. D. Howells, and John Burroughs, Presidents of Universities like David Starr Jordan and Charles William Elliot, publishers like George Haven Putnam, and various journalists, professors and other notable persons. He has also published "The British Empire and the War," by Mr. E. A. Benians, Fellow and Lecturer in History at St. John's College, Cambridge. It discusses the German and British ideas of empire, and shows that the British Empire, so far as regards its Western members, has developed on unique lines into a league or family of nations.

In Preparation.

MESSRS. ALLEN & UNWIN have nearly ready "Commonsense about Mr. Shaw," by Harold Owen.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS will publish shortly "The Modern Study of Literature," by Mr. Richard Green Moulton.

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co. will publish immediately "Conquest," a new novel, by Miss Olive Wadsley, author of "The Flame," and "Reality."

MR. W. HEINEMANN announces a new novel by Mr. Somerset Maugham, who is now at the front. It is entitled "Of Human Bondage."

MESSRS. HURST & BLACKETT will publish shortly a new novel by Gertrude Page, entitled "Follow After," a story of the present day with Rhodesia as its background; also a new novel entitled "A Duchess of France," by Mr. Paul Waineman, author of "A Heroine from Finland," "A Bay of Lilacs," &c.

MESSRS. LONGMANS & Co. have nearly ready "Reflections of a Non-Combatant," by Miss M. D. Petre, editor of "The Autobiography of Father Tyrrell"; "The Prisoners of War Information Bureau in London," by Mr. Ronald F. Roxburgh; "The Eternal Goal," three letters recently contributed to *The Times* on the war by the Rev. E. A. Burroughs, Fellow of Hertford College, Oxford; also "The War, the Cross, and the Future," by the same author, a book on the spiritual aspect of the war.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. will publish next week "The Salon and English Letters," a work on the inter-relations of literature and society in the age of Johnson, by Prof. C. B. Tinker; "The Business Adventures of Billy Thomas," a work of fiction, by Mr. Elmer E. Ferris; "Captain John Smith," by R. Johnson, and "Robert Fulton," by Alice C. Sutcliffe, two volumes of a new series to be known as "True Stories of Great Americans." They will also issue immediately a translation into English verse of "The Paradise of Dante," by Dr. C. L. Shadwell, and a "Life of Sir George Etienne Cartier," the illustrious Canadian statesman, by Mr. John Boyd.

MESSRS. STANLEY PAUL & Co. will publish shortly "The House of Many Mirrors," Miss Violet Hunt's new novel; also the "A.B.C. of Heraldry," by Guy Cadogan Rothery. They will also publish next month "War Medals and their History," by W. Augustus Steward; "Ireland: Vital Hour," by Arthur Lynch, M.P.; "The Index to Periodicals," vol. i, April-Sept., 1914, under the general editorship of Alex. J. Philip; "The Gates of Doom," by Rafael Sabatini, two shilling edition.

MESSRS. PUTNAM'S announce "The Pieces of the Game," a tale of diplomatic and social life at Washington, by the Countess de Chambrun.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & Co. will publish shortly "The Valley of Fear," a new Sherlock Holmes story, by Sir A. Conan Doyle; "Journeys with Jerry the Jarvey," by the late Hon. Alexis Roche.

Correspondence.

BIRMINGHAM FREE CHURCHES AND SEVEN-DAY NEWSPAPERS.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

DEAR SIR,—At an executive meeting of the Council of the Evangelical Free Churches of Birmingham and District, held on Monday last, a resolution was unanimously passed supporting the London and Provincial Federation of Newsagents in their action in opposing any seven-day-a-week newspaper and their effort to maintain for newsagents and other workers a weekly rest day.

I am instructed to forward same to trade journals.

Believe me, Yours faithfully,

RICHARD A. WEST,
General Secretary.

May 14, 1915.

Notices of Books.

Pan-Americanism: A Forecast of the Inevitable Clash between the United States and Europe's Victor. By Roland G. Usher, Ph.D. (Constable & Co.)—The effect which the present European conflict will have upon the relations between the United States of America and the Powers of the Western Hemisphere is just now a matter of considerable interest both to American and European readers. Professor Usher, therefore, the capable author of a very striking book on "Pan-Germanism," is sure to attract considerable attention to his latest work, in which he tries "to make as clear as possible the relations of the United States to the present European situation and to the probable or possible crisis which the end of the war may precipitate." He has divided his subject into four parts, each of which he has treated with obvious knowledge, and on each he has much to say, which all concerned will find very well worth careful attention. He first discusses the past and present position of the United States, and he pertinently points out that the developments of the nineteenth century have robbed the United States of the security, isolation, and invulnerability which they formerly enjoyed. In the next section he discusses what may be expected if Germany, or, as is more probable, if England, wins in the struggle. This is followed by a very lucid exposition of Pan-Americanism with the conclusion that this view is untenable, that Latin America will probably challenge the assumption of supremacy by the United States, and will be more likely to make alliances with the Latin States of Europe, as the main requisites of a successful Pan-American policy do not exist. The last section attempts to forecast the future, and to show that the concrete issues which have to be handled, whether independence of the sea power, the supremacy of the Western Hemisphere, and imperialism in the Far East, all indicate that a policy of armaments is indispensable. Indeed, the last two chapters set out formally the arguments for and against disarmament, and though Professor Usher does not actually express a conclusion, it is sufficiently clear that he does not support a policy of disarmament. The considerations on both sides are clearly and cogently stated, and there can be but little doubt that, given the existing premises, Professor Usher's contention seems unanswerable. A particularly interesting chapter on the "Expediency of the Monroe Doctrine" is worth special attention, though some may not wholly agree with his conclusions that if the Monroe Doctrine means Pan-Americanism, Latin Americans will oppose it, while, if it means expansion or imperialism, its realisation means a policy of aggression which can only be carried into effect by extensive armaments.

The Ink-Slinger. By "Rita" (Mrs. Desmond Humphreys). (Stanley Paul & Co.)—We are not quite certain whether the popular and ingenious novelist who uses the pen-name of "Rita" intends her latest novel to be an exposure of the rascalities of certain unscrupulous publishers, or as a warning to thoughtless and careless writers of genius to examine minutely the agreements they make. We can at once say with confidence that the story, though practically impossible, is, as is always the case with her tales, exceedingly interesting, and one which when once begun cannot be put down until it is finished. Wroth Fermoy, the helpless, unbusinesslike genius, who is the central figure of the book, is a very skilful study of his kind. Isaacson, the villain publisher, is no doubt exceptional, and we need not doubt that, as Rita remarks in her preface, while it is "not the case that all or indeed many publishers drive such bargains with needy authors as is here portrayed, there have been cases almost representative of the one selected." However this may be, "Rita" has very kindly endeavoured to redress the balance by introducing a publisher of the helpful beneficent sort, one Harold Wakfield, who in the result helps the unfor-

tunate victim out of his troubles. Yet even he is constrained to remark, "Alas that there are so many writers: so few who can *write*." With regard to the particular details of the plot we need not say very much. "Rita" is a past mistress in the art of plot construction and also in that of characterisation, and in both respects her latest book is well up to her highest standard. The spinster typist, who, secure in her small private income of some £50 a year, was able to take care of the uncertain unbusinesslike genius and eventually become his wife, is drawn with very great skill, and her plain, practical common sense makes a very effective contrast to his waywardness and inefficiency. At the end the genius comes into his own, and he and she are able to live happily ever after. It is a story which no one but "Rita" could have written, and is in every way one of the most notable books she has given us.

Maids of Salem. By K. L. Montgomery. (John Long, Ltd.)—The historic persecution of witches in the very early days of the New England settlement in Massachusetts is one of the most striking episodes in the history of the early settlers, and if the facts were not historically certified they might very well be looked upon as the distorted creations of a disordered imagination. However this may be, in the hands of a competent romance writer they provide excellent material for a lively and exciting story. As her previous books have shown, Miss Montgomery is quite an expert in these matters, and she has produced a tale which is quite certain to take a very prominent place among the few outstanding novels of the present season. The characteristic atmosphere and surroundings of the times are all very graphically realised, and the entirely unreasoning and blind fury with which the supposed witches were found guilty and put to death is most effectively portrayed. Mobs and people do sometimes quite lose their heads and their senses, otherwise it would be impossible to understand how so gracious and so perfect a woman as Love Gay should have been sacrificed to the mad fury of the neighbours among whom she had dwelt so long and so blamelessly. The love story of her very attractive daughter, Favour Gay, and Constant Grenvil, the nephew of the villain, Endymion Grenvil, is very ingeniously introduced, and the figures of the minister, Mr. Parris, of Judge Sewall, of Sir William Phipps, the Governor, and particularly of Zebah, the faithful servant of the Gays, are all sketched with a lifelike realism which is not always found in present-day fiction. We will not attempt to summarise or to reveal the plot except to say that it hangs together with wonderful effect, and holds the reader's eager interest and attention from the first page to the last.

Blackthorn Farm. By Arthur Applin. (Ward, Lock & Co.)—Exactly how a cheque for £5 can be changed into one for £500 so effectively that it is at once cashed by the bank we do not quite understand, but as the incident is the central point of Mr. Applin's new story we suppose we had better not be too hypercritical. Rupert Dale is not the only young fellow who has come up from the country with the intention of making himself a gentleman, and has got himself into debt and trouble, while the case of the Derby winner a year or two since, which was subsequently disqualified, is ingeniously used to complete his ruin. It was natural enough that Ruby Strode, who loved him and whom he loved, should try to save him even by a forgery, but she little thought that he would be found guilty of the crime, and that her intention to help him would be his entire undoing. How, at length, Rupert's innocence was proved the reader will learn in due course, and will much regret that Ruby should have been taken from him just when matters became brighter. The whole novel is sure to attract a wide circle of interested and delighted readers.

Publications of the Week.

Religion and Theology.

- AINSLIE (Peter) Christ or Napoleon—Which? Cr. 8vo, pp. 96. *Revell* net 1/6
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- BURROUGHS (E. A.) The Eternal Goal. Three Letters to "The Times" on the Spiritual Issues of the Present Situation. 8vo, swd. *Longmans* net 2d
- BUSHNELL (Horace) The Character of Jesus. (Sanctuary Booklets.) 64mo. *Allenson* net 6d; leather, net 1/
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- GREAT Texts of the Bible (The) Edited by James Hastings. Jeremiah—Malachi. 8vo, pp. 520. *T. & T. Clark* 10/
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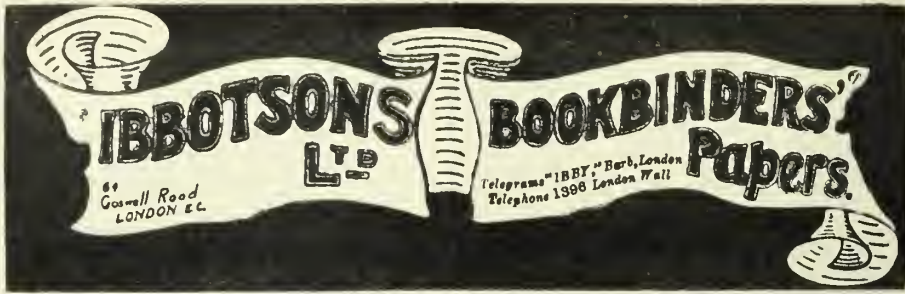
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THIN, J., 54, 55 & 56, South Bridge, Edinburgh. Dixon's British Mosses. 2nd ed. Wylie's The Papacy. 8vo, and Cr. 8vo. Roth. Natives of Sarawak. Vol. 2. Guinness. Approaching End of the Age.	TREEN, R., 34, Cecil Road, Muswell Hill, N. Arundel Society's Coloured Prints, Books, Lists of Members. Anything, however trivial, referring above Society. Vasari Society's Publications.	WILSON, A., Station Rd., Castleford, Yorkshire. The Reformer. By A. G. Hailes.
TIMES BOOK CLUB, 380, Oxford Street, W. Punch. First 50 years of. Encyclopædia Britannica. 11th ed. Thin cloth. Gilpin's Scenery New Forest.		WYLLIE, D., & SON, 247, Union Street, Aberdeen. Alexandre Dumas. The New France. Trans. by Garrett. 2 vols.

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Communications relating to the Literary Department: Books for Review, Note of Changes, and all matters interesting to THE TRADE, must be addressed to the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER, 12, Warwick Lane, Paternoster Row, E.C., and be received at latest by the first post on Wednesday.

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Trade and Literary Gossip.

Booksellers' Provident Institution.—The Board of Directors met at Stationers' Hall on Wednesday, May 19th, when Mr. C. J. Longman presided, supported by Messrs. J. R. Blade, L. Carrdus, J. Cooper, J. Foster, A. W. Gatfield, J. W. Harden, F. J. James, W. H. Jelpke, G. H. Johnson, W. A. Kelk, A. S. Lewis, W. Longman, J. Meade, A. W. Mills, A. W. Nott, A. J. Sabin, E. Shallis, F. W. Smith, W. H. Smith, G. C. Sole, R. E. Taylor, E. G. White. One new member was elected; the receipt of a donation of £1 1s. from Mr. A. H. Hallam Murray was reported; the sum of £98 17s. 4d. was granted for the relief of members and widows of members; and in accordance with the provisions of Newman's Trust the sum of £47 was apportioned among twelve unmarried daughters of retail booksellers.

Mr. Walter Crane, the well-known artist, who died on March 14th last, left unsettled property of the gross value of £3,119, with net personalty of £2,676.

The late Mr. James Spicer, a director of Messrs. James Spicer & Sons, Ltd., wholesale stationers, has left net personalty, £118,954.

Mr. J. R. Osborne, who has for some years been with Messrs. R. C. Evans & Co., of Sardinia House, Kingsway, will shortly be the London representative of Messrs. Hutchinson & Co., of Paternoster Row.

Ross.—The business of Mr. H. C. Jefferies, bookseller, has been amalgamated with that of the *Ross Gazette*, and for the future they will both be carried on in the house of John Kyrle, "the Man of Ross," under the management of Mr. G. N. Morton and Mr. H. C. Jefferies.

For King and Country.—The following has been received since our last list:—

MESSRS. A. BROWN & SONS, LTD., HULL.—Regular Army: Argent, A., Bateman, L., Binnings, B., Boag, W., Clark, H. P., Clarkson, J. H., Driscoll, J., Dunn, J. S., Faulkner, H., Gresham, F., Hodgson, J. H., Hutchings, H., Longshaw, W., Main, D., Mason, H., Maze, W., Moore, W., Penson, G., Taylor, J., Thorley, G., Tommins, A., Veal, W., Windle, A., Woodward, A. C. Volunteer Brigade: French, G., Golby, A., Lawson, H., Marsdin, W., Shields, R., Taylor, H., Tindal, G. E. Special Constables: Brown, W., Colam, S., Colbridge, W. M., Craven, T., Drysdale, D., McCarthy, F., Pollock, J., Reid, D., Smith, H. J., Wood, W. D., Beaumont, L.

MESSRS. W. H. SMITH & SON (38th List, making total to date of 838).—Foulger, J. M., R.A.M.C.; Gray, A. W., Liverpool Scottish; Baxter, A. H., R.F.A.; Allan, C., 7th City of London; Ball, W., R.F.A.; Pearce, T. W., Royal West Kent; Greaves, F. H., 6th City of London; Venneear, C., Middlesex; Foster, A., Royal Navy; Holmes, H. P., A.S.C.; Storr, S. E., A.S.C.; Jones, R. E., A.O.C.; Capron, C., A.S.C.; Osborn, W. F., 4th Wilts; Greenlands, C. J., 6th City of London; Willson, H. G., King's Royal Rifles; Clarke, E., Royal Engineers.

MESSRS. LUTZ & Co.—S. Coles, Army Service Corps.

The Queen, escorted by Mr. Runciman, paid a visit on the opening day of the British Industries Fair to the exhibit of Messrs. Raphael Tuck & Sons, where she was received by the Managing Director, Sir Adolph Tuck, and his brother, Mr. Gustave Tuck. Her Majesty evinced great interest in the original British zag-zaw puzzles, of which she ordered some specimens to be sent to the Palace, and further ordered some sets of the six postcards depicting the work of the British Red Cross Society, just issued by the firm in aid of that institution.

Mr. Harold Halewood, formerly of Melbourne, has opened new premises at 6, Victoria Arcade, Sydney, N.S.W. Accounts should be sent as before to Mr. Alfred Halewood, Bortisallen, Preston.

It is announced that the width of the *Times* columns is now 14 ems instead of 16 ems as heretofore.

Mr. Alfred Stiebel, of Messrs. Alfred Stiebel & Co., fine art publishers, 2 and 4, Serutton Street, Finsbury, E.C., writes to us as follows:—"The atrocities committed by the armed forces of Germany during the war have shocked the world. I gladly take this opportunity to express my abhorrence of their methods, which will assuredly be condemned also by the best opinion in Germany itself when peace brings to its misled millions the knowledge of these criminal deeds. During my twenty-five years' residence in England I have closely associated myself with its customs and institutions, and in renouncing my German nationality I took the oath of allegiance to King and country, which I am proud to re-affirm."

Messrs. Constable & Co. are publishing a new popular two shilling series of their well-known novels under the title of the "Westminster Library of Fiction." The first issues include "By Order of the Company" and "Sir Mortimer," by Mary Johnston, the first of which has been reprinted twenty-two times and the second five times; "The Blazed Trail," by Stewart Edward White; "Cardigan," by R. W. Chambers; "The Recording Angel," by Corra Harris; "Growth," by Graham Travers; "The Good Comrade," by Una L. Silberrad; "Keren of Lowbole," by the same; "The Broken Bell," by Marie Van Voorst; "The Tramp," by P. Laurence Oliphant. The novels are all excellent and provide capital reading, while the format of the volumes, paper, print, and binding, is all that can be desired.

Mr. John Galsworthy's new play, "A Bit o' Love," which was produced on Wednesday, has been published in book form by Messrs. Duckworth & Co. in style uniform with his other plays. This title is in place of "The Full Moon," previously announced, which was found to be already taken.

Messrs. Longmans & Co. have published as a shilling brochure "The Bishop of London's Visit to the Front," by his resident chaplain, Rev. G. Vernon Smith, and an introduction by the Bishop, who describes it as "an excellent account very simply given of a fortnight which will always live in my memory." It is certainly a very interesting and informing little book.

National Book Trade Provident Society.—At the last meeting of the Committee of Management two applications for membership in the General Division and one in the Insurance Division were passed. The secretary reported the receipt of the following donations:—Mr. H. S. Milford, £20, annual; Miss M. Burdett, £1, annual; Mr. G. Hendry, 10s. 6d., special.

In response to our paragraph concerning the affairs of Mr. A. M. Burghes, in last week's BOOKSELLER, we have received the following donations:—

Mr. John Walker	£5	0	0
Mr. Alfred Wilson, Gracechurch Street, E.C.	5	0	0
Mrs. Silk, Teignmouth	1	1	0
Miss Dolores Thornton, Market Harborough	10	6	

which amounts have been handed to Mr. Burghes.

Mr. John Murray has just published the first five volumes of a new series of Shilling Novels, "Septimus," by W. J. Loeke; "Miss Esperance and Mr. Wycherly," by Mrs. L. A. Harker; "Flemington," by Mrs. Violet Jacob; "The Florentine Frame," by Miss E. Robins; "The Compleat Bachelor," by Mr. O. Onions. A sixth volume, "Freckles," by Mrs. Gene Stratton Porter, must be held over until about the end of the month, as the demand for it in advance of publication has been so large that it must be reprinted.

Messrs. Constable & Co. have published a second edition of Mr. Havelock Ellis's volume first published in 1897, "Affirmations"—studies of Nietzsche, Casanova, Zola, Huysmans, St. Francis, and others. The author prefixes a new preface, in which he tells us that he has left the book as it was first written, that he has not sought to bring it up to date or to revise it by the light of the latest changes in our feelings, or even to correct any misstatements. As regards his study of Nietzsche, he says, "It is not of the Nietzsche of the moment, but of the essential and significant Nietzsche." Whatever Mr. Havelock Ellis writes is always worth attention, and his many admirers will be glad to have this convenient edition of one of his most characteristic works.

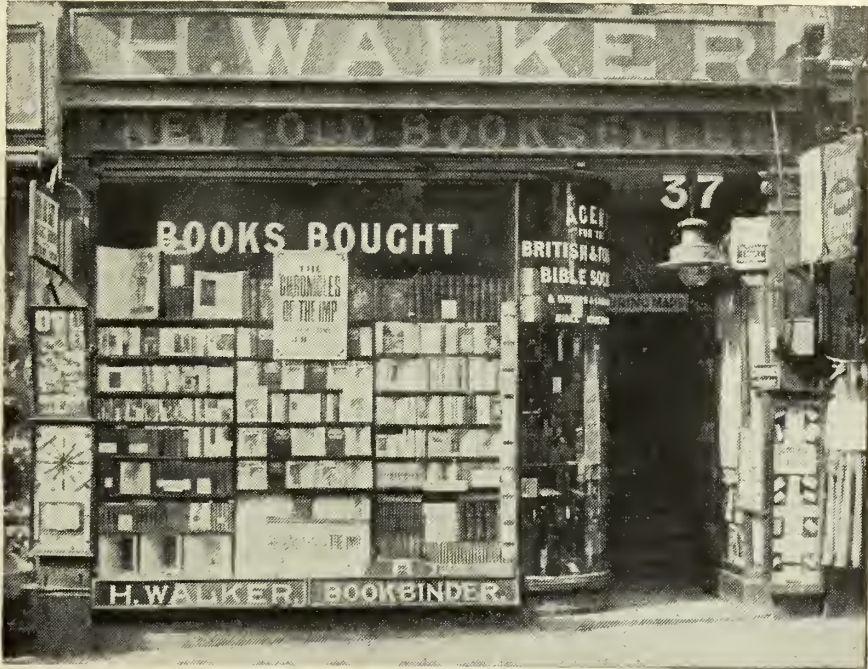
Messrs. B. T. Batsford, Ltd., will publish shortly "The English Countryside," by Mr. E. C. Pulbrook. The author endeavours to set forth the many-sided character of the English country, and the volume will be profusely illustrated by photographs of views and features of inland and coast scenery. The publication should be of special interest at this time, when the attractions and resources of England will be increasingly sought for and appreciated, not only by Englishmen and Americans, but also by foreigners.

Mr. W. F. Regan has in preparation "A Romance of Finance," a sensational tale of twenty years' experience in the City of London, by a financier.

Messrs. T. Nelson & Sons have now added Miss A. D. Sedgwick's popular novel, "Franklin Kane," to their "Sevenpenny Copyright Novels," and Mr. Saxon Mills's book on "The Panama Canal" to their "Shilling Library."

The Review of Historical Publications relating to Canada, which deals with the publications for the year 1914, makes the 19th volume of the series, which is published in the University of Toronto Studies, under the editorship of Professor Wrong, Mr. H. H. Langton, Librarian of the University of Toronto, and Mr. W. Stewart Wallace, Lecturer in History at the McMaster University, Toronto. The reviews of the various books are manifestly written with knowledge and judgment, and the volume should prove of great interest and usefulness to all who are concerned in the history and development of the Dominion.

Messrs. Bell & Son have commissioned Mr. Philip W. Sergeant to prepare for them a new edition of Morphy's "Games of Chess" for publication in the autumn. It will provide, at a price not exceeding 5s., an edition which will be much more comprehensive than Lowenthal's, and will do full justice to the great value of Morphy's games as instructive examples of masterplay. A careful selection of something like 300 games is to be made, and these will be freshly analysed by Mr. Sergeant in the light of modern international criticism. A new biographical introduction will accompany the games.



THE "CHRONICLES OF THE IMP" WINDOW AT MR. H. WALKER'S, OF LEEDS.

Messrs. James Nisbet & Co. have added to their useful series of "Writers of the Day" a stimulating volume on Anatole France, by Mr. W. L. George. He tells us that in writing this monograph he has neither tried "to bury Anatole France nor to praise him." He further points out that his hero is what he was, and if he seems to have changed now and then, or to have been inconsistent, it is because his views are "... fluid they overlap, and he can hold simultaneously his entirely divergent views ... one that of his instinct, the other that of his reason." He confesses that it is not easy to understand him, because Anatole France, "like other men, is neither good nor evil; he is merely what he is." The bibliography of his principal writings is very helpful.

A Correspondent sends the following recipe for cleaning books bound in suede that have become soiled:—"Rub gently over the soiled part with a piece of clean soft rubber, and the book will appear as new."

Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston & Co. publish in England Payne Erskine's new big novel of the North Carolina mountains, "A Girl of the Blue Ridge," of which Little, Brown & Co. are the American publishers.

Messrs. Constable have just received an early copy of the Spanish edition of Roland Usher's famous book "Pan-Germanism." The book, entitled "Pangermanismo," is delightfully printed, and costs 3½ pesetas. The letter from the Madrid publishers which accompanied the copy makes the interesting statement that despite many and excellent reviews the book has not sold at all. This sad fact, the Spanish publishers suggest, may be accounted for either by the complete indifference to the war of the Spanish public, or by the widespread propaganda and gratis distribution of German war-literature which has gone on in every part of Spain. Messrs. Constable feel themselves justified in hoping that neither public indifference nor German propaganda will impair the success either of the French translation (which is about to appear in Paris), or the shilling edition of the English text which they have just published themselves.

Mr. Philip Gibbs, the special correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle*, has written a book called "The Soul of the War," which Mr. Heinemann will shortly publish. It is an account of the psychology of war as the author has seen it on the western front—on the battle-fields, in field hospitals, among the dead and dying in Belgium and Northern France.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING.—Although we have every reason to look forward with unshaken confidence to an ultimate happy issue out of our present national affliction, there can be no doubt that we have now entered upon a period when our resolve to keep up our spirits, individually and as a people, will be put to a more exacting test than at any previous time since the beginning of the war. After the incessant strain of the past ten months, we see this titanic conflict only now beginning to enter upon its most critical phases, and its effects upon every department of our daily life and work are becoming far more severely felt than they were at the outset. Heavier, too, grow the private and personal anxieties from which few of us at this time are free, as we scan the ever-lengthening lists of those who have suffered in their country's cause. But it is just because we have come to this severe testing-time that it is more necessary than ever for us to keep a stout heart and a good courage, so as to make the best of circumstances as they are, however abnormal and however difficult those circumstances may be.

So far as the book trade is concerned, we may feel sure that the spirited example which it has set in these respects since the war began will be maintained in the days that lie immediately before us, and that the croaking counsels of despondency and despair which were so summarily hushed last August will gain no more respect now than they did when the great calamity first descended upon us with almost paralysing suddenness. As Mr. Keay pointed out in his recent heartening speech at the annual meeting of the Associated Booksellers, the bookselling trade, by its very nature, was inevitably one of the first to suffer. But through steadily refusing to acknowledge itself beaten, and courageously setting to work to adapt itself to the new conditions, it has had, to say the least, a far less unfavourable experience during the past nine months than there seemed reason to anticipate at the beginning of the autumn. And we need not fear that the moral of that experience will be neglected in the near future, whatever anxious times may yet be in store.

Mention of the Associated Booksellers' meeting reminds me that it was made the occasion for an announcement full of welcome significance for those who have so long been "pegging away"—hitherto with such scanty encouragement—as advocates of closer co-operation between the great branches of the book trade. I allude, of course, to Mr. Keay's intimation that the Publishers' Association has now signified its willingness to appoint a sub-committee of its members to meet and confer with a sub-committee of the booksellers on any questions at issue between the two bodies. It would be easy, no doubt, to cavil at the rather amusing timidity revealed in the form of this concession, and to raise the question whether a couple of sub-committees, meeting in the manner proposed, are likely to provide as efficient an instrument for the solution of difficulties and the adjustment of differences as the proposed joint-committee of publishers and booksellers to which the Publishers' Association turned the cold shoulder not many weeks ago. But one prefers to recognise that the offer now announced inserts, at any rate, the thin edge of the wedge, and marks a definite and most gratifying abandonment of the policy of aloofness so obstinately adhered to until now. When the two sub-committees get their heads together, they are likely to find their confabulations offering so much prospect of mutual advantage to the interests which they respectively represent that the distrust and suspicion which have hitherto kept the two organisations apart should speedily be removed. As the French proverb tells us, it is only the first step that costs; and we may rejoice that, in this case, all obstacles to the taking of the first step seem now to have been cleared away.

It is quite refreshing to stumble upon anything in

the nature of a literary controversy in these war-absorbed days, even when it is concerned with so well-worn a question as the advantage or otherwise of the anonymous book-review. Those who have just lately been reviving this good old topic of discussion cannot possibly have hoped to contribute any fresh argument either on one side or the other, and we may be tolerably sure that they have done nothing whatever to convert their opponents to their views. For my own part, I must confess myself unable to see the force of the contention that anonymity gives the reviewer "a greater sense of responsibility." It seems to me, on the contrary, that a literary critic is likely to write with more careful discretion when he is signing his name to his criticism than when he is shielded by the editorial "we," and is able to speak as the impersonal mouthpiece of the journal in which his opinion is expressed. Nor can it be denied that anonymous criticism offers greater facilities than the signed variety both for the exercise of unfair favouritism and the gratification of personal prejudice. Except, however, when a review is signed by a name which is recognisable as that of an accredited literary expert, it must in any case entirely depend upon its intrinsic qualities for the amount of weight that it carries. Apart from the pronouncements of the very few critics whose personal reputation as such is securely established, we may be sure that the reading public is supremely indifferent whether a review is signed by Smith, or Brown, or Robinson, or bears no signature at all.

Congratulation is due to Mr. Heinemann, who has chosen a singularly happy moment for his announcement of a new, cheap edition of the novels of Gabriele D'Annunzio. The genius of the great Italian poet-novelist has long been admired in this country; indeed, there have been few foreign authors of any nationality whose works, in translated form, have commanded so wide and assured a popularity among English readers. But just now it is only natural that our interest both in the man and his work should be redoubled, since it is in no small measure due to the inspiration of his glowing patriotism that his country has made the decision which ranges her among our Allies, and places her in her true position in the greatest struggle of civilisation against barbarism that the world has ever known. To few poets or men of letters, at any period of history, has it been given to wield such an influence as D'Annunzio has exercised over his country in the crisis of her fate; and in the happy future to which Italy may look forward when the present trial is over and the overthrow of the modern Huns is complete, his name will rank for ever with those of her noblest patriots, as well as with those of her most gifted men of genius.

It is welcome news that a volume of poems by the late Rupert Brooke, which is to include all that he wrote since a former volume of his work was published in 1911, is to be issued by the firm of Sidgwick and Jackson. But is there not a rather grim irony in the fact that it should have needed this gifted young poet's premature death in his country's service to direct general attention to the exceptional quality of his verse, and to the high and rare promise of which fate has so sadly forbidden the fulfilment?

Following closely upon Professor Wallace's new Shakespearian discoveries, to which I alluded quite recently, comes Sir Sidney Lee's announcement that he is at work upon a greatly revised version of his famous biography of the poet. It will apparently be a long time yet before we know all that there is to be known about our National Bard—and even when we do, there will doubtless still be cranky controversialists who will continue to assure us that Shakespeare was a kind of literary "Mrs. Harris," and that, as a poet and dramatist, there was "no such person."

Miss Violet Hunt's new work, "The House of Many Mirrors," announced by Stanley Paul, is, it appears, a novel—though its title would seem rather to suggest a book of reflections.

NOTES FROM PARIS.

NOT the least of the misdeeds of this detestable war is that it spoiled what would have probably been a record year in French bibliography. By the end of July the number of books published in 1914 showed an increase of 509 over the corresponding period of 1913, and there was every reason that a proportionate lead would be maintained during the rest of the year. But then came a sudden downfall. August, which is always the dullest month of the whole year in the Paris book-trade, was virtually a blank; the next succeeding months were but little better, and, though a good few presses are now running, neither in quantity nor still less in quality is the output anything like what it ought to be in an average year. The last five months of 1914, compared with those of 1913, show a falling off of 3001 volumes, says the "Bibliographie de la France." The principal subjects which make up this deficiency are: Essays and Belles-Lettres, 380 volumes; Domestic Economy and Social Science, 387; History, 340; Educational, 256; Religious, 134; Scientific, 217; Travels and Geography, 134; Medical, 133; Art, 30; and Almanacks, 80. Fiction and light literature declined to the extent of about 900 volumes.

In some few subjects, however, there was an increase. Chief amongst these is, of course, books on military matters, which, in time of peace have a limited sale, and can only be procured from special publishers, but which now flood the bookstalls, and are eagerly purchased by coffee-house Cæsars who think they could end the war in three weeks if they had supreme command of the army. There has been no diminution in the number of musical pieces and songs—many written before the war having presumably been kept back till the opening of the autumn season. Why there should have been an increased number of works on Angling, the Protestant Religion, Mineral Waters, the Portuguese Language, and African dialects is not very evident, but possibly very few volumes on these subjects were needed to turn the scale.

It is no sin for a man to labour in his vocation, and it is the business of a critic to criticise. There being very few books published at present, and those few of a poor quality, the reviewers have fallen back upon "Books published before the war," and get in short notices of productions of that time on days when there has been no fresh developments of German "frightfulness," and a few stickfuls are needed to fill up the scanty columns of the daily papers.

I feel much inclined to follow their example, for it so happened that on the very day war was declared I received a copy of a book entitled "L'Auteur d'Hamlet et son Monde" (Paris: Ferdinando) by M. Celestin Demblon. It was a continuation or amplification of "Lord Rutland est Shakespeare"—a book which I had felt it my duty to "slate" in these columns, so far as my poor abilities in that line permitted. I was not moved to righteous indignation by the fact that a claim to the authorship of the immortal plays had been put forward in favour of a hitherto unknown personage. M. Demblon, or any other man, has an indefeasible right to believe that all we attribute to Shakespeare was written by Rutland or Bacon, or some "Great Unknown." He may even believe, as does a well-known actor, that Shakespeare only supplied the scene-plot of the plays, and the actors "gagged" the dialogue. But whatever theory may be adopted it is first necessary to eliminate Shakespeare. A certain person named William Shakespeare did live and move and have his being, and is buried at Stratford-on-Avon. His name has been revered by ten generations of playgoers and readers throughout the civilised world, and it seemed to me intolerable impudence that we should be

asked to dethrone the idol of our hearts on the mere *ipse dixit* of some foreign faddist.

Having demolished the inconvenient Shakespeare to his own satisfaction, by what he called negative evidence, M. Demblon proceeded in the second volume to adduce what he termed positive evidence that "Hamlet" and the other plays were written by Lord Rutland. The evidence might satisfy an infant school—provided the children were not too precocious—but there was much less indiscriminate abuse of a man who had never done him any harm. The stones which had been used to pelt the memory of Shakespeare were now employed in the construction of a lop-sided altar intended to support the flaccid figure of a weak-kneed fetish.

I had read a great part of the book and had prepared a review of it, but the war was then raging in Belgium and the city of Liège making a gallant defence. As M. Demblon is member for that city in the Belgian Parliament, and was, no doubt, doing his best to aid the gallant defenders of the country, it appeared to be hardly the right moment to make unkind remarks about his book, so I dropped the MS. of the article into the waste-paper basket.

If I ever had the self-conceit to imagine that anything I could write might annoy M. Demblon, that feeling has been dissipated by a slip of "Opinions of the Press," which M. Demblon's publisher has just sent me. A whiff of smoke from the cutty pipe of a captious old critic would pass unnoticed amidst the incense clouds which rise from hundreds of adulatory altars in honour of the genius of M. Demblon. In plain language, M. Demblon is the subject of "hundreds" of favourable notices in public prints, but he gives us only a selection from these effusions lest we should be "cloyed with fat meats," as Rutland (or another) observes in the "Epilogue to Henry IV.," Part 2, or think with the human partner in the ballad of "The Walrus and the Carpenter" that "the butter's spread too thick."

Being unversed in Belgian contemporary literature I dare not dispute the dictum of the "Avocat Alf. L.," who is disposed to accord to the author of "Contes Mélancoliques"—an early work of M. Demblon's—"the first place in Belgian literature." Nor can I dispute the opinion of a writer in "Le Tirlémontois" that "he never met with such oratorical talent" without knowing what eminent orators have spoken at Tirlémont, but I feel sure that eminent orators on tour would hardly omit such an important place.

If M. Demblon's career were not one long list of oratorical triumphs I should be inclined to believe that Bruges was the city where he was most appreciated. When he lectured there the hall of "Excelsior" was "for the hundredth time absolutely insufficient" to contain the crowds who flocked to hear him. I confess with sorrow that I am so ignorant that I am not certain whether "Excelsior" is the name of a newspaper, or a debating society, or a music-hall. All that is clear is that there is either an exiguity in the dimensions of the hall or the good people of Bruges have an infatuation for lectures. The lecture was on "Shakespeare," and—as we learn from a footnote—"M. Demblon had not yet discovered Rutland," so that he was, so to speak, backing a scratched horse. The only parallel case that occurs to mind is the young woman in one of Mark Twain's short stories, who travels hundreds of miles to nurse a wounded lover, and, when he recovers, finds that she has wasted all her care and attention on the wrong man.

Not till some years later did M. Demblon discover that the real author of Shakespeare's plays was Roger Manners, Earl of Rutland, who, by an excess of modesty, never claimed the authorship. The advantages of self-advertisement were not known in his days.

The "Australian Bookfellow" has an interesting article on the late Mr. T. A. Browne, better known as "Rolf Boldrewood," author of that successful Australian novel "Robbery Under Arms." It remarks that if "For the Term of His Natural Life" is the better piece of literature "Robbery Under Arms" is the better Australian romance. Thomas Browne had not Marcus Clarke's literary faculty, but he had a remarkable knowledge of the Australian life and character of his epoch, and he followed faithfully Sir Walter Scott's advice to observe and copy the fact. Scott was to a considerable extent Browne's model as a romantic writer; and his writing name of "Boldrewood" was taken from "Marmion." Before Browne sat down in his office at Dubbo, at half-past five one morning thirty-five years ago, a stocky little man of 54, to write "Robbery Under Arms," he had already been writing for ten years, and had published serially several of the novels which were reprinted later—including "The Squatter's Dream" and "Colonial Reformer." "Robbery Under Arms" was republished in book form in England in 1888. The author has said that the book earned him £1800 in the first year, and not less than £200 a year ever since. With the original payment and the dramatic rights, the author's reward from that successful book probably has exceeded £10,000, and apparently the income will continue for years. The Australian value of the book is that perhaps seven-tenths of it is Australian truth. The dashing bushranger Starlight is the least real figure; he is not one man, but a composite, and he never seems quite the individual he purports to be. But the bush boys and bush girls, and particularly the old father, Ben Marston, are as natural as trees. By 1880 Browne had learned to seize the liveliest incidents within his reach, and the cattle robbery at Bowen Downs in Queensland, the attack on Mr. Keightley at Rockley, near Bathurst, the shooting episodes, and the rest, are seized from the fact. The bushrangers' refuge is described from a sunk valley near Tamworth. But it needed Browne's remarkable knowledge of bush life to harmonise his characters, incidents, and scenes. He has had imitators since 1880, but none who come within a cooey of him."

Messrs. Constable & Co. are about to publish an important book, "Apotheosis and After Life," by Mrs. Arthur Strong, now Assistant Director of the British School at Rome. It is based on three lectures delivered in the autumn of 1913 before learned institutions in the United States, and in a different form in Oxford and in Rome. A particular feature of the book is the magnificent series of illustrations, which show many rare and little known objects of ancient art specially photographed for the book.

Mr. Fisher Unwin will publish immediately a volume by Mr. J. W. Headlam, entitled "The History of Twelve Days: July 24th to August 4th, 1914." Mr. Headlam, who is the author of a "Life of Bismarck" and of various articles on German and Austrian history, contributed to the "Encyclopædia Britannica," and has given much attention to the recent political history of Germany, is well qualified for the delicate and difficult task he has here undertaken. The work includes matter supplied in the Serbian Blue Book and the Austrian Red Book.

A new series of "Stories of our Regiments," at 6d. net in art covers and 1s. net in cambric gilt, is about to be published by Mr. C. P. Sisley. The first four titles are: "The Grenadier Guards," "The Black Watch," "The Buffs," and "The Northumberland Fusiliers." The books will be illustrated, and should appeal to a large public.

"The Road to Peace," by Dr. Charles W. Eliot, formerly President of Harvard University, is announced for early publication by Messrs. Constable & Co. It is necessarily a book of more than usual interest, and shows that the sympathies of America must from every point of view be with the Allies.

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. CONSTABLE & Co. will publish immediately "Millstone," a new novel by Harold Begbie, and "Hyssop," a novel by Mr. M. T. H. Sadler; "Are We Ready?" by H. D. Wheeler, an exhaustive enquiry into the military and naval resources of the United States.

MR. HEINEMANN will issue at once "The Book of the Fly," by Major Hurlston Hardy, with a preface by Mr. Halford Ross.

MESSRS. HUTCHINSON & Co. will publish shortly a new novel entitled "The Gillingham Rubies," by Edgar Jepson, author of "The Lady Noggs," &c. The story of an exciting struggle between an ebullient and vehement young American millionaire and a brilliant lady criminal of a European reputation for ingenious and daring coups.

MR. JOHN LANE is publishing "An Englishman's Recollections of Egypt, 1863 to 1887. With an epilogue dealing with the present time, 1914." By Baron de Kusel (Bey), sometime English Controller-General of Egyptian Customs, &c. With thirty-two illustrations and a map.

MESSRS. JOHN LONG will shortly publish a new novel entitled, "The Barbarians," by James Blyth, author of "Rubina," &c.; also "A Mormon Lion," by David Ford, a novel of the days when polygamy was rampant in Utah.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. will publish shortly "Sonnets of the Empire: Before and During the Great War," a new volume of poems by Mr. Archibald T. Strong, author of a collection of "Sonnets and Songs," and the translation into English verse of "The Ballades of Théodore de Banville."

Correspondence.

A DEED OF VALOUR.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

DEAR SIR,—We think that you may like to give publicity to a deed of valour by one of the many recruits supplied to the Army by the publishing trade. Edward Barsted, a member of our packing department, who for several years had been a Toynbee Hall boy scout, and is now a lance-corporal in the 13th Battn. of the London Regiment (Kensington Rifles), is mentioned by Sir R. Baden Powell in a communication to *The Scout*, for conspicuous bravery at Neuve Chapelle. He first assisted a comrade to bring in a wounded officer under fire, completing the task alone, and then returned, still under fire, and brought in his companion, who had been hit and had fallen.

It may be interesting to add to this record that from this firm fourteen have joined the colours.

We are, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

36, Essex Street,
London, W.C.

METHUEN & Co.

May 12th, 1915.

Notices of Books.

On Desert Altars. By Norma Lorimer. (Stanley Paul & Co.)—We are not at all surprised to hear that Miss Norma Lorimer's latest novel is proving very successful. For though the central incident, if we may so call it, is not very pleasant or savoury, the whole story is constructed with considerable skill, and this partial drawback is more than compensated by the strong interest which is maintained throughout, and in particular by the ingenious and effective fashion in which the story is told. Miss Lorimer has also added to its attractions by interweaving in the plot scenes from the northern shores of Africa where Carthage was once pre-eminent, and also from the Far East and Japan. But the central interest, of course, lies in the story itself and in the characters, all portrayed with easy and life-like realism, who pass across the stage. Alice Lindsay, who may be said to be the heroine, is a very pleasant, attractive English girl, and though she finds herself in Tunis under the doubtful chaperonage of a doubtful baroness, she maintains her natural charm and innocence till her chaperon leaves her. She then marries Samson Rathbone, who has fallen in love with her in Africa, and for a time they are thoroughly happy, until Samson falls on evil days, and to save him from apparent ruin she sacrifices for him her honour. When he learns what has happened there is, of course, a terrible scene, but in time the real truth is made clear; the sacrifice is understood, and husband and wife live happily ever after. Sir Frank Maccabeus, the villain of the piece, is a very effective and vigorous, if rather sinister, portrait, and, as we have already said, the story is told with a swing and effect which holds the reader in eager interest from first to last. Miss Lorimer can be very heartily congratulated on her latest success, which will very appreciably increase her rising reputation as one of our most popular novel writers.

Angela's Business. By Henry Sydnor Harrison.

Jauntily in Charge. By Mrs. George Wemyss. (Constable & Co.)—It is not always easy to keep up the reputation which is gained by a first and exceptionally successful novel, but Mr. Harrison's latest book is hardly inferior, if at all, to his first book "Queed," which placed him at once among the leading novelists of America. His latest story, though very different, shows many of the same characteristics. It is first and foremost a peculiarly ingenious and penetrating study of women's nature and temperament. The two chief characters are women. One is typical of the ordinary every-day, homely, stay-at-home woman, who delights the heart of the anti-suffragist. The other may stand for the opposite type, the woman who finds her activities away from her home, who is busied with new movements, who is determined to live her own life as she herself may think best. Angela Flower may stand for the first, and Mary Wing for the other, and the purpose of the book would seem to be to set forth the fact that in practical reality the latter is really the best, the most attractive of the two. The way in which the decision is reached is particularly ingenious, for the person who is supposed to tell the story, one Charles Garrott, is represented as occupied in writing a novel on women, and the commentary he is able to make on his book as it progresses, or rather does not progress, affords ample opportunity for ingenious moralisings and dogmatic theorisings on the many problems of feminism which are naturally raised. The whole thing is managed and handled with consummate tact and skill. Mr. Harrison has an exceptional faculty of observation, of

insight into character, and he marshals his *dramatis personæ* with remarkable skill and effectiveness. Some of the characters are sufficiently queer, and indeed whimsical, but they each and all arouse the reader's interest and sympathy, and the story is most ingeniously carried on through its succeeding stages to the intended denouement. It is indeed a very notable piece of work, and as regards construction and what we may term stage management is a distinct advance upon anything the author has yet done. The other story by Mrs. George Wemyss, though of an entirely different kind, is equally sure to win wide approbation. The two children, Pamela and Sally, who are left at the early death of their mother, Mrs. Lawrence, in the charge of Jaunty, the ex-clerk, nominal butler, and faithful henchman of Mr. Lawrence, are quite as charming and delightful as the children described in Mrs. Wemyss's previous book, "The Professional Aunt," and greater praise than this we can hardly give. Jaunty himself is a wonderful creation, and by himself would be enough to secure the success of the book. Throughout, the scenes and incidents are conceived and handled as only Mrs. Wemyss can handle them, and we are sure that the book will give new delight and entertainment to the ever increasing circle of her enthusiastic admirers.

Patricia. By Edith Henrietta Fowler (Hon. Mrs. Robert Hamilton). (G. H. Putnam's Sons.)—Both the daughters of the late Lord Wolverhampton have made a considerable reputation as novel writers, and the readers of "The World and Winstow" or "For Richer or Poorer" will expect a good deal of enjoyment from Miss Fowler's latest story. And they will certainly not be disappointed. The actual story is quite subordinate, but the characterisation throughout is extremely clever, and the dialogue and conversation very often quite brilliant. Patricia Vaughan is the orphan daughter of a fairly well to do and cynical man of letters. On her father's death she goes to live with his half-brother, the Rev. George Vaughan, Rector of Lynfield, a busy, well-meaning ordinary parish clergyman, always ready to help his parishioners, and always expecting his wife to wait upon him. Mrs. Vaughan is a homely woman, an excellent helpmeet for her husband, who busies herself in taking care of the parish and all the parishioners. There is also the great lady of the district, Lady Muirfield, the figure-head and president of everything, who is very afraid that Patricia will marry her eldest son "Golly" Muirfield. Patricia intends to do so, but she meets with Lord Wellingborough, a very unusual type of an aristocratic clergyman. He is the son of a rather disreputable father, and Patricia has written a life of her father and has included in it some indiscreet letters which have passed between them. This arouses her interest, and she at once falls in love with him, and the Hon. "Golly" is rejected. After they are engaged the book is published, and for a time Lord Wellingborough is vexed and angry, but his love for Patricia is able to stand and test; he finds excuses for her, and they marry and live happily ever after. But, as we have remarked, it is less the story than the handling of it which commands our commendation. Patricia is a delightfully attractive personality, and she has been very skilfully and effectively drawn. The other characters are portrayed with lifelike naturalism, and the whole book reaches a distinctly high level of excellence. It is quite certain to prove popular, and it will no doubt very appreciably increase the author's already considerable reputation.

Publications of the Week.

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- GYPSY (The) Vol. 1. Royal 8vo, pp. 89. *Pomegranate Press* net 2/6
- SOCIETY of Authors, Playwrights, and Composers. Report of the Committee of Management for the year ended December, 1914. Cr. 8vo, pp. 49. *Bradbury, Agnew*.

Art and Architecture.

- OSMASHON (F. P. B.) The Art and Genius of Tintoret. 2 vols. 4to. *Bell* net 52/6
- "STUDIO" Year Book of Decorative Art (The), 1915. Folio. *Office* net 7/6; swd., net 5/

Bibliography and Literary History.

- INDEX to Periodicals. Compiled by various authorities and arranged by A. Cecil Piper. Vol. 1, April-September, 1914. 4to. *S. Paul* net 21/

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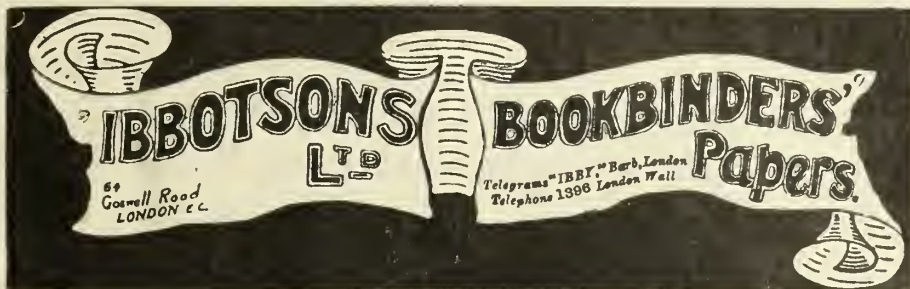
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(23)
UNWIN'S CORNER.

The History of
Twelve Days.

July 24th to August 4th, 1914.

BEING AN ACCOUNT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS
PRECEDING THE OUTBREAK OF WAR,
BASED ON THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS.
By J. W. HEADLAM, M.A., formerly Fellow of King's
College, Cambridge. Cloth, 10/6 net.

A want has been felt and expressed in many quarters for a book incorporating all the diplomatic publications issued by the various governments and giving a complete account in narrative form of the negotiations which took place in the period immediately preceding the outbreak of war. The present work admirably fulfils these requirements, and special attention may be drawn to the fact that it includes matter supplied in the Serbian Blue Book, of which no translation into English has yet appeared, and the Austrian Red Book, which has just been published.

Mr. Headlam, who throughout supports his facts with chapter and verse, has written a work which is not only of the highest importance, but of extraordinary interest. Its masterly analysis and presentation of the diplomatic negotiations of the fateful period with which it deals are likely to ensure its becoming the classic work of reference on its subject.

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NOTICE.

Communications relating to the Literary Department, Books for Review, Note of Changes, and all matters interesting to THE TRADE, must be addressed to the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER, 12, Warwick Lane, Paternoster Row, E.C., and be received at latest by the first post on Wednesday.

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Trade and Literary Gossip.

I.A.A.B.—A Committee Meeting will be held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, on Monday next, June 7th, at 7 p.m., when the presence of members is requested.

For King and Country.—The following has been received since our last list :—

MR. WALTER BELCHER, Bridgwater.—H. A. Kirk, 1st Wessex R.A.M.C.; A. D. Duddrige, A.S.C. (T.); C. C. Tambling, R.F.A.; F. Burrows, Motor Transport; W. Belcher, Special Constable and V.T.C.

MESSRS. A. BROWN & SONS, LTD., HULL (2nd List).—S. Colam, B. H. Hansley, H. H. Heath, J. Johnson, and S. G. Robinson, East Riding Royal Garrison Artillery; C. R. S. Jagger, East Riding Yeomanry.

MESSRS. W. H. SMITH & SON (Thirty-ninth List).—A. J. Magridge, 9th Co. of London; C. Royston, Rifle Brigade; A. Baynham, 1st Monmouthshire; J. J. Mulligan, R.F.A.; H. Plummer, R.E.; R. Hillerby, 6th Northumberland Fusiliers; C. Gaisford, Wilts Yeomanry; A. Barrett, West Kent Yeomanry; W. J. Hoare, Royal 1st Devon Yeomanry; C. A. Prince, Rifle Brigade; L. Stening, 15th County of London; L. M. Arnold, A.O.C.; H. S. Howarth, R.F.A.; F. W. Brent, Rifle Brigade; H. Beedell, 23rd Co. of London; H. A. Hales, 6th City of London; J. Locke, R.F.A.; E. J. Buckley, 6th Middlesex; H. P. Munden, A.O.C.

The Board of Trade, in view of representations made by the exhibitors and buyers at the British Industries Fair, which was held in the Royal Agricultural Hall, London, from May 10th to 21st this year, have decided to hold another Fair in London early next year.

Leeds.—The well-known business of printers, stationers, and booksellers carried on by E. Jowett and J. Jowett at 51, North Street, and Bischoff's Yard, under the style of Edwin Jowett, has been registered as a private limited company with a capital of £5,000 in £1 shares. E. Jowett, Managing Director and Chairman, and J. Jowett are the first Directors.

Mr. W. Stanley Murrell, manager to Messrs. Williams & Norgate, with which firm he has been associated for nearly twenty years, is resigning his position to take up the appointment of Manager and Secretary of the University of London Press. Mr. W. J. Williams, who has been with Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. for twenty-seven years, latterly as Manager of their Publicity Department, is to succeed Mr. Murrell. Mr. Williams is known as a Thackeray enthusiast. He has sub-edited more than one edition of the great novelist's writings, contributing a bibliography, and he is a member of the Titmarsh Club.

Mr. James MacLehose, the well-known Glasgow bookseller and publisher, is to receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from the University of Glasgow at the coming graduation ceremony. Mr. MacLehose holds the position of publisher and bookseller to the University, and his many friends in the trade will join in congratulating him.

Messrs. Williams & Norgate are offering a first prize of five guineas (£5 5s.) and three other prizes of one guinea (£1 1s.) each for the best window displays of the "Home University Library." The display must be for at least a week between the 7th and the 19th June next, and photographs of windows must be sent in for adjudication not later than the 28th June next. In judging the displays general effectiveness and not merely vastness will be taken into account, so that it is worth everyone's while to enter the competition. Further, in order to encourage ingenuity and originality in the production of special show cards for the Window Display Competition, they are offering a special prize of two guineas (£2 2s.) for the best designed show card of the "Home University Library." The copy-right in the card to which the prize is awarded will become their property, and they are prepared to purchase other selected designs, and the copy-rights in them, for ten shillings and sixpence (10s. 6d.) each.

The usual Annual Dinner of the Royal Literary Fund will not be held this year, and as under ordinary conditions the donations received at the dinner form a great part of the revenue of the Fund, the General Committee makes a special appeal to the generosity of the Members of the Corporation and the general public so that the income of the Fund this year may show no falling off, particularly as the war is making exceptionally urgent calls upon the resources of the Corporation.

Messrs. Hodgson & Co. will sell at their Rooms, 115, Chancery Lane, W.C., on Monday next, June 7th, the First (Modern) Portion of the Library of the late Mr. Ingram Bywater, formerly Professor of Greek in the University of Oxford. The catalogue comprises in the main the English Books, including the best texts of English Classical writers and a number of First Editions of Modern Poets and Essayists, as well as two nice extra illustrated copies of "Boswell's Johnson" in 8 volumes, and Johnson's "Lives of the Poets," 3 volumes. An important feature of the sale is a series of the fine books issued to members of the Roxburghe Club, including the "Metz Pontifical" and "Lord Byron and his Detractors."

Messrs. Ibbotsons, Ltd., of 64, Goswell Road, E.C., send us samples of their British-made papers suitable for bookbinders and boxmakers and other trades. They inform us that the prices in all cases compare most favourably with those recently supplied by Germany, and often are considerably lower. As regards quality, artistic and technical excellence, the high reputation of the firm is, we are sure, a sufficient guarantee.

Mr. H. H. Bancroft, the veteran American historian, has published through his firm, the Bancroft Company, of New York, a suggestive pamphlet entitled "Modern Fallacies: an added chapter to 'Retrospection.'" In this he deals in his usually vigorous and competent fashion with the question of profit and loss attending the European War in its relation to America, and the economic potentialities of San Francisco Bay.

The Annual Convention of the American Booksellers' Association, which has just met in New York, has proved very successful. The attendance, though slightly less than last year, was much larger than was expected. The various papers read and the discussions on them were usually very hopeful and suggestive, and in particular a proposal made as a possible means of circumventing the recent decision of the Supreme Court that attempts to prevent price cutting are illegal naturally excited considerable interest. The proposal was thus formulated:—

"The plan now offered contemplates continued ownership by the publisher after the books have passed into the hands of the bookseller, with such provisions as will avoid the usual consequences of placing books on memorandum. Briefly stated, the plan is to let the bookseller have all new books on memorandum during a period of a few months, with the understanding that in consideration of such arrangement the bookseller agrees that on the termination of the period he will buy outright not less than 90 per cent. of all the new books thus supplied, returning to the publisher not more than 10 per cent. of the total of these new books at the invoice price, payment for those retained to be made at the time of purchase, which is at the termination of the period. Under this plan, supplies of new books would also be received and sent out by jobbers. That is, during the period the jobber would receive new books from the publisher on the terms described, and the jobber in turn would distribute new books to his customers only in this way.

"Ownership during the period being with the publisher, he will name fixed prices for the period, during which it would be a violation of the owner's rights—that is to say, the publisher's—for the bookseller to sell the books at different prices from those fixed by the publisher. Thus the price for each new book would be established for a certain period.

"It would not mean, however, that prices would be changed after the period any more than is now the case, but it would mean that the confirmed price-cutter would come in conflict with the publisher's rights during the fixed-price period, and that would serve all practical purposes.

"The certain advantages eventuating from the workings of the plan would much more than compensate the publisher for the loss incurred by the returns.

"The adoption of this plan would, we believe, bring about an improved economic status which would benefit authors, publishers, booksellers and the public."

The underlying idea, as the *New York Publishers' Weekly* remarks in its editorial comment, "of a consignment system is, so far as the book trade of this country (America) is concerned, a revolutionary one. Whether practicable or not from both legal and trade view-points remains to be determined by the committee to which it was properly referred; whether desirable and wise remains to be seen. Probably no test will be definitive except that of actual trial. As a suggestion at least it is admirable, it has much to recommend it. Two or three years hence modified no doubt it may be in actual effect."

Messrs. T. Nelson & Sons have added to their "Sevenpenny Copyright Novels" "Manalive," Mr. G. K. Chesterton's curious and whimsical story; and to "The Collection Nelson" the fourth and fifth volumes of "Le Vicomte de Bragelonne" par Alexandre Dumas, and "Nouvelles Orientales," par le Vicomte E. M. de Vogüé de l'Académie française.

Messrs. Kelly & Sons, the well-known bookbinders, of Water Street, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C., send us a photograph of a portrait in oils which has lately come into their hands, and which they believe is a portrait of John Kellie, the founder of the firm. He was born in or near Edinburgh in the year 1750, and was apprenticed to William Gray, bookbinder, in the same town. He started in business for himself in Edinburgh about 1770, and a trade card of that period is preserved in the annals of the firm. He next appears in Angel Court, Strand, London, in the year 1776, where he lived over the workshops. In this year he was married at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields Church, and, having brought up a family of nine children, died in 1799. The business has since been handed down from generation to generation, and was removed to its present address in Water Street, Strand, about the year 1804. The portrait bears on the back a much-faded ink-written label, which reads:—

"Painting of Mr. Kellie, father of John Kellie, Esquire. The property of William Kelly, at 7, Water Street, Strand. Bookbinder."

Messrs. C. A. Pearson, Ltd., have published a very instructive and interesting shilling book by Mr. Hilaire Belloc, which he entitles "The Two Maps of Europe, and Some other Aspects of the Great War." He first sets out the two maps of Europe as they would be if Germany wins and if the Allies win. We have then very helpful chapters on Numbers in War, showing how the enemy had a superiority throughout the autumn and winter, on the complicated organisation of Supply, the differences between War To-day and War Yesterday, What we are to believe in War News, and finally the chief lessons which the war has now taught us. Mr. Belloc writes throughout clearly and convincingly, and his little book should find a widespread circulation.

Mr. Erskine MacDonald is initiating a series of shilling booklets under the general title of "The Little Books of Georgian Verse," which will be representative of the younger writers without regard to clique, class, or school. Each individual volume being carefully selected by a competent "editor," the series is designed to secure the confidence and appreciation of the widely-spread public interested in fine poetry. The first four numbers, to be published early in June, are "Manx Song and Maiden Song," by Mona Douglas; "Poems," by Lieut. C. A. Macartney; "Heather Ways," by Hylde C. Cole; and "The Fields of Heaven," by Nora Tynan O'Mahony.

Messrs. Constable & Co. have issued in their "New Poetry Series" "The Cloister," a play in four acts, by Emile Verhaeren, translated by Osman Edwards. We may note that the play has been presented to an English audience by Mrs. Horniman at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, in October, 1910, when it was received with marked favour, and it will also be seen during the coming season at Birmingham, Newcastle, Glasgow, and Edinburgh. A word of special praise is due to the excellent version which Mr. Osman Edwards has provided.

Mr. F. Horace Rose, one of the four winners in Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton's All-British £1,000 Prize Novel Competition, is the Editor of the *Natal Witness*, at Pietermaritzburg, Natal. His book, "Golden Glory," will be the first novel published by him in book form, though he has published others in South Africa, where his books are regarded as best sellers. They consist of two humorous travel volumes, "On the Edge of the East" and "A Couple on the Continent," published in Pietermaritzburg in 1912 and 1913. They were both immediate successes. The first has gone into seven, and the second into four large editions, and they still sell readily all over South Africa. Perhaps the publication of "Golden Glory" may lead to the introduction of the writer's previous books to the English reading public.

Mr. T. Fisher Unwin has just published Mr. Arthur Hayden's new volume, "Chats on Old Silver: A Practical Guide for Collectors." It deals with the art of the silversmith and the various styles in vogue from Elizabeth to Victoria; also Mr. T. Ramakrishna's book, "My Visit to the West," describing the experiences of an Indian intellectual in Europe, and particularly his impressions of London at the time of King George's Coronation.

Lord Rosebery has written a characteristic preface to "Scotland For Ever: A Gift Book of the Scottish Regiments," which Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton are publishing on behalf of the Scottish Branch of the British Red Cross Society. Illustrated in colour from famous battle paintings, it will be uniform in price and format with "King Albert's Book."

Mr. John Hogg has published a useful book entitled "Household Management, a Handbook of Domestic Economy and Hygiene," by E. Stoddart Eckford and M. S. Fitzgerald, Staff Teachers of the National Training School of Cookery and other Branches of Domestic Economy. It is intended to furnish the reader with exhaustive and practical information in all that concerns the house and its contents, with useful rules for the arrangement of the work for each department, and how to clean and care for everything required for daily use. It commences with advice as to the choice of a house, house decoration, and removal. The kitchen department is then dealt with, and the various particulars of household work receive ample attention. The book is evidently written with full knowledge and practical common sense, and it will no doubt find a hearty welcome from those for whom it has been specially prepared.

Messrs. John Bartholomew & Co. have just issued a new edition of their War Map of Europe and the Mediterranean. It is convenient in size, and covers the whole area embraced in the operations of the war, both in the East and in the West. The value is increased by a series of large-scale inset maps of the Dardanelles, the Bosphorus, Straits of Gibraltar, Environs of Berlin, Hamburg, Petrograd. The railways are clearly marked, and steamer routes with the distances between leading ports are also shown.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—Quite the biggest literary scandal-sensation of our times was recalled to memory by the announcement, last week, of the death of Lady Cardigan. Some years have now elapsed since that venerable and sprightly dame, at the age of eighty-odd, took it into her head to write and issue the devastating work which appeared under the innocent title "My Recollections"; but none of us will easily forget the tornado of indignant protest that it raised. For, to the dismay of everyone in the high social circles in which she moved, it was found that the widow of "Cardigan the fearless" had devoted a pungent pen to the task of recalling, with a merciless lack of reticence, all the family and other scandals which had come within her personal knowledge in the course of her long life, and had allowed neither the obligations of friendship nor the dictates of charity and discretion to restrain her terrible candour. Never before within living memory had there been such a reckless exhibition of domestic skeletons in high places; and but for the fact that it is impossible, in the legal sense, to libel the dead, both Lady Cardigan and her publisher would most probably have "heard from" the outraged living relatives of some of those who figured in the book.

As a natural consequence of the storm that it aroused, Lady Cardigan's "scandalous chronicle" had a huge sale, and it was thought for some time that she might be encouraged to perpetrate a second volume. Perhaps fortunately, however, she remained content with the sensation she had caused, though, according to all accounts, she was not in the least abashed by the reproaches heaped upon her. But even those who found amusement in the book, with its vivid reminiscences of early-Victorian and mid-Victorian society, could not condone its defiant disregard of all the canons of good taste and good feeling. There were not a few who held that, as it stood, it ought not to have found a publisher; and there are certainly many who are sincerely thankful that its author's peculiar method as a writer of reminiscences has not since found imitators.

Though we continue to get a fair number of new novels, there can be no doubt that writers of fiction—except possibly the select few who stand in the foremost rank of popular favourites—are feeling rather severely the pinch of the war. In an article pathetically headed "Pity the Poor Author," which appeared in an evening paper a few days ago, the writer—who, by the way, adopted the absurd and too common error of treating "author" and "novelist" as synonymous and equivalent terms, as if the writer of fiction were the only kind of "author" worth taking into account—told a dismal story of contracts held up, publication postponed, payments withheld, and incomes of story-writers diminished, "at a rough guess," by fifty per cent. One can only hope that this depressing picture errs to some extent on the pessimistic side; and it is certainly not easy to accept the assertion that "few editors will look at serials nowadays," seeing that the many fiction-magazines are still in full blast, and that newspaper *feuilletons* continue to flourish. Nor does it seem at all generous to complain that "the trade has not yet recovered its nerve," and that, though the demand for books is very fair, "as yet the publishers have not met this demand." The courage and enterprise shown by the trade during the past nine months, in the face of unexampled difficulty and discouragement, surely entitle it to immunity from such criticism as this. Our authors are clearly deserving of sympathy in the hard times which the war has brought upon them; but if they compare their present lot with that, for example, of their French or Russian brethren, they will realise that they are "not alone unhappy"—indeed, that they are relatively fortunate just now in being able to earn any income at all.

It is impossible not to remember, in this connection, that some of our most successful and popular novelists

have been content to lay down their pens, for the time being, in order to render the best kind of practical service to their country in its hour of need. Very gratifying is the knowledge that men of every rank and degree in the English book world, from authors of high distinction to the humblest employees of the publishing and bookselling trades, have shown an exemplary readiness to obey the call of patriotism and rally to the flag. The letter from the firm of Methuen which appeared in last week's BOOKSELLER, drawing attention to an act of conspicuous bravery performed by one of that firm's employees at Neuve Chapelle made an impressive postscript to the well-filled Roll of Honour published from week to week in these columns during the opening months of the war. We may be sure that there will be other such fine deeds on the part of men whom the book trade and the book world have contributed to the defence of the country; and it will be a source of peculiar satisfaction and pride to us all whenever there is an opportunity of adding to the record.

Some time ago, I referred to a promised "Bibliography of Unfinished Books" which was announced as in course of compilation, and expressed surprise that there should be a sufficient number of such books in existence to provide material for a work of the kind. I now learn that the Bibliography will be issued during the coming autumn by Mr. Bernard Quaritch, and that it will contain the astonishing number of more than three thousand items. Moreover, the compilers promise to give, in addition to particulars about each of these unfinished works, the reasons why it came to be left in its incomplete state. It occurs to me that here is a suggestion of some fine opportunities for providing remunerative work for the "poor authors" whose war-induced woes formed the subject of the newspaper article to which I was alluding just now. Why should they not be entrusted by enterprising publishers with the task of completing these unfinished works—or, at any rate, the more promising of them—with a view to publication? Out of three thousand books and more, there must surely be others worth providing with a conclusion besides "The Mystery of Edwin Drood"—which, it is to be feared, has not finished being "finished" even yet.

In one sense, at all events, the irrepressible super-detective created by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle has established his claim to rank among the literary immortals. No matter how many times Mr. Sherlock Holmes appears to have been finally disposed of, he pops up again sooner or later with all the disconcerting persistency of "John Barleycorn" in the poem. However, I have no doubt that his admirers are quite content with his frequent re-incarnations, and that they will be prepared to give him a fresh welcome in "The Valley of Fear," which is promised by Smith, Elder for early publication. A murder on one side of the Atlantic and a secret society on the other are understood to provide scope for his unravelling faculties on this occasion; and, as usual, he will doubtless find it all "the simplest thing in the world, my dear Watson"!

The first prize for literary longevity, so far as English writers are concerned, must surely be due to Mrs. Amelia E. Barr—a native of Lancashire, though long resident in the United States—who, in her eighty-fifth year, is now engaged upon her sixty-sixth book. This indomitable veteran began her literary career as a journalist, and did not publish her first novel till she was fifty. That novel has already sixty-four successors, and is now going to have another. She is certainly, from some points of view, the most wonderful of living writers—I am tempted to add, Bar(r) none.

That freakish phenomenon of related book-titles, which I have noticed from time to time, asserted itself once again in last week's list of forthcoming novels, in which Hutchinsons promised us "Change," while Harpers threatened us with "Empty Pockets."

Messrs. C. A. Pearson, Ltd., have added to their popular "Scout Library" "In Nature's Ways," by Marcus Woodward, a book intended for all young lovers of Nature and as an introduction to that perennial classic Gilbert White's "Natural History of Selborne." The editor has made selections from that well-known book on "the general plan of giving those which express simple truths, so that any teacher may take them at random and be sure that they will serve for lessons." Mr. Wilfred Mark Webb, Secretary of the Selborne Society, contributes a commendatory introduction, and Mr. J. A. Shepherd has provided a number of amusing drawings, which add an attraction and charm of their own to a very attractive and helpful little book. They have also published, for the benefit of the amateur gardener, a very useful handbook, "The Hobby Gardener," by A. C. Marshall, F.R.H.S. The author has tried, and with conspicuous success, "to give hobby gardeners clear, concise, straightforward suggestions for the upkeep of their miniature estates"; month by month he "goes through the programme of the villa garden, featuring the main tasks," and giving hints chattily conveyed. It is a very instructive little book, which should make an effective appeal to a wide circle of amateur gardeners.

The Royal Engineers' Institute at Chatham has just published the third volume of "The History of the Corps of Royal Engineers," by Colonel Sir Charles M. Watson, K.C.M.G., late R.E. It deals with the period from 1886 to 1912, but, as the author remarks in his preface, "like the two preceding volumes it must not be regarded as a complete history, but rather as a collection of contributions concerning points of special interest." The work done in India has been intentionally omitted, as this part of the history of the corps will be dealt with in a separate volume. The last chapter, which contains short biographies of distinguished officers who have died since 1886, is, as the author remarks, in some respects the most important part of the volume, and the whole book is not only an authoritative record of the period with which it deals, but will at once take its place as fully equal to the two preceding volumes.

Messrs. Chapman & Hall have published an interesting shilling brochure, "Drink and the War from the Patriotic Point of View," by Mr. Mark Murray. He writes not from the standpoint of any temperance organisations or in the interests of the trade, and he comes to the conclusion that the Government has blundered in its handling of this difficult problem. "It has had the finest opportunity . . . but the magic moment has been allowed to slip by and it will not return."

We have received from the John Rylands Library, Manchester, an interesting paper, "Steps towards the Reconstitution of the Library of the University of Louvain," which includes a paper in French, "La Bibliothèque de l'Université de Louvain," by Professor Léon Van der Essen, Litt.D., Professor of History in the University. The John Rylands Librarian will be glad to receive any suitable books which may be sent to him for presentation to the new Library when its reconstruction becomes possible.

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. HARPER BROTHERS are issuing "Empty Pockets," by Rupert Hughes, a story of metropolitan life with its striking social contrasts.

MR. W. HEINEMANN will publish immediately "German Breaches of the Laws of Civilised Warfare," first compiled and published under the direction of the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs; "America and the German Peril," by Howard Pitcher Okie, in which the Author shows that the Teutonic danger to America lies as much within her gates as without; "The Life Story of a Russian Exile," by Marie Sukloff; "Of Human Bondage," a new novel by Mr. Somerset Maugham.

MR. HERBERT JENKINS will publish next week "Sally on the Rocks," by the author of "The Sale of Lady Daventry"; a popular shilling edition of "Bachelor's Buttons," by Edward Burke.

MR. JOHN LANE will publish at once the new poetical play by Stephen Phillips, "Armageddon," which Mr. Martin Harvey is producing at the New Theatre.

MESSRS. T. WERNER LAURIE, LTD., have the following new novels nearly ready for publication:— "Love and the Freemason," by Guy Thorne; new novel, "Love in War Time," by Ambrose Pratt; "A Man from the Past," an exciting tale of adventure by the late Stanley Portal Hyatt, author of "The Law of the Bolo"; "The Wife who Found Out," by Mrs. Gertie de S. Wentworth James, a story exhibiting a vast amount of shrewd knowledge of human nature.

MESSRS. LONGMANS & Co. will shortly publish a new edition of Mr. J. W. Mackail's translation of "The Eclogues and Georgics of Virgil" in their Pocket Library, Mr. Mackail has revised this edition so as to bring it into conformity with the standard Oxford Text of Virgil; also a new book with six illustrations, entitled "Through a Dartmoor Window," by Miss Beatrice Chase, author of "The Heart of the Moor." Miss Chase writes of Dartmoor village life, and its dogs and babies and sages, from intimate knowledge, as she owns lands on the moor and lives there throughout the year.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. will publish shortly "Church and Nation," the Paddock Lectures, delivered by the Rev. William Temple, Rector of St. James, Piccadilly; also "The Statesman's Year Book" for 1915.

MR. ANDREW MELROSE, LTD., will publish immediately a volume entitled "The Dardanelles, their Story and their Significance in the Great War," by the author of "The Real Kaiser"; a new novel based upon incidents of the war in Flanders, by Evelyn Close, entitled "The Roll of Honour"; "La Guerre vue d'une Ambulance," by L'Abbé Klein, the American Aumonier of Hospitals in Paris.

MESSRS. THOMAS MURBY & Co. will issue next week a shilling book, "The Great War for the Greater Peace," by "Commentitious." It is a supposed conversation between two international statesmen of a hundred years hence.

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MR. GRANT RICHARDS will publish this month "The Worship of It and Other Fancies," by James J. Eaton, with Four Illustrations in colotype by W. Gordon Mein.

Notices of Books.

A General Sketch of the European War. By Hilaire Belloc. The First Phase. (Thomas Nelson & Sons.)—Among the expert and authoritative writers on the progress of the Great War Mr. Hilaire Belloc by common consent holds a foremost place, and his sketch of what took place during the first phase, roughly the first month down to September 5th, can hardly fail to prove exceedingly interesting and instructive. He writes throughout in a direct, vivid, and incisive fashion. He does not trouble very much about the details; he rather sets out in broad outline how and why the great events of the war happened; how the Germans made their first onward almost irresistible sweep towards Paris, and why von Kluck was forced to withdraw, his task unaccomplished; how and why the Russians, after their first forward onset, were pushed back in the decisive defeat of Tannenburg. He declines to believe that the defence of Liège made much difference to the onward march of the Germans—"but a very few days—one might almost say hours." He further emphasises specially the fact that Prussia in this campaign has postulated in one point after another new doctrines which repudiate everything her neighbours have held sacred. The violation of the Belgian territory is on a par with the murder of civilians in cold blood and after admission of their innocence, with the massacre of priests and the sinking without warning of unarmed ships with their passengers and crews. This truth, he insists, is vital for the understanding of the mere military character of the campaign. Another factor which Mr. Belloc carefully illustrates is the immense numerical superiority both in men and munitions with which the Germans commenced their campaign, the very date of which they had fixed as long ago as 1911. He points out that at the close of the first month the Germans had apparently succeeded beyond their expectations, both in the East and in the West, and were therefore brutally confident of early success. As regards the future Mr. Belloc naturally does not here say much, but he pertinently draws attention to the embarrassment of the German strategical position in the fact that they must hold Belgium—"before the war indifferent to Germany, but now destined to be vital to her position"—East Prussia, Alsace and Lorraine, Silesia. Neither of these will they be willing to yield unless absolutely forced to do so. But when Germany is compelled to a gradual concentration of her offensive, one of the choices will have to be made. In conclusion, Mr. Belloc vividly envisages the confidence of the Germans earned by their first victories, and in the last pages of the book he sets forth, as it were by contrast, the result to the French nation of the terrible strain it had to endure while the fate of Paris hung in the balance. That was the battle of the Marne, which stood for a "potential" that "made and is making for an intense revenge."

Miss Billy's Decision. By Eleanor H. Porter. (Stanley Paul & Co.)

Pollyanna Grows Up. By the same. Illustrated by H. Wiston Taylor. (Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons.)

Each of these typically American stories is the sequel of a very distinct success. The first tells the further experiences and fortunes of Miss Billy, "the dearest, daintiest, most irresistible maid you ever met with in a book," and the second in like manner is the successor of "Pollyanna the Glad Book," of which we are told more than a quarter of a million copies have been sold in English-speaking countries. With a reputation for success so certified, it is perhaps hardly necessary to go very much into detail as to the two stories which Miss Porter now provides for her many admirers.

The heroine in each case is certainly very attractive; she at once wins the interest, almost the affection, of the reader, and the various scenes and incidents in which she is concerned are told with very considerable vivacity, entertainment, and humour. A hypercritical reviewer might perhaps suggest that in both stories the working of the plot is a little mechanical in that everything turns out exactly as it should, which is not always the experience of real life. But in spite of this Miss Porter very obviously possesses the supreme gift of the story-teller, for she carries her readers with her and keeps them so fully interested that they have no time or care for any such small criticism. The central idea of "Pollyanna," which was so successfully worked in the previous book that we can all, however unfortunate or unhappy we think ourselves, find something to be glad for, certainly emphasises a very necessary and helpful moral, which is sometimes rather overlooked. In "Miss Billy's Decision" there is very distinct humour in the idea that as Miss Billy originally made her way to the brothers Henshaw through the mistaken idea that they were receiving a boy and not a girl, so in this latter story a young man, who seems rather inclined to marry Miss Billy, but does not, and prefers another, should make his appearance under a similar disguise as Mary Jane. In each case the mistake, quite naturally, leads to complications, and the skill with which these are handled to carry on the purpose of the story is worthy of all commendation. Throughout, both stories are brightly and vivaciously told; the dialogue is easy and spontaneous, and the different situations and characters as they arise are managed with very notable ability and success.

Are We Ready? A Study of the Preparedness for War in the United States of America. By Howard D. Wheeler. (Constable & Co.)—The present situation of America and Germany and the possibility that President Wilson may be compelled to take sides in the great war now raging add a special interest and pertinence to the present volume. It is a reprint of papers which appeared in *Harper's Weekly* during December and January last, and which raise in a very forcible and vigorous fashion the whole question whether or not the United States is ready for war, and leaving scarcely any other than a negative answer. Mr. Wheeler supposes a serious and determined attack upon New York by a foreign enemy, and he has naturally little difficulty in showing that New York would be unable to meet it, and would be compelled to accept a ruinous peace. Mr. H. L. Stimson, Secretary for War 1911-1913, to whom the chapter was submitted, gives it, indeed, the testimonial that "there is nothing said in it which is outside the bounds of modern military possibility. The facts with reference to our possible defensive force are accurately stated, and the speculative treatment is logical." That this is so one need not dispute; at the same time it should not be forgotten that there is something to be said on the other side. Mr. Wheeler naturally urges very strongly the immediate formation of a National Reserve Corps, somewhat on the lines laid down by the "Association of the National Reserve Corps of the United States," which has already been established and is in active work. He believes that all this can be done "without altering in the slightest the position of the military in its subordination to the civil authority," and he further suggests that a new law should be passed that offensive war shall not be declared except by direct vote of the people, by a national referendum. Major-General Leonard Wood prefixes a commendatory preface, and the book is one which certainly calls for and should receive very careful attention on both sides of the Atlantic.

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Mr. John Lane has just published Mr. Stephen Phillips's new play, "Armageddon," which is described as "a modern epic drama in a prologue series of scenes, and an epilogue written partly in prose and partly in verse." The prologue and epilogue are both placed in Hell, and the scenes are Rheims, an English Orchard, the Office of the Press Bureau in Berlin, and Cologne. The play has been produced at the New Theatre by Mr. Martin Harvey and his company, and the whole of the proceeds of the first performance were handed over to the Wounded Allies' Relief Committee.

Messrs. C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd., the publishers of Mr. Hilaire Belloc's new war book, "The Two Maps of Europe," have just received the following interesting letter from Sir Gilbert Parker, Bart.:—"The last chapter in 'The Two Maps of Europe' is a most admirable epitome of lessons to be learned from the war. If everyone who attempts to understand what is going on in the field would read this chapter there would be a much clearer understanding of the professional side of the war, which must be understood if any clear conception is to be had of the peculiar nature of the conflict. Mr. Belloc shows what the surprises of the war have been; what old theories have been smashed, and how new factors of offence must be met. These twelve pages ought practically to be committed to memory by everyone who wants to grasp the character and the consequences of this war."

Mr. T. Fisher Unwin will publish next week a very interesting little book entitled, "The Psychology of the Kaiser," by Dr. Morton Prince, of Boston, U.S.A. It deals with the Kaiser's Divine Right illusion, his monomania in regard to the German autocracy and the army, his supreme sentiment of self-regard, and his violent antipathy to the Social Democratic Party which amounts to an obsession. As a specialist in abnormal psychology, Dr. Prince is peculiarly qualified to deal with the subject; his book, however, contains no difficult technicalities, and can be understood by any intelligent reader.

Lieutenant Harwood Steele, author of the popular book of naval verse, "Cleared for Action," published by Mr. T. Fisher Unwin, has arrived in England from Canada. He is now acting as Aide-de-Camp to his father, Major-General S. Benfield Steele, C.B., M.V.O., who is the Officer Commanding the 2nd Canadian Division of Overseas Forces. Major-General Steele has had a highly distinguished record; he served in the memorable Red River Expedition in 1870; commanded an Expedition into Kootenay, British Columbia, in 1887; was Commandant of Lord Strathcona's Corps during the Boer War, when he was twice mentioned in despatches, and was awarded the King's Medal with two clasps and the Queen's Medal with three clasps.

Messrs. Methuen & Co. are publishing a shilling edition of Mr. John Oxenham's "Coil of Care," the scene of which is laid partly in the Gallipoli peninsula during the Crimean War; a sevenpenny edition of "Into Temptation," by Mrs. Alice Perrin; and a two-shilling edition of "The Glad Heart," by Madame E. Maria Albanesi.

Messrs. Longmans, Green & Co. will publish this month "The Works and Life of Walter Bagehot," edited by his sister-in-law, Mrs. Russell Barrington, collected edition in 10 volumes. They will also publish shortly "The Prisoners of War Information Bureau in London: A Study," by Ronald F. Roxburgh, of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-law, Whewell International Law Scholar in the University of Cambridge. With an Introduction by L. Oppenheim, M.A., LL.D., Member of the Institute of International Law, Whewell Professor of International Law in the University of Cambridge.

The Dépôt for Prisoners of War at Norman Cross, Huntingdonshire, 1796 to 1816, by Thomas James Walker, M.D., F.R.C.S., which Messrs. Constable & Co. published a year or two ago before the war broke out, was so successful that the first edition was exhausted in some six months, and a second edition has now been issued. The main part of the book has not been altered, but Dr. Walker has added to the very interesting appendices several informing cuttings from newspapers and other contemporary documents. To the appendix dealing with the correspondence with the French Government relative to prisoners of war he has been able to make considerable additions. Now that the question of maintaining our German prisoners is necessarily receiving so much attention this extremely interesting and careful record of what was done in the same matter about a hundred years ago naturally arouses an increased interest, and we have no doubt that Dr. Walker's very instructive pages will be read, and sometimes perhaps re-read, by many to whom before the war they would have possessed merely an antiquarian value.

Miss M. D. Petre has just published through Messrs. Longmans a suggestive and stimulating little book entitled "Reflections of a Non-Combatant," which is intended to be not so much an indictment of German politics and German military methods as of the temper that lies behind such politics and such methods, whether they be found among Germans or others. War, she points out, must always be barbarous in a greater or less degree, and it is the temper which produces it, and not the way in which it is conducted, in which the true injury to human progress consists. She pertinently reminds her readers that Machiavellism, of which the modern name is Bernhardism, may be quite right from the purely national standpoint, and quite wrong when judged from the general human standpoint. These views Miss Petre sets forth with no little skill and ability, and what she has to say is certainly worth the most careful consideration, though there are points on which she can hardly expect to find universal assent.

Mr. T. Fisher Unwin has just published "Documents of the Great War," by Signor Giuseppe A. Andrialli, translated by Mr. Thomas Okey. Signor Guglielmo Ferrero, the eminent historian, contributes a commendatory Introduction. The book since its first publication towards the close of last year has been largely influential in educating Italian public opinion as to the issues of the Great War. Mr. Unwin has also published Lord Eversley's important book on "The Partitions of Poland." In this work Lord Eversley well remembered as Mr. Shaw-Lefevre for his many distinguished public services, gives a history of the three partitions of Poland—between Russia, Prussia, and Austria in 1772; between Russia and Prussia in 1793; and again between Russia, Prussia, and Austria in 1795.

Messrs. W. Glaisher, Ltd., 265, High Holborn, have issued a new Catalogue of Publishers' Reminders and other purchases which are offered at greatly reduced prices, and contains several items of importance and interest.

Messrs. Stanley Paul & Co. will publish shortly "War Medals and Their History," by W. Augustus Steward. From the inception of the War or Special Service Medal, Mr. Steward takes his readers through its history to the present day, and weaves into its romance technical explanations of great interest, not only to the student and collector, but to the general reader as well. There is also a special chapter on Continental and Foreign War Medals, which includes among others the Légion d'Honneur, Iron Cross, and Médaille Militaire. Appendices giving the past and present designations of the regiments comprising the British Army, and a reliable record of the average sale prices for War Medals and Decorations, based upon the auction room sales during the past ten years, makes the book a vade-mecum of the greatest value to all who collect or sell such recompenses won in battle. The work is fully illustrated with 258 photographic reproductions.

Messrs. Gay & Hancock have just published another of their popular shilling volumes of Mrs. Ella Wheeler Wilcox's poetry, with the title "Poems of Optimism." The general characteristics of Mrs. Wheeler Wilcox's works are now so well known that there is no need for any detailed review or criticism, particularly as her poems are now very widely read and appreciated both here and in America. As a fair sample of the rest we may perhaps quote the first verse of the first poem on "Greater Britain":—

"Our hearts were not set on fighting,
We did not pant for the fray,
And whatever wrongs need righting,
We would not have met that way.
But the way that has opened before us
Leads on through a blood-red field;
And we swear by the great God o'er us,
We will die, but we will not yield."

Mr. Fred T. Jane is now recognised as one of our leading authorities on naval matters, and his book, "Fighting Ships," is a standard work on the subject with which it deals, and which gives the reader full technical details, places, and photographs of every warship in existence. The ordinary reader, however, does not need all these special and minute particulars, and Mr. Jane has therefore in this handy half-crown volume, "The World's Warships, 1915," extracted from his larger work "such few salient details as will enable the general non-technical public to follow the naval war, using in a somewhat enlarged form the most up-to-date photographs available of various of the more important and interesting warships of the Powers, both belligerent and neutral." The navies have been grouped as follows:—Britain and her Allies, Germany and her Allies, the Neutral Powers. Mr. Jane proposes to issue the book every year, and as a useful and convenient statement of the naval forces available it is sure to make a wide appeal to all readers who are interested in the all-important subject with which it so competently deals.

Messrs. T. Nelson & Sons have just issued Mr. William Black's well-known novel, "White Wings," in their "Sevenpenny Copyright Novels," and Mr. Richard Whiteing's striking book, "The Island," in their "Shilling Library."

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—Oddly enough, seeing that it is composed of men of various parties, our new National Ministry is less well provided than some of its predecessors with members who have achieved literary as well as political distinction. There is, of course, Mr. Balfour, from whom we shall certainly get no more volumes of speculative philosophy while he holds his present tremendously arduous and responsible post; there is Mr. Winston Churchill, his immediate predecessor at the Admiralty, whose Life of his father, the famous Lord Randolph, was by common consent one of the best of modern biographies; there is Mr. Augustine Birrell, in whom a delightful essayist was lost when he laid down the pen for the Ministerial portfolio; and there is Lord Curzon, who has revealed no small skill as a poet, and who happens just now to have in the press a volume of papers and addresses on current topics, which is shortly to be issued by George Allen and Unwin under the title "Subjects of the Day." But these four names exhaust, I think, the list of those members of the new Cabinet who have done any noteworthy literary work. That, however, need assuredly give us nothing to worry about; for to-day is essentially the day of the men of action, and if we had half-a-dozen embryo Shakespeares or Miltons among our rulers, the last thing we should wish them to do would be to give even the smallest share of their attention to the worship of the Muses at this critical time.

There would have been nothing to grumble at, in the circumstances, if the claims of literature had been for the nonce overlooked in the list of Birthday Honours issued last week. It was therefore specially gratifying to note, in addition to the baronetcies bestowed upon Sir Gilbert Parker and Sir Henry Norman—both of whom are prominent in the political as well as in the literary world—the knighthood conferred upon the Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore, whose powerful and original genius has won such unstinted recognition in this country. Very appositely, a biographical study of Tagore, by Mr. Ernest Rhys, has just been published by Macmillan, and from it one may learn how fascinating is the personality of the Indian poet-knight, and how practical have been his efforts as an educational reformer among his own people, by whom we may be sure that the honour so deservedly bestowed upon him by the King-Emperor will be very deeply appreciated.

It was rather amusing to notice, the other day, that a popular novelist was called to order by one of the critics of his latest work for the curious offence—if offence it be—of putting a mention of his own name into the mouth of one of his characters. This little ebullition of harmless vanity seems to have administered a shock to the reviewer in question, who severely stigmatised it as a breach of good taste. There was a time, no doubt, when it would have been generally so regarded; but I am afraid it is quite hopeless, in these self-advertising days, to expect all authors to consider themselves bound to conform to such rigorous standards of literary propriety. And, after all, a mere passing allusion to himself by a present-day writer of fiction is surely not worth making such a fuss about, when it has become no uncommon thing for novelists of wide popularity to present themselves, under an easily penetrable *alias*, as the heroes or heroines of their own stories. Nowadays, we have learnt to extend a smiling toleration to these little weaknesses; and, so long as the works in which they are exhibited are in themselves interesting and attractive, the public seem well content to leave severe considerations of "taste" out of the question.

Probably authors, as a rule, stand much less in awe of critics who call them to account on such grounds as these than of the lynx-eyed and dreadfully precise persons who are for ever lying in wait to convict them of those small blunders, inconsistencies, and

anachronisms into which writers of "full-length" novels, however careful of method and accurate of memory, are liable at times to fall. I read, the other day, that someone has just taken the trouble to call belated attention to a slight and quite unimportant slip in the closing chapter of one of the novels of the late Henry Seton Merriman. It seems that the author only allowed one hour to elapse between the time when his hero was passing Gravesend pier on a steamer, and the time when the same character was walking on the Chelsea Embankment. *There* was a terrible inconsistency to raise a pother about, many years after the publication of the book in which it occurred! It might be worth the while of some of these microscopic critics to turn their attention to the works of Shakespeare, who, among numerous other "howlers," endows Bohemia with a sea-coast, makes Hamlet talk, after interviewing his father's ghost, about the bourne from which no traveller returns, and represents the same melancholy Prince as unaware of Horatio's return to Denmark until two months after the late King's death, although his student-friend explains that he came home expressly "to see your father's funeral." It would really be a very bad business for the Immortal Bard if he had to stand or fall by this kind of pettifoggery criticism.

From an article contributed by him to a recent issue of an evening paper, I gather that Mr. William Watson is dissatisfied with the effect upon the English public—so far as that effect has been visible—of the poetry specially called forth by the present war, and published in such profuse quantity since its outbreak. In some abstruse way, which I do not pretend to understand, Mr. Watson seems to connect our defective appreciation of topical war-verse with the alleged use by our Army of the wrong kind of shells; and he appears to regard these two things, which he places in such curious conjunction, as affording combined proof of our general wrong-headedness as a nation. No doubt we are all deplorably dense; but, so far as the war-poetry is concerned, I cannot help thinking that Mr. Watson does it more (and does the public less) than justice. We have had just a few fine and powerful poems which have really risen to the height of the occasion; and there is no reason whatever for suggesting that these have lacked due appreciation or failed of their effect. As for the remainder, I take it that their failure to impart any recognisable amount of inspiration to their readers has been due to the simple fact that they were not inspiring.

To travel from England to Russia just now is obviously an undertaking that demands some considerable degree of physical and moral courage; and Mrs. Rosa Newmarch is to be congratulated on the pluck she has shown in adventuring such a journey in the interests of her forthcoming book on "The Russian Arts," to which I made anticipatory allusion a few weeks ago. Her publisher, Mr. Herbert Jenkins, is able to assure us that the intrepid lady has taken the precaution of providing herself with "a life-saving waistcoat that is guaranteed to preserve its wearer's life without any personal effort"; but, however dependable this garment may be, let us hope she will not have occasion to put its efficacy to the test.

It would obviously be impertinent for any outsider to question the soundness of the decision to suspend for this year the annual banquet of the Royal Literary Fund. But it may be permissible to express the hope that other charities connected with the book-world will not too hastily decide to follow this lead as long as the war lasts. If they do, it is to be feared that they will run the risk of sustaining heavy financial loss, just at a time when there are likely to be unusually urgent calls upon their assistance.

"The Wife Who Found Out," announced by Werner Laurie, is commended as "a story exhibiting a vast amount of shrewd knowledge of human nature." Its title seems at least to suggest a piquant familiarity with the normal habits and customs of wives.

June 11.

JACOB OMNIUM.

Messrs. T. & T. Clark have just published a new volume in the well-known series of "The Greater Men and Women of the Bible," edited by Dr. James Hastings. It covers the names from Hezekiah to Malachi, and includes most of the Prophets, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Ezekiel, Job, Nehemiah, Zechariah, and other minor Prophets. Isaiah and Jeremiah are each treated with some fulness, Isaiah under the three heads, the Life of Isaiah, the Work of Isaiah, the Deutero-Isaiah. Jeremiah in like fashion is dealt with from the three standpoints of his career, his character, and his creed. Job we find discussed under the heads, the Problem of Job, the Book of Job, and the Characters in Job, and the whole handling of this very difficult book is exceedingly helpful and instructive. The only woman included seems to be Esther, and her story is very usefully and sympathetically told. Dr. Hastings has certainly planned the volume with great care, and the writers he has enlisted in its production have done their work quite admirably.

Messrs. Cassell & Co. have added to their useful *Work Handbooks* a helpful volume entitled "Motor Cycles: a Practical Handbook on their Building, Care, and Management," edited by Mr. Bernard E. Jones, editor of "Work." It is clear, plain, and intelligible throughout, fully illustrated, and can be very heartily commended to those for whom it has been prepared.

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. BURNS & OATES will shortly issue "The Goddess of Ghosts," by Father C. C. Martindale.

MESSRS. J. M. DENT & SONS will publish shortly "An Introduction to the Study of African Languages," by Prof. Meinof, translated into English by Miss A. Werner, Lecturer in Swahili at King's College, London. The book aims at showing the value of African languages, and at placing before the non-specialist the main morphological features of the three great African Language-families, the Sudan, Hamitic, and Bantu; also "A Mind Awakened," a new novel, by Henry Bordeaux, author of "The Fear of Living."

MESSRS. JOHN LONG will shortly publish a new novel entitled, "Honour in Pawn," by H. Maxwell, author of "The Beloved Premier," &c.; also "The Heart of Joanna," by Robert A. Hamblin.

MESSRS. LONGMANS, GREEN & CO. have nearly ready "The Annual Register," a Review of Public Events at Home and Abroad for the Year 1914; "The Annual Charities Register and Digest: Being a Classified Register of Charities in or available for the Metropolis, together with a Digest of Information respecting Legal and Voluntary Means for the Prevention and Relief of Distress and the Improvement of the Condition of the Poor," with an elaborate Index, and an Introduction, "How to Help Cases of Distress," by C. S. Loch, Secretary to the Council of the Charity Organisation Society, London; "The Sources and Literature of English History, from the Earliest Times to about 1485," by Charles Gross, Ph.D., Harvard University. Second edition, revised and enlarged; "In Mr. Knox's Country," by E. C. Somerville and Martin Ross, with 8 Illustrations in two colours by E. C. Somerville. Mr. Knox's country is that district of South-Western Ireland which was hunted by the hounds of which Flurry Knox was the M.F.H. Some new friends will be met with in that cheerful country,

and many old ones, amongst them the narrator, Major Sinclair Yeates, R.M., Mrs. Knox of Aussolas, and Mr. and Mrs. Flurry Knox; also "The House Fly: A Slayer of Men," by F. W. Fitzsimmons, F.Z.S., F.R.M.S., Director, Port Elizabeth Museum. The book will be fully illustrated. They also have in the press "Black and White in the Southern States: A Study of the Race Problem in the United States from a South African Point of View," by Maurice S. Evans, C.M.G., author of "Black and White in South-East Africa"; "The Religious Education of the Child, with special reference to Sunday School Work," by Robert R. Rusk, M.A., Ph.D., Author of "Introduction to Experimental Education"; "Life of John Edward Nassau Molesworth, D.D., an Eminent Divine of the Nineteenth Century," by Sir Guilford Lindsey Molesworth, K.C.I.E. With Illustrations; "Was John Wycliffe a Negligent Pluralist? and John de Trevisa: His Life and Work," by H. J. Wilkins, D.D., Vicar of Westbury-on-Trym, and Minister of Redland Chapel, Bristol.

MESSRS. SAMPSON LOW & CO. announce for early publication "Germany Embattled," by Oswald Garrison Villard, in which he comes to the conclusion that it would be best even for Germany that Germany should be defeated in the war.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & CO. announce "The Book of France," edited by Miss Winifred Stephens. It is to be published in aid of the distressed people in the French territory occupied by the Germans; also an English edition of "The Harbour," by Mr. Ernest Poole, to take the place of an edition which was lost in the sinking of the *Lusitania*.

MESSRS. STANLEY PAUL & CO. announce for early publication "School for Lovers," by E. B. de Rendon; Mr. Archibald Marshall's new novel, "Rank and Riches"; a popular one-shilling edition of "Western Men with Eastern Morals," by W. N. Willis, with an Introduction by R. A. Bennett, editor of *Truth*; a 14th edition of Dolf Wyllarde's realistic story of stage life, "The Career of Beauty Darling."

THE UNIVERSITY TUTORIAL PRESS will shortly publish "Teaching: Its Nature and Varieties," by B. Dumville, M.A.; "Anthology of English Prose," by S. E. Coggin, M.A., and A. R. Weekes, M.A.

MR. T. FISHER UNWIN will publish next week Mr. J. W. Headlam's important book, "The History of Twelve Days—July 24th to August 4th, 1914: An Account of the Negotiations preceding the Outbreak of the War, based on the Official Publications," an attempt to analyse and explain in detail the events which immediately preceded, and were the cause of, the present war.

Obituary.

Melven.—May 18th, killed in action at Festubert, aged 36, Lance-Corporal Donald C. Melven, 4th Cameron Highlanders, eldest son of the late Mr. Joseph Melven, bookseller, of Inverness. He succeeded to the well-known book-selling business of Melven Brothers, Union Street, Inverness, which, under his capable management, was proving very successful. His many friends in Inverness and the district will very much regret his premature death.

Newbitt.—May 16th, died in Flanders from wounds received in action, Mr. Richard Newbitt, aged 23, of the 5th King's Liverpool Regiment, and previously one of the staff of Messrs. Henry Young & Sons, Ltd., booksellers, Liverpool. He had been with his firm for over eight years, and had made himself a general favourite; sad news of his early death has been received with very great regret.

Notices of Books.

The Valley of Fear. By Sir A. Conan Doyle. (Smith, Elder & Co.)—The many friends and admirers of that unique and distinguished detector of mysterious crimes, Mr. Sherlock Holmes, will be exceedingly glad to know that he has not been dead after all these past years, but that he still flourishes in full enjoyment of his wonderful faculties. The very remarkable skill with which he deduces his results from apparently the smallest and most insignificant details is as fertile as ever, and as before it is very ingeniously contrasted with the expert investigations of the Scotland Yard detective, of course very much to the advantage of the amateur. The central incident of the murder at Birlstone Manor has been most successfully conceived, and in working out the various scenes and incidents Sir Arthur Conan Doyle shows that his pen has in no way lost its cunning. It was, indeed, a stroke of genius to make the single dumb-bell the pivot of the plot, and the idea that Mr. John Douglas should be supposed almost to have murdered himself is quite worthy the highest accomplishments of the author's imagination. The whole story is very graphically and realistically told, and it must take a very high place in the long line of the Sherlock Holmes stories. The other part of the tale—the description of the events which preceded Mr. John Douglas's coming to Birlstone—though dealing with difficult material, is, if possible, even more sensational and exciting, and the last scene, where M'Murdo confesses himself to be Birdy Edwards, the famous Pinkerton detective, and is thus the immediate instrument of bringing the whole gang of "The Scowlers" to justice, is one of the most thrilling and powerful scenes we have ever met with. We need not wonder that those of the gang who managed to escape should hate their captor with deadly hatred, and Birdy Edwards, afterwards John Douglas, must have felt that his life was ever after insecure. And though he escaped his fate at Birlstone, later on it met him in his supposed drowning in the gale off St. Helena. It is rather a pity that the author could not have arranged for him to escape and so defy his enemies, but Sir Arthur is a past master in the technique of romance writing, and, no doubt, he knows better than we do which ending is really the most effective and artistic.

An Englishman's Recollections of Egypt, 1863-1887: With an Epilogue dealing with the present time, 1914. By Baron de Kusel (Bey), sometime English Controller-General of Egyptian Customs, &c., with thirty-two Illustrations and a Map. (John Lane.)—At the present moment Egypt is of considerable interest to Englishmen, particularly as it has been declared a British Protectorate and the Ruler advanced to the dignity of Sultan. Baron de Kusel, who here gives us some very readable and interesting reminiscences, does not deal with very recent times, as the bulk of his book ends in 1887—now nearly thirty years ago—but what he has to say is not less interesting on that account. An English boy, educated at Cheltenham, he almost by accident went to Egypt when quite young to assist in the management of a cotton-ginning factory at Zajazig, and his account of his occupations and diversions at that time, some forty years ago, is distinctly readable. Thence he found his way into an English office at Alexandria, and while there he met the famous Zobeir Pasha, was present at the opening festivities of the Suez Canal, and later was appointed to the Egyptian Customs Service, and speedily became Chief of the Administrative Department. He was still at Alexandria just before the bombardment, which he was able to watch from the safety of a British ship. He naturally has a good deal to say about Arabi Pasha and his rebellion. The trial, according to our author, was almost a farce, if not quite, as the proceedings were pretty well arranged beforehand. Of course there were reasons why the rebels should not pay the extreme penalty for their crimes. A detailed account

of the massacre of Hicks Pasha and his army by the Mahdi makes curious reading at this distance of time, and what we are told about Zobeir Pasha is well worth notice. The Baron was, he says, at Zobeir's house when Zobeir received a telegram direct from Gordon appointing him Sub-Governor-General of the Soudan. He was not, however, allowed to go, but instead was sent to Gibraltar. He felt sure that if he had been allowed to go Gordon's life would not have been lost. The Epilogue, dealing with recent events, tells us a good deal about Prince Hussein, the newly-appointed Sultan of Egypt, and what the author has to relate about him is full of interest. The book altogether is lively, entertaining, and instructive, and if it mainly deals with times and events which are now rather forgotten it is none the less valuable on that account. The Baron has seen a good deal of Egypt, and sets forth his reminiscences in a very graphic and attractive fashion.

The Mysterious Three. By William Le Queux. (Ward, Lock & Co.)—Lovers of sensational literature have for long been satisfied that to purchase a volume by this able and prolific writer is a safe investment. They are certain of thrills and excitement galore, and are equally sure of a satisfactory ending to a delightfully absorbing narrative. In his latest book we have a sordid story of blackmailing, in which a mummy and coiners are involved. A mysterious mansion in Grosvenor Square is the scene of all kinds of weird happenings, and the investigations of the hero, Richard Ashton, who sets himself the task of clearing up matters for the love he bears Vera, lead him into all kinds of dangerous and exciting adventures in tracking down the villainous blackmailers. While on a visit to Sir Charles Thorold, Vera's father, a strange visitor calls at the country house in Rutland, and on returning from a hunt Ashton finds the family flown. He eventually tracks Vera to the Riviera, where he meets Paulton and his accomplice, the Baronne de Coudron, who, after every variety of villainy, are finally laid by the heels. Mr. Le Queux has blended mystery and adventure in his usual skilful manner all through the story, and the unravelling of the plot will be followed by the reader with the keenest and most vivid interest.

The Game of Liberty. By E. Phillips Oppenheim. With a Frontispiece by Cyrus Cuneo. (Ward, Lock & Co.)—American multi-millionaires are sometimes strange and eccentric persons, but in virtue of their success as money-makers they are generally allowed to have their own way. We therefore need not complain when Mr. Oppenheim sets before us the doings of Mr. Joseph H. Bundercombe, the inventor of Bundercombe's Reapers, and tells us that he takes his relaxation in acting like a fraudulent adventurer. In the first part of the story he certainly acts the part to the life, particularly as he is assisted by his very delightful and attractive daughter Eva. We do not wonder that Mr. Cullen, the Scotland Yard detective, is completely nonplussed, for Mr. Bundercombe acts so exactly like the thief he personates that even the reader for the time being is completely taken in. When the secret is revealed and Mr. Bundercombe is brought back, rather against his will and by the compulsion of Mrs. Bundercombe, the adventures he still passes through are certainly very diverting, but they are not quite as exciting as those that went before. How he entered with much gusto into English politics, and embraced the side opposed to his son-in-law to be, and was nevertheless in effect the chief factor in his son-in-law's election, we must leave the reader to discover in detail. How far such things could really happen in English elections nowadays we need not discuss. The scenes are perhaps exaggerated, but they are certainly exceedingly lively and entertaining.

Publications of the Week.

Religion and Theology.

- BOAS (Mrs. F. S.) *Comrades-in-Arms*. 12mo, pp. 92. *Gardner, Darton* swd., net 6d; net 1/
- BRENT (Chas. H., Bishop) *Prisoner of Hope and other Sermons*. Cr. 8vo. *Longmans* net 5/
- BROWN (Arthur Judson) *Unity and Missions*. Cr. 8vo. *Revell* net 5/
- CAUTLEY (A. E.) *Talks on Victories of Love in Many Lands*. 4to, swd. *United Council for Missionary Education* net 6d
- DE VORAGINE (Jacobus) *The Festivals of Our Lady*. (From the Golden Legends.) 12mo. *Talbot* net 1/
- HEWLETT (Alfred) *Sound Doctrine*. Cr. 8vo, pp. 212. *Thynne* net 1/
- IN HO' SIGNO. *Hymns of War and Peace*. With Tunes. 12mo, pp. 59. *S.P.C.K.* net 6d
- LEGG (J. Wickham) *On the Retention of the Word Obey in the Marriage Service of the Book of Common Prayer*. 8vo, pp. 108. *Gardner, Darton* net 2/6
- McCLURE (M. L.) *The Church Catechism Explained to Children*. For Scholars without a Teacher. Illustrated. Cr. 8vo, pp. 168. *S.P.C.K.* net 2/
- MACDUFF (J. R.) *The Bow in the Cloud*. (Sanctuary Booklets.) 32mo. *Allen* net 6d; leather 1/
- MAGUTH (Rev. Stephen Shepherd) *Bible Essays for the Times*. Cr. 8vo, pp. 299. *Drane* 6/
- ROSS (Dr.) *Seeing the Invisible and other Sermons*. Cr. 8vo. *E. Stock* net 2/6
- SEAYER (R. W.) *What of Our Dead in the Great War*. 12mo, pp. 72. *MacBride* (Belfast) net 1/

Archaeology.

- WALTERS (H. B.) *The Church Bells of Shropshire: Their Founders, Inscriptions, Traditions, and Uses*. Royal 8vo, pp. 485.—xxvi. Plates. *Woodall, Minshall & Co.* (Oswestry).

Art and Architecture.

- HAYDEN (Arthur) *Chats on Old Silver*. Illustrated. 8vo, pp. 424. *Unwin* net 5/
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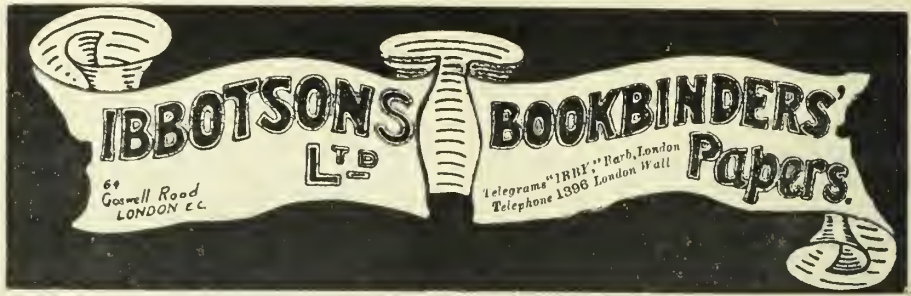
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Shelbourne, Fredk. Wm., 37, Rancorn Road, Margate,
and carrying on business at 165, Northdown Road,
Margate. Stationer. At Official Receiver's,
Canterbury. June 16.

Dissolutions of Partnership.

Johnson, E., & Co. (Dudley Edward Bateman and
Edward Kenway), 48, Frederick Street, Bir-
mingham. Paper Merchants. Feb. 4. Debts due
to and owing by the said late firm will be received
and paid respectively by the said Dudley Edward
Bateman, who will continue to carry on the said
business under the present style and at the same
address.

Martin, B., & Co. (Barnett Martin and Max Zettler),
1, Short Hill, Nottingham. Box and Pattern Card
Makers and General Printers. May 8. Debts due
to and owing by the said late firm will be received
and paid by the said Barnett Martin, who will
continue to carry on the said business.

Winding-up of a Public Company.

Outwood Paper and Board Co., Ltd., Radcliffe. Lq.,
E. Hull, 33, Brazennose Street, Manchester, C.A.
Meeting of Creditors at Manchester Society of
Chartered Accountants, 60, Spring Gardens,
Manchester. June 21.

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About £650 required.</p> | <p>9 Fancy Stationery and Fancy Goods Business. With Library attached. Main road, good class North-West district. Turnover nearly £1,400. Net rental only £30 a year. Established by vendor about 20 years.
About £1,200 required.</p> |
| <p>2 Stationery and Fancy Goods Business, with Lending Library attached. Good class residential N.W. district. Turnover about £1,300. Net profit about £240. Good house, garden.
About £800 required.</p> | <p>10 Stationery, Fancy Goods and Newsagency Business, Essex, best position in country market town. Rent low, only £70 per annum. Very good house, every convenience. Branch business can also be obtained. A very excellent opportunity for an energetic man. Capital required to purchase the two businesses.
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About £1,200 required.</p> | <p>11 Stationery, Bookselling and Printing Business (no News). Established business of many years standing, doing a high-class trade in delightful residential town of Kent only 23 miles out. Showing a net profit of over £600 per annum. Commanding business premises. Very fine position. Exceptional opportunity of acquiring a most lucrative business.
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Payne, J. Blondel Parva.
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Children's Magazine. Oct., 1911, No. 20; Jan., 1914, No. 47.
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Goodnow's Comparative Administration Law. Putnam's. 1895.
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- HIRSCHFELD BROS, Ltd., 263, High Holborn, W.C.**
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Bulletin of British Ornithologists' Club. Vols. 51 and 53.

HUDSON, E. F., 116, New Street, Birmingham.
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Life of Francis Thompson. By John Thompson. Alfred Allwood Press.

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Newton, Isaac. Principia. 1687. Imperfect may do.
— Commercium Epistolicum. 1712.
Shortrede, R. Logarithms of Sines and Tangents. 1849.

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Smith, Dr. David. In the Days of His Flesh.
Everywoman's Encyclopædia. Parts 47 and 48.

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Topo. By G. E. Brucifille. Illustrated by Kate Greenaway. M. Ward. 1880.

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Army Service Corps Training. Parts 1, 3, 4.
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Young's Rural Economy. 2nd ed. 1773.
Cotterill's Exam. of Doctrine of Value. 1831.

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History of the Grand United Order of Oddfellows.
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Special positions at rates to be procured at the Office. Liberal Series Discount allowed.

Trade and Literary Gossip.

For King and Country.—The following have been received since our last list :—

Messrs. W. & G. FOYLE, Charing Cross Road.—E. Bradley, 1st Surrey Rifles; E. Holloran, 7th London R.F.; H. Lillington, St. Pancras, London Rifle Brigade; R. Taylor, 16th Middlesex; P. Clifford, 6th Middlesex.

Messrs. W. H. SMITH & SON (Forty-first List, making 913 total up to date).—C. St. G. Waite, R.F.A.; W. J. Brooks, Royal West Kent; H. E. Hughes, R.H.A.; J. R. Edwards, R.F.A.; H. Rosser, 3rd Monmouth; H. W. Lipscombe, 20th County of London; H. J. Jarvis, R.F.A.; C. Dawson, Lincoln; F. J. Read, R.F.A.; C. Dawson, Northants; G. W. Newman, Rifle Brigade; E. J. Clifton, 15th County of London; J. C. Groves, R.F.A.; C. R. Anderson and J. Berry, Rifle Brigade; E. King, East Kent; G. W. Fry, 19th County of London; Oliver Ellis, R.A.M.C.; H. Simpson, Royal Engineers; W. Toseland, E. W. Ayling, and C. W. Boston, King's Royal Rifle Corps.

Messrs. Spicer Bros., Ltd., have recently moved into the fine new building which they have erected adjoining their old premises in New Bridge Street, E.C. Large as this is, it is only about two-fifths of the huge structure which will ultimately occupy the island site bounded by New Bridge, Tudor, William, and Kingscote Streets.

Notting Hill Gate.—Owing to ill health, Mr. G. J. Farrington has been obliged to relinquish his bookselling and stationery business at 2, Pembridge Road, Notting Hill Gate, after twenty-four years' occupation. The purchaser, Miss M. Ingram, was introduced, and the transfer carried out by Messrs. F. T. Evans & Co., trade valuers, 8, Paternoster Row.

Messrs. Bailey Brothers, Wholesale Bookbinders, Clarendon Buildings, Highbury, N., have just purchased the whole of the stock, plant, and brass blocks of Messrs. Case & Carter, of Old Street, E.C.

Croydon.—The stationery and fancy goods business of Mr. Leonard Clarke, 3, Selsdon Road, has been purchased by Mrs. M. K. Presland. Messrs. Holmes & Son, valuers, 33, Paternoster Row, E.C., sold the business and conducted the transfer in the interests of both parties.

The Printers' Pension, Almshouse and Orphan Asylum Corporation, Gray's Inn Chambers, High Holborn, W.C., makes a special appeal for help during the present trying period. It is now more than ever necessary to provide the pensions now paid, as the recipients depend almost entirely on what they receive from this source. The Secretary, Mr. Joseph Mortimer, will be glad to acknowledge any donations or subscriptions sent to him at the above address.

Mr. James Tregaskis, who has just removed from the premises 232, High Holborn, where he had been established nearly thirty years, to handsome new premises at 66, Great Russell Street, at the corner of Bury Street, opposite the British Museum, to inaugurate the opening of his new rooms is sending out an attractive catalogue with a very effective cover designed by Mr. Austin J. Young. It contains many items of more than usual value and interest, and will be found worthy of very careful attention.

Messrs. J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd., have in active preparation five new volumes of the Wayfarers' Library, to be issued before the end of this month. The special feature of this issue is an entirely new book by Mr. A. G. Gardiner, "The War Lords," in which the author treats of the origins, issues, and conduct of the war in the light of the personalities of the principal actors, and their influence upon the world of tragedy of to-day. Amongst others, there will be chapters upon King Albert, the Kaiser, Lord Fisher, Sir John Jellicoe, Sir John French, General Joffre, General von Hindenburg, M. Venizelos, &c. The book will contain fifteen portraits and drawings by Clive Gardiner. The other books in this issue will be a second volume of the Story of the Regiments, "The Seaforth Highlanders," by F. W. Walker; and "Once Upon a Time," by H. B. Marriott Watson; "The Serious Wooing," by John Oliver Hobbes; "Dancing Days," by J. J. Bell.

Mr. Frank Fox, the author of "The Agony of Belgium" (just published by Hutchinson & Co.), who was recently Special Correspondent to the *Morning Post*, will shortly be leaving for the front. He has received from M. F. Ingelbleek, Secretary to His Majesty the King of the Belgians, the following letter:—

"It is a gracious thought which has inspired you to send to the King a copy of your work, 'The Agony of Belgium.' His Majesty is very sensible of your kindness, and has charged me to send to you his best thanks and expressions of his sympathy. The King has been extremely touched by the signal homage which you render in your interesting work to the loyalty of the Belgian people and to the valour of the Belgian Army. Such evidence of sympathy as yours is truly consoling and gratifying."

Lieut.-Col. F. A. Symons, R.A.M.C., author of the novel, "Cicely in Ceylon," lately published by Messrs. Lynwood & Co., has recently been awarded the D.S.O.

The Iris Publishing Company, of 30 and 31, Furnival Street, Holborn, is undertaking to publish the works of certain French and Belgian authors who, during the present crisis, are unable to have their works published as usual in France. The first book they have issued is a French novel by Mademoiselle Lea Laurent, entitled "La véridique histoire de Louise York" ("Louise York's True History"), a work which possesses many of the characteristic features of the popular French novel. The publication of these books is, we are told, undertaken not with any idea of pecuniary profit but solely from the feeling that something should be done for French and Belgian authors who are victims of the war. From this point of view, at any rate, the venture deserves support, and has our very hearty commendation.

The Report of the Library of Congress for the year ending June 30th, 1914, is a volume running to over 200 pages, and contains a good deal of interesting information. It states that the accessions of Printed Books and Pamphlets received during the year numbered 125,054; Maps and Charts, 6,489; Music, 32,675; Prints, 16,318; Miscellaneous, 186. The chief gift of the year which is the second collection of more than 4,200 volumes to reinforce the collection of Semitic given by him to the Library in 1912.

Messrs. Williams & Norgate, in response to numerous representations received by them from the trade, have decided to extend the period during which a week's "window display" may be given to August 31st next. Full particulars with prospectuses and showcards may be had of them on application.

Mr. Julius M. Price, the well-known war artist, has been specially commissioned to proceed to Italy to represent the *Illustrated London News* at the scene of the hostilities. Mr. Price is also the well-known author of "Dame Fashion," which contains coloured illustrations of the prevailing fashions of each year for nearly a century and a half. He has also written several books on travel.

Mr. James Baker's popular volume, "Austria: Her People and their Homelands," published a short time since, receives additional interest from the fact that it provides the reader with vivid and accurate descriptions of many of the principal scenes and places in the present war, particularly as regards Bukovina, Galicia and Przemysl.

The Rev. William A. Sunday, D.D., popularly known as "Billy Sunday," is said to be the most conspicuous Christian leader in America to-day, and certainly he occupies just now a large place in the public eye. Mr. W. T. Ellis is, therefore, well advised in preparing for the general public "The Billy Sunday Book: Life, Evangelism, Message, with his own words which have won thousands for Christ," just issued in this country by the Vir Publishing Company, of Imperial Arcade, Ludgate Circus, E.C. Mr. Ellis tells us that Mr. Sunday has not seen either the manuscript or the proofs, but that he has authorised the use of the messages which he is accustomed to deliver in his meetings, and which comprise more than half the contents of the volume. We need not go into any further detail, and it is sufficient to say that Mr. Ellis has given us a book of unusual interest; he provides his readers with a vivid and forceful presentation of the popular preacher, which is both effective and permanent, and will no doubt prove very useful to all who are engaged in the great work of evangelising the masses of the people here as well as in America.

The active intervention of Italy in the war gives a new interest to Mr. John Presland's poetic drama, "Manin and the Defence of Venice," dealing with the Austrian siege of Venice in 1849, and also to Mrs. Houghton's book, "In the Enemy's Country," which describes the war conditions in Italy at the beginning of the war. Both books are published by Messrs. Chatto & Windus, and just now deserve special attention.

The new part of "Book Prices Current" covers the Book Sales from March 1st to April 27th. As is only to be expected just now the totals realised at the twelve sales here included are not very large except in the case of the Library of the late General Brayton Ives, which was sold in America and realised about £17,500, and the Red Cross Sale at Christie's which produced over £3,300.

Messrs. George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., have added to their attractive shilling "Sesame Library" "The Crown of Wild Olive" and "Sesame and Lilies," two of the most popular of Ruskin's works.

Messrs. Stanley Paul & Co. notify us that they have just been informed that their abbreviated address, "Gucien London," for telegrams and cables is not in order, and words registered subsequent to the 1st July last are prohibited during the present European crisis. It will therefore be necessary for their correspondents to address future messages in full.

Hill's English-Russian Vest Pocket Dictionary will be found exceedingly useful for all, whether civilians or soldiers, who have dealings with Russia or the Russians. It provides a helpful self-instructor, with ample examples of conversations and idioms. It has been compiled by S. J. Luboff, and makes a useful addition to the series of "Vest Pocket Dictionaries" which Mr. Leopold B. Hill, 2, Langham Place, W., is publishing.

The Rev. Owen Watkins has already earned a wide reputation as an energetic Chaplain to the Forces and a vivid writer on the campaigns in which he has already taken part in that capacity. He has now given us, through Mr. C. H. Kelly, an equally fascinating and realistic account of the scenes and incidents he has seen in the present war, particularly in connection with his work as Chaplain attached to a Field Ambulance. The book mainly consists of articles contributed to the "Methodist Recorder," "written on the march, in bivouac and billet," and it is largely this fact which gives them their value and interest. As Mr. Watkins modestly says, "They attempt to present a faithful picture of the life lived and the work done by those splendid troops who undoubtedly saved France, and perhaps the whole of Europe, from the military despotism of Germany." It deals with those great episodes in the first part of the war, the retreat from Mons, the battles of the Marne and the Aisne, the terrible struggle at Ypres to bar the road to Calais, and the everyday life of the soldiers in trenches and billets. Mr. Watkins writes throughout with naturalness and vigour; he makes the reader see the various scenes with his eyes, and the whole book leaves on the mind perhaps the most vivid impression of the scenes described that we have yet read.

Messrs. Longmans, Green & Co. have arranged to issue in their Pocket Library an edition of William Morris's poem "The Pilgrims of Hope," which attracted much attention when it appeared recently in the 24th volume of "The Collected Works of William Morris."

Messrs. T. Werner Laurie, Ltd., have issued the 105th thousand of that curious and exciting book, "The Secrets of the German War Office," by Dr. A. K. Graves. It now includes particulars of the author's missions to Germany and America for the British Secret Service, which were suppressed in the original edition, and are now published for the first time.

Messrs. Methuen are issuing a cheap two-shilling edition of Mr. and Mrs. Williamson's popular novel, "The Love Pirate." They are also adding "The Heart of the Ancient Wood," by Mr. C. G. D. Roberts, to their Shilling Series, and Miss Gertrude Bacon's "All About Flying" to their "Shilling Sport Series."

Messrs. Miles, Son, & Easter are selling at the Vicarage, Marham, West Norfolk, next Wednesday, the 23rd inst., the library of the late Rev. D. Lamplugh, including Hasted's "History of Kent," 12 volumes, 1800; "Heads of the Painters," 1694; "Encyclopædia Britannica," and other works of importance.

"The Soul of Germany," by Dr. Thomas F. A. Smith, lately English Lecturer in the University of Erlangen, which Messrs. Hutchinson & Co. have recently published, is proving a remarkable success. Two large editions have been exhausted in three weeks, and the demand is now greater than ever. It is described in the sub-title as "A Twelve Years' Study of the People from Within," and every page bears witness to the completeness of the author's knowledge about the people he so vividly and so accurately describes. He frankly tells his readers that "though his sojourn in the Fatherland was a pleasant and instructive experience . . . yet during eleven of those years he never wavered in his conviction that Germans look upon England as their inveterate enemy and hate



her." He makes quite clear the personal responsibility of the Kaiser for the war, and he gives several significant facts to show that war was decided on some time before the declaration. He tells us that the greatest lesson to be learned from the present struggle is that the armed forces of Germany must be under popular control! in future, not under the control of a divine-right Kaiser. Further, he strongly urges that the principle should be established that those who provoked the war should be made personally responsible. "If," he says, "the German autocracy, including the Kaiser and the Crown Prince, receive punishment commensurate with their crimes, that will act as a deterrent to all autocratic rulers for generations.

THE CHEMISTS OF HELL, 1915.

We are Chemists of Deutschland, that is Chemists of Hell;
We can poison, and strangle, and suffocate well;
We are Chemists to order, and bound to obey
The behest of the Kaiser, though he bids us to slay.
We fight not as men with rifle or sword,
But with poison, and torture, obey our Hell Lord.
J. B.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING, — The remarkable achievement of Aaron's rod in the Biblical narrative is called to mind by the vast preponderance of war-books, of one kind and another, among the current literature of the day. You have only to run your eye down any week's list of new or forthcoming publications to realise how increasingly the book-market is becoming dominated by the one overwhelming and all-absorbing topic of the time. That it should be so is, I suppose, inevitable in the circumstances; for, as this tremendous and unprecedented world-struggle proceeds, it becomes more and more difficult to deflect one's attention or interest to anything that has not at least some bearing upon it, and we must assume that these innumerable books on subjects relating to the war are merely keeping pace with the demand for such works on the part of the reading public. One is not surprised to hear that there is already ample material available for a second volume of that useful bibliography of "Books on the Great War," of which a beginning was made early in the year; and one can only wonder how many further volumes will be necessary, and how many years will elapse, before a compilation so entitled can be regarded as complete. Nevertheless, it remains as true as ever it was that readers cannot—or at any rate should not—live by war literature alone, and that there never was a time when the mental relaxation and diversion which books of normal kinds supply was more needed than in these days of constant anxiety and unrelieved strain and stress. It is comforting, therefore, to learn that the demand for fiction of the better class, as well as for new works of merit in other categories, still remains fairly good, and that the Aaron's rod wielded by the war-writer has not yet quite succeeded in swallowing up contemporary literature of every other kind.

Quite recently I had occasion to allude to the justifiable pride with which we are able to regard the record of the book trade, and of the book world generally, in supplying men for the defence of the country in her hour of need. If I am tempted to revert to the subject, it is because I have since come to know of a concrete instance which seems to me specially noteworthy, and of which I am sure you will be interested to hear. My informant is Mr. Herbert Jenkins, who tells me that since the war began he has lost the whole of his male staff with the exception of the office-boy and one member who has made three fruitless endeavours to pass the doctor. Of those who have thus answered their country's call, three have been promoted and two wounded. This is a showing of which Mr. Jenkins has every reason to be proud; and the wonder is that the energetic young firm of which he is the head should have succeeded, in spite of the difficulties necessarily entailed by this almost complete change of *personnel*, in maintaining so good a level of productive activity during the past ten months. It is interesting, too, in the circumstances, to notice that Mr. Jenkins is not among those publishers who have thought it expedient or desirable to concentrate, wholly or chiefly, on war-books.

Seeing that it is only five years short of half-a-century since Germany's mad ambition to dominate the world was born of her easy triumph over France in the war of 1870, special interest should attach to the book which the veteran Mr. Frederic Harrison is about to publish with Mr. Fisher Unwin, under the title "The German Peril." The volume, it is announced, will comprise a collection of papers on the relations of Germany and this country, written by Mr. Harrison at various periods during the last fifty years. It will thus embody the results of his observation of the successive stages in the development of the furious Anglophobia, inspired by jealousy of our naval and colonial supremacy, which has found its goal in the present terrible war, and its most characteristic expression in the ridiculous "Hymn of Hate." As

everyone knows who is acquainted with his personality and writings, the venerable English exponent of "Positivism" is as little of a militarist fire-eater as any man living. But he has been very emphatic in warning his country of the true gravity of the German menace, and his promised book will show us how closely and observantly he has watched its growth from the 'seventies of last century until now.

Heavy are the trials of book-reviewers! I see that a member of the fraternity has been getting into trouble for describing the author of a certain new book as "Mrs.," whereas she is really in a state of single blessedness. This is an old and recurrent difficulty for reviewers, who frequently find themselves confronted with a feminine name on a title-page, without any guidance as to the status of its owner. In pre-"feminist" times, it used to be considered the right thing, in such cases, to give the lady "the benefit of the doubt" by assuming her to be married. Nowadays, however, such an imputation is as likely as not to be indignantly resented; so the unhappy reviewer's lot is harder than ever.

I wonder if you have noticed the curiously pronounced affection which our present-day novelists have developed for the name of "Peter." Most of us can remember the time when a "Peter" in fiction was almost invariably a more or less dull-witted figure of fun. But, for some reason or other, the fashion has changed, and "Peter" has become in the hands of the up-to-date novelist an entirely sympathetic and even a more or less heroic character. Moreover, the name crops up again and again, both in novels and plays, until it threatens to become a positive obsession. We have just had, by the way, a "Peter Paragon" as the hero of a new novel; and since this seems to suggest that the perfect "Peter" of fiction has now been attained, perhaps we may hope that an overdone fashion in nomenclature will soon begin to "peter out."

Although we have been growing more and more cosmopolitan since the beginning of the war, and have become quite accustomed to the production of French and Belgian journals in our midst, the issue of a series of new French novels in London by an English publishing house still seems a rather bold adventure. However, let us wish the new Iris Publishing Company good luck in its courageous experiment, the success of which depends, I take it, upon whether we have, even in these days of the *Entente Cordiale*, a sufficiently large public capable of reading French with comfort.

That indefatigable biographer Mr. Lewis Melville may be trusted to make an extremely interesting book of his promised memoir of John Gay, the eighteenth-century poet, who, after many vicissitudes, achieved fortune and lasting fame as the author of "The Beggar's Opera." Only a year or two ago we had a biography of the fascinating actress who was the original representative of "Polly Peachum," the heroine of that work, and who left the stage to become a "real live" Duchess; but of Gay himself, and of his literary and other friends, there is doubtless plenty yet to be told that is worth the telling. I shall be curious to see whether Mr. Melville resists the temptation to serve up once again that crusted old joke (founded on the poet's business association with Rich, the Covent Garden manager), which described "The Beggar's Opera" as having "made Gay Rich and Rich Gay." But, in any case, he is sure to give us a readable work on such an interesting subject; and meanwhile I hope that the appeal for extant letters written by Gay, which he has put forward, may meet with a satisfactory response.

After all, it seems, the supremacy of war-literature is no longer to go unchallenged; for Longmans promise us a book on the tremendous problem "Was John Wycliffe a Negligent Pluralist?" Who will not forget all about "Armageddon" in the presence of such a vital and momentous burning question as this?

June 18.

JACOB OMNIUM.

THE HOUSE OF OLIPHANTS.

A CENTURY OF PUBLISHING—AND MORE.

THROUGHOUT the publishing and bookselling world deep interest attaches to the announcement that the old-established house of Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier is starting out with plans for fresh expansion, bearing the new name of "Oliphants Limited." The circumstances under which the first William Oliphant founded the business, in 1806, were strikingly like those of the present day. All Europe was suffering from the insatiable ambition of Napoleon, and among other great events that very year saw the Prussians crushed on the field of Jena.

Then, as now—with another tremendous war-cloud over our heads—a spirit of thoughtfulness was spreading, and men of letters were coming to the front to whose messages the people were disposed to give heed. The period has, indeed, been described as "one of the most interesting and picturesque in the annals of book-selling." In all this Mr. Oliphant found his opportunity, and how well he and his successors have done their part for the strengthening of what was best in the nation is matter of common knowledge.

Besides providing books to meet the needs of the people, Mr. Oliphant established, in 1808, the first popular monthly magazine in Scotland, *The Cheap Repository*, the success of which encouraged him to follow it up with *The Friend of Youth*. No better testimony could be given to the high quality of the contents than the fact that some of the stories which first appeared in their pages were being reprinted, and were still favourites two generations afterwards.

Thus from the beginning "Oliphants" had before them a true sense of the privilege of contributing to the health and soundness of the body politic. The son of the founder, bearing the same name, was likewise a man conspicuous for his earnest Christian spirit. They were, indeed, men in advance of their time; for, in days of strong denominational feeling, they maintained warm friendships with people of every shade of Christian opinion. Further, they were men of vision, heartily supporting foreign missions when such effort was by no means so popular as now.

It was William Oliphant, jun., who suggested to Dr. John Kitto the idea of the "Daily Bible Illustrations," so long treasured in Christian family circles; and other books typical of the activities of those days were Pollok's "Tales of the Covenanters," Duncan's "Philosophy of the Seasons," and the works of Dr. John Brown, which were described by Spurgeon as "of the noblest order of Biblical Exposition." The field was large, and the house sent out a wide range of reading matter—history, biography, stories, and general knowledge—but always under the most vigilant supervision of the principals, so that there was complete public confidence in any book of which the title-page bore the name of Oliphant. An eminent London bookseller testified that many of the books were sold from his counter because of the reputation of the publishers.

Later partners have worthily maintained the Christian traditions and high ideals of the house. Still fragrant in many quarters is the memory of Mr. Robert Anderson, who, as a magistrate, left his mark for good on the municipal life of Edinburgh; while his son, Mr. Walter G. Anderson, will also be long remembered for his public services as well as his personal qualities. Mr. John Scott Ferrier claimed an honoured place of his own in the church life of Scotland, and, like his colleagues, was held in the deepest regard wherever he was known.

To the present generation "Oliphants" make a strong appeal in different directions. They are known as the publishers of such books as those of Dr. Alexander Whyte, McCheyne's "Memoirs," and Rutherford's "Letters," Annie S. Swan's stories, the

"Famous Scots" series of biographies, and the wide variety of other useful and valuable books which go to make up the output of a general publishing business touching life at every point from childhood to age.

The chairman of the new company is Mr. W. Oliphant, great-grandson of the founder of the business. The managing-director is Mr. John Davidson, who became well known in the publishing trade during nineteen years spent with Messrs. Morgan & Scott. After a period of over three years, during which he was general manager to Messrs. Butterworth & Co. (law publishers), he has been for more than seven years managing-director of Morgan & Scott, Limited, a position which he recently resigned. The other directors are Mr. Angus Ferrier (son of Mr. John Scott Ferrier); Mr. Thomas C. Muir, who was long with the National Bible Society of Scotland, at Glasgow, and then for fourteen years on the editorial staff of *The Christian*; and Mr. W. W. Grant, who has been identified with the London office of "Oliphants" for twenty years, and has been manager there since 1907. The offices of "Oliphants Limited" are at 100, Princes Street, Edinburgh, and 21, Paternoster Square, London.

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. ALLEN & UNWIN will issue shortly "His Father's Wife," by J. E. Patterson.

MESSRS. GREENING & CO. will publish next week "The Nabob" (Lotus Library), by Alphonse Daudet; "Charles Baudelaire: His Life, with Théophile Gautier, translated into English with selections from his poems, 'Little Poems in Prose,' and Letters to Sainte-Beuve and Flaubert, and an Essay on His Influence," by Guy Thorne. With portraits in photogravure; "Much Ado About Nothing," by "A Popular Novelist" (Novels from Shakespeare Series); Shilling Edition of "Henry of Navarre," by May Wynne: a novel founded on the play of the same title by William Devereux.

MESSRS. HUTCHINSON & CO. will publish immediately "His German Wife," by Mr. Douglas Sladen, author of "His Japanese Wife," &c.; also "Change," by M. P. Willcocks, author of "Wings of Desire."

MESSRS. J. M. DENT & SONS will publish at the end of June another book on the war, entitled "The Political Economy of War," by F. W. Hirst, the editor of *The Economist*. It is a critical examination of the economic causes and consequences of war in general and of this war in particular.

MR. JOHN LANE has nearly ready "The Great Unrest," by Mr. Mills Young, and "The Ashiel Mystery," by Mrs. Charles Bryce.

MESSRS. T. WERNER LAURIE, LTD., have two new novels ready for immediate publication, "The Imperial Malefactor," a bold, venturesome book by Winifred Grahame, introducing the domestic life of Kaiser Wilhelm; and "The Monstrous Enemy," by Ranger Gull.

MR. ELKIN MATHEWS will shortly publish "A War Time Journal: Germany, 1914," by Lady Jephson, being the record of two months' detention in a German town at the beginning of the war; a new volume by Mr. George A. B. Dewar, entitled "Dreams" (Short Stories); "A New Decalogue, and the Eleventh Commandment," by a new writer; and "Songs of Chaos," by Lieut. Herbert Read.

MESSRS. METHUEN will publish next week Two Shilling editions of Mr. John Oxenham's book "Lauristons"; and Mrs. B. M. Croker's "Babes in the Wood"; also "The Health of the Child," by Dr. O. Hildesheim, which Messrs. Methuen are about to publish, with an Introduction by Dr. Still, one of the best known authorities on this subject; and in a small and limited edition, "The Ode from Italy in Time of

War: Night on Mottarone," by Mr. Herbert Trench, author of "Deirdre Wedded" and "Apollo and the Seaman." Issued simultaneously in Italy, this Ode has been printed at the Florentine Press of Landi, "L'Arte della Stampa," and will be the first English book printed in Italy since the Alliance recently concluded began a new co-operation between the two peoples. Written in April last, it foretold the entry of Italy into the European War.

MESSRS. STANLEY PAUL & Co. will publish next month "The Admirable Painter: A Study of Leonardo da Vinci," by A. J. Anderson; "The New France," by Alexandre Dumas, author of "The Three Musketeers," translated into English with an Introduction and Notes by R. S. Garnett. In two volumes, profusely illustrated, with a rare portrait of Dumas and other pictures after famous artists; "The Memoirs of the Duke De St. Simon," translated and edited by Francis Arkwright, vols. 3 and 4; "Three Gentlemen from New Caledonia," by R. D. Hemingway and Henry de Halsalle; "Greater than the Greatest," by Hamilton Drummond; "Fantomas," by Pierre Souvestre and Marcel Allain.

MESSRS. PUTNAM'S SONS announce "America to Japan," a symposium from American politicians supplementary to the previous volume, "Japan to America"; "Vanishing Roads and Other Essays," by Mr. Richard Le Gallienne; "Alfred the Great: The Truth Teller, Maker of England, 848-899," by Miss Beatrix A. Lees, of Somerville College, Oxford; "An American Fruit Farm," by Mr. F. M. Thorpe; "Why Europe is at War," telling why each country concerned is at war. Mr. Frederic R. Coudert speaks for France, Mr. Frederick W. Whitridge for England, Dr. Edgar von Mach for Germany, and Dr. Iyenaga for Japan. Mr. Francis V. Greene, in an epilogue, expresses the point of view of the United States; "James Russell Lowell as a Critic," by Joseph J. Reilly, M.A.; "Mysticism of Music," by R. Heber Newton, D.D.; "Rome of To-day and Yesterday" (new edition), by John Dennie; "Out of Work," by Frances A. Kellor; "American Trees and Shrubs," by F. Schuyler Mathews.

MESSRS. SIDGWICK & JACKSON announce "Flower of Youth," a volume of poems in war time, by Miss Katharine Tynan.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & Co. have nearly ready "John Viriamu Jones: His Life and Work," by Mrs. Viriamu Jones, a memoir of the First Principal of the University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire; a cheaper edition of "The Great Duke," by W. H. Fitchett, LL.D.; "Oliver," by B. Paul Neumann; "Two Who Declined," by Herbert Tremaine; "Some Elderly People and their Young Friends," by S. Macnaughton.

THE UNIVERSITY TUTORIAL PRESS will shortly publish the following:—Langland: "Piers Plowman," Prologue and Passus I., edited by C. M. Drennan, M.A.

MR. T. FISHER UNWIN will bring out next week Mr. A. D. Fiecke's "Chats on Japanese Prints," a modern and comprehensive survey of the whole field of Japanese prints, from Moronobu to Hiroshige, and a practical guide and handbook full of a great number of valuable suggestions; with forty-eight illustrations in black and white and one in colour, and with a large number of facsimiles; also "The Meaning of the War," M. Henri Bergson's remarkable discourse delivered as President of the Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques last December, together with a short article by M. Bergson on the same theme, and an introduction by Dr. H. Wildon Carr.

Obituary.

Hector.—June 5. Mr. Eugene Hector, the well-known new, secondhand, and foreign bookseller, of John Bright Street, Birmingham. Mr. Hector was very well known in the trade, and his loss will be much regretted by his many friends in Birmingham and elsewhere.

Smith.—June 6. At his residence, 27, Duthie Terrace, Aberdeen, aged 59, Mr. Edward Townsend Smith, of Messrs. A. Brown & Co., the well-known bookselling firm of Aberdeen. Mr. Smith, who was the only son of Mr. George Smith, a Melbourne merchant, was born in that city in 1856, and came to Aberdeen very young, his mother being the sister of Baillie George Walker, an Aberdeen author. In 1883 he succeeded his uncle in the business of Messrs. A. Brown & Co., then at 83 and 85, Union Street. His shop was soon the rendezvous of many prominent literary and artistic persons, including Mr. James Cadenhead, A.R.S.A., Mr. J. G. Murray, the late Mr. John Grant Reid, Mr. Fred T. Jane, now well known as an expert writer on naval matters. For many years his firm issued the well-known business magazine "Brown's Bookstall," which he edited and which appeared for the first time in January, 1892, as a monthly and later at different intervals until it ceased with the issue for December, 1913. Among the contributors whose assistance he enlisted were the late Mr. Alexander S. Cook, Mr. James Leatham, Dr. Thomas White Ogilvie, Mr. William Walker, and others. Mr. Smith was also himself a writer, a few years since he published a new edition of "Don: a Poem," and he was for some years the proprietor of the *Peterhead Sentinel*. His firm enjoyed a wide clientele, and he was well known to literary men and literary aspirants within a very wide radius. His mother and his wife still survive him, and he will be greatly missed by a large circle of friends.

Correspondence.

THE BELGIAN BOOK TRADE RELIEF FUND.

To the Editor of THE BOOKSELLER.

DEAR SIR,—From time to time Belgian refugee booksellers come to me, as they probably also come to you, asking me to help them find work, and it has occurred to me that the committee of the Belgian Book Trade Fund might assist in this matter in the following way:—

- (1) Open a register in which the Belgian refugees who are on the look out for work can be inserted with the following particulars:
 - (a) Name and address.
 - (b) Languages spoken.
 - (c) Experience and special knowledge and qualifications.
- (2) Publish this list regularly in THE BOOKSELLER and *Publishers' Circular*, with a reminder that the fund that has been raised is being kept until such time as it may be used to re-establishing the trade in Belgium, but that in the meantime work is sought for those who are our guests.
- (3) In the published list names need not be given in full, only initials, and anyone able to offer work can write c/o the Committee of the trade paper publishing the list.

I should be glad if you would consider the suggestion and let me know what the charges would be for the insertion of such a list in your paper regularly, and will then bring the suggestion in a concrete form before the Committee.

It seems a great pity that we are doing nothing to help those who want to keep themselves, and this might be a step in the right direction.

I am also writing to Mr. Marston in the same way.

Yours very truly,

GEOFFREY M. WILLIAMS.

[We shall be very glad to insert such a list as that mentioned free of charge.—ED. BOOKSELLER.]

Notices of Books.

Jaffery. By William J. Locke. (John Lane.)—A new novel by Mr. W. J. Locke is something of a literary event, and the many admirers of his characteristic work will, we are sure, agree that his latest novel is one of the strongest and best that he has given us. The principal characters of the story are conceived and portrayed in his own individual and inimitable style. They may not be—indeed they are not—the sort of people one meets in ordinary everyday life, but at the same time they each and all are actually alive, and impress upon the reader their own peculiar personalities. The chief hero, Jaffery Chayne, is a marvellous, uncouth, irresistible sort of person, who always takes his own way, often makes mistakes, but somehow through it all is very attractive and lovable, and makes good, as the phrase is, at the end. The strange lady, Liosha, from Albania, a curious, almost impossible mixture of the half-savage Slav and the cute, resourceful woman of Chicago, is one of Mr. Locke's happiest creations. All the more as she provides an effective contrast to the other lady whom Jaffery would like to marry if he could. Doria, however, fell in love with Adrian Boldero, a fascinating, inefficient sort of person, who, to provide himself with the necessary financial resources to obtain her father's consent, publishes as his own the marvellous novel of a dead friend, thus finding the necessary cash and, further, the apparent certainty of a future position and livelihood. Adrian, of course, has to pretend that he is writing a second novel of the same calibre; he finds, however, that he cannot do it, and the hopeless struggle eventually kills him. Jaffery Chayne writes the second novel after he is dead, and pretends to his wife that it is her husband's work, till by an unfortunate mischance Doria, after a time, learns the fatal truth, and though her idol is shattered she still retains a good deal of her first love. Both in the construction and working out of the plot, and also in the skilful characterisation, Mr. Locke reaches a uniformly high level, while the vivid and occasionally whimsical style in which the whole tale is set forth is in itself peculiarly fascinating. The story, as is the case with nearly all Mr. Locke's work, is marked throughout with his own individuality of style and treatment. Indeed, nearly every person who passes through the different scenes seems to invite an almost personal interest and attention, a quality which, in the writing of novels and romance, often, if not always, connotes the hall-mark of genius. The tale is sure to make a permanent impression, and it will increase very materially Mr. Locke's already high reputation among the leading novel writers of the day.

The Mormon Lion: Chapters from the Secret Memoirs of David Ford.

The Barbarians. By James Blyth. (John Long, Ltd.)—One cannot, of course, be sure exactly how far the many realistic details of life in the Mormon community at Utah some sixty years ago, when polygamy was rampant under the leadership of Brigham Young, are accurate or not, but we may very fairly surmise that the story as here set forth pretty correctly represents the facts of the case. The cold-blooded, calculating brutality with which Brigham Young and his associates ruled over the unfortunate dupes who were content to be so enslaved is most effectively painted, and the picture of lust, selfishness and greed that the author presents to his readers is painted in bold and vivid colours. One can only wonder how an English family—father, mother and daughter—could have been so hypnotised and duped, but we all know such things do take place in spite of their apparent impossibility. The portraits of Brigham Young, of his henchman Chilcott, and his submissive wives, and particularly

the scene where Lucy almost poisons herself to escape from Brigham Young's clutches, are all most powerfully and realistically drawn, and the interest in the fortunes of David Ford and his bride is kept up to the very end. It is a daring, exciting, and in every way notable book, which should certainly make any further Mormon conversions in England quite unthinkable. Why Mr. Blyth has entitled his latest novel "Barbarians," and has taken as his text the cryptic remark of George Meredith, "I expect that Woman will be the last thing civilised by Man," we do not quite understand. There is no doubt that the two young wives, Margery Sutcliffe and Phyllis Sparrow, were first of all supremely selfish and ambitious, caring only that they had a good time, and wholly careless as to the comfort and happiness of their husbands; but this is not what is usually known as barbarism. How it came to pass that two young fellows, both able, both with minds of their own, allowed themselves to be so exploited is not very satisfactorily explained, but the theme is so skilfully and strongly handled that it all seems quite natural and ordinary if not altogether right. Such conduct, however, even in novels, must always produce the natural result, and one is not surprised when one of the two husbands ends his troubles by suicide. The various incidents, the interventions, plots and counterplots are all admirably arranged, and the story moves on to its appointed end without any let or hindrance. The heroes and heroines (perhaps we should call them the villains and villainesses of the story) are vividly and effectively sketched, and the whole book exhibits from start to finish the unique power and forcefulness which always characterise Mr. Blyth's best work. It can hardly fail to add very materially to his already widespread reputation.

Conquest. By Olive Wadsley.—It was certainly a very unconventional and unusual thing that Alexa Castlemayne, the wealthy young widow of a cabinet minister and a favourite in society, "a personage almost a rage, so that no house party was complete without her amongst that set exclusive only with regard to money and the special height achieved thereby in which she lived," should be content to fall in love with and marry a successful prize-fighter. For, after all, Bill Achat was hardly more than that, though he possessed a personality, a force of character that men of his sort very rarely exhibit. The description of his early days as a young street gamin in Paris, his almost incredible daring in coming over to London, his struggles and experiences, are all very realistically conceived and narrated, and throughout he certainly shows an exceptional individuality. Yet, after all, he was scarcely a gentleman in the ordinary acceptation of the term, though his profession as a boxer brought him into close association with some who no doubt called themselves gentlemen. And perhaps the greatest merit of the whole story lies in the fact that, in spite of the obvious unsuitability of the two, the reader is not at all surprised at the marriage, nor, indeed, when after a year's retirement from the boxing ring spent on a continuous honeymoon in Italy, Achat's desire for fighting again breaks out, and in spite of his promise to his wife he once more appears in public. There are, of course, certain difficulties and obstacles, certain jealousies and prejudices, but these are very skilfully handled, and at the end we learn that Alexa and her boxing husband find that, after all, they really love each other and live happily ever after. The result, though antecedently improbable, is perhaps not altogether impossible, and, at any rate, under the author's skilful treatment the reader is not inclined to make any objection, and will, we have no doubt, find the book exceedingly interesting and attractive.

Publications of the Week.

Illustrated Gift Books.

PULBROOK (Ernest C.) The English Countryside. Illustrated. 8vo, pp. 136. *Batsford* net 7/6

Religion and Theology.

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- EUGIPIUS, Life of Saint Severinus. Translated into English. With Notes by George W. Robinson. 8vo, pp. 142. *H. Milford* net 6/6
- GARDNER (Percy) The Ephesian Gospel. Cr. 8vo, pp. 374. *Williams & N.* net 5/
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- BATTERSEA Public Libraries. 28th Annual Report, 1914-15. 8vo, swd. *Library*.
- HOLIDAY Resorts, 1914 and 1915. 12mo, swd. *F. Hodgson*. each net 1/
- LEATHER Trades' Year Book, 1915. 8vo, pp. 212. *Anglo-American Technical Co.*
- STATESMAN'S Year Book (The), 1915. Edited by J. Scott Keltie and M. Epstein. Cr. 8vo. *Macmillan* ... net 10/6

Archaeology.

- SELECT Bronzes, Greek, Roman, and Etruscan in the Department of Antiquities. 73 plates. With a Commentary by H. B. Walters. 1915. (British Museum.) 4to. *H. Milford* net 35/
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GEOGRAPHICAL Atlases (A List of) in the Library of Congress, with Bibliographical Notes, compiled under the direction of Philip Lee Phillips. Vol. 3, Titles 3266-4087. Imp. 8vo, pp. cxxxvii.—1,030. *Government Printing Office* (Washington).

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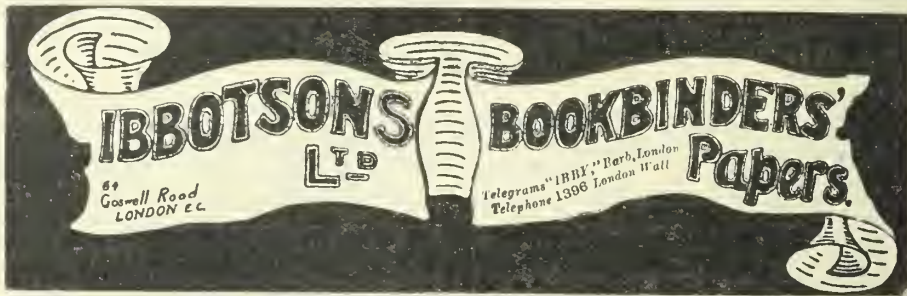
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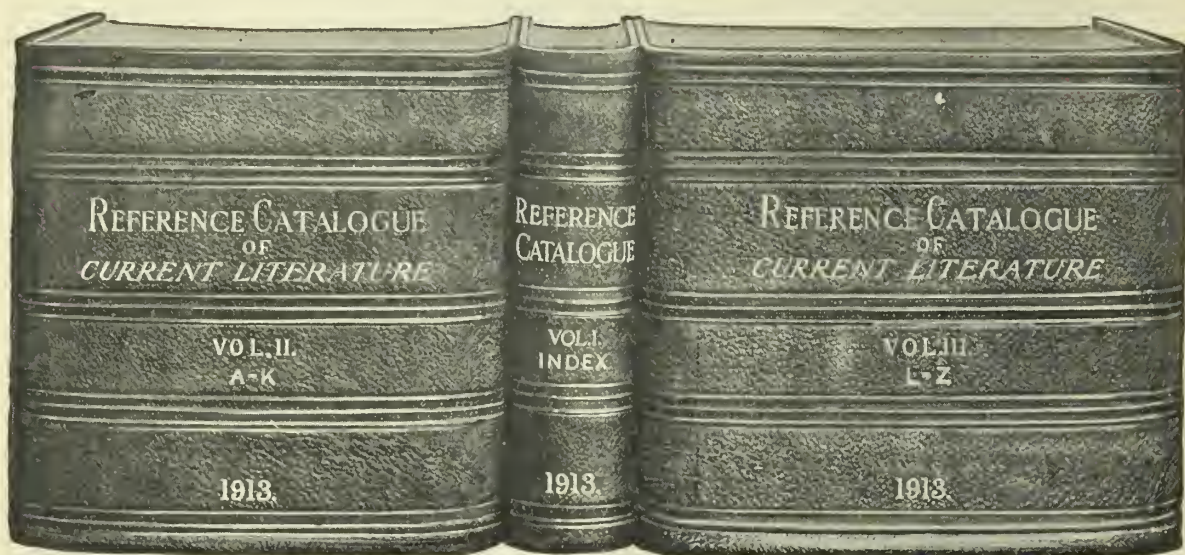
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Trade and Literary Gossip.

Booksellers' Provident Institution.—At the last meeting of the Board of Directors, Mr. C. J. Longman presiding, considerable sympathy was expressed with Mr. Henry Hill Hodgson, Trustee, in the loss that he had sustained by the death of his son, Capt. Francis Hodgson, who had died of wounds received in action at Bethulie. One new member was elected; the sum of £107 15s. 10d. was granted for the relief of members and widows of members; and the receipt of a donation of £5 5s. from the Worshipful Company of Stationers was reported. The Directors present at the meeting were: Messrs. L. Carrdus, J. Cooper, J. Foster, C. H. Hollingsworth, F. J. James, G. H. Johnson, W. A. Kelk, A. S. Lewis, W. Longman, J. Meade, A. W. Mills, A. W. Nott, A. J. Sabin, E. Shallis, F. W. Smith, G. C. Sole, J. E. Stroulger, R. E. Taylor.

Mr. E. J. Larby, 30, Paternoster Row, notifies that he has, for family reasons, converted his business into a private Limited Liability Company under the title of E. J. Larby, Ltd. No shares have been offered to the public. He is governing director for life, the only other director being Mr. F. H. Wilkinson, who has worked hand in hand with Mr. Larby in acquiring the business of H. Grube, Ltd., and conducted the business so well during his serious illness twelve months ago. The entire staff, with the exception of those who have joined H.M. Forces, is retained.

For King and Country.—The following have been received since our last list:—

MR. JOHN READ, 29, Newport Street, Bolton.—Norman Read, Royal Fusiliers.

THE WIRELESS PRESS, LTD.—C. F. Warren, 24th County of London Regt.; R. W. Fletcher, 17th Middlesex Regt. (Footballers); H. W. Harper, Queen Victoria's Rifles. Word has been received that the first named was killed in action on May 26th. Mr. Warren was attached to the publishing office, and although only holding a junior position showed exceptional merit, and was much respected by those with whom he came into touch. His loss will be deeply felt by his fellow workers.

Mr. Sidney C. Webb, one of the staff of Messrs. J. Whitaker & Sons, who is now at the Front with the 20th Battalion of the County of London Regiment, has been, we hear, slightly wounded, in the trenches. His platoon was in a very hot corner, and the Battalion has suffered terribly.

Mr. George Beal, the well-known bookseller of 207, Western Road, Brighton, who is now the oldest bookseller in the town, has just celebrated his golden wedding. Owing to Mrs. Beal's delicate health the occasion was celebrated by a quiet family gathering at their residence, Mayfield, Rugby Road. Mr. Beal has been in business in Brighton for just over half a century, and his many friends will very heartily congratulate him and hope that he and Mrs. Beal may still be spared for many more years of happiness.

The Queen has been pleased to accept a copy of "Pins and Pincushions," by Miss E. D. Longman and Miss S. Loch.

At the recent annual convention of the American Booksellers' Association at New York a resolution was unanimously passed appreciating the gallant work done in the *Lusitania* disaster by Mr. Charles E. Lawriat, Jr., of Boston, who jumped overboard, swam to a collapsible boat, put it together, and rescued thirty-two people from otherwise certain death.

With reference to the recent amalgamation of the well-known firms of Messrs. Fuller & Richard, of Great Windmill Street, W., and Messrs. Henry Mead & Sons, of St. John Street, Clerkenwell, E.C., Messrs. Holmes & Son, the Trade Valuers, of Paternoster Row, inform us that they acted on behalf of both firms, making the original introduction and conducting the valuation of the entire stocks, plant, and fixtures of both businesses.

Mr. Charles Knight Rogers, manager of the International News Company, Breams Buildings, Chancery Lane, E.C., the London Agent of the Australian News Company, Ltd., and the New Zealand News Company, Ltd., notifies that these News Companies, which have now been in operation almost two years supplying the news-stalls throughout the Commonwealth of Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand, are prepared to handle all English publications, and to accept any business in their line. Mr. Rogers will be glad to make and carry through all arrangements on their behalf.

The Macmillan Company, of New York, are enlarging their premises at 64, Fifth Avenue, by adding two storeys to provide for the immediate needs of the firm. They have also purchased property adjoining, at 62, Fifth Avenue, and 11, West 12th Street, in view of further extensions in the near future, and to improve their receiving and shipping facilities when the extension is erected.

Mr. Alfred G. Lunn, of Messrs. Collins Bros. & Co., of Auckland, who is one of the leading spirits of the movement in Auckland to maintain the Belgian Relief Fund, sends us a copy of the handsome Souvenir Programme of the latest concert of the Fund. It is handsomely bound in velvet calf, bears the autograph of the Governor, Lord Liverpool, carries a good many advertisements, and is sold at £5 each; the net results from their sale and from the concert reached over £400, exceeding anything that has been previously raised by such means in Auckland. A valuable collection of pictures, worth some £25,000, has been given to the city on condition that the citizens raise £10,000 for the Belgian Relief Fund, and it was to help in raising this amount that this concert was organised.

Mr. John Murray has added to his "Shilling Library" that delightful story, "Freckles," by Gene Stratton-Porter. It has been reprinted thirteen times, and as over 750,000 copies have been sold, any special commendation of its merits is quite superfluous.

The University Tutorial College, of Red Lion Square, Holborn, W.C., has issued the Prospectus of the Day and Evening Classes it carries on for the Examinations of the University of London.

The Library of Congress, Washington, has issued a List of the Publications issued by the Library since 1897—a small pamphlet of some fifty pages.

Messrs. Cassell & Co. have lost by the war Mr. Gordon Gregg, one of their editorial staff, who was killed during action in Flanders. Educated at Ascham College and Colchester Grammar School, he joined the House of Cassell in his seventeenth year, where he was appointed assistant in the Medical Books department. Studying physiology at the Polytechnic Institute he passed his examinations very rapidly, and with distinction. Four years later Mr. Arthur Spurgeon, the general manager, promoted him to a more important position on the editorial staff. Upon the outbreak of the war, Gordon Gregg was one of the hundred odd members of the Cassell staff who volunteered for service, joining the 12th Batt. County of London Regiment ("The Rangers"), which crossed to France on Christmas Eve. His medical knowledge and resourcefulness singled him out as the man to be chosen for "first aid" work to his platoon; in fact, his comrades dubbed him "the doctor." After many months of trench and other duties on the field, the end came in May, in Flanders, when he was struck on the forehead by a piece of shrapnel, never recovering consciousness. At a meeting of the managers and editors held the day after official notification of his death, Mr. Spurgeon spoke feelingly of his grief at the loss of so promising a member of the editorial staff, and Sir Malcolm Morris, K.C.V.O., the medical editor, sent a message paying tribute to Gregg's brilliant abilities and personal charms. Mr. Newman Flower, chief editor, and Mr. Hutchings, of the medical department, also spoke. A resolution was passed voicing the sorrow of the staff at the loss of their beloved colleague, and expressing deep sympathy with Mr. and Mrs. Stokes Gregg in their bereavement. Notification has just been received from the War Office of the loss of three other members of Cassell's staff:—Lieut. E. H. Chapman, of their Melbourne branch, who was killed in action during the first week in May in one of the Dardanelles engagements; he had been with the Melbourne branch since April, 1906, and left to go to the front with the first Australian contingent. Private S. H. Pollard, who joined the 24th Batt. County of London Regiment ("The Queens") in September last, was killed in action on the 25th ult., and Corporal A. H. Gulliver, of the 25th Batt. County of London Regiment, has been reported as killed in action the day after. In the case of Corporal Gulliver it was his first experience of a trench charge, and his comrade lost sight of him after mounting the parapet. Both Pollard and Gulliver, who were compositors, were general favourites in the case-room, and their loss has been keenly felt.

The Log-Book of Nelson's ship "Victory," which had been purchased by the late Mr. T. T. Barratt for £4,000, was the matter at issue in a recent case in the Court of Appeal, when the question was raised whether or not it passed as a book under the bequest of "all the rest of my books." Mr. Justice Warrington had decided that it did, but his decision was appealed against by a beneficiary. The Court of Appeal, consisting of Lord Justices Swinfen Eady, Phillimore and Bankes, dismissed the appeal. Lord Justice Phillimore said the word "book" had lost its original literal meaning, and this log was physically a book.

Mr. Sydnor Harrison, who made his reputation as a novelist with "Queed," and whose recent novel, "Angela's Business," is arousing great interest on both sides of the Atlantic, is now at Dunkirk acting as ambulance orderly with the American Ambulance at Neuilly. He writes that his section probably does more work than any of the four or five others that they have out. He expects to have his own ambulance to run after a while, and to see and do a good deal before he returns home.

Book Trade Reports from Australia seem to vary. In Perth, Adelaide, and Melbourne we hear that business is somewhat restricted, and there is a general reluctance to spend money at present. In New Zealand reports are more hopeful. The war has produced many war orders, and, on the whole, booksellers have not very much reason for complaint. In Brisbane business is now fairly normal. In general lines there has been some briskness, and fiction seems to be selling better. The school book trade has also done fairly well. In New South Wales proposals are mooted to print text-books at the Government Printing Office, in order, as it is said, to fit them more exactly to the particular course of study in the Government schools. This is likely to limit the area in which educational books are now sold, and it is partly, no doubt, due to the fact that the printing and allied trade unions are anxious to monopolise Government work.

Canadian booksellers, according to the *Canadian Book News*, are partly to blame for the subordinate place which the selling of books sometimes holds in what are called Canadian book-stores, where the proportion of books is very much out of proportion to that of stationery and other articles. It is alleged that booksellers in Canada do not exert the same ingenuity and constant application in the selling of books as in the stationery branch of the business. Booksellers, therefore, are advised to pay more attention to books, and if they follow this advice the situation will no doubt speedily show considerable improvement.

Mr. William Heinemann has just published "The Poison War, Facts and Revelations," by Alfred A. Roberts, a well-known toxicologist, a member of the Society of Chemical Industries, and a member of the Chemical Society of France, who writes with expert knowledge of his subject. His book contains a full description of the new horror which the Germans have added to warfare. He describes the machines for generating and distributing the poison gas, both on land and on sea, and the means taken to neutralise its effects. He proves beyond all doubt that the German military authorities have from the very beginning of the war deliberately poisoned the Allied troops by the employment of a most dangerous, irritant poison in the composition of their artillery projectiles, namely, white or crystalline phosphorus—a poison the terrible effects of which do not manifest themselves until after the wound has healed. The book contains also a full description of the history, composition, and effects of the various explosives and shells used in modern warfare. Mr. Heinemann has also just published a new tragedy in three acts by Mr. John Masefield, entitled "The Faithful."

The vital importance of the net system to the book trade is again emphasised in the current issue of our contemporary, the *New York Publishers' Weekly*, which points out that "the prosperity, if not the very existence, of the American book trade . . . depends upon the maintenance of fixed retail prices. Predatory price cutting nearly wrecked the trade a dozen or more years ago, bringing scores of booksellers close to bankruptcy; it will, undoubtedly, if permitted, do the same thing again. For that reason no duty of the trade is more urgent, no action its members can take more important, than to support every honest and efficient endeavour to secure by open and legal methods legislative endorsement of the principles of price maintenance. They have already received business and economic endorsement, but practical and theoretical knowledge are alike valueless commercially until they are translated into terms of law."

Mr. A. M. Burghes.—We have received contributions from Sir W. Robertson Nicoll, Mr. F. C. Pearson Huke's Library, Chester, Mr. J. W. Darton, and "A Friend."

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. will publish next week a new novel by Mr. Winston Churchill, author of "Richard Carvel," &c., entitled "A Far Country." It tells the life history of a successful man who, from early manhood, has been guided solely by "enlightened self-interest," and of his eventual awakening to a nobler view of life and its responsibilities. It gives, moreover, a remarkable picture of contemporary American life, full of human and dramatic interest.

Messrs. Constable & Co. announce a new edition, thoroughly revised and greatly enlarged, of the "Larger English-Irish Dictionary," by Mr. T. O'Neill Lane. The great aim of the author has been to supply students of Irish with an exhaustive guide to the various shades of meaning of each word, and, where possible, to give examples of its use drawn from the highest authorities and also from native speakers, who are so lavish in the use of proverbs and wise old saws to drive their meaning home, thus affording a clear insight into the mental attitude of the people, together with some idea of their manners and customs, their character, and their philosophy of life. The proofs have been read by various Irish scholars, and accuracy has thus been adequately secured. All Irish scholars will be sorry to hear that the death of Mr Lane has just been announced.

Messrs. T. & T. Clark have issued two further volumes in their useful expository series of "Great Texts of the Bible," which is making such excellent progress under the efficient editorship of the Rev. Dr. James Hastings. The Old Testament volume covers the Prophets from Isaiah to Malachi, while the New Testament volume is devoted to the book of Revelation. The texts selected have been chosen with much judgment, the exposition is all that could be desired, and the two volumes fully maintain the high standard of excellence and perfection which has uniformly characterised the preceding issues. Dr. Hastings, his efficient contributors, and the publishers alike may be very warmly congratulated on the complete success of this important and helpful undertaking.

In "Behind the Scenes at the Front," which Messrs. Chatto & Windus have just published, Mr. George Adam, the Paris Correspondent to *The Times*, adds another to the many descriptions of the war and its main scenes and incidents which have been published. He commences with a graphic and informing account of the political situation of France just previous to the war, and he rightly emphasises the striking change in French character and disposition which enabled France to make so determined a stand against the German onset. This chapter is indeed particularly interesting and instructive. The sketch of what goes on at the General Headquarters is very graphically written, and the description given of the destruction so wilfully and so drastically carried out in the part of France occupied by the Germans is an effective commentary on the denials of such frightfulness by Sven Hedin and other German apologists. Mr. Adam specially emphasises the ruin that has fallen upon the peasant inhabitants, which though less sensational is even worse than the damage done to historical buildings, such as the Cathedral of Rheims or the ancient landmarks of Ypres. The concluding chapter, which contrasts the differing methods of French and English, and describes the gladness with which the active help of the British troops was welcomed by the French, is particularly well worth reading. Indeed, the whole book sets before the English reader with great success the vital factors of the French army and the French people, and the vigorous defence they are making against the enemy.

Mr. W. J. Gordon's new book, "Flags of the World, Past and Present: Their Story and Associations," which bears the well-known imprint of Messrs. Frederick Warne & Co., deals with a subject of very great interest, about which, strangely enough, very little is known to the general public. In other countries the story and history of the national flag has been taught in the schools, while in England it is only very lately that the subject has been included among the lessons which our boys and girls have to learn. Nor has there been any generally recognised book on the subject. Mr. Gordon, therefore, has found a subject on which a really good book is much wanted, and he has supplied the need in a very satisfactory and comprehensive fashion. He tells his readers in his own vivacious, pleasant and informing style all about the various kinds of flags, the Royal Standard and the national flags, the flags of the Army, Navy, and public departments of Greater Britain, of America, Europe, Africa, and Asia. The number of coloured plates provided is a noticeable feature in the book, and Mr. W. J. Stokoe, who has provided the drawings, has taken care that they agree with the official measurements.

Messrs. Longmans & Co. will issue a cheap edition, at half-a-crown net per volume, of the nine stories and tales by M. E. Francis which are published by them. The scene of these books is chiefly laid in "Dorset Dear," which is the title of one of the books which will be included in the series, the others being "The Manor Farm"; "Wild Wheat"; "Fiander's Widow"; "Pastorals of Dorset"; "Lychgate Hall"; "Simple Annals"; "Yeoman Fleetwood"; "Christian Thal."

Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston & Co. will publish shortly the 1915 edition of "Fighting Ships," by Mr. Fred T. Jane. Amongst the changes made will be the absence of the usual engineering article. For it will be substituted a contribution entitled "Historical Analogies in the Present War," written by Mr. L. Cecil Jane, M.A., the well-known historian, of Oxford. This is not an article on the ordinary "Mahan lines," but a treatise almost entirely confined to those long-gone days when the methods and ideals of sea warfare were somewhat similar to those resuscitated by the Germans at the present time.

"Peace and War in Europe," by Dr. Gilbert Slater, Principal of Ruskin College, Oxford, is based on six lectures given in Manchester College, Oxford, last October. In the concluding lecture on the "Future Maintenance of Peace," Dr. Slater, after a careful examination of the forces making for war, economic, religious, political and sociological, finds the outlook on the whole reassuring. He points out that now for the first time the very right of the British Empire to exist has been rudely challenged by an enemy, and that the world has given its verdict in favour of its continued existence. He is bold enough to argue with Lord Loreburn in favour of the abolition of the right of capture of private goods at sea, as our sacrifice upon the altar of the world's peace, and he emphasises the facts that there will be great changes after the war is over, one of which will be that the decision of national issues will be in the hands of women as well as men. An instructive Addendum gives some pertinent reasons for the establishment of an International Court of Honour "as creating the germ of the Confederation of the World." It is published by Messrs. Constable & Co.

"With Our Fighting Men," by the Rev. W. E. Sellers, which the Religious Tract Society has just published, relates in graphic and forceful fashion "the story of their faith, courage, endurance in the Great War." It gives the reader a very fair idea of the Christian work attempted and accomplished among our soldiers at the front, and it proves conclusively that, as Mr. Sellers puts it, "all the old Christian and temperance organisations are to the fore, only developed out of all former knowledge . . . that never before has such deep seriousness fallen upon our men, and in their quiet moments and even amid the stress of battle thoughts have turned to Christ and hearts have been surrendered to Him." Mr. Sellers has previously had experience in the work of an army chaplain in the Boer War, and he writes throughout with a vivid realism which makes his book extremely attractive.

The Medical Annual for 1915, which now reaches its thirty-third year of issue, appears this year rather later than usual, as the contributors have been working under exceptional strain from military duties and contingent work. They have, however, produced the book on the accustomed lines, and in every way it thoroughly maintains the high standard of excellence at which it always aims. Special articles on Naval and Military Surgery add very considerably to its value, and the volume is sure to find the very favourable approval which has always been so fully enjoyed by its predecessors. Its importance as an authority is now everywhere recognised.

Under Cover.

DEAR BLUESTOCKING,—Happening to find myself, on a recent afternoon, at a patriotic meeting held at a place of entertainment in central London, I was amused to hear from one of the speakers—a lady—a quite withering denunciation of those popular novelists who “fancy themselves” in the pose of national oracles. I am afraid I have myself been guilty, now and again, of an attempt to pour a little cold water upon what seem to me their overweening pretensions; but anything I may have said on the subject has been mildness itself compared with the mordant comments of this eloquent lady, who was clearly inclined to regard the enquire-within-about-everything novelist as a public nuisance, and even, to some extent, a public danger. “Because these people have a knack of writing stories,” she severely remarked, “they seem to think they are qualified to talk with authority on matters that they don’t understand. Why don’t they leave such things to those who do know something about them, and go on writing their stories—unless, of course, they are young enough, and fit enough, to handle a rifle instead of a pen?” This was distinctly “rough,” no doubt, on the eminent persons concerned; but I am not going to say that it was wholly undeserved.

While she was about it, however, the speaker might have given some recognition to the gratifying fact that there are other literary favourites of the public who, instead of being content to tell us all what we ought to do, are engaged in practical and self-sacrificing service to their country in its time of need. Some of them, as we know, have joined the fighting forces, and some are doing active and useful work of other kinds. Of the latter class we have a fresh and notable example in Mr. Compton Mackenzie, who is just now relieving Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett in the arduous and dangerous post of accredited correspondent with the Allied forces in the Dardanelles. Mr. Mackenzie’s dispatches have all the vivid picturesqueness of description which he has taught us to expect from his pen; and everyone will hope that the intrepid young novelist will share the good fortune of his predecessor in his present post, who, you will remember, was one of the survivors of the torpedoed *Majestic*. What a book, by the way, Mr. Mackenzie should be able to give us, if he has the luck to be still engaged in his present work when the consummation of the great Dardanelles enterprise is reached!

An interview with a soldier in the trenches, which I was reading the other day, contained a passage of special and pleasing interest to all who have helped in the good work of sending out literature for the use of our heroes at the front. The soldier had been describing a series of peculiarly violent and persistent enemy attacks to which he and his comrades had been subjected, and their relief whenever a temporary cessation of the hail of shells gave them a brief respite from the fray. “And what,” he was asked, “did you do during those intervals?” “Oh,” was the reply, “I had a book, and I just lay on my back and read.” The stay-at-home civilian may well marvel at the spirit which can enable a man to absorb himself in a book with the Angel of Death, so to speak, looking over his shoulder. But since that magnificent spirit exists, it is surely a peculiar happiness to us at home to feel that we are instrumental in providing the means of relaxation for those who, for their country’s sake, are so splendidly facing the unexampled horrors of the most fearful war in all human history.

As we were reminded by a letter in last week’s BOOKSELLER, there is a good and necessary work to be done in finding suitable employment for members of the Belgian bookselling trade who are at present stranded as refugees in this country. We may be quite sure that the last thing these unfortunate guests of ours desire is to live upon the charity of their English hosts, and that they would be thankful to be put

in the way of supporting themselves until such time as it may be possible to set up their trade again in their own sorely afflicted land. The decision to reserve for that time of restoration the fund that has been raised on their behalf is undoubtedly a prudent one; but in the meantime it is eminently desirable that the natural and laudable anxiety of the refugees to maintain themselves by their own exertions should, as far as possible, be assisted to fulfilment. It is to be hoped that the published list of such candidates for employment, which will now be available, will prove practically helpful towards that end; and the circumstances will doubtless be allowed their due weight in the minds of those who may be in a position to offer suitable work to any of these unhappy victims of the barbarism which has ravaged and desolated their land.

It will no doubt be good news to students of the English literature of the Restoration period that there is to be a new edition, in six volumes, of the works of Mrs. Aphra Behn, novelist and dramatist, who is believed to have been the first woman in this country to support herself entirely by her pen. Before settling down to her literary labours, Mrs. Behn seems to have had, for a woman of her time, an unusually liberal share of travel and adventure, for, after other journeys beyond seas, she undertook in 1666 a secret and semi-official mission to Antwerp, in order to obtain information about the movements of the anti-Royalist English fugitives who had settled there after the downfall of the Commonwealth and the restoration of the Monarchy. Thereafter, she seems to have stayed at home and poured forth novels and plays in remarkable profusion. In a biographical dictionary which gives a brief account of her career, I find the rather amusingly sententious and severe remark that “her plays, which are numerous, abound in obscenity, and her novels are little better.” It has to be remembered, however, that poor Mrs. Behn was a Restoration writer, and so merely followed the fashion of her time. Her works had undoubted literary merit, and we may assume that Mr. Montague Summers, the editor of the promised new edition, will see to it that their grossness is, so far as possible, judiciously modified.

To read the recently issued volume of poems by the late Rupert Brooke is to be struck with a poignant sense of the severity of the loss which English poetry has sustained by his premature death. There is high nobility of thought as well as rare felicity of expression in these fugitive poems, written during the last two or three years of their author’s all too short life, and most of them inspired or influenced by the great world-struggle of which he was destined not to see the end. Had he been spared to us, the writer of such verses as these would assuredly have taken very high rank among the English poets of the twentieth century; and, even as it is, he has left us enough to keep his name alive. It is pathetic to learn that, since his death, his brother, who like himself was serving his country in arms, has also been numbered among the victims of the war.

Mr. Douglas Sladen is very much “on the spot” in the title of the new novel which he is publishing through the firm of Hutchinson. “His German Wife” suggests all kinds of thrilling possibilities of conflict between racial sympathy and conjugal loyalty—also, it may be, of treacherous assistance to the native, at the expense of the adopted, country. We must wait and see how Mr. Sladen has treated his promising theme; but we may be sure that his practised hand has not failed to turn it to excellent and effective account.

In the matter of book-titles, things are not always what they seem; so we need hardly be surprised to learn that “The Monstrous Enemy,” announced by Werner Laurie, is “not a war novel.” Possibly by way of compensation, the same publisher promises us simultaneously a book called “The Imperial Malefactor.” At least there can be no doubt about the subject of *that*.

JACOB OMNIUM.

June 25.

The Religious Tract Society have published "The Roll Call of Serving Women: A Record of Women's Work for Combatants and Sufferers in the Great War," by Mary Frances Billington, a well-known woman journalist.

The Oxford University Press is preparing a new Hymnal for the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and also a new book of Family Prayers for the same. The new Hymnal for the Canadian Methodist Church will be published by the Methodist Book and Publishing Company of Toronto.

Messrs. T. Werner Laurie, Ltd., are just issuing a shilling edition of "The Secrets of the German War Office," containing a hitherto unpublished chapter, in which Dr. Graves describes a mission to Germany and America for the British Secret Service. The same firm are also issuing cheap editions of "Broken Pitchers," by the author of "Daughters of Ishmael"; "The Outrage," by Banco; and "The Complete Cake Book," by May Little.

Messrs. George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., have taken over most of the publications of Howard Latimer, Ltd. The list includes two books by the great Italian philosopher, Benedetto Croce, whose work has received so much attention of late, besides volumes by Strindberg, Sorel, Jules Romains, and other well-known European authors.

Messrs. Constable & Co. are arranging a new series to be entitled "Masters of Russian Music," by Mr. M. Montagu-Nathan, author of "A History of Russian Music." The first three volumes will deal respectively with Glinka (composer of "A Life for the Tsar"), Moussorgsky (whose "Boris Godounoff" and "Khovantchina" created such a profound impression during Sir Joseph Beecham's seasons of Russian opera), and Rimsky-Korsakoff (four of whose fifteen operas have been presented here within the last three years).

Messrs. George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., have just published a new novel by J. E. Patterson, entitled "His Father's Wife"; a book on "Frederick the Great and his Seven Years' War," by Ronald Acott Hall, and two new volumes of verse, "The Foolishness of Solomon," by R. C. Trevelyan, and "Poems," by Margaret Maitland Radford; "The Path of Life," translated from the Flemish of Stijn Streuvels, by Mr. Teixeira de Mattos.

In Preparation.

Publishers' Announcements intended for this column must reach the office by the first post on Wednesday morning, to ensure insertion in the current week's issue.

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co. are about to add Mr. Max Pemberton's popular romance, "The Virgin Fortress," to their Shilling Series of Novels.

MESSRS. CONSTABLE & Co. will shortly publish a volume on "The Philosophy of Nietzsche," by Dr. A. Wolf, author of "Spinoza," "Studies in Logic," and other works.

MESSRS. HODDER & STOUGHTON will publish immediately "The Green Ray," a new war novel, by William Le Queux. It tells of the discovery of a new ray of marvellous power and potency.

MESSRS. SAMPSON LOW, MARSTON & Co. announce "Midsummer Magic," by Walter Banfylde, author of "The Uplanders"; "The Progress of Warship Engineering," by C. de Grewe Sells, M.I.C.E., reprinted from "Fighting Ships," edited by Mr. F. T.

Jane; "A Girl of the Blue Ridge," by Payne Erskine, author of "The Mountain Girl"; "The Gypsy's Parson," by the Rev. George Hall.

MESSRS. McBRIDE, NAST & Co., Rolls House, Bream's Buildings, E.C., will publish immediately a timely study of Napoleon, by Mr. M. M. O'Hara, the editor of the Dublin *Weekly Freeman*. It will be called "The Little Corporal: His Rise, Decline and Fall"; also "Concerning Kit," a practical guide to officers' outfits, prepared by the author of the series in *Land and Water*.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. will publish immediately two interesting books on the United States: "The New American Government and its Work," by Professor James T. Young, of the University of Pennsylvania; and a translation, with amplifications, of M. Paul H. B. d'Estournelles de Constant's well-known "America and Her Problems."

MR. JOHN MURRAY will publish shortly "Kultur and Catastrophe," by Mr. Theodore Andrea Cook, a companion volume to his "Kaiser, Krupp, and Kultur."

MESSRS. C. A. PEARSON, LTD., will publish at once "The German American Plot," by Mr. Fred W. Wile, a short book dealing with the German campaign in America.

MESSRS. RIVINGTONS will publish shortly "The English Rite: Being a Synopsis of the Sources and Revisions of the Book of Common Prayer," with Introduction and Appendix by F. E. Brightman, M.A., Fellow and Tutor of S. Mary Magdalen College, Oxford, Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Oxford.

Obituary.

Braeksted.—Recently, aged 70, Mr. H. L. Braeksted, in former years a well-known figure in the publishing world. He introduced to English readers several Norwegian authors, with many of whom he was upon terms of intimate friendship, including P. Chr. Asbjornsen, whose classic he translated into English under the title of "Round the Yule Log," "Norwegian Folk and Fairy Tales," and for which Mr., now Sir Edmund, W. Gosse wrote an introduction. He was connected with *Black and White* when it was first published in Fleet Street, and he was a well-known contributor to other journals. Several years ago he was appointed as Norwegian Vice-Consul in the City of London.

Rapp.—June 19. Killed in action in France, aged 20, Second-Lieut. Reginald Rapp, of the West Riding Regiment. He was a son of Mr. T. W. Rapp, of the Library, Dundas Street, Saltburn-on-Sea, a very old subscriber to *THE BOOKSELLER*. In 1913 he obtained a scholarship at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, and when the war broke out he was reading for Holy Orders, with the object of working in the foreign mission field.

Westwood.—Recently killed in action at the front, aged 21. Lieut. A. C. Westwood, of the Cupar Company of the Black Watch, only son of Mr. Alexander Westwood, the well-known bookseller of Linley, Cupar. He was educated at the Bell-Baxter School, Cupar, and the George Watson's College, Edinburgh. Five years ago he joined his father in the bookselling business of Westwood & Son. Last year he was gazetted a second-lieutenant, and was given charge of the machine-gun section. He was a keen sportsman on the hockey field and in Rugby football, and an active motor-cyclist. His loss will be deeply regretted by the many friends who knew him and loved him.

Notices of Books.

A Bundle of Memories. By Henry Scott Holland, D.D. (Wells Gardner, Darton & Co.)—While we heartily welcome this characteristically delightful and informing collection our pleasure will be rather lessened if it does, as Canon Scott Holland suggests, "make it impossible for him to write a volume of Reminiscences." Certainly the two are by no means incompatible or mutually exclusive. The bulk of the book consists of appreciative sketches (some perhaps reprinted from the *Commonwealth*) of various well-known people with whom he has come into contact. They are mostly famous Churchmen, George Augustus Selwyn, Bishop of New Zealand and afterwards of Lichfield, Bishops King of Lincoln, Paget of Oxford, and Wilkinson of Truro, Professor Mozley, Cardinal Newman, Professor Driver, Dean Gregory of St. Paul's, Canon Barnett of Toynbee Hall, Archbishop Temple, and Father Stanton. The author has, it will be seen, spread his net fairly wide, for in addition to these he has something to say about Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, Professor Henry Sidgwick, Mr. H. G. Wells, and John Henry Shorthouse. In each case we have vigorous characteristic portraiture usually based upon personal knowledge, often close and intimate. And while always appreciative, Canon Scott Holland does not entirely shut his eyes to the deficiencies and shortcomings to which even the greatest and best of men must always be subject. His appreciation, almost a criticism, of Cardinal Newman is an excellent illustration, as also his acute and penetrating sketch of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain. Three papers on Swinburne, Meredith, and Browning are particularly worth reading, and with regard to the first he makes us feel that Swinburne failed to use to the full his wonderful powers. His portrait of Hugh Price Hughes, a great Nonconformist leader, is wonderfully sane, shrewd, and clear sighted, and his remarks on Mr. H. G. Wells and his ideas about Socialism equally illustrate his practical judgment and sound common-sense. The chapter headed "Some Personal Memories" gives us a baker's dozen of short clear-cut vignettes of Alfred Lyttelton, Dr. Kitchin—not Kitchen—Dean of Durham, J. M. Ludlow, Mrs. Josephine Butler, General Booth, Lord Roberts, and others. In each case the salient points in the personalities chosen are vividly and forcibly brought out. The volume, indeed, is throughout vital and palpitating with the writer's lively, vivacious, energetic, and warm-hearted enthusiasm. It bears on every page the unmistakable marks of his own vigorous and forceful personality, and it holds the reader's eager attention from cover to cover.

The Roll of Honour. By Evelyn Close. (Andrew Melrose.)—On April 20th, the publishers inform us, an unknown author sent a manuscript novel to the firm of Messrs. Andrew Melrose, Ltd. She was, she said, doubtful about its acceptance, as it had already been refused by another firm, who had kept it for three months. As it happened, the MS. came into Mr. Melrose's own hands; he read it at once, and on April 23rd he wrote accepting it for his firm. On June 10th it was published, and before publication the whole of the first edition of 1,500 copies had been taken up by the booksellers. After reading the book we can quite understand Mr. Melrose's eagerness to publish it, and we have no doubt that before long several further reprintings will be demanded, for it deals with the terrible tragedy of the war in so vivid, touching and pathetic a manner that it cannot fail to make a lasting impression on everyone who reads it. The horrible scenes of German brutality in Belgium; the pathetic tragedy of poor little Marie Beazon, with her hands cut off by the Prussian fiends, are described with a quiet effective simplicity which is not often met with. The hurried marriage of Captain Caval with his bride, the rector's daughter; the curious incident where a blow on his head for the time being destroys his memory of his love; the heroism of his wife, who refuses to

permit the operation which, while it might bring back his memory, must needs keep him for some time from the field; and, finally, the sad tragedy of his death just after his memory had returned, are all incidents set forth with a naturalness and insight which places the book permanently on a very high level. There have been, and there will be, stories of the war which will fascinate and attract the reader, but we doubt if any will make a more effective appeal than Miss Close's moving tale.

Roumania and the Great War. By R. W. Seton-Watson, D.Litt. (Constable & Co.)—Dr. Seton-Watson has for some time been recognised as one of the first authorities on the Slav nations of the Near East, and anything he has to say about Roumania and the war is necessarily of special interest and importance at the present juncture, for the question whether or not Roumania will throw in her lot with the Allies is one to which we shall all like to have an authoritative answer. In the present short and convenient work, which is based on a lecture given to the Royal Scottish Geographical Society last February, Dr. Seton-Watson outlines the main features of Roumanian history, and provides a brief estimate of Roumania's policy, as he views the situation, in relation to the Great War. He first emphasises the vitality of the Roumanian race during the sixteen centuries it may be said to have existed, and he points out that British public opinion has for many years steadily ignored the country and its problems. He informs us that Roumania has been bound to Austria-Hungary by a secret military convention for defensive purposes, though it is the work of King Charles and not of the Roumanian people. Further, she is ill prepared for war—last December she had only enough ammunition to last for three months—and, further, the occupation of Constantinople by the Russians cannot fail to be distasteful to Roumania. Perhaps the deciding factor is that England is fighting for the principle of nationality, and therefore cannot but welcome the realisation of Roumanian unity.

The Squire's Sweetheart. By Katharine Tynan. (Ward, Lock & Co.)—Though the title-page of Miss Tynan's latest novel only bids the reader expect one love story, before he has gone very far he finds that he will probably have two or three. Indeed by the time the tale ends we have three lovers, each surmounting his particular obstacles, and each, we may suppose, living happily married ever after. The squire, Mr. Meyrick, was in his younger days crossed in love, and so is middle-aged and unmarried when the story begins. He meets with Dolly Egerton, the beautiful and attractive sister of Egerton, a typical painter, who has come to the village with his wife, a rather heartless person who does not get on with Dolly. Dolly, curiously enough, comes under the hypnotic influence of one Cooper, an unpleasant individual, who wants to make her his wife in spite of the strong dislike which she cannot help feeling. Meyrick appears upon the scene, woos and wins her in the end, though Cooper manages to kidnap her and carry her off. His plot, however, fails—as is always the case in novels—and he pays the penalty of his evil deeds. Meanwhile Hilary, Mr. Meyrick's cousin, has long been in love with Margaret South, the daughter of Sir Gilbert and Lady South, the great people of the place. Sir Gilbert, so rumour says, treats his wife very badly, and there are tales of a certain Dr. Langton with whom she is too friendly. We have here the materials for an interesting episode, into which we need not further enter, but which, under Miss Tynan's skilful handling, adds to the excitement and interest of the tale. Hilary in the end wins his Margaret, and when Sir Gilbert dies and leaves his wife at peace but broken down in health, Dr. Langton, who has always been her devoted lover, at last comes into his own.

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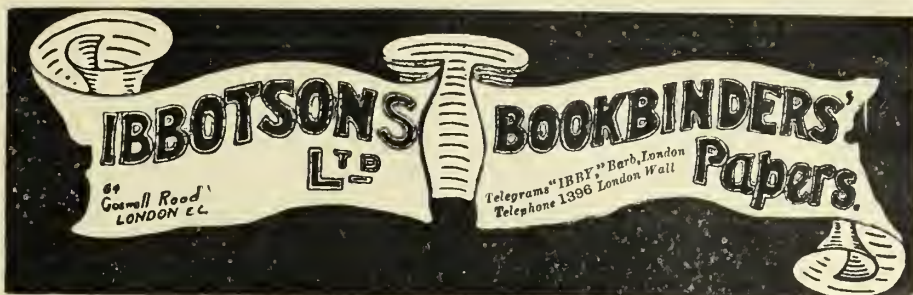
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