

from a tenpenny nail; and a regulation regarding explosives, or the use of balloons, is wholly different from a decree as to the appointment of judges in a Permanent Tribunal. The reader, therefore, who really cares for the eternal truth rubs into his memory so that it may stay there the fact that the history of the Hague Conference is the history of three sub-conferences. These sub-conferences met at different places, at different times, and

“Did the thing that they were set to do.”

The general Conference had the sense to accept, in substance, their proposals, and to confess its limitations, as they confessed theirs. These proposals, therefore, appear now as the determinations of the civilized world, as stated by competent authority, in the year 1899.

It should be remembered that until this time the civilized world had not agreed by authorized spokesmen to any statement of international law. It is indeed a fine

illustration of the worth of the individual, in our modern society, that up till this time international law has been the result of the utterances of separate students, who had no authority but the living God for their utterances. It is as Newton announced the law of gravitation, and required no rescript from Queen Anne or Louis XV. or the Pope of Rome to compel the world to accept his announcement. From Grotius down to Wheaton, the authorities, so called, have been private men who had studied history, who had tried to find out the Divine Will, and then had uttered what they believed true. There had been different conferences at different times which had suggested this or that dictum of international law, but it was reserved for the Hague Conference to make such utterances with the weight so overwhelming as is in the authority given by the rulers of twenty-six nations who appointed their representatives to do this very thing.

Books of the Week

This report of current literature is supplemented by fuller reviews of such books as in the judgment of the editors are of special importance to our readers. Any of these books will be sent by the publishers of The Outlook, postpaid, to any address on receipt of the published price.

About the Bible: A Collection of Extracts from Writings of Eminent Biblical Scholars and of Scientists of Europe and America. Compiled by Charles L. Hammond. Illustrated. Cooke & Fry, New York. 5×7½ in. 136 pages. \$1.25.

The world moves fast. Barely twenty years ago Professor Toy's Old Testament primer, "History of the Religion of Israel," published by the Unitarian Sunday-School Society, was too radical for some Unitarian churches. But this book, whose compiler announces himself a member of "an evangelical church," far overshoots it. We strongly sympathize with his protest against some current Sunday-school teaching which children, when grown, will resent as contradictory to scientifically established truth. We find a great deal of valuable information given about the Bible, the universe, and history, with personal notices of men distinguished for learning. Many Biblical facts are also presented in the soundly historical view that substitutes fact for illusion. But it behooves a student of the Bible to be less dogmatic and more cautious than Mr. Hammond has been in the field of open questions. From his account of the books of the New Testament one would not be certain that any are authentic, not even those Epistles universally recognized as St. Paul's. Nor is any attempt made to give due weight to the testimony of St. Paul as strongly corroborative of the evangelic tradition at a

date but little subsequent to the historical facts. The negative aspect which this part of Mr. Hammond's book wears is not justified by the best scholarship. To say of the cardinal fact of Jesus' resurrection that it "is not an external fact, but simply a form of belief assumed by the faith of his friends," is to utter an opinion which, from the point of view of the best historical scholarship, must be characterized as idiosyncratic.

An Iseult Idyll and Other Poems. By G. Constant Lounsbury. John Lane, New York. 4½×7¼ in. 79 pages.

A thin volume of poems, written with great care and with a delicate sense of poetic values, but essentially secondary in its inspiration; echoes for the most part of classical moods, and dealing to a considerable extent with classical themes; charming exercises in verse rather than original poetry.

Argonaut Letters. By Jerome Hart. Illustrated. Payot, Upham & Co., San Francisco. 5½×8¼ in. 421 pages.

Immensely superior to the average book of globe-trotter's notes of travel in liveliness, sharpness of observation, and amusing qualities generally. Sometimes one feels that the author lets his *penchant* for sprightliness, his love of showing that he has "a large bump of irreverence," and his posing as a man of the world obscure his good judgment and better

taste, and sometimes there is a note of exaggeration and almost of burlesque; but, taken all in all, these chapters, originally published as letters in the San Francisco "Argonaut," are pithy and show keen appreciation of phases of foreign life not known to the ordinary traveler. They are interesting alike to the reader who has gone and to the reader who is going to Europe and Egypt, and they agreeably supplement, though they do not supersede, the little red books to which Mr. Hart seems to have such an aversion. The book is decidedly well printed, and has many reproduced photographs.

Body of Christ (The). By Charles Gore, M.A., D.D. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. 5x7 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. 330 pages. \$1.75.

A discussion of the significance of the Lord's Supper by one of the leaders of the High Church movement in England; a man of devout spirit, of great learning, of original power as a thinker, and of the first prominence in the English Church as a preacher. Canon Gore treats the subject from the historical point of view; he marshals the passages which bear upon it in the New Testament; he has made careful study of the attitude of the Early Church; he examines the patristic writers; he deals with the Roman Catholic point of view, and he presents, as clearly as the subtle nature of the subject will permit, the view of the English Sacramentalist. The book is written in an irenic spirit, and is profoundly religious in temper. It is an authoritative statement of one great interpretation of the Lord's Supper.

Boy General (The): Story of the Life of Major-General George A. Custer. By Elizabeth B. Custer. Edited by Mary E. Burt. Illustrated. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. 5x7 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. 204 pages. 60c.

This is a well-condensed survey of General Custer's life as told by Mrs. Custer in her "Tenting on the Plains," "Following the Guidon," and "Boots and Saddles." It thus summarizes General Custer's services from the reorganization of Texas after the Civil War, and the suppression of the intended Mexican invasion, to his yet more notable work in opening up the great Northwest. The book is a good one for boys, young or old. It is also good for school reading.

Crucial Instances. By Edith Wharton. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. 5x7 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. 242 pages. \$1.50.

A collection of short stories in Mrs. Wharton's characteristic vein. The stories deal almost entirely with psychological motives, treated from the psychological point of view, in a style very carefully and artistically wrought out. Mrs. Wharton is unusually well equipped for the work of writing fiction; she has the sense of literary values and the sense of literary forms. Her work has shown that she was in danger of confounding psychology with literature—two things which are essentially different. There have been indications that she was too close a student of Mr. Henry James, who has sacrificed literature for psychology, the method of art for the method of philosophy. These stories are more hopeful; they indicate greater directness and less care

for Mr. James. If Mrs. Wharton will treat the problems of character which interest her from the literary rather than the psychological point of view, she has it in her power to write books which are likely to last.

East London. By Sir Walter Besant. Illustrated. The Century Co., New York. 6x9 in. 364 pages. \$3.50.

The one person in all England to do for East London what Mr. Riis has done for New York's East Side in "How the Other Half Lives" and "A Ten Years' War" was the author of "All Sorts and Conditions of Men" and "Children of Gibeon." Sir Walter has assimilated the historical associations of London more thoroughly than any other writer of our day; he has his "Stow" at his finger-ends; and he has also, with this exact knowledge of old days in London, the born romancer's appreciation of old-time flavor and color and suggestion. All this he has shown abundantly in his books "London," "Westminster," and "South London," which may be read with the keenest delight by those to whom archaeology and historic reconstruction are ordinarily less welcome than fiction. In the present book the element just referred to is inevitably less conspicuous, although not absent, but we have a large-hearted, broadly sympathetic effort to show the real life and life-interests of the people who inhabit that vast and crowded territory lying east of Bishopsgate Street Without and north of the Thames, including the once rural villages of Hackney, Stepney, Bow, and Stratford. This district is by no means all made up of slums, and here, as in several of his stories, the author takes pains and pleasure in telling of the many thousands of industrious, independent craftsmen, as well as of the larger number of patient day laborers. With no attempt to do what Mr. Charles Booth has so ably accomplished in statistical work, Sir Walter does something even more valuable in taking the reader into the East London streets, showing us the squalor, drudgery, and poverty, the slow-witted minds of the workers, their heavy, monotonous round of dreary work and cheap amusement, and yet making us feel that these are men and women who must be dealt with as individuals rather than as a class, as part of our common humanity rather than as part of a machine. The book is more than interesting; it is fascinating. It is full of side-lights, of striking bits of typical imaginary biography, of odd historical reminiscences, of suggestions for social workers. Like its predecessors in Sir Walter Besant's series on London, the work is handsomely printed; that it is admirably illustrated will be known when we say that Mr. Phil May, Mr. Joseph Pennell, and Mr. Raven Hill have collaborated in the work; each in his way is a past-master in depicting phases of London life and character.

Ethical Democracy: Essays in Social Dynamics. By Professor D. G. Ritchie, G. H. Ferris, J. R. MacDonald, J. A. Hobson, M.A., Prof. J. H. Muirhead, Zona Vallance, F. J. Gould, Margaret McMillan, Prof. Adamson, Christian Collin, M.A., and Dr. Stanton Coit. Edited for the Society of Ethical Propagandists by Stanton Coit. Grant Richards, London, England. 5x7 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. 361 pages.

A volume of inharmonious but remarkably

suggestive essays on the philosophy of government. The essayists were selected by the Society of Ethical Propagandists, and stand, therefore, as the representatives of its creed. They do not, however, make possible any formulation of this creed that can be made known and loved by great masses of men. On the contrary, all the resolutions of this Society seem to be so "sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought" and the paler cast of criticism that they lose all promise of action. Nevertheless, the work is not in vain even when judged as a whole, for the volume proves that the conscience of the Ethical Society, not finding relief in the time-honored activities of the Church for the salvation of individuals, is at least deeply troubled by the new social problems to which the Church is giving little heed. Some of the individual essays, furthermore, have the clearness and definiteness of purpose which the volume as a whole lacks. No one, for example, can object to Mr. Hobson's essay on the "Ethics of Industrialism" that the author does not know just where he would lead those who became his followers. The most suggestive essay in the volume, however, is that of the editor, Dr. Stanton Coit, on the "Dynamics of Democracy." This essay contains a statement of the quickening and elevating power of democratic ideals such as has rarely been made in our political literature. It is, however, the statement of a poet rather than a statesman, and of a poet who has an inspiring vision of the future rather than one who has a deep comprehension of our heritage from the past. The author does not understand that the socialistic democracy which he loves is one in spirit with the individualistic democracy which he rejects, and that the new work of putting the collective interests of the people under the direction of their collective judgment is merely the supplement of the old work of putting the individual interests of the people under the direction of their individual judgment. Unless we can preserve the liberty for which the old democracy contended, the fraternity for which the new democracy contends will prove to be but the supreme culmination of discord.

Father Hecker. By Henry D. Sedgwick, Jr. (The Beacon Biographies of Eminent Americans.) Small, Maynard & Co., Boston. $3\frac{3}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{4}$ in. 157 pages. 75c.

The founder of the Paulist Fathers, the exponent of that type of Roman Catholicism known in the Church as "Americanism," is worthily included in this series. The materials for the present sketch of his life have been judiciously drawn for the most part from the "Life of Father Hecker" written by Father Walter Elliott.

Feeding of Infants (The). By Joseph E. Winters, M.D. E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. $4\frac{1}{2} \times 7$ in. 47 pages. 50c.

Four Hundred Laughs; or, Fun Without Vulgarity. Compiled and Edited by John R. Kemble. The New Amsterdam Book Co., New York. $4\frac{1}{2} \times 7$ in. 183 pages. 75c.

From a Swedish Homestead. By Selma Lagerlöf. Translated by Jessie Brochner. McClure, Phillips & Co., New York. $5\frac{1}{4} \times 7\frac{3}{4}$ in. 376 pages. It is difficult to praise this book too highly.

The author's style is simple, direct, and picturesque with a kind of Scandinavian picturesqueness which we have learned to appreciate in Andersen and other story-writers from Sweden, Norway, and Denmark. The present book has the quiet, idyllic charm of Sweden itself, but the author does not confine her story-telling to that country alone. Her range of subjects extends from Icelandic saga to biographies of the saints, and to transcripts from the old Italian romancers. Interesting and well worth reading as are the tales founded on these subjects, we like best of all the author's sketches of modern life in her own land. Her art is a genuine art, and her admirers are to be congratulated that the translator has been so successful in retaining the saga-like simplicity of the original.

Her Mountain Lover. By Hamlin Garland. The Century Co., New York. 5×8 in. 396 pages. \$1.50.

A typical Colorado miner goes to London in an effort to sell his mine, and brings a far-Western breeze of unconventionality into London society. His masterful and manly ways almost win the heart of a sympathetic English-Irish girl, but she shrinks at the last from the prospect of being a cowboy's bride, and keeps him from committing himself—fortunately, as he soon finds that he had really left his heart in the keeping of a typical American girl. There is a good deal of vivacity in the talk of the "mountain lover," and his behavior in the to him hateful great city is amusing and picturesque. Perhaps his scorn of all unfortunate people who do not belong to the "high country" gets a little wearing before the story ends; but his sympathy for all out-of-doors is fresh, vigorous, and inspiring. The minor characters of the book have little reality, and the plot is merely a rather poorly constructed vehicle for the exhibition of the one interesting character.

History of Rome (A): For High Schools and Academies. By George Willis Botsford, Ph.D. Illustrated. The Macmillan Co., New York. $5\frac{1}{4} \times 8$ in. 396 pages. \$1.10.

It is not easy to conceive how a school history such as this is, with the apparatus for the pupil that it furnishes, could be perceptibly improved upon. Extending from the earliest times to Charlemagne, A.D. 800, it preserves the continuity of the ancient pagan empire with the mediæval Christian empire. It is imperial Rome that the author emphasizes as having left the mark of Rome on the world. The traditional representations of such "tyrants" as Tiberius, Domitian, and even Nero, receive a revision that relieves them of more or less of their infamy.

History, Prophecy, and the Monuments. By James Frederick McCurdy, Ph.D., LL.D. In 3 vols. (Third Edition, Revised Throughout.) The Macmillan Co., New York. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{3}{4}$ in. \$9.

Reserved for later notice.

Kith and Kin. By George Hyde Lee, M.D. The Neale Co., Washington, D. C. $4\frac{3}{4} \times 7$ in. 174 pages. \$1.

King Kindness and the Witch and Other Stories. By Helen Wells. Illustrated. C. W. Bardeen, Syracuse. $4\frac{3}{4} \times 7$ in. 118 pages.

Laurie Vane and Other Stories. By Molly Elliott Seawell. Illustrated. The W. A. Wilde Co., Boston. $4\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ in. 152 pages. \$1.

The well-known author of "The House of Egremont" has collected, under the title "Laurie Vane," some pleasant short stories, intended primarily for young folks, but suitable for readers of any age.

L'Art d'intéresser en Classe et la Lettre Chargée. By Victor F. Bernard. William R. Jenkins, New York. $4\frac{1}{4} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ in. 50c.

Love Letters of a Liar (The). By Mrs. William Allen. The Ess Ess Publishing Co., New York. $4 \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ in. 68 pages. 50c.

Man-Building: A Treatise on Human Life and Its Forces. By Lewis Ransom Fiske, LL.D. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. $5 \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ in. 324 pages. \$1.25.

Dr. Fiske's design is to aid the young in the development of a well-balanced and complete human nature, and to second the efforts of their teachers to that end. In so doing he covers a wide field, including psychology, logic, ethics, physiology, sociology, and religion. Instructive and judicious as he is, he does not grip one's attention as well as he carries one's judgment; there is a certain lack of concreteness and tendency to generalities. For this reason we doubt if it is well adapted to young people, except those of a sedate and serious turn.

Martin Brook. By Morgan Bates. Harper & Bros., New York. $5 \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ in. 365 pages.

This is, we believe, a first story, and it has some of the faults of a first story. There are occasional touches of crudity in it, and at points the construction is not as deft and skillful as it might be; but these are very minor blemishes in a piece of work which is full of the elements which go to the making of strong fiction—clearly conceived characters set in dramatic relations to one another, powerful motives, underlying seriousness of spirit, and a group of incidents significant of character and also provocative of passion and emotion. "Martin Brook," plucked out of a kind of slavery himself by the hand of a gentleman of the old school, is peculiarly fitted by nature and by the circumstances of his life to become an abolitionist at a time when to be an abolitionist involved in many cases an element of heroism. To Martin Brook it meant sacrifice of all the external advantages of life and of its sweetest relations—a sacrifice met with unflinching courage. His character is unusual from every point of view, and his career intensely dramatic. The writer has conceived his hero in a very clear light, has drawn him with a bold and not unskillful hand. The story is full of high lights, of dramatic contrasts, of striking incidents; it is full of the stuff, in other words, of which real stories are made. As a piece of initial work it is not only a notable achievement, but it is full of promise for the future.

N'th Foot in War (The). By M. B. Stewart, 1st Lieut. U. S. A. The Abbey Press, New York. $5\frac{1}{4} \times 8$ in. 175 pages. \$1.

Nursing Ethics: For Hospital and Private Use. By Isabel Hampton Robb. J. B. Savage, Cleveland, Ohio. $5 \times 7\frac{1}{4}$ in. 273 pages.

Observations of Henry. By Jerome K. Jerome. Illustrated. Dodd, Mead & Co., New York. $4\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{4}$ in. 182 pages. \$1.26.

Half a dozen amusing stories told in Cockney dialect by a typical London waiter who has been Henri in the West End and 'Enery in the cheap eating-houses. The stories have rather more of connected plot than the jocose Mr. Jerome usually cares to bother with, and they are all clever and lively. The illustrations in color are really very well done.

Octopus (The): A Story of California. By Frank Norris. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. 5×8 in. 652 pages. \$1.50.

A book certain to arouse favorable and unfavorable comment, to be liked and disliked, to be looked at from many varying points of taste and thought, but at all events not a book to be passed over as slight, trifling, or merely amusing. Following Zola in his great trilogy of Paris life, Mr. Norris has attempted a trilogy of novels on wheat production and consumption; "The Octopus" tells of the fierce struggle between the wheat-raiser and the railroad which must bear the wheat to the market; a second novel will have the Chicago wheat-pit as its central point; a third, probably the relief of famine in the Far East by the wheat from the Far West. What economic value is to be attached to this "prose epic" of the contest between the great California wheat-raiser who looks out upon his ten thousand acres of growing wheat and the railroad which puts on "all the freight the product can bear," and thereby (in the story at least) drives the producer to bribery, bloodshed, and ruin, depends entirely upon the typicalness of the case presumably put forward as of general application. Certainly the reader must feel inclined by the vivid, dramatic narrative to the belief that a railroad system having a monopoly because of no business competitor, a carrier upon which the public at large depends for service, should be forced to submit to public supervision, even in the matter of rates, to prevent positive oppression. Mr. Norris's treatment of his subject is broad and comprehensive in its general plan, but in its detail minutely realistic. Sometimes this minuteness becomes annoying, as when, with a Maeterlinck-like repetition, he insists on mentioning a certain woman's "three-cornered white forehead" whenever he refers to her, or invariably tells us, when his would-be poet mounts his bicycle, that the handle-grips were made of cork; indeed, as Wagner has a musical phrase for every person or idea, so Mr. Norris seems bound to repeat certain descriptive phrases whenever his personages reappear in the tale. There is much, too, besides the trilogy-design that suggests Zola here: the eloquent reiteration of the lifelikeness of the earth smiling to the plow, teeming with the seed, giving birth to the harvest, often reminds one of "La Terre" and "Fécondité;" so does the rapid cumulative piling up of descriptive phrases in important passages. We have commented on the quite needless coarseness and brutality of two of this author's other stories; that element is less prominent here, and where it does occur is less willful, more a part of the general purpose. The latter part of the story seems

to us not entirely to sustain the force and really tremendous energy of the earlier half; such a scene as that where, in alternate paragraphs, the railroad capitalists revel in wine and talk art while their starving victim dies on the street is, from the literary point of view, distinctly "yellow." A carping critic might find plenty of points for attack upon individual things in the book; yet, judging it as a whole, it is extraordinary in its grasp and in its vivid depiction of things pleasant and unpleasant, of people who (much as one dislikes some of them) are flesh and blood, not wooden pegs upon which to hang a sentimental or historical romance, of the conflict of elemental passions and forces.

Philosophy of Religion in England and America (The). By Alfred Caldecott, D.D. The Macmillan Co., New York. 6x9 in. 434 pages. \$2.50.

The design of this work is quite different from that of others under the same title—for instance, Pfeiderer's. Dr. Caldecott has given us here an introduction to the history of Theism, a term which he takes as equivalent to Philosophy of Religion. There are many types of theism; many varieties of philosophy of religion; none of the competitors has gained assured predominance. Prerequisite to further progress is a survey of the field of thought since the Reformation, with an account of what has been done. Accordingly, Dr. Caldecott, distinguishing thirteen types among theistic writers, devotes himself to a series of critiques upon these as represented both by the greater and the lesser lights of thought. He does not consider it his business to adjudicate upon their competitive claims for preference, but rather to point out what they have made good and wherein they fall short. As a judicial summing up of the achievements of theistic thought thus far, Dr. Caldecott's work by its comprehensive critical sweep takes a place that no other takes. Among many noteworthy points may be instanced his censure of the neglect shown to the æsthetic element in theism, a neglect which has recoiled upon theism itself. Quite in the spirit of the twentieth century is his recognition of "Social Theism" as a type which "may claim to be the ultimate account of man's religious belief. . . . Such would be a religion of Humanity, in which Humanity is the subject which believes and worships." From his report, however, it appears to be a line on which thought is at present rather groping for the way. "Matthew Arnold comes as near as any one to the position of Social Theism." Finally, from the fact that an inquiry for the grounds that justify religious belief leads, not to a single theism, but to a complex literature, the conclusion is drawn that "even in the natural ways of establishing religious belief a variety of method is beneficently adapted to the variety which marks our human nature."

Political Economy of Humanism (The). By Henry Wood. Lee & Shepard, Boston. 5¼x8 in. 319 pages. \$1.25.

Robert Annys: Poor Priest. By Annie Nathan Meyer. The Macmillan Co., New York. 5x7¾ in. 347 pages. \$1.50.

In many ways the historical episode treated in this novel is rich in color and romance.

The rising headed by Wat Tyler was in a way a forerunner of all the labor and social struggles of later days; John Ball, the real hero of this story, had in him elements of strength and passion which may well stir an imaginative writer, as, in fact, they did inspire William Morris's "Dream of John Ball;" the corruption and arrogance of the Church incited to revolt not a few "poor priests" like Robert Annys, burning with zeal for the precepts of early Christianity and goaded to the point of martyrdom by the evils of ecclesiasticism. In the common life of the Englishmen of the fourteenth century there was abundance of picturesque and quaint material for fictional use. Out of all this Mrs. Meyer has formed a background for a vivid, brilliant tale, not without social purpose, but essentially a romance and a record of personal struggle and temptation. The book has dramatic qualities, and it holds the attention closely. It touches a new topic in the always popular domain of historical fiction, and it cleverly reconstructs a most important and significant period of English development—one tempestuous and full of conflicting tendencies, but still one out of which evolved English ideas of freedom in thought and action.

Second Dandy Chater (The). By Tom Gallon. Dodd, Mead & Co., New York. 5x7¾ in. 329 pages. \$1.50.

When a facial resemblance between two characters in a book is so strong that they cannot be told apart by their nearest friends, all sorts of comic and tragic combinations are possible, as Shakespeare showed us with his two Dromios. There is much ingenuity in the plot of this book, but its humor seems to us machine-made, and its tragedy of a cheaply melodramatic cast.

Souls of Passage. By Amelia E. Barr. Illustrated. Dodd, Mead & Co., New York. 5x7½ in. 327 pages. \$1.50.

In this volume, as in the author's "Prisoners of Conscience," she seems at her best when her characters are near the sea. There are likable characters in this book, as are often those having some love for the sea and a great love for religion. Fresh, charming, and original as is the author's work in her latest book, we miss certain delicate shadings which might have given to it a greater title to consideration as literature. It is in any event a capital novel, and a particularly readable description of Scotch life.

Stage in America, 1897-1900 (The). By Norman Hapgood. The Macmillan Co., New York. 5¼x7¾ in. 408 pages. \$1.75.

Reserved for later notice.

Stage Reminiscences of Mrs. Gilbert (The). Edited by Charlotte M. Martin. Illustrated. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. 5¼x8¾ in. 248 pages. \$1.50.

The writer of these "Reminiscences" is one of the most interesting and admirable women now on the stage; her simplicity, her genuineness, her devotion to her profession, and her dramatic skill have long made her a familiar figure to that public which cares for the best comedy. It was a happy inspiration which led her, either at her own suggestion or at the suggestion of another, to write her reminis-

cences. Mrs. Gilbert has been fortunate in associating with a great many interesting people, and she has an admirable style for this kind of writing; she is simple, direct, human, with an interest in common things, an eye for character, and the gift of humor. Her reminiscences are delightful reading.

Story of My Life (The). By Augustus J. C. Hare. Vols. III and IV. Dodd, Mead & Co., New York. $5\frac{3}{4} \times 9$ in. \$7.50.

Reserved for later notice.

Through Siberia. By J. Stadling. Edited by F. H. H. Guillemand, M.A., M.D. Illustrated. E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. $6\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$ in. 317 pages. \$6.

There is poetic justice in a description of Siberia by a Swede. After the defeat at Pultava (1709)—a battle which marks the fall of Charles XII. of Sweden and the rise of Russia under Peter the Great—the captured Swedish officers were sent to Tobolsk and other places east of Russia, and these officers gave a first impulse to genuine civilization in Siberia. They explored the entire country to the shores of the Pacific, and were the first to sail to Kamchatka; they constructed the first iron-works in Siberia; they established schools and built churches. In the well-printed volume before us, Mr. Stadling, the distinguished Swedish sociologist and traveler, presents an account of Siberian journeys which have led him not only through comparatively well-known districts like that around Irkutsk, but especially through those little known, like the Province of Yakutsk, and finally over the far northern tundras of the Taimyr, which have never before been traversed by civilized man. Mr. Stadling knows his Russia well. Nine years ago, as the representative of various philanthropists in Sweden and America, he co-operated with the Tolstoi family in fighting the famine, and has visited Russia on many other occasions. His latest journey had a peculiarly interesting incentive: he had accompanied Andrée to the North to witness the latter's departure on his dangerous attempt to reach the North Pole by balloon. As months passed by and no news from the explorer arrived to relieve the general anxiety, a search along the Siberian coast was decided upon, and the Swedish Geographical Society requested our author to proceed thither and endeavor to obtain possible tidings of the expedition from the nomadic tribes of the tundras. The plan of descending the Lena River to its mouth, proceeding westward to the lower Yenisei, and of following the course of that river to civilization again, was eventually carried out, but not without great risk. Within a few miles from where Mr. Stadling was frozen in on an island in the Lena Delta, the crew of the Jeannette met their fate twenty years ago. However, the value of Mr. Stadling's book does not lie so much in his description of personal adventure—indeed, of this there is hardly enough. Nor does it lie in any description of the plants and animals of a little-known region; the references to these are regrettably few. The book's signal excellence lies in its description of a malady, at once political and social, from which Siberia and Russia alike are suffering—namely, the disheartening official corruption everywhere

prevalent, the commercial monopolism and immorality, and, finally, the ravages of *vodka*, the Russian equivalent of whisky, and, like it, distilled from rye.

Tora of Moses (The): Reconstructive Criticism. By William Wallace Martin. The Publishing House of the M. E. Church, So., Nashville, Tenn. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{4}$ in. 339 pages. \$1.50.

This handsomely printed volume evinces the author's learning and ingenuity. He contends for the traditional theory of the Mosaic authorship of Deuteronomy, but with this difference, that he holds that the book as we have it contains two ancient copies of the Mosaic law (*torah*, as Hebrew scholars usually spell it), and that the inconsistencies and contradictions which he, as well as other critics, finds in it are due to the unskillful compression of these into one. He undertakes to separate them, and to reproduce them side by side. It strikes us that this is a new specimen of the higher criticism rather than a "refutation" of it. Certainly it yields no more support to the traditional notion of Biblical inerrancy than the critical theory which it endeavors to refute and supersede. Leaving the criticism of Professor Martin's theory to those whom it assails, the most obvious objection we find to his conclusion that "the body of the law in the *torah* was given to Israel at one time" is in the entire absence of any evidence to warrant the belief that in the case of the Hebrew people the principle of historical development of their religious institutions illustrated in the history of all other peoples was departed from.

Under Tops'ls and Tents. By Cyrus Townsend Brady. Illustrated. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. $5 \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ in. 272 pages. \$1.50.

Sketches and incidents drawn from the author's experiences in the Naval Academy, at sea, and in the Spanish-American war, in which he served as chaplain. Some of these sketches are thrown into fiction form, but the more numerous direct narratives of personal happenings told in the first person are far more interesting. The book has tragic, pathetic, and humorous elements, and through all is the note of a vigorous Americanism.

Victoria: Maid, Matron, Monarch. By Grapho. (J. A. Adams.) The Advance Publishing Co. $5 \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ in. 252 pages. 50c.

With Porter in the Essex. By James Otis. Illustrated. The W. A. Wilde Co., Boston. $5\frac{1}{4} \times 8$ in. 344 pages. \$1.50.

Here the boy hero goes round Cape Horn with Captain Porter (afterwards Admiral Porter) in the famous voyage during the war of 1812, when Porter made himself a scourge to British shipping interests. The story is one to quicken the blood, and is here well presented. This is the third of a series of boys' books relating to Admiral Porter.

Without a Warrant. By Hildegard Brooks. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{4}$ in. 292 pages. \$1.50.

A new writer here makes a promising entrance into the field of minor fiction. The plot is exciting, although it includes an essential improbability—namely, that a party of gentlemen bent on kidnapping and taking to Central America to be punished (or, perhaps, themselves killing) an atrocious villain, should

think it a matter of little consequence incidentally to kidnap and conceal in their camp in the woods, for days and perhaps weeks, a perfectly innocent and well-bred young woman. Barring this defect, which seems to us rather an important one, the tale is unusually good in its rapidly shifting situations, in its easy and natural dialogue, and in the saturnine humor of the gentlemanly lynchers.

Young Consul (The): A Story of the Department of State. By William Drysdale. Illustrated. W. A. Wilde Co., Boston. 5x7 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. 356 pages. \$1.50.

Mr. Drysdale bids fair to rival "Oliver Optic" in the number and popularity of his books for young people. In some ways, in our judgment, his books are much superior to those of

the much-beloved author just named, although the multitude of men who read Dr. Adams's books thirty years ago will never admit it. Mr. Drysdale always gives his story a background of solid information, interesting in itself and suggestive of a thorough study by the author of the special phase presented. Here, for instance, one finds an intelligent view of the workings and methods of the State Department; a previous volume in the series was a story of the business of the Treasury Department; while a former book dealt with the reporter's occupation. All these books are free from excessive sensationalism, yet have color and life. Boys like them and read them—which is more than can be said of many books bought for boys by fond parents.

Notes and Queries

It is seldom possible to answer any inquiry in the next issue after its receipt. Those who find expected answers late in coming will, we hope, bear in mind the impediments arising from the constant pressure of many subjects upon our limited space. Communications should always bear the writer's name and address. Any book named in Notes and Queries will be sent by the publishers of The Outlook, postpaid, on receipt of price.

What, in your opinion, are the best commentaries on John's Gospel (1) in English, (2) German, especially recent works? A. G. B.

1. Gode't's two volumes, \$6; Meyer's one volume, translated from the German, \$3 (Funk & Wagnalls Company, New York). 2. Holtzman.

Would you kindly advise the writer of any good text-book giving a synopsis of the views generally held for and against socialism, or any books stating the case for and against in a lucid fashion, with publishers and price? G. L. T.

Ely's "Socialism and Social Reform" not only states the pros and cons of this question judiciously, but presents a list of the important books bearing upon every phase of it. (T. Y. Crowell & Co., New York, \$1.50)

Please refer me to some work wherein I can find discussed the following question: The relation of the Crown or King of England to the Government. My desire is to ascertain the various steps by which the Crown has been deprived of the power it once had in the government; and also exactly what power the Crown now has, and its means to make itself felt in the government. J. S.

Last week we reviewed the best book on this subject that ever came to our attention, "The Working Constitution of the United Kingdom," by Leonard Courtney (The Macmillan Co., New York).

1. Kindly give me the titles of several collections of Bible stories arranged for the use of very young children, giving me your opinion as to the best one. 2. I would also be very glad indeed to have you suggest several secular books which you consider particularly stimulating and valuable, to read aloud to the same children. F. F. B.

1. "First Steps for Little Feet," "Precept upon Precept," "Sequel to Peep of Day," "The Little Bible." 2. Seton-Thompson's "Wild Animals I Have Known." Kipling's "Jungle Stories," Mrs. Burnett's "Little Lord Fauntleroy," Mark Twain's "Prince and Pauper," Mrs. Dodge's "Hans Brinker and the Silver Skates."

1. What was the date of The Outlook containing former list of books for theological library? 2. What are best works for critical study of Tennyson? I have Van Dyke. 3. Who are the authors of the following: "Beyond the Shadow," "Problem of Immortality," "Man and the Spiritual World"? Also publisher and price. J. E. R.

1. Our issue for February 20 1897, contained a list "for a church reference library." June 12, 1897, a supplement-

ary list was added "for a pastor's library." 2. Tennyson's Memoirs by his Son; Stedman in his "Victorian Poets." 3. J. M. Whiton; E. Petavel; Arthur Chambers (T. Whittaker, New York, \$1.25; the Macmillan Company, New York, \$4.50; G. W. Jacobs & Co., Philadelphia, \$1.25).

A correspondent lately asked you to give the losses in the South African war compared with some losses in our war. You quote C. D. Pierce, of the Orange Free State. Here is the official report from the War Office in London, in January, 1901:

	Officers.	Noncom. Officers and Men.
Killed.....	234	3,216
Wounded.....	1,269	13,451
Died of wounds in South Africa.....	57	1,035
Missing and prisoners...	304	8,042

Most of the prisoners have been accounted for and returned to their respective regiments, as the Boers cannot feed and care for them. Total killed, wounded, missing, and prisoners up to January 1, 1901, 25,709. About 250,000 troops have been landed in South Africa since the war began. I leave those interested to figure out the per cent. W. H. B.

We are frequently replying, generally by letter, to queries which reveal perplexities arising from misconceptions of religious truths. Some of these are from persons who wish to be set right, some from persons who wish directions how to set others right. A book included in our list "For a Pastor's Library," published February 23, "A Religion that Will Wear," is one that may be strongly recommended to all such, particularly to those whom modern science has imbued with doubts. Thoroughly modern in spirit and thoroughly religious also, wholly free from all bonds to theological formulas, it presents the simple faith that Jesus held as at once reconciling and rounding out the conflicting beliefs of men and satisfying all the essential demands of our nature. Those of our correspondents whom their letters show to be inclined to theosophy will find here, as in no other book that we have met, a friendly appreciation of the nobler side of Hinduism, and a hopeful indication of the line of thought in which the religions of the East and the West are to find their reconciliation with mutual gain. The author's name is not given. He avows himself merely "a layman" and "a Scottish Presbyterian." He is, however, a man of high culture and catholic human sympathy. (T. Whittaker, New York, \$1.25)