

Do you know that Sinclair Lewis once held a janitor's job, and ran a patent washing machine? Why Thomas Hardy, 86 years old, is called "the most modern of moderns"? Anatole France's real name? The extraordinary truth about David Grayson? That Jeffrey Farnol once worked a forgeand won a five-shilling bet by climbing the inside of a 120-foot chimney? Years ago your author was wrapped in a haze of deepest mystery. What was his favorite breakfast food? Did he enjoy doing the schottische? Was he married, single, divorced or all there? Nobody knew.

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It is natural that the reader should want to know something about the story-teller. It gives a better background and makes possible a more complete understanding. And so the Doubleday, Page Bookshop Company has arranged with some of the publishers to distribute several "critical esti-mates" of such authors as Thomas Hardy, James Stephens, Anatole France, Stephens, Anatole France, David Grayson, Theodore Dreiser, James Branch Cabell, Edna Ferber, Jeffrey Farnol and Sinclair Lewis. This information has come to me through the Book Dial, a publication issued six times a year and distributed through the Doubleday Shops in New York City, St. Louis and Kansas City, Missouri, Cleveland, Ohio, and Springfield, Mass. Each of these shops, by the way, is operated as a real bookstore and there is no "chain grocery" effect.

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It is not possible to make a mould that will stamp out bookshop after bookshop each having exactly the same characteristics. Every bookstore or book department becomes individual almost from the day of its opening. Make your furniture exactly like that of another; put in precisely the same books; if it remains open any length of time there will be a noticeable change. If an effort is made to keep the "sameness," the enterprise is doomed. Guy Turner in the Doubleday Shop at St. Louis has an entirely different sort of a place from Mrs. Klein in the Higbee Shop at Cleveland. And so it goes.

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No one would expect any two issues of the Saturday Review of Literature to be alike in content. Although this periodical is devoted to only one subject, each week finds it treating that subject from new angles, and in different ways. That's what makes it "interesting reading." The various personalities that go into the make-up of each weekly issue prevent the possibility of any two being exactly alike. It's very easy for the humanness of bookpeople to change all of our institutions and that is what makes everything about books and those who make, sell and write about them, worth while.

The New Books Drama

(Continued from preceding page)

a command of blank verse that deserves recognition. His three plays, "The Quest Divine," "St. Claudia," and "The Shepherds" would gain by separate publication. The rest of those in the volume are of more religious than dramatic interest. Presumably, like the plays of the first volume, these too are intended, as they are well adapted, for amateur production. TYPICAL ELIZABETHAN PLAYS. By Felix E. Schelling. Harpers. \$4.

Fiction

SPRING SOWING. By LIAM O'FLAHERTY. Knopf. 1926.

Liam O'Flaherty, product of Synge's Aran Islands, fighter in France and Ireland, sailor of the seven seas, and tramp on four continents is one of the new-comers in literature who is worth watching. He is a kind of Irish Gorki. Free, savage, mordant, his tendernesses are sardonic, his caresses intermingled with blows. His own fierce energy is imparted to everything of which he treats, landscape, animals, and humans. He is symptomatic of the newer Ireland that gave up dreaming of her past in order to fight for her present freedom. "Spring Sowing" hurls its short stories at the reader like bombs. One comes out of the encounter bruised and scarred, perhaps needing some time to recuperate, but with a wholesome respect for Mr. O'Flaherty's power and, if one's nerves are strong and stomach stout, an eagerness to meet him on his next battle-field.

Undisillusioned admirers of humanity, if there are any left nowadays, must settle their accounts with this man. His picture of human nature, evidently sincere, evidently drawn from close observation, is far from flattering. In these stories many varieties of men and other animals are introduced, and the other animals stand on a decidedly higher level of civilization than the men. His birds especially are delightful people. Horses and sheep are treated with respectful sympathy. Even the despised cow is the heroine of a particularly moving tale. But Mr. O'Flaherty's farmers and fishermen and other specimens of the genus homo are plagued with all the deadly sins, victims of the most brutal forms of blood lust and sex lust, greed, envy, and hatred, a most pitiable crew. The author does not parade his pity; his overt attitude is rather that of a hard objectivity; but the pity is there, all the more poignant for its suppression.

THE RED LEDGER. By FRANK L. PACKARD. Doran. 1926. \$2.

Old Henri Charlebois had passed the greater portion of his many years, until retarded prosperity overtook him, in failure, solitude, ill health, and privation. Then, with deserved and boundless wealth at his command, he starts paying back all those to whom he owes either good-will or animosity. His methods of discharging these debts are so intricate that he must needs employ a large staff of trustworthy and fearless assistants to handle the manifold details. One of his chief aides, a rugged and courageous youth, is the character whose perilous adventures in dispensing the old man's doles of justice provide the turbulent action with more than its share of the thrilling and mysterious. In this vein, Mr. Packard has never done better.

IACOB'S WELL. By PIERRE BENOIT. Translated from the French by ANGELO S. RAPPAPORT. International Publishers.

succession of incidents and a not too extravagant plot hold the reader's attention throughout.

THE SUNKEN GARDEN. By NATHALIA CRANE, Seltzer, 1926, \$2.

Here is a first novel hot from the typewriter of the famous Miss Crane,-one must, at the age of thirtten, forever lay aside "Nathalia" and "the Brooklyn wonder-child"-which is naturally to be studied with a special interest in view of the success of the author's two books of poems, and the even greater journalistic success of the controversy about her work.

It proves to be a romantic story, all about two castaways who undergo a great many trials and tribulations at the hands of nature and the elements, on an island off the African coast. The island is completely equipped with all the proper tropical flora and fauna, and a highly diverting time is had, together and separately, by the pair, until they are separated by a final tragedy. The male castaway is delightfully named Octans, and is a descendant of one of the thirteenth century child crusaders, who strayed to Africa. The heroine is less interesting, a mere modern girl from a wrecked yacht, recalling Barrie's Lady Angela. The process of their education and establishment of a life on the island forms the bulk of the book, and Nathalia Crane goes through the paces much as Defoe or Bernardin de St. Pierre, or Rose Macaulay and H. de Vere Stacpoole have before her. There are individual moments in the story that have the greatest charm and liveliness. The account of the Children's Crusade, and the description of the python, for instance, could scarcely be improved. But it is worth setting down that the little poems separating each section of the book, and the author's advertisement, are clearly superior to the prose narrative.

It is a little difficult to see why Nathalia Crane's abstract feeling for words, and her talent for using them, should be more effective in verse than in a novel, but at present this is the case. The lush prose of "The Sunken Garden," in which she uses so many colorful descriptive words and so many picturesque but obscure names, is not an impressive accomplishment for an author of her experience. This sophisticated simplicity is dangerously like the tedious magazine romances of her elders. In fact, "The Sunken Garden" is not at all a childish book in either its qualities or its defects. It shows the fine and sensitive mental quality of her earlier work, and an astonishing lyric sense, even as her poems do. However, it also bears frequent traces of library research and hothouse imagination of a type not particularly healthy. Perhaps these are the signs of immaturity. Provided they do not seriously affect Miss Crane's poetry, no one can seriously object to her getting them out of her system in a novel.

THE SCAMP. By Virgil Markham. Macmillan. \$2.25.

- ANTON REISER. By Philipp Moritz. Oxford University Press. 80 cents.
- THE WONDERING MOON. By George Weston. Dodd, Mead. \$2.
- THE LEPER SHIP. By Isadore Lhevinne. New York: Halcyon Books. \$2. HONEYMOON'S END. By Howard Rockey.
- Macaulay. \$2 net.
- MEN CALL IT LOVE. By Inez Sabastien. Macaulay. \$2 net.
- THE LOST PEARL. By Francis Grierson. Clode. THE STRANGE ADVENTURE OF JAMES SHERVING-TON. By Louis Becke. Lippincott.
- CALEB PEALEE. By Frank K. Rich. Altemus. \$2 net.
- THE SECRET LOVE HOUSE. By Maravene Thompson. \$2.
- THE BANDIT PRINCE. By Sessue Hayakawa. Macaulay. \$2 net.

Foreign

History

ANGLO-DUTCH RELATIONS FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES TO THE DEATH OF WILLIAM THE THIRD. By J. F. BENSE. Oxford University Press. 1925. \$5.50.

In preparing a dictionary of the Low-Dutch elements in the English vocabulary, Dr. Bense found it necessary to study the relations, commercial, political, and literary, between England and the Low Countries. The present volume thus serves as a kind of introduction to the forthcoming dictionary, but may also be read independently as an historical sketch of the indebtedness of English to Dutch civilization. Place-names such as Frisby indicate Frisian settlements in England before the Norman Conquest. In the twelfth century there were colonies of Flemings in Wales, and from that time on inhabitants of the Low Countries came to England in large numbers, chiefly as weavers, whose superior craftsmanship often aroused the jealousy of the English. In the sixteenth century immigrants who sought refuge from Alva's religious persecutions became as influential as the manufacturers and artisans. Dr. Bense records every possible kind of Dutch influence from the introduction of important arts, like that of printing, which Caxton learned at Bruges, to the sport of skating, which Pepys first saw in December, 1661, and thought "a very pretty art." In general, the book is a compilation of facts rather than an interpretation of history. Ar. elaborate index makes it a useful work of reference.

- BRITISH INDIA FROM QUEEN ELIZABETH TO LORD READING. By An Indian Mahommedan. Putnam. \$8.50.
- MACEDONIA, THRACE, AND ILLYRIA. By Stanley Casson. Oxford University Press. \$7.
- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF MODERN EUROPE. By Frederic Austin Ogg. Revised edition. Macmillan.
- RURAL SCOTLAND DURING THE WAR. By David 1. Jones, H. M. Conacher, Joseph F. Duncan, and W. R. Scott. Oxford University Press.

Miscellaneous

STEPCHILDREN OF MUSIC. By Eric Blom. Dial. \$2.50.

- DICTIONARY OF COSTING. By R. J. H. Ryall. Pitman. \$3.
- SALESMEN IN MARKETING STRATEGY. By Leverett S. Lyon. Macmillan.
- A POPULAR ENCYCLOPÆDIA OF HEALTH. By Lee K. Frankel. A. & C. Boni. \$3.50.
- PLAIN TALES OF THE NORTH. By Capt. Thierry Mallet. Putnam. \$2.
- GAMES FOR SPANISH CLUBS. By Colley F. Sparkman. New York: Institute de las Espanas en las Estados Unidos.
- MIND MAKES MEN GIANTS. By Richard Lynch. Dodd, Mead. \$2.
- ACHIEVEMENT. American Educational Press. PSYCHO-ANALYSIS FOR NORMAL PEOPLE. By Geraldine Coster. Oxford University Press.
- 85 cents. THE MIND OF THE MILLIONAIRE. By Albert W.
- Atwood. Harpers. \$2.50. MEN AND RUBBER. By Harvey S. Firestone in
- collaboration with Samuel Crowther. Doubleday, Page. \$3.50 net.
- THE DUFFER'S HANDBOOK OF GOLF. By Grantland Rice. Illustrated by Clare Briggs. Macmillan. \$3.50.

Pamphlets

- SCOTT'S KENILWORTH. Dramatized for School Use by E. C. Abbott. Oxford University Press. 15 cents.
- SCOTT'S WOODSTOCK. Dramatized for School Use by E. C. Abbott. Oxford University Press. 15 cents.
- WHEN JOHN WESLEY PREACHED IN GEORGIA. By E. Merton Coulter. Savannah: Georgia Historical Society.
- THE BRITISH ACADEMY. Sir Adolphus William

ELLIS W. MEYERS, Executive Secretary,

> American Booksellers' Association.

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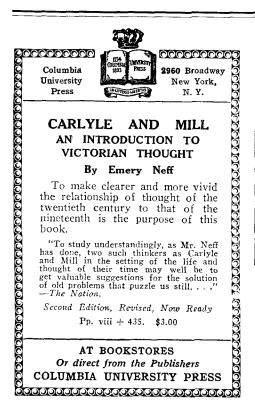
1926. \$2.

Most epople would like to learn something about the Zionist Movement if they could do so without effort. M. Benoit's interesting novel, "Jacob's Well," will exactly meet this desire. It gives a sufficiently accurate picture of the movement and is at the same time a rather fascinating story. "Jacob's Well" might stand as a refutation of the putative statement of King Ferdinand which M. Benoit quotes: "The Zionist is a Jew who pays another to go and live in Zion." M. Benoit feels the poetry of the Zionist ideal, recognizes the Messianic zeal in many of its followers, and presents vividly the actual situation in Palestine with all its hardships, discouragements, and unnoted heroisms. He indulges in no false sentiment. The leading character, Hagar Moses, a Levantine courtesan transiently caught up in the Zionist movement, is depicted convincingly without mawkish moralizings or equally mawkish æstheticisms, Her husband, the hunchback idealist Isaac Cochbas, is drawn with equal success. Reput

- LES FORMES DE GOUVERNMENT DE GUERRE. Les Presses Universitaires de France (Yale University Press).
- LA LÉGISLATION EN L'ADMINISTRATION ALLE-MANDE EN BELGIQUE. By J. Pirenne and M. Vauthier. Les Press Universitaires de France (Yale University Press).
- MONUMENTS DES PRIX ET DES SALAIRES PEN-DANT LA GUERRE. By Lucien March. Les Presses Universitaires de France (Yale University Press).
- EL CASTIGO DEL DISCRETO. By Lope de Vega. Together with A Study of Conjugal Love in His Theatre. By William L. Fichter.
- UNTER ESKIMOS UND WALFISCHFÄNGERN. By Kurt Faber. Stuttgart: Lutz.
- ARCHIV FÜR BUCHGEWERBE UND GEBRAUCHS-GRAPHIK. Typographie als Kunst. Leipzig: Verlag des Deutschen Buchgewerbevereins. DIE MATRATZENGENFT. By Alfred Meissner.
- Stuttgart: Lutz. VON DER LIEBE DEN FRAUEN UND DER GALAN-TERIE AUS NINON DE LENCLOS BRIEFEN. By A. Sanger. Stuttgart: Lutz.
- L'ART ET LA PHILOSOPHIE DES INDIENS DE L'AMÉRIQUE DU NORD. By Hartley Burr Alexander. Paris: Leroux.

1837-1924. AMERICAN OPINION OF GERMAN UNIFICATION. By John Gerow Gazley. Columbia University Press. DEVOLUTON IN GREAT BRITAIN. By Wan-Hsuan Chiao, Ph.D. Columbia University Press. THE POETRY OF UGO FOSCOLO. By Antonio Cippico. Oxford Press. 35 cents. SHAKESPEARE IN INDIA. By C. J. Sisson. Oxford Press. 70 cents. ENGLISH HANDWRITING. By Roger Fry and E. A. Lowe. Oxford University Press. SCOTT'S POLAR JOURNEY AND THE WEATHER. By G. C. Simpson. Oxford University Press. 85 cents. EXCAVATIONS AT CARTHAGE. By Francis W. Kelsey. Macmillan. READNG: A VICE OR A VIRTUE? By Theodore Wesley Koch. Evanston, Chicago: Northwestern University. ON THE COLOPHONS AND MARGINALIA OF IRISH SCRIBES. By Charles Plummer. Oxford University Press. \$1. THE BIBLE TREASURE CHEST. Oxford University Press. \$1. THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH IN THE POST-WAR WORLD. By Alfred Zimmern. Oxford Press. One Shilling net.

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Poetry

AVENUES OF SONG. By MARY BALLARD DURYEE. The Brick Row Book Shop. 1926.

Miss Duryee's unpretentious volume of poems, like so many others, falls under the too common head of undistinguished lyrics. There are occasional lines in which there is a fine consciousness of vowel and consonantal values—

And heard between my love and me Drownéd Death ride by.

There are other lines in which a poignancy of feeling is suggested rather than said— The night rain hems us all about,

Even our thoughts cannot slip out. Finally two which have the rare sound, charm-

Study magic not profoundly-

Lest you nevermore sleep soundly. But this is the best than can be said. The reader may find fragments that are pleasing, but he will not find anything approaching the most fugitive thrill of discovery. Pleasant and sheltered and sensitive to emotion as the poems are, nothing obscures the fact that they have nothing in particular to say and no particular way of saying it. They are poetical lyrics, negative to a degree, that even so short a while ago as a decade would have been dubbed feminine and so dammed.

- QUEST. By Eleanor Slater. Yale University Press. \$1.25.
- PROMETHEUS. By Clarence W. Mendell. Yale University Press. \$2.
- NEGRO WORKADAY SONGS. By Howard W. Odum and Guy B. Johnson. University of North Carolina Press, \$3.
- BEYOND THE ROCKIES. By William Augustus Banks. Dorrance.
- SELECTED POFMS OF ALEXANDER POPE. Edited by Louis J. Bredvold. Crofts.
- GREENSTONE POEMS. By Witter Bynner. Knopf. \$2.50 net.
- THE FORMS OF POETRY. By Louis Untermeyer. Harcourt, Brace.
- SPARKS AND EMBERS. By Edna Donham Raymond. Seltzer. \$1.75.
- YEAR BOOK OF POEMS: 1926. Edited by *Charles Hammond Gibson*. Boston: American Poetry Association.
- SINGING RAWHIDE. By Harold Hersey. Deran. \$1.50 net.
- UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON POEMS. Second Series. Edited by Glenn Hughes. University of Washington. \$1.75.
- SAVONAROLA. By Charlotte Eliot. London: Colden Sauderson.

The Reader's Guide

Conducted by MAY LAMBERTON BECKER

Inquiries in regard to the selection of books and questions of like nature should be addressed to MRS. BECKER, c/o The Saturday Review

NIZE BAEY. By Milt Gross (Doran).
A STUDY OF BRITISH GENIUS. By Havelock Ellis (Houghton Mifflin).
SOME AMERICAN LADIES. By Meade Minnigerode. (Putnam).

(Capt.) A. W., Washington, D. C., has seen a brief review of a book on great circle sailing, and asks for its title and publisher.

THIS is "Great Circle Sailing," by L. M. Berkley (White Book Co., N. Y., \$1.50). A great circle is a circle whose plane cuts the centre of the sphere and divides the globe into halves. Navigators choose to sail along the perimeter of a great circle whenever they can, and this book makes it possible to do so by exact formulæ.

Now let us demand of those who prepare for us manuals of ethical navigation, a similar text-book for sailing on great circles in human relations. One could then be sure, for example, of steering an exact course between the respective rights of capital and labor, Church and State, or, on a smaller scale, between the parties of a divorce suit. Get out your formulæ, determine a great circle, and proceed on a mondial course. It would be such a comfort if rights, duties, and obligations could be made to fall apart into two neat halves; as it is they have a way of coming out deplorably lopsided.

There's something in this idea of great circle sailing about which the mind likes to play, and the reason why I could tell Captain W. the name of his book so readily is because when first I saw the notice of it the above thoughts pirouetted into my head.

I. S. D., Palestine, Texas, asks if I can recommend a one-volume history of England to replace Green's "Short History," burned with this reader's library.

THE one I not only recommend to others but keep at hand for my personal use is Mowat's "History of Great Britain" (Oxford University Press). This is a fat little book of many pages and excellent illustrations; one must have had some experience with Oxford books to believe that with a page so small the type could be so clear and readable and the illustrations so comfortable to the eye. Though so large a subject is treated there is no forced condensation, and though it is to be used as a text-book it is adapted to the purpose of the home reader.

M. I. H., Beacon, N. Y., is making out a program of club study of comparative religions.

D R. ROBERT HUME'S "The World's Living Religions" (Scribner's), is a small manual prepared, I believe, for use by theological students as an introduction to the subject. The text-book arrangement makes it especially well adapted to use by a study group, and the reading-lists, models of their kind, lead the interest of the student along lines of further research. It is accurate in its statements and imbued with sweet reasonableness.

L. A. R., Stockton, Cal., asks for books to help in planning a study course on Mexico past and present. tion, especially in its relation to other countries. The problem of her relation to us is discussed in C. L. Jones's "Mexico and Its Reconstruction" (Appleton), and, among other problems, in E. D. Trowbridge's "Mexico Today and Tomorrow" (Macmillan). If this club is arranging its meetings in the order of a tour of the principal cities, "The Pretender Person," by Margaret Cameron (Harper), an amusing travel novel, will help in planning the journey.

M. O. Eldersley, Saskatchewan, Canada, asks for a comprehensive book on dramatic construction, suitable for a beginner.

"T HE Technique of Play Writing," by Charlton Andrews, one of the publications of the Home Correspondence School, Springfield, Mass., is suitable for a beginner, and George Pierce Baker's "Dramatic Technique" (Houghton Mifflin), is comprehensive, so you will have to have both of them, and don't stop before you read William Archer's "Play-making" (Small, Maynard).

J. M. J., Pinehurst, N. C., asks about books on the technique of short-story writing with which to supplement a correspondence course.

 $T^{\rm HE}$ college student who has taken all sorts of courses and can't write, and heaven knows there are plenty of them, should read "Better Writing," by Henry Seidel Canby (Harcourt, Brace), lately from the press. It brings a healthful and needed realization that most American books on writing have too much about substance and not enough about style. After all, after all, there is such a thing as literature. If, through the chapter on who should and should not write, the student is led to beat his typewriter into pruning-hooks, I care not for if he is meant to be a writer nothing will stop his writing. "Story Writing: Lessons from the Masters," by F. M. Perry (Holt), analyzes stories from Poe to Michael Arlen; the result is not so much directions for producing as stimulus toward doing so. I have lately spoken of "How to Write a Short Story," by Michael Joseph (Holt), and "The Commercial Side of Literature," by the same experienced Englishman in collaboration with Grant Overton (Harper): these are directions for getting into print rather than Parnassus, honest advice and well-seasoned.

HERE are two more maps. The Clarke Steamship Company of Quebec, evidently noticing the interest in this corner of the paper in illustrated literary and historical charts, sends me an invitation to view the 7X11 illuminated map by Cory Kilvert of the Gulf of St. Lawrence and lands adjacent, showing the discoveries and events of that part of the New World from Eric the Red (96) to the siege of Louisburg (1758). This is a decoration for their new steamship "Northland," running from Montreal to Newfoundland. The other is a poster published by the Oxford University Press called "Books of the West Country for Holiday Reading," printed in blue and black and showing the country of "Lorna Doone," several of Trollope's novels, and the plays of Sheridan. I was permitted to carry off a copy from the most endearing publishing establishment in London, Amen House, the hid-away home of the Oxford University Press.



Argosies of Literary News

WE are going to let you into an office secret. Or perhaps it isn't a secret, for you may already have guessed that the Phoenix Nests we have been running during the greater part of his absence were written *en* masse by the Phoenician before his departure for Europe, and that the procession of birds bearing copy across the Atlantic was a pure figment of the imagination. .Such it was. But now the Phoenician himself is on the Atlantic. returning only a short time ahead of his coadjutor, the conductor of Bowling Green. and like him bearing rare spoils in the way of literary experiences.

Truly truth is stranger than fiction. What novelist could have conceived a more unlikely happening than that Christopher Morley after three days of unsuspected proximity should have discovered the Phoenician in a room abutting on his in a London hotel? Busy days for both of them they were, with a visit to the Zoo with Rudyard Kipling and tea with Andre Maurois as outstanding events for Mr. Morley, and chats with the Sitwells, and Aldous Huxley, and John Galsworthy as red letter happenings for the Phoenician. Good talk they both had, and plenty that will yield fascinating matter for comment.

We're telling you this by way of introducing the statement that if the personalities as well as the work of authors is of interest to you, there will be much in the columns of both the Bowling Green and the Phoenix Nest during the coming months to engage your attention.

Perhaps, too, you have some friend who enjoys intimate glimpses of literary celebrities. If you have why not take a moment to fill out the coupon below with his name and address?

SAPLINGS. Pittsburgh: Scholastic Publishing Co. \$1.50.

EPITHALAMION. By Edmund Spenser. Crofts.

Science

ICE AGES. By A. P. Coleman. Macmillan. \$4. CLOUDS AND WEATHER PHENOMENA. By C. J. P. Cave. Cambridge University Press (Macmillan).

THE MUSIC OF THE SPHERES. By Florence Armstrong Grondal. Macmillan. \$5.

Travel

- THE PARIS THAT IS PARIS. By Walson White, Scribners. \$3,
- FLORIDA. By Kenneth L. Roberts. Harpers. \$2.50.
- ISLAND NIGHTS' ENTERTAINMENT IN THE SOUTH SEAS. By Robert Louis Stevenson. (Everyman's Library). Dutton. 80 cents. WANDERINGS IN SOUTH AMERICA. By Charles Waterton. Dutton. 80 cents each.
- THE LURE OF ENGLISH CATHEDRALS. By Frances M. Gostling. McBride. \$2.50 net.

"MEXICO of the Mexicans," by Lewis Spence (Scribner), is a general survey of life and conditions, like the other books about countries in this valuable series. The racial problem is given careful treatment by Wallace Thompson in "The People of Mexico" (Harper), and the same author's "The Mexican Mind" (Little, Brown), which describes traits and customs of the people, should be kept at hand. A friendly and funny book is C. M. Flandrau's "Viva Mexico!" (Appleton), which more than one American resident has told me is an excellent method of getting an idea of what life there is like, to a sympathetic American. Vernon Quinn's "Beautiful Mexico" (Stokes), is full of pictures of landscapes and architecture, a book for the intending traveller or one who is look-ing for a reviver of memories. "Mexico: an Interpretation," by Carleton Beals (Huebsch), is a social history of the naS. M. S., Boston, Mass., asks for books for a bookplate collector.

COMPREHENSIVE survey of the A field of bookplate books is made in "A Bibliography of Bookplate Literature," published by the Spokane Public Library. This is not an everyday library pamphlet, but a collector's item, price five dollars, printed on American vellum, 500 copies, of which 450 are for sale, numbered and signed by the editor, George W. Fuller. An idea of the extent of bookplate literature may be gained from the fact that there are 30 pages of index in which the books are arranged by subjects, besides the main list and introductory material. The bibliographical work is by Verna B. Grimm, and the "Random Thoughts on Bookplate Literature" by Winward Prescott, who is said to own the largest collection of this material in existence. The collector should by no means leave out the "Bookplate Annual," published by Alfred Fowler at Kansas City, Mo.

